

asian christian fellowship

Mid-Autumn Festival

Ren-Yi Lo

A glorious full moon set to the background of a dark sky, while music sifted through the air, on a Friday evening. As we walked up the windy pathway to the Physical Plant Building, we heard many people laughing, enjoying the precious taste of mooncakes and hot green tea.

This was ACF's first year to partake in CMU's annual Mid-Autumn Festival. ACF's night out was focused on serving and evangelizing, as well as enjoying some awesome fellowship outside of our ACF circle.

Mid-Autumn Festival is one of the few events where various, segregated Asian groups come and work together to celebrate a cultural holiday. Opportunities like these are rare and awesome times to share with each other about our clubs.

One of the newer clubs on campus, CMU's Shaolin Kung Fu Club, performed a variety of their forms. Lisa Curriant showed us one of many Taiji sets and her Hooksword Set, while the rest of them performed various forms, which include Nian Shou, Ming Fo, Lohan, and Baguazhang. Their performance was followed by ACF's modern, Asianized adaptation of the prodigal son. With much humor and witticism in their play, ACF openly shared about Christianity, and love and faith for God.

The best part of this evening (besides the yummy mooncakes) was the fellowshiping with non-ACF members. With this opportunity we were able to reach out with kindness and service, while spreading the Word, and the story of Jesus Christ. Yet, when we look back at that wonderful evening, we realize that it seems to take a campus event such as this, or last year's JesusWeek, to spur us to reach out to others. As Christians we should not have to wait for events to freely share of our Father. Hopefully we can all make an effort to live as walking examples every day-- not only when we are in ACF, but at all times!

Crystal Hsiung made sure Ren-Yi Lo mentioned "yummy mooncake" when writing this article about Mid-Autumn Festival.

You can find out more about Jesus Week 2001 by visiting www.jesusweek.org.

Talk the Talk? Walk the Walk!

Angela Chen

Christian Student Fellowship is sponsoring a Walk Thru the Old Testament seminar on Saturday, November 10th. The seminar starts at 9am, and lasts for most of the day. It will take place in the Ballroom of the William Pitt Union at UPitt. Basically, they spend the day learning and understanding the ENTIRE Old Testament.

For more information about the seminar, go here: <http://www.walkthru.org/seminars/seminars-more.asp#old>

The cost is \$10 for students and \$15 for non-students. So, if you're interested, please email me at apchen@andrew.cmu.edu and give me the money as soon as you can.

Learning about God is cool!

Live the Life by "Getting Back to the Word," this semester's theme.

Faith, Hope, and Project Love

Pastor Caleb Chang

[On October 16, 2001,] around 9:30, in the witness of the closing attorney Joe Cain, Monice Tong, Pastor Tom [Tessaro], myself, and our invisible God, our Trustee Jerry Tu signed the closing paper for the purchase of old Espe School. The process was as smooth and joyful as it could be. As a part of His Great Commission, He grants PCC a new place we may call home. We name it "PCC Perry" to match its new address.

The Chinese name [means] a "House Full of Grace" to express our experience of God's faithfulness and richness in the process of acquiring this building. Also, we use "PCC Perry" to remember how God has blessed PCC at her "Perrysville" location in the last 18 years.

[W]e will have a special one-hour Praise and Thanksgiving [on] November 4th in this new PCC Perry after our Sunday fellowship lunch at PCC Perrysville.

May you join me to praise the Lord?

Caleb Chang is one of the pastors of the Pittsburgh Chinese Church.

Kenya Dig It?

Tony Wee

Missions is not an easy thing to talk about. For most people, the vision of natives in their aboriginal environments serving rack of iguana with cow's blood mixed with spit and tobacco in their dung heaped houses dominates our thoughts and sets up a stigma we'll never be able to shake.

Although somewhat true, I know an equal amount of stories where the blessings that flow from the extreme generosity of the nationals supercede the general pettiness of our cushioned upper-middle class existence. But what if I'm not ready for missions, seeing cows roaming the unpaved streets still scare me? One thing that people generally do not realize is that missions is multifaceted. It takes place on several fronts: in the field, at churches, the workplace, and in the home. My experience with missions was very different from just going to a third world country.

