

DISCIPLESHIP ANNUAL
NEWSLETTER

MAY 2, 2010

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ASHLEE'S BLURB

Soli Deo Gloria. For God's Glory Alone. That has been the theme for Discipleship for this year. Our monthly Family Meetings have served as a reminder that all that we do as Christians is for God's glory alone. Each month we've had another reminder—

Evangelism, Mission, Time, Keeping On—of how all that we do is for God's glory. The four covenant groups this year have each grown in their community and have learned in their own ways how to live for God's Glory Alone. The first year team, *Discipleship*, has been a team in constant motion, quite literally. They actually started out as a very small group of 9, and nearly doubled to become 17 by January.

They welcomed in several transfers and some on campus students who felt a call to join the team. They have enjoyed one another and enjoyed learning about what it means to be a

disciple of Jesus. *Imago Dei*, the second year team, has studied James Bryan Smith's series, *The Good and Beautiful God*, and *The Good and Beautiful Life* this year. We're introducing these books as a new part of the D-ship curriculum, partially due to their group's reception of it! The Shepherd Team, *Doulos*, has done an excellent job serving the rest of the team this year (guess since their name means "servant," they've really lived up to it!). They started the year with a great sense of camaraderie and commitment to one another and it has carried them through a good, but sometimes hard, year. Each has grown in their understanding of their gifts and their love for one another. Members from *Doulos* will share from their experiences this year in the newsletter inside. The



seniors, *Muda Sherpa*, are a fun, eclectic, unique, and close group. Members from their group have experienced some challenges this year and I have been blessed in watching how they have taken care of one another. They have truly exhibited a family-like love for one another and have been a blessing to so many.

This newsletter will give a glimpse into some of the activities in the life of the Discipleship this year! We're so grateful for the many partners in ministry through the pastors who have invested in the lives of the committees and covenant groups and also the mentors! We are blessed because of them. And all of it is for God's Glory Alone.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE ~ NIMSI ZAYAS

My name is Nimsi Zayas. I was the head of Social Committee in discipleship this year. Social committee was in charge of planning all the social events of discipleship team throughout the year. The team was formed of 8 wonderful students who helped me plan each event. I couldn't do it all with all their help. Throughout the year we had many events such as Worship night at the Winfield Lake, 80's dance/game night, Christmas party, the Halloween/leadership bash, dinners for 8, and one of the most important events of the year which is the End of the Year Banquet. This event is an opportunity for our team to come together for dinner and celebrate the successful year we have had together.

During the banquet, we present the Towel and Basin Award to one graduating senior on the team. This award is the highest Servant Leadership award in Disciple. This year has been a successful year thanks to the help of all the Discipleship members and of course the members of the social committee. EVERYTHING WE HAVE DONE HAS BEEN FOR THE GLORY OF GOD ONLY. J

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE - AARON DUELL

God has been at work on the campus of Southwestern, and the Evangelism Team of Discipleship Southwestern has been honored to participate in the Lord's ministries this year. I had the privilege of being the E-Team committee chair this last year. This basically meant that I was in charge of running a meeting and encouraging the group to find ways of communicating God's grace. As a committee we exist not only to share the good news of Jesus Christ with our peers, but also to train and encourage fellow Christians to do the same. We seek to be sensitive to our culture so as not to burn people or let a bad impression of Christians keep people from having a saving relationship with God. E-Team put on a handful of events and activities this year in-

cluding an evangelism training workshop, a movie night where we watched and discussed *Saved!*, a night of testimonies called "What UR Story?", and teamed up with Grace UMC to give cookies and an encouraging word to every student on campus the night before finals week. One might wonder just how exactly a cookie ministry helps bring about the Kingdom of God. Finals week can be very difficult and sometimes even feels like a dark night of the soul. Everyone is locked away in their rooms (attempting to) study and write papers. A freshly baked cookie wrapped in cute tissue paper and hand delivered can be a small glimmer of hope in such a tumultuous time. Each member of the E-Team also took on a specific person to pray for that God would somehow reveal Himself in their lives so that they might come to know Him.

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MINISTRY COMMITTEE

During the 09-10 school year, Discipleship has accomplished quite a bit. However, the accomplishments for the missions committee aren't visible until after the school year has come to a close. The missions committee chair is responsible for organizing a mission trip for the group. This includes finding housing, somewhere to shower, something to do, planning a fun day, giving a price estimate, ordering t-shirts, and organizing a booklet of devotions for the trip. Most of the planning is made behind closed doors, but the mission trip is a great opportunity and a huge part of the discipleship program. It is a time for the team to come together as a community and do something bigger than any of them individually – spreading the love of God and doing his works for other people. By Rosalina Voldvinos, Wichita, KS. Elementary Education major

3RD YEAR ~ MICHELLE VASQUEZ

This year has been productive and difficult. My team had to balance a lot of previous responsibilities and lead Discipleship on the right path. With the strength of God and guidance we were able to lead Discipleship smoothly. We've had a great Dinner-for-eight and Christmas party event which were my favorite social events. I was able to bond with my Discipleship members that I do not speak to in a regular basis. My favorite Hands & Feet event was helping out with the Christmas party for the foster children. I really enjoyed talking to the children. It is a nice way to connect with the community and especially the children. Children always need role models and to promote going to college.

