



Good News

For the Family of Grace

Volume 50 Issue 5

May 2011

With All My Heart...

Every year at this time, the leaders of our church are involved in the preparation of our church budget. This year, the proposed church budget will be \$3 million for the coming fiscal year.

This amount has often been called our “operations” budget and represents combined gifts to our local ministries, missions’ projects, Touching Tomorrow campaign, or “People Matter” effort.

You should know that in the coming year, we will call all this into our “Great Commission budget.” When Jesus left this world, He gave His followers the “Great Commission” to go into the world and preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15). Therefore, in the coming year we will refer to our “Operations Budget” as our “Great Commission Budget.”

As part of this Great Commission budget, over \$400,000 will be allocated to direct mission support (sent directly to individuals and organizations involved in reaching this area and the rest of the world for Jesus Christ). However, much of the additional budget is also used to support mission efforts like short-term mission projects, local outreach efforts (including ‘Feed the Need,’ “Sowing Hope” and Second Saturdays), and the activities of our pastors who train, coordinate and lead mission efforts around the world. Many of our staff are

deployed strategically to get the Gospel to places where the name of Jesus has never been heard.

Of course, a portion of our Great Commission Budget is used to help to care for things like the utility bills and mortgage payment for our facility, which serves as a base of operations for all we do for the Lord.

In light of these challenges, we need your faithful support in the year ahead. I am asking each family unit in our church to prayerfully consider taking the next step in support of our Great Commission Budget for the coming 12 months. During the month of May you will be given the opportunity to indicate your prayerful response to this invitation.

Our mission as a church remains to develop all people into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. I heard someone say recently it is impossible to be a fully devoted follower of Christ without being fully devoted to Him in our finances. I trust you will prayerfully consider taking the next step in your participation with us for the cause of the Kingdom.

With all my heart,

Pastor Bob

From China to Christ - Zilu's Story

Zilu is not an ordinary first year college student. First of all, she was a freshman at 17. Secondly, she came from Beijing, China, to the College of Wooster - thousands of miles away, knowing no one, in a strange culture, speaking a foreign language. Is that a recipe for disaster or for finding destiny?

Zilu arrived in the U.S. in August 2010 and at first was fascinated with the newness of everything around her. Then reality set in. She couldn't find a job on campus, even though on paper she had been promised one. She was struggling big time with her art class. She could not make friends - a recipe for returning home early or for finding her true home?

Pivotal events often make or break us. With Zilu it was a simple backpacking trip - a backpacking trip that ends with no backpack, no personal belongings, and no passport. Yes, no passport. Everything got stolen on the second day of her trip - a recipe for despair or for divine intervention?

If you are not a foreign student, you are clueless about what it means to be without your passport. Without it, you lose the proof that you have the right to be in this country. You lose your ability to travel. You lose your only form of I.D. And you gain a headache as long as the way from here to Beijing...

Zilu felt alone in this world, but she thought she could still rely on her parents. Nothing prepared her for her mom's reaction when she told her about the stolen backpack. Her mother blamed her for letting that happen. Now the only thing she thought she had in the world, the unconditional love of her mom, eroded before her very eyes. Zilu was left only with questions - Why me? Who can help? What now?

Twelve hours on a Greyhound to New York City for a forced visit to the Chinese Embassy didn't make matters any easier. But at the end of that



trip there was a surprise. A daughter of friends of her parents, a young lady she had met only once, drove from Connecticut and let Zilu stay in her place for a couple of days. She took her to Chinese restaurants for some authentic Chinese food. She invited her to a Thanksgiving Party at the home of a local family.

On the way there, a second surprise: Zilu was politely informed that the family she was about to meet was Christian. And a third surprise: her friend was a Christian too! It's not like Zilu could say no, so she joined the party with other Chinese students and enjoyed the rich atmosphere and fellowship in the home of that couple. They watched a movie about a Chinese girl who turned to God.

"I felt the grasp of God's hand," Zilu says, "That night, before bed, I poured my heart out to my friend and she shared a lot about Jesus with me." Twelve hours back to Wooster seemed like twelve minutes, as Zilu had so much to think about. During the trip, "All the anger and frustration vanished. I was in great peace and tranquility. Even if I did not feel loved by everyone in this world, I learned that His love never fails."

On December 1, 2010, the first snow in Wooster also welcomed Zilu as a new member of God's family. She was led to Christ by a Campus Crusade staff at the College of Wooster and now she is attending our church. Zilu is on fire for God. Her young and vibrant faith puts me to shame and her love for God and people is contagious. I hope you will have a chance to meet her like I have. I am already the better for it.

