

Skidmore College and the  
Hudson Valley Team

December, 2007

## Came and Coming Soon to a Staff Worker Near You...

October 26-28

**Expedition:** We brought 8 Skidmore students to our fall retreat, where they received fantastic discipleship training. (See article at right.)

December

**Leadership Selection:** New leaders have been selected to serve the Skidmore chapter in 2008. Pray for the new team as they prepare for what God has for them, and for the chapter, in the year to come.

December 15

**HV Team Meeting:** Local staff will gather for a day of worship, training, and "ministry business." We'll spend some time talking about international student ministry specifically. In the evening, we'll break to celebrate the birth of our Savior!

January 2-6

**National Staff Conference:** I'll travel to St. Louis with staff from around the country to attend our triennial national staff conference. According to our website, "SC08 will be a great theme party where we can revel with old (and new) friends over the stuff we care about deepest and enjoy the intoxicating joy of seeing life and ministry through the multi faceted perspectives of our diverse community."

January 25-27

**Leaders' Days:** My colleagues and I will train the new leadership teams on our campuses in eastern NY. They will receive Biblical, practical training on things such as mission, vision, strategy, prayer, and evangelism, and will be helped to plan for those things on campus.

## Expedition '07

Often, we don't have the privilege of knowing the fruits of our labors. We don't serve the Lord so that we can celebrate what fantastic servants we are! However, I think it is a gift from God when He allows us to hear how our prayers, our finances, our time, or our energy has been used to bring Him glory.

Many of you were praying for our fall discipleship retreat, Expedition '07. As you read how a few of the Skidmore students were impacted at the retreat, I pray that you will receive their testimonies as a gift from the Lord. Enjoy the ways that God met others because of your faithfulness to pray!



Skidmore Christian Fellowship at Expedition '07

*"Dear friend of InterVarsity.."*



'Thank you for praying for us. During the retreat, I learned the importance of taking initiative and being involved in the community. Also, I realized that God's word always has something new to say, even when we feel that we "know" the text. You can continue to pray that I can continue to draw inspiration from God and begin being involved in the campus. Thank You!' - Jietack '11

'Thank you so much for supporting our trip to the fall retreat! Your prayers were very appreciated. I learned a lot about studying the Bible, and got so much more out of the book of Jonah than I thought was in there! God also continued to speak to me about my journey through college and how I relate to other people. It was a productive and amazingly fun weekend! Thank you again for your thoughts and prayers.' - Alysia '10



*(continued on back)*

# Hudson Valley Happenings

This is a new, but hopefully regular, column in my prayer letter. I hope that this letter will begin to reflect my role as the Hudson Valley team leader as well as it highlights the work at Skidmore. So, I've asked my staff to begin contributing to this letter as well. Niki Campbell, who's been serving at RPI for the past few years, and is now also serving at Russell Sage while we find new staff for that chapter, has this to say...

*"The Sage InterVarsity chapter (a chapter of about 16) put on a spa night for the campus and 90+ students participated in it. The purpose behind spa night was to discuss the intersections of Beauty and Spirituality. The campus administration was so excited about it that they ... did massive amounts of advertising for Spa Night and they paid for the Wellness Center to make fruit smoothies for everyone. They had other campus groups participate. [The nutrition club, the Muslim Student Association, the protestant chaplaincy...] There were massages and crafts... [and] a meditation room for students to participate in. While this was going on, there were Dove videos showing fashion models before make-up, what they have to do to get fully "made up" then afterward. ... They had a speaker come in to talk about how Jesus healed the woman bleeding for 12 years and how her faith in Jesus made the rest of society once again see her as beautiful. And in that simple act of faith, her beauty was restored. After that discussion the women stayed simply to watch a movie and hang out with each other. It was amazing to see that even though the chapter is small, they made an enormous impact on their campus. Please pray as they try to cultivate ways to continue these new found friendships and ways they can continue to speak of Jesus to their fellow students.*

*At RPI-We recently just finished our new leadership selection process. ... I was excited and encouraged this year because of the 40 candidates who said they were willing to serve the chapter if they were chosen, most all of them were committed to further evangelism on campus. The candidates communicated how they had a vision to see all their classmates to know the love of Christ. They talked about how they dream that when their kids come to RPI that they will have professors who allow them to speak about their Christian beliefs and help support them in the Christian walk. Remembering how these very engineers would fight me tooth and nail when I talked about sharing the gospel to their classmates 2 1/2 years ago when I came to RPI as their volunteer staff, and now seeing that they have successfully been convicted of that need and have communicated that vision to the rest of the chapter humbles me. It excites me to see the Holy Spirit working on the Christian students at RPI and how they have a desire to see the Spirit working in their non-Christian friends."*

## Family Corner

All's well in the Bailey household. Campbell Charis was born on June 25, and we're all adjusting pretty well to being a family of 4. Campbell

adores her big brother, and Ian adores the admiration, so it's a mutually beneficial relationship!

If you'd like to see more photos of our growing family, feel free to check out our photos at <http://picasaweb.google.com/BallstonBailey/>



*May you enjoy the blessings of a joyous Christmas season!*

*- Danielle*

## Expedition '07 (continued from front)

'Hello. My name is Ismatu Alison-Konteh. I am a freshman at Skidmore College and I attended the Expedition retreat '07. Throughout that weekend, I wanted God to speak to me in very obvious ways. However, God did something way better, He used my experiences in the retreat to open my eyes to the situations I was facing at Skidmore. I learned so much in that weekend. I interacted with lots of people, read the word of God, appreciated God's beauty in nature, in people and in myself. He revealed to me that I must seek Him in everything that I do, that I must seek him for motivation, I have to surrender to God as many times as it takes, He is an applicable God and He is a personal God because he has an intimate relationship with each one of his children. He forced me to confront the very things that I was having very difficult time thinking about. Thank you so much for praying for me. I really appreciate it!' - Ismatu '11



'Thank you so much for praying for us while we were at the fall retreat. I had a wonderful time praising God, loving friends, and meeting new people. Being in the Crossroads track helped me learn more about what God wants from me after I graduate. Although I am scared to graduate, I now feel spiritually ready to begin a new walk of my life with God's grace, power, and love. Thanks again for your prayers!' - David '08