



# The Mountaineer Beacon

News from Campus Light Missionaries Dave & Jenny Greear

Spring 2010



## Prayer Requests

1. New students and student leadership for the future on both campuses.
2. Weekly meetings on both campuses
3. Individual Bible studies
4. International Bible study at WVU on Fridays
5. International English classes
6. Soccer Tournament (Feb 6)
7. Basketball Tournament (Feb. 13)
8. Spring Retreat at the Wilds (March 26-28)
9. Salvation of several international students (Wenzhe, Mei Fen, Baozhong, "Sunny" and "Carmen", Mukesh and Nielhi, Yassin and Saba, Mohammed, Shusuke, etc.)
10. Josh to find a good church near his home in PA
11. Campus Light pastor's fellowship with Dr. Will Senn on January 18.
12. Support needs-due to higher living expenses in Morgantown and the loss of some support in the move

## Fall Semester Review




Our first semester at WVU and Fairmont State is now complete and we echo the words of the apostle Paul when he said that God is *"is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,"* (Ephesians 3:20). We entered the new school year not knowing what to expect and not really feeling ready. We had just moved to Morgantown in July and had never really finished unpacking and preparing for the semester! Furthermore there were very few students back at either school (only one at FSU). Therefore our expectations were not necessarily high for the first semester. That turned out to be a great lack of faith as God clearly demonstrated his ability to work in spite of circumstances. At WVU we had 22 at our very first Friday night meeting! Over the course of the semester we hovered right around 20 each week (averaging 18) in spite of the fact that it seemed we lost some each week who went home for the weekend or had had schedule conflicts. We had many first-time visitors throughout the semester. Some came from freshman orientation contacts, some from invitations from friends, one found us on the internet, one was found on the internet by a concerned Christian who in turn found us, at least one came from a flyer, etc. It seemed like the Lord was providing new contacts each week in various ways. After each meeting we were also able to do some sort of fellowship activity (miniature golf, bowling, fellowship in homes, etc.) as an alternative to the Friday night "party scene". These activities were well received and very beneficial in helping to build camaraderie

among our group members, something we often lacked at Marshall where we had limited success with fellowship activities. Our semester topic was a Biblical and scientific study of Genesis 1-11. The students seemed to enjoy the topic and a few came particularly for the topic. We used the same topic at Fairmont State on Thursday afternoons where we began the semester with 4 students and myself at the first meeting and ended up averaging 9 with a high attendance of 15. Again the Lord gets the credit because we did very little other than post some flyers to promote the meetings at FSU. The small group of students that we began the semester with did a great job of inviting friends and classmates to the meetings!

Highlights of the semester included the college & career retreat at the Wilds Christian Camp on October 30-November 1, a creation seminar on campus on November 3, and a trip to the Creation Museum near Cincinnati on November 14. The retreat was attended by 11 in total, and in spite of a lot of rain, the students had a great time and were challenged by the Word of God. Among those that attended were two unsaved Chinese students and a Roman Catholic Brazilian student. The Creation Seminar was actually sponsored by *Creation Ministries International* but we helped promote it and there was a very good number of students that turned out to hear an excellent counter to WVU's "Darwinfest" from the spring semester. Dr. Robert Carter of CMI did an outstanding job of critiquing evolution, defending creation and answering questions. We also showed CMI's new documentary, *Darwin: The Voyage that*

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*Shook the World*, earlier in the semester. The Creation Museum trip was taken in conjunction with a trip to the WVU-Cincinnati football game the night before. The Mountaineers played well against the still-undefeated Bearcats but ultimately lost by three. The Creation Museum was much better than the game, however! We had 19 students and myself in attendance including three unsaved Chinese students, and one from Saudi Arabia. The American students were greatly encouraged in their faith and the unsaved students were exposed to a clear Gospel presentation through the “7 C’s of History” featured on the museum tour.

