

Student Missions

NEWSLETTER OF STUDENT MISSIONS AT SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Contact Info

Southern Adventist University
Chaplain's Office
PO Box 370
Collegedale, TN 37315-0370

Telephone: 423.236.2787

Website:
southern.edu/studentmissions

Quick Country Facts Answers:

1) Indonesia, 2) Greece, "Imnos pros tin Eleftherian," or "The Hymn to Liberty," 3) New Zealand

Where in the World: Thailand



Children at the Familia Feliz orphanage in Rurrenabaque, Boliva rush out to meet Jamie Howell. Three students from Southern are serving at the orphanage, including Erin Messinger and Jordan Correces, who took this photo during their arrival.

In This Issue

Greetings
Page 2

How to Help
Page 2

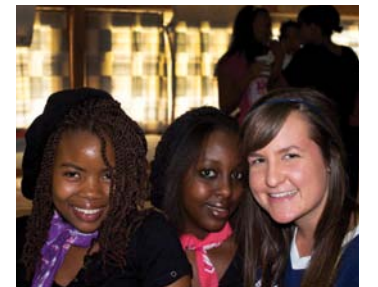
Spoon-fed
Spirituality
Page 3

Quick Country
Facts
Page 3

Language Corner
Page 3

Event Calender
Page 4

The Peanut Carnival *By Jeanna Stewart*



Photos clockwise left to right: First graders Ameline and Ethel enjoy the carnival snacks. The rainbow cupcakes Jeanna made ready to be eaten. Academy students Nimo and Ines with Jeanna.

It's the end of the first quarter here at Maxwell Adventist Academy in Kenya. What an accomplishment! This means we are one-fourth of the way through the school year. I submitted all of my grades tonight and time is flying by! Last weekend we had an event called the "Peanut Carnival." Basically this is what we call "Fall Festival" in the states. Since I am a sophomore sponsor, I helped our class by

making rainbow cupcakes. All the students seemed to enjoy helping make these (and eating them too). It was pretty cool to bring this recipe here to Africa. I also brought a new game to this event, the hitching booth. This hitching booth cost about fifteen Kenyan Shillings to "hitch" any two people together. The people running the booth would tie wrists together of those who are hitched. Jill, Ha-

See **Peanut Carnival** Page 2

Reaching for Jesus' Hand

By Juliana McGraw, Newsletter Editor

Sitting at my desk, piles of books and paper surrounding my computer, I stare off into space, fighting back the tears. How can I get all of this done? I can't do it all.

This scene has played itself out in my college experience more times than I would like to admit. Throughout life there are points when our responsibilities seem like too much, when we cave into these feelings of failure and stress, and when we lose sight of God. Looking away, we become like Peter falling into the waves, starting to drown.

As I feel the water rising up around me and see the skies turning dark with a storm, I remember that Jesus is beside me. He reaches down to grab my hand

How can I get all of this done? I can't do it all.

and pulls me out of my despair. When I let Him take my hand I remember the promise in Isaiah 42:16, "I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them."

When we trust in God and turn our troubles over to Him, He will work through us, guiding our actions and responsibilities for His glory.

Chaplain's Office
Post Office Box 370
Collegedale, TN 37315-0370



Sawadee ka! Greetings from Student Missions!

By Julie Norton

It doesn't seem like 15 years have passed since I landed at the hot and steamy Bangkok airport to begin my own student missionary year. My husband and I were assigned to reopen the Ubonratchatane English Language School. The experiences we had changed our lives forever. I learned to rely on God for His love, His wisdom, and for His strength.

Here at Southern Adventist University, we believe that we should give every student the opportunity to grow and share their faith with those around them. Student Missions is one way we believe students can grow and share their faith in Jesus Christ.

Student missionaries send us their stories of growth and faith. Sometimes the stories make us laugh, cry, and even sit in awe. We don't want to keep these stories to ourselves, but share them with you. We want you to walk with them through their journey. We want to laugh with them, cry with them, and at the end, pray for them.