Pastor Ivanildo C. Trindade
Associate Pastor of Outreach Ministries

JrCamp
North East Ohio District

June 13-18
Beulah Beach
Vermilion, OH

Registrations at the
Children's Ministry Table

www.jrcamp.org

second SATURDAYS @ GRACE

"Spreading God's Love in Our Community"

The next second SATURDAY is MAY 14. Meet in room 162 at 8:30 a.m.

Oil Change
Weeding and Mulching at the Pregnancy Care Center
Nursing Home Visit
Home Repair Team
Sowing Hope Outreach
Pool Table Movers
End of the Season Cook-Out!

Contact Jeana Harley (x129 or jharley@woostergrace.org) or complete the Communication Card for information on how to become involved.



National Day of Prayer

Scholarships

There are two committees that have been working for nearly a year now. The Endowment Committee has done all of the necessary work to create an endowment through the Wayne County Community Foundation. It is called the Wooster Christian School Fund and technically falls into the category as an "Agency Fund." We spent a great deal of time working with Ferenc Relle, Executive Director of WCCF, to fully understand all of the issues related to the Fund.

The purpose of the Fund is to provide primarily for tuition assistance for students. As you can guess even though the board does everything that it can to keep the cost of tuition as low as possible there are still many students who want to attend WCS but very simply can't afford it.

With all of the necessary legal paperwork completed we are ready to accept donations to the Fund. Since the Fund has been established through WCCF we not only can accept financial donations but securities, life insurance policies, real estate, and offer certain planned giving options. All donations qualify for charitable tax deduction. If you have questions please call Ferenc at 330-262-3877.

The Fund was created as a long term component of giving to WCS. The Donor Committee has also spent nearly a year developing a plan for more immediate support of WCS and it, too, has targeted the need for scholarships as its primary goal. For more information contact Dr. Brad Garrison, committee chair, at 419-846-3039 or Gary Rogers at 330-345-6436.

Please continue to pray for 211 students in 2011. Thanks.

In His service,
Gary Rogers



The National Day of Prayer is a vital part of our American heritage. Since 1775, when the Continental Congress called on the colonies to pray for wisdom during the formation of a new nation, citizens have gathered to pray for our nation, our communities, and our leaders. Even more importantly, Paul points out in 1 Timothy 2 that intercession on behalf of our nation and its leaders is to be an important dimension of the prayer life of individual believers and of church congregations.

Having hosted this community event in the past, we at Grace have the privilege of joining others this year as guests for this

important time of prayer. Locally, a National Day of Prayer event is scheduled for Thursday, May 5, 2011 from 6:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. at the Church of the Saviour located at 480 Fry Road. A delicious continental breakfast will be served, great music will be enjoyed, and significant blocks of time will be spent in prayer.

National Day of Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, May 5 - 6:30-7:45 AM

Church of the Savior

Tickets: \$5.00
(at the church office or at the door)

Tickets for this event are available for a suggested donation of only \$5. They can be obtained during business hours at Grace.

In addition, you can simply "show up" for the event and purchase a ticket there. Would you join us for this important event?

From the Family...

Christian Sympathy

Shelby Roberts, and the Greg Roberts, Jeff Roberts, Kirk Roberts, and Alex Roberts families in the death of J.P. Roberts.

Rob Miller family in the death of Bob Miller.

Paul Readinger family in the death of his father.

Art Skufca family in the death of his father.

Michelle Young and Linda Baney families in the death of Ella Young.

David Moore in the death of his wife, Arlene.

LaVerne Steiner family in the death of his step-mother.

Harry Graham & Eric Graham families in the death of Erika Graham.

Kim Roberts family in the death of her brother, Randy Conrad.

Judy Leiner and Rex Leiner, Jr. families in the death of Rex Leiner, Sr.

Congratulations

Jennifer & Kevin Troyer on the birth of Beau Maddox, 3/14.

Viola and Warren Arinaitwe on the birth of Nathaniel, 3/26.

Betty & Chris Zehe on the birth of Sophia, 3/29.

Helena & Ryan Falk on the birth of Rylan Marie, 4/19.



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OUR MISSION

To develop all people into fully devoted followers of Christ.

Find us on the web www.woostergrace.org
May 2011 Issue



Vacation Bible School
June 20 - 24
9:00 - 11:45 am

REGISTRATION FORMS
available at the table in
the lobby or download one
at www.woostergrace.org

Kids who are 5 by August 1 or entering kindergarten to those completing 6th grade are invited to a week filled with games, crafts, songs, skits, snacks, and Bible stories!



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