Engineering Ministries International is a non-profit, Christian organization providing architectural/engineering design work to missionaries in developing nations. I worked as an architectural intern at their main office in Colorado Springs (although close--not quite aboriginal territory : P). I met many design professionals, architects and engineers working in likeness in mind and spirit. There's so much of capitalist-driven working world that requires living up to standards and expectations. At EMI, my work and standards were set up to God's grace.

Don't get me wrong, I worked my butt off at the office; but there was no fear of failure to perform or compete. The work, projects, etc. were so much more than just work. It was service. It was loving God the way He gifted me. Work seemed, at least for a summer, something useful and a joy. In a word, it was WORSHIP! I did not realize that God could be blessing me with missions without having to go on "missions." Granted, I did spend two weeks in Kenya, but I had hot water, a warm bed, fish n' chips, etc., so I didn't exactly rough it. But God used me in a very different way. I supported the missionaries' ministries with my own--architecture, my vocation, my job. How often do we overlook the work of the Holy Spirit in the things we do everyday?

I learned that missions is not fully limited to going overseas. My role in missions was to support the missionaries from the United States. I was fully involved with missions but not in the missions field. The

opportunities to take part of God's kingdom advancement-- namely missions are abundant without feeling burdened by overstretching our physical bounds. Prayer intercessors, financiers, and general workers in the ministries (i.e. administrative, management, etc.) are just as important to the Kingdom as those doing the work overseas. I challenge us to genuinely come before God and ask where we fit in the grand scheme of God's move. I lift up ACF to discover the services that God wants each individual to use. I thank God for the gifts and fruit that are being born even now. Persevere in faith, bros and sistas!

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:10)

Tony Wee shared about his missions experience as part of PCC's Missions Month (October) activities.

Photo Finish



To wrap up the Cell Night Photoscavenger Hunt, you (the ACFers) voted as Best Photo this snap by Panting Deer.

A big "Thank You!" goes out to everyone who contributed!

Did Jesus Really Rise from the Dead? You Decide

Calvin Chiang

“YOU are the weakest link! Goodbye.” Six words that strike terror into the hearts of game show contestants everywhere. The phrase refers to a proverb that says, “A chain is only as strong as the weakest link.” In other words any system, organization, or object is only as strong as the weakest part of it.

One of the central beliefs in the Christian faith is that Jesus came back from the dead – this is called the Resurrection. Because it is such a key belief people who have opposed Christianity have tried to prove that it didn’t happen. They figure that the Resurrection is the ‘Weakest Link’ and if they can disprove that then the whole thing would be a fraud.

If Jesus didn’t come back from the dead then both Jesus himself and his disciples were either all really good liars or they are completely crazy. So how can we believe such a far-fetched idea? We know from the Bible and other sources that Jesus died and that his disciples claimed to have seen him alive after his death. If that really happened I think it at least makes Jesus worth another look. So how have people tried to explain away the Resurrection as a lie?

After Jesus died he was placed in a large grave cut out of rock in the side of a hill and a large stone was rolled over the entrance. Because the authorities knew that Jesus had claimed he would come back from the dead, they set an armed guard of Roman soldiers to make sure that the disciples didn’t come and steal the body and pretend he had.

The simplest argument is that Jesus couldn’t have come back from the dead because people don’t come back from the dead – it just doesn’t happen. This argument would only work if God did not exist, because for a Supreme Being who created life in the first place, bringing someone back from the dead is no problem.

Some people have suggested that Jesus didn’t actually die on the cross and he just ‘fainted’ and then the cool air in the tomb revived him. The Romans were very good at killing people – it was something of a specialty. No one survives being nailed to a cross – especially if they have been beaten and tortured beforehand. Blood loss, suffocation (as his body weight caused his chest to collapse) and having a spear struck through his ribs, meant that he was well and truly dead. People who have

suffered such brutal treatment, even if they did survive, would not recover being left alone in a cold tomb without any form of medical treatment.

The other common theory is that the disciples stole the body. This is the same group of fearful followers who all ran away when Jesus was arrested and whose leaders was too scared to admit even to a young serving girl that he knew Jesus. Yet we are expected to believe that they fought off some Roman Guards to steal the body and then went about preaching their message, knowing it to be a lie. And what did they gain from this preaching? Money? Fame? Long Life? No; spells in prison, beatings and an early death. Would they really have gone through all of that if they knew it was a lie?

