***Campus Minister’s Report*  - August 12th, 2017**

Fall “Highlights” since our August 12th, 2017 Board meeting:

**“Opening Week” Events**: after helping with **Freshman Move-In** (Wednesday & Thursday, August 9th & 10th) a “***Y’all Come!” party*** took place on Saturday, August 12th (board games, frisbee, corn hole, and a “Trail Mix Bar” was set up on our front porch!) Our ***“Sunday Picnic & ‘Open House’”*** was held immediately following the 11:00a.m. campus-wide worship service in MSU’s Button Auditorium. August 14th began our weekly programming: Monday night ***“Devos”***, followed by Wednesday’s ***“Alpha Omega” gathering***, and Thursday night ***“S.M.A.S.H.”*** (“**S**tudents **M**inistering **A**nd **S**tudying **H**im). Friday’s ***“Games Night”*** has been re-named **“*Thank God It’s Friday!”*** and resumed with food and fellowship on August 18th.

* Since August 12th, three persons (that we know of) have committed their lives to Jesus Christ as their personal Savior & Lord (glory to God!)
* *“Missions Night” (Thursday, August 24th)* gave current students who served as summer missionaries a chance to testify of God’s goodness and faithfulness while they were in Colorado, Aldersgate Camp, Honduras, and Chicago, IL
* *“Fall Retreat”* became a local affair at Park Lake in Fleming County, KY with over 30 MSU students in attendance (almost *triple* what we have taken to Fall Retreat in the past)
* Thursday night **S.M.A.S.H.** has included various adult facilitators, emphasizing this year’s student composed mission statement to “grow in faith & abound in love.” Special guests have included: Rev. Aaron Mansfield (Morehead UMC); Dr.’s Robert & Lola Boram (MSU Physics & Education Dept.); Ed & Linda Spyres from *Wycliffe Bible Translators*; and Dr. Kent Price (MSU Physics Dept.) Kent was nearly killed in a car accident during Spring semester Finals Week on May 10th; forty-seven persons came out on October 5th to hear him testify of God’s miraculous healing!
* ***Homecoming 2017*** witnessed various alumni/guest speakers for “Devos,” “Alpha-Omega,” and “S.M.A.S.H.,” and included the first MSC-sponsored Homecoming 5K on Friday, October 20th. Over $100 was raised for the MSU Student Hardship Assistance Resource Emergency “S.H.A.R.E.” Fund. Saturday, October 21st hosted an evening “coffee house” type concert by Byrd Law (a current MSC student-led jazz ensemble.)
* Three Greek student organizations have used our Wesley Foundation building for “recruitment” and/or “initiation” rituals: Delta Zeta Sorority, Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, and Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. At the **Kappa Delta Sorority** ***Shamrock N Roll 5K*** (Friday, September 22nd), Drew & Mary Ellen McNeill along with several MSC students participated, and Drew won the “Most Spirited Runner” Award ☺ Continued prayers are requested as we attempt to build bridges of relationships with the various Greek students!

**Upcoming “Highlights”**:

* Our annual***Campus-wide Thanksgiving Dinner*** will be hosted on Thursday, November 9th.
* Beau Crosetto (author of *Beyond Awkward: When Talking About Jesus Is Outside Your Comfort Zone*) will be speaking at Monday night ***“Devos”*** on November 13th.
* ***Chi-Omega “Follies”*** (the largest Greek philanthropy event of the Fall semester) will be held on Tuesday, November 14th. (This will be the *fifth* year in a row our campus ministry has submitted an act! Last year we were one of *two* campus ministries who participated amongst the rest of the Greek student organizations.)
* Virginia McNutt, the National Recruiter for Asbury Theological Seminary, will be sharing with our students on Thursday, November 16th.
* Our first ***Fall “Faculty/Staff Night”*** will be held on Monday, November 20th (the week of Thanksgiving Break.)
* **MSU Winter Commencement** will be held on Saturday, December 9th.

**Fall Semester “Tell Our Story” Places & Dates**: Carlisle UMC (Sunday, August 27th); South Shore UMC (September 10th); Mt. Sterling UMC and Shiloh UMC (October 1st); Greenup County “Rally w/ The Bishop” (Sunday night, October 29th – *twenty-five students* made the trip to encounter Bishop Fairley!); Mt. Washington UMC (Maysville) on November 4th; and Rockbridge UMC (Frankfort) is set for November 19th

**On a “Personal Note”**: Samuel (our seventeen-year-old son, and a senior in high school) is “making the rounds” for potential colleges & Universities NEXT Fall. So far, he *has* been accepted into Bellarmine (Louisville, KY) and has visited NKU, Kentucky Christian University, and will visit Lindsey Wilson College later in November. We would appreciate your prayers for Samuel re: wisdom, discernment, and the Lord’s provisions re: *funding*. ☺