

Skidmore College and the
Capital District Team

New Student Outreach, 2008

Coming Soon to a Staff Worker Near You...

September & October
NSO (New Student Outreach): New names, new faces, new people who need to know and experience the good news!

September 18-20
Upstate Team Meetings and Expedition Planning: Upstate business with upstate staff—plus preparation and planning for the fall retreat

October 24-26
Expedition: The fall retreat—I'll be directing "Gearing Up," the track designed to help students grapple with the Lordship of Christ in their lives. Pray that we have at least 15 Skidmore students attend Expedition.

November 10-16
Fall Fund Development Week: All IV staff in NY & NJ will make a concerted effort in fund raising this week. Pray that I would raise \$5,000 in new money, and that I would lead the Capital District staff team well in this effort.

Calling All Sinners!

"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." - Jesus (Mk. 4:17)

Sometimes I wish I could've just been a fly on the wall when Jesus said something like this. Don't you wonder what the reaction was to this statement? Did the tax collectors say, "Hey, who're you callin' a sinner?" Or perhaps they were relieved to know that someone was on their side. How about the Pharisees? Did they simply think, "Well, then, I guess you're not for me."?

Then I remember, the Word of God is living and breathing, and I get to be more than just a fly on the wall as I see Jesus' words in action.

This fall at Skidmore, we'll be calling all sinners—those of us who think we're righteous, those of us who know we're not, and everyone in between—to study the book of Mark in our small groups. I can't wait to see what happens when students come face to face with Jesus, and have to make decisions about his identity, and their own in relationship to him. I will have the privilege of leading a group for students who don't yet know that Jesus was talking about *them* when he made this statement—those who haven't yet found what they're looking for. I can't wait to be with these students, to walk with them in the newness of college life, and to wrestle with all the significant questions this new stage of life brings with it. As I anticipate the coming year, I look forward to watching Jesus at work, healing the sick, calling sinners from death to life, and from new life to life more abundant.

Pray

In the next 3 weeks, students will swarm onto campuses all over the capital district. They will be coming with expectation, fear, anticipation, hope, and many, many questions. Please pray for our efforts to reach out to these new students:



- Pray for Jietack, Linda, and Alysia (seen here with pages of plans at Basileia). Pray that God equips these leaders (and others) to carry out *His* plans for Skidmore.
- Pray that every new student at RPI, Russell Sage, Skidmore and Union would encounter a kind, thoughtful, helpful Christian student in their first week at school, and that that encounter would positively shape their attitude toward Christ throughout their years at college.
- Pray for great follow up. We will be meeting hundreds of new students. Pray that we are persistent and consistent in our care for these new students.
- Pray for growth. At Skidmore, we are praying for a 50% increase in our chapter size (from 27 to 40 people), and for at least 4 people to begin to follow Jesus.