Speaking of international students, another highlight of our semester was our first-ever “International Day” at WVU on September 19. We had a turnout of approximately 20 students from 11 different countries. The day included food, games, a free “flea market” where students could obtain furniture and household items, and an introduction to the Gospel. After the International Day we began a conversation English class that has had about 14 different students attend from several different countries (China, India, Japan, Colombia, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Chad, etc.). Jenny teaches this class on Sunday afternoons and meets separately with Saba, from Iraq, on Wednesdays. Dave also met with Saba and her husband Yassin for a weekly international Bible study. They are nominal Muslims but are curious about the Christian faith and want to learn more about it. Their two daughters have recently joined them in the States as well. Also on the international front, we had our first-ever international Thanksgiving banquet this semester. We had approximately 30 international students from about 9 different countries in attendance. In addition to a typical American Thanksgiving dinner they were given the Gospel through the story of the Pilgrims and several of them took Gospel literature in their own language as well. Two more international couples (one from China and one from India) have expressed an interest in a Bible study as a result of the banquet. We hope to have them join Yassin and Saba next semester. Please pray for their salvation as well as Wenzhe, Mei Fen and Baozhang who regularly attended Campus Light last semester and joined us at the Creation Museum. Mohammed from Saudi Arabia and Shusuke from Japan also have been faithful to the English class and have shown some interest in learning more about the Bible.

Finally the biggest news from the semester was that we had the privilege of seeing three young men make professions of faith! Two of them, Erik (see below) and Kirk were also baptized at Faith Baptist Church. Both of them came from rough backgrounds and literally either found us on the internet or were found by someone and directed to us via the internet. The third, Josh, just made a profession last week, and unfortunately will not be returning to WVU in the spring. He will be attending Slippery Rock University near his home in PA. We are working on getting him connected with a good church there. Please pray for him in this transition!

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## *Spring Semester Plans*

**A**lthough not yet complete, our spring semester plans include continuing our Genesis study on both campuses. After finishing this study we will find another short topic, perhaps a study of the Sermon on the Mount, to complete the semester. Dave will also continue to meet with a handful of students for individual Bible studies, and start new ones as the Lord enables.

Outreaches planned for the spring semester include an evangelistic indoor soccer tournament at WVU’s Stansbury Hall on February 6 and an evangelistic 3 on 3 basketball tournament the following Saturday. This will be our first attempt at sports outreaches at WVU, something that was very productive for us at Marshall. Please pray for 8 soccer teams, the right number of basketball teams, for everything to go smoothly, for enough help, and for souls to be saved. In addition, we are planning another trip to the Wilds on March 26-28 for their spring retreat. Finally, we hope to expand our weekly international Bible study, continue our English classes and perhaps organize some other international outreaches during the course of the semester.

Finally, on an unrelated note, on January 18 our CLM board is planning to bring in Dr. Will Senn, founder of Cross Impact Campus Ministries, to speak to our board and to promote campus ministries and Campus Light at a pastor’s luncheon. Please pray for a great turnout of pastors and for God to burden their hearts for campus ministries! You can contact us for more details.

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## *A Student Testimony*

Erik Anderson



**I** have always regarded Jesus Christ as a man of perfection who had a flawless character that I admired, but I never understood much about the Gospel. I grew up knowing Christ through a local Methodist church, and I grew tired of hearing just about Jesus without understanding God, so I began to pursue another path. While on this other path I feel that God protected me from myself numerous times while in the deepest and darkest fits of despair and depression and uncertainty. I began following other belief systems as means to make myself feel better, and after I reached a point of feeling good enough, I said I would begin to help others. Needless to say through all the fads, following my feelings that waver with the wind, and pursuing the world, I was rarely ever feeling satisfied. When I was satisfied I didn’t begin to help anyone, but attempted to grasp the means for sustaining my temporary happiness. I spent most of my time attempting to sustain myself at a point of happiness that really was meaningless. Finally this year I had begun to question why it is that I couldn’t ever become in total control of my happiness. By seeking God and praying with what little understanding I had of how to even begin to pray, I began searching for God. I even prayed “sinner’s prayers,” but the inner doubts within me rose up from not understanding the Gospel. Through the power and glory of God I was sovereignly lead to Campus Light Ministries through unique circumstances, which helped me to once and for all apprehend the Gospel. God sacrificed his only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to save all who believe and give them eternal life in the kingdom of heaven forever and ever. I say glory to God on high. Thank you Lord. Amen.