Another theory is that the authorities took the body so that they could keep an eye on it. These were the same authorities who later wanted to stop the disciples speaking about Jesus and the Resurrection. They could have done this very easily by simply producing Jesus’ body, but they didn’t. They couldn’t. They didn’t have it.

I think that the evidence that Jesus didn’t come back from the dead is weak, to say the least. I find it harder to believe than the more simple explanation that Jesus, the Son of God, was killed and then came back from the dead. By doing this he showed us that death is not the end and He has made it possible for us to live forever with Him in heaven.

Calvin Chiang is one of the ACF Advisors. He likes the San Francisco Giants.

Funny Faces ☺

More Cell Night Photoscavenger Hunt Fun



*Liang Tzais!
Living Testimony group photo... or weird art? Ask Tim Lo!*

Seven Days Without Prayer Makes One Weak

Prayer Meeting Information

Renew your spiritual strength in prayer, whether alone with God or together with fellow believers.

- **Mondays, 5:40 – 6:40 p.m.**
Wright-Rogal Chapel (UC Chapel, CMU)
- **Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.,** 2 Bayard Rd. #67
(Amberson Apts. Tower 2, Apt. 67; Buzzer #55).
- **Thursdays, 5:40 – 6:40 p.m.**
Wright-Rogal Chapel (UC Chapel, CMU)
- **Fridays, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.**
Chinese Room, Cathedral of Learning (Pitt)
(contact Stanley Wang at sswang@andrew.cmu.edu
for more information).

For more information about prayer meetings, contact Danny Bang at hbang@andrew.cmu.edu.

November Calendar of Events

<http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/~acf/schedule.htm>

- 2 – Workshop Night
- 9 – Bible Study 4: Galatians 5
- 16 – PCC Thanksgiving Service (no ACF)
at PCC Perrysville.
- 23 – Thanksgiving Break / Turducken Party
time/location TBA
- 30 – Bible Study 5: Galatians 6

Events begin at 7 p.m. on the specified Friday. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at the First Baptist Church. Rides, as appropriate, leave from the UC Circle (CMU) and Wm. Pitt Union (Pitt) at 6:30 p.m.

November Birthdays

- 1 – Rodney Fu
- 10 – Joseph Cheng
- 10 – Phoenix Maa
- 10 – Lan Kulapaditharom
- 18 – Ming Li
- 18 – Jason Gu
- 22 – John Yuen
- 25 – Dave Harrison
- 29 – Tim Chen
- 29 – Rebecca Lee



We want to celebrate your birthday!
Please let Angeline Wong know when your birthday is.
Her email address is alwong@andrew.cmu.edu.

What's Your Name?

Ron Urwongse

So, I was going to write an article in “Freshmanese.” For those of you who don’t know or didn’t understand it the first time, “Freshmanese” is a language we invented using the first names of the freshman students here in ACF. For example, “Rebecca” means “hello” and “Talida” means “goodbye.” I think “Malcolm” means “sit down” and “Patrick” means “please.”

I felt it was a good way for me to learn people’s names. Thing is, you learn the names, but you’re not always able to match up people’s names with people’s faces. And so, I might get in trouble and call Malcolm “Patrick” or vice versa. It’s a rather sticky situation. It’s probably not the best way to learn people’s names.

In any case, I’m not so good with names, and I apologize for not learning names as quickly as I should. I think this is something we should work on as a fellowship, especially since we’re getting so big. I’m not sure how we should go about doing this, but I know it’s important.

I mean, God knows the names of all His children, and time and time again, He has called people by name to do His work. Isaiah 43:1 reads, “But now, this is what the LORD says—he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.’”

So yeah, let’s make an effort to learn each other’s names. I think that’s the first step to take in having a godly impact on each other’s lives. And let’s not let the fact that we’re so far into the semester and haven’t learned each other’s names yet be a hindrance—let’s not be embarrassed to ask each other’s names if we don’t know them yet, and to introduce ourselves to each other several times over if necessary.

My name is Ron. What’s yours?

Ron Urwongse is the Large Group Leader Coordinator.

Good Sports

- Pick-up volleyball at 8 p.m. sharp every Sunday evening in the Weigand Gym (UC Gym, CMU).
- Players wanted for ACF team for KUPC (a Korean Church in the area) basketball tournament!
- IM sports information – contact Bryan Wang.

For further information about these and other sports activities, contact Bryan Wang at bsw@andrew.cmu.edu.