My responsibility within the Discipleship program was to lead my covenant group and touch base with other covenant group leaders. I would have at least once a month meetings with each covenant group leader to discuss ways to enhance closeness in a spiritual and loving way within the covenant group. We also share ideas of bonding events or exercises and how to reach out to our covenant group. This is a good way to share ideas and to see how each covenant group is progressing during the year.

RECRUITING

The Recruiting Coordinator was a new position in the Discipleship program this year. There was no committee, just a Recruiting Coordinator. For this job, Ashlee Alley, director of Discipleship, would pass along names to me of prospective students that she received from the admissions office. I would then contact the prospects via email with information about our program and how to go about planning a campus visit. In addition to this, I also visited with some of the prospective students who came on campus visits during Explore More Day, Diversity Day, etc. I

made calls to students that I was not receiving feedback from to connect with them and talk with them about attending SC. I sent out congratulatory cards from the Discipleship team when students were accepted to SC, and I also sent out a Christmas card to all hot prospects. We have made some great connections with prospective students during the Spring, and the Office of Admissions has been very helpful.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE ~ JOANNA WOON

The year 2009-2010 was a great one with many areas of growth in my life. Being in the Sheppard Team was one of the greatest experiences to gain this year. Some of the highlights of the year were having responsibilities to help Discipleship grow as a whole and explore opportunities for new things in the group. My name is Joanna Woon and I am a junior, majoring in music. I am an international student from Malaysia and have been in Discipleship for three years. This year, my responsibility was in the area of mentoring. Some of the tasks I had to complete were getting Discipleship members (freshmen) paired up with mentors that would

be able to guide them spiritually. I was also in charge of finding new mentors for Discipleship members who had not have a good mentoring relationship. The mentoring program is an excellent support to all Discipleship members and a great way to foster strong relationships that will last. It is a great way for Discipleship members to have someone mature and strong in their walk with Christ to lead them and to help them when they need guidance. One thing that I loved most was hearing great feedback from Discipleship members and from the mentors about the compatible relationships

that they have had. I enjoyed hearing from the mentors about the little things that were done during the meetings with their mentors such as books they would go through or even weekly dinners that they would have. I was also very encouraged to see relationships blossom throughout the year. Besides that, I also had the opportunity to organize events and little things to encourage the mentors and build fun into the relationships that were built. This was fun and even though the whole program was a lot of work, it was definitely very refreshing both for me and for the Discipleship team itself.



NURTURE COMMITTEE ~ LAUREN MOSER

We held a Free Hug day on the last day of classes last semester and handed out some balloons, even some deflated ones. We also helped E-Team with cookies at finals time. First part of spring semester we held a Haiti Prayer Worship Service. We helped Rosie, with Sheep Support trying to get the Discipleship Community involved with one another.

My area of responsibility is nurturing and reaching out to those in need. Especially, to those in need of prayers, birthdays, and such. We can reach out to not only our discipleship community, but to the whole SC community, by sending them a card telling them we were thinking of them and hoping there having a great day.



FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE ~ ASHLEE

The Fundraising Committee was chaired by Audra Mann, junior, originally from Ponca City, OK. Audra set the plans in motion for the team to have the 4th annual Discipleship Auction which was held in February. The team contributed very well, with each person donating a service or procuring a donation.

We didn't raise quite as much money as we would have liked to raise, but fortunately, the trip this year will not require nearly as much funds as some of the trips often require. Also, the committee spent a good deal of time working on a new plan for fundraising for next year. We anticipate that the hard work of the committee this year will pay off large dividends in upcoming years.



We are on the web!
www.sckans.edu/discipleship

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE

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A D D R E S S

Mission:

Discipleship Southwestern exists to encourage college students as they begin, or continue the journey of becoming mature disciples of Jesus Christ at home, work, church, and the world.

Vision:

That students might leave this college as informed, transformed, equipped, and health disciples of Jesus Christ who are prepared to live out their faith at home, work, church, and the world.

The Discipleship SC Program engages the whole person and challenges students to think about their callings beyond college.

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

Pictures submitted by Kelly Rowe, Discipleship Historian

Newsletter by Carmon Bliss, Discipleship Communications