May God richly bless you,

Julie Norton
Student Missions
Coordinator



JULIE NORTON
Student Missions Coordinator

JULIANA MCGRAW
Student Missions Media Coordinator

AIMEE BURCHARD
Layout and Design Editor

For questions or comments, please email
studentmissions@southern.edu.

Peanut Carnival From Page 1

dassah and I ended up having more fun than the students, I think, hitching all of them together. Some of them started catching on and I found myself hitched a couple of times as well.

Maxwell Adventist Academy students have a great time participating in the dunking booth and hitching activities during the Peanut Festival.



How to Help

If you would like to support the student missions program financially, here are several ways you can donate:

Mail:

Send a check payable to Southern Adventist University and address to:
Student Missions
PO Box 370
Collegedale, TN 37315

Telephone:

Contact us at 423.236.2787

Website:

Visit southern.edu/studentmissions
On the left hand side, click "Donate."
Fill out the form, and click "Submit Donation."

All gifts are tax deductible.

If you know a student who is planning on serving, you are welcome to donate under that student's name toward their fundraising efforts. If it is for Student Missions in general, please mark accordingly.

Thank you for your support!

Spoon-fed Spirituality

By Brittany Jacobson

John Paul looks up at me with a blank stare on his face. "John Paul, use the chart to answer the question. How many students like reading and crafts?"

"Music," he answered. I stifled a laugh. "The question says 'How many?' When a question asks you 'how many?' does it want the answer to be a number or a word?"

"Music," he repeated as he searched my face for some sort of acknowledgment that his answer was the correct one.

I tried to not allow my sigh to sound exasperated. Having worked with this student before, I knew that he was just anxiously waiting for me to give him the answer, to tell him exactly what to write. He was sadly mistaken. It took us 40 minutes to answer the question (question 2 out of 6), but he finally got the right answer, and I think he may have actually understood it. Maybe.

It didn't take long for me to realize that that's exactly what all of these kids want: the answers. They don't want to work for them, think for themselves, take any time; they just want the answer. They want to be spoon-fed. From birth, children are dependent upon others to give them everything they need. If I didn't already know that before, working with pre-school, first, and sec-

ond grade kids is a great way to learn it.

I've come to another realization this week, though this one is about myself. I've also been looking to be spoon-fed. I've been looking for someone else to give me what I need to find and achieve on my own. I've been trying to get people to tell me the answer, to tell me ex-



Teachers and faculty from Saipan SDA Academy welcome Brittany Jacobson.

actly how to achieve the ultimate end result; a relationship with Jesus. I've been wanting to be spoon-fed my spirituality.

All my life I've been expected (and often required) to attend vespers, Sabbath school, church, outreach, prayer meeting, morning worship, chapel, etc. I quickly

learned to depend on other people to hold me accountable, to make sure that I attended these events regularly. But when all of the requirements and expectations are stripped away, and I'm left having to hold myself accountable, I panicked. You mean I'm supposed to decide for myself to attend these things? How am I supposed to have a relationship with God when no one is standing there telling me to go to vespers and Sabbath school?

I turned 23 last week. Under anyone's standards that would classify me as an adult. Do I act like one? Occasionally. But not when it comes to my spirituality. I've been looking for someone else to basically force a relationship with God down my throat. I've been looking for someone to hand it to me on a silver platter, for someone to give me the step-by-step outline of how to achieve it. Only now do I realize that it doesn't work that way. This is now a choice—my choice—and I have to hold myself accountable. I have to seek out my own answers, my own steps, and my own relationship. No one will hand it to me. I have to work for it—something else that I'm not happy about. Honestly I'd prefer for it to happen overnight.

Quick Country Facts

- 1) What country is comprised of over 17,000 islands?
- 2) What country has the longest national anthem?
- 3) What country has about nine sheep to every citizen?

Language Corner

How to say: Happy Sabbath

Italian - Boun Sabato
Polish - Szczęśliwy Sabat
Spanish - Feliz Sabado

[Answers on Page 4 below the Contact Info]



WHERE IN THE WORLD IS THIS?