

Dear Christian friends,

January 2018

This month we started the semester with a one-day planning retreat for students. Among the ideas and plans were a dinner and care packages for homeless people, a potluck for international students, and inviting a missionary to speak on outreach to Muslims. I'll keep you posted on the outcome of these ideas!

Our students had a lot of positive feedback for our monthly LSF (Lutheran Student Fellowship) lunch. This month's lunch topics were "What if I am in a place where there is no Lutheran church and I want to take communion?" and "Is it important that Christ was male?".

Hot pot with Chinese speakers has continued to be popular, and through it I have met people from even more countries, this last time including Lebanon and Colombia. From conversations with them I find that there is a large spectrum of people who attend this event, some with a long-time Christian background, some who grew up Christian but fell away when troubles arose, and others for whom Christianity has no more to offer than any other religion. The truth of the parable of the sower of the seed is all too clear. Lord willing, as we continue to converse the Holy will open their hearts to grow in deeply rooted faith towards Christ. These hot pot events have been a good way to introduce Luther House to others so they are much more comfortable to come back again, and I am continuing to reach out to some with an invitation to our international Bible class.



*Hot pot with plenty of new faces and our own students.*



*International and American students at the International Bible Class, led by Pastor Kind.*

So far this semester we have met twice for international Bible class. There is small attendance but the content is good. This month a new attendee, Angelo from Ecuador, came and asked that we study what the Bible has to say about faith. Because people often think that faith is based on our feelings, wanting to gauge its strength based our feelings at the time, we spent most of the hour in Hebrews 11 and found that God's word soundly contradicts that idea.

Christ be with you in this Lenten season!

Rebecca Wagner