

FAITH ACADEMY'S 55TH YEAR BEGINS!

We arrived the second year of the school, and how the years have flown by! In the beginning years the student body was about 98 percent American. This year for the first time we have more Koreans than Americans. This gives you a picture of the changing world of missions.



Prior to the start of classes we went to a retreat for all staff and board members. It was a good time of reconnecting and getting acquainted with new teachers. Our speaker for the retreat was Dr. Joseph Kim, the head pastor and also director of a school in Korea. His father, Dr. Billy Kim, is a prominent church leader in Korea. He interpreted for Billy Graham when he held his crusade in Seoul, Korea. He is also a special friend of mine, as he interpreted for my VV teams back in the '50s and '60s.

It is interesting that one of our new teachers went to Korea as a Peace Corps volunteer and in that capacity worked in a leprosarium. He was not a believer at the time, but a leper who was missing several body parts asked him if he knew Jesus. Although he had been witnessed to previously, that man's testimony spoke to him in a powerful way and he committed his life to the Lord.

Jen is a Faith graduate whose dream was to come back to Faith Academy, but her husband did not feel called to go to the mission field. She did not pressure him, but continued to pray. The Lord worked in his heart, and they are here with their young family serving as houseparents to high school girls.

Another set of houseparents are the parents of the wife of one of our teachers. Their daughter is expecting her second child, so that will be extra special for them to be here.

You would be amazed at how many "retired" teachers are now at Faith. Mark and his wife retired from teaching in public schools in Arizona. He will be teaching science and she teaches math. Another retired guy was in the military for 30 years. Shan was here as a student in the '50s, and now he and his wife are both on staff.

I am thinking some of you may be open to come and teach at Faith for a few years. What a wonderful way to finish a teaching career. I can promise you that you will thoroughly enjoy teaching these MKs. Come taste and see how exciting it is to be in a group of God's people, all committed to him. It's a chance of a lifetime! Consider this option before it's too late!

Blessings on you,

Tine & Jan

From the President...

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES ... HUGE CHALLENGES!

"For a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and there are many adversaries." 1 Corinthians 16:9 NASB

Although the above words were written by the apostle Paul almost 2,000 years ago, they just as easily could have been written today to describe the realities I am observing as I survey OC's worldwide ministry. Never before in the 59-year history of the mission have we had the breadth of global ministry impact that we are currently experiencing, with our teams of missionaries significantly impacting the healthy growth and expansion of the church in more than 100 countries of the world!

However, at the same time we are seeing this increasing strategic ministry impact, with additional doors for new ministries standing open before us, we are also experiencing a number of huge challenges which are impacting our ability to follow through on the growing number of ministry opportunities the Lord is opening up for us. These challenges vary from team to team and country to country. However, one challenge being faced by our entire missionary family is the financial challenge caused by the continuing economic downturn in the United States.

The extended economic downturn has significantly impacted the ability of many of our donors and partner churches to continue to maintain the level of financial support they had been providing for the missionaries with whom they are partnering financially. As a result, even though on every level of the mission we have sought to continue to cut budgets and reduce expenses, **as we came to the end of the summer more than one-third of our missionaries were experiencing a significant shortfall in their financial support which was impacting their ministry effectiveness.**

September 30 marks the end of OC's fiscal year. In light of the financial pressures so many of our missionaries are facing, I would like to ask you to prayerfully consider whether the Lord would have you make a special contribution this month to enable the OC missionaries you help support to end this fiscal year in a strengthened financial position. At the bottom of this prayer letter is a response slip, along with an envelope, to assist you to carry out whatever God puts upon your heart.

With a grateful heart for your continued partnership,



*Greg Gripenrog
OC President*

Did You Know?

"More than one-third of our missionaries are experiencing a significant shortfall in their financial support which is impacting their ministry effectiveness."

Our Vision

Healthy churches working together to disciple all nations.