

RENEW

RESTORE

RE-FORM

New Faces, New Mission, New Name

When I came on board as the new Campus Pastor at The Baptist House at Ball State University, I knew quickly that several changes would be forthcoming. However, without the students back when I started, I was not sure what those would be. With funding down and low student involvement the ministry, 2 years earlier having to move from the Ball Mansion to our new location at 1400 W. Abbott Street, was struggling with an identity crisis and the Leadership Team was struggling with “where do we go from here?”

I came on board about a month before Rev. Charlie Gilbert’s retirement was official so that he could train me and talk me through some of the challenges the ministry was facing, especially when it came to the process of moving and losing the ministry’s home place, it’s former location, it’s identity that has brought

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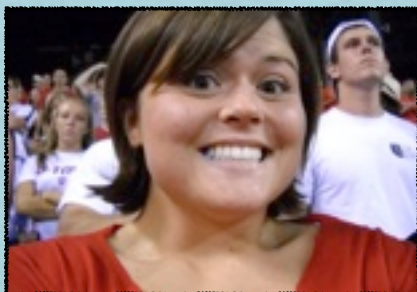


**Picture Above:
Oasis serves after practice dinner to the BSU
Women’s Soccer Team**

The Oasis Campus Ministry was asked and had a great opportunity to serve some of the awesome student athletes at Ball State.

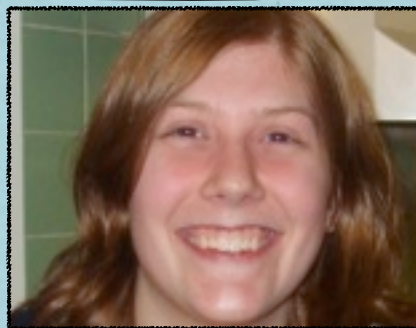
As summer was coming to end, the BSU Women’s Soccer Team needed to be served dinner after one of their pre-season practices. We jumped at this opportunity and with the help of our students, Riverside Ave. Baptist Church, and First Baptist Muncie, we were able to serve a nutritious baked potato bar

meal. These female athletes were very appreciative of our efforts and we had a great time of fellowship and getting to know them. Pastor Dave’s daughter Julia was even able to get her soccer ball signed by the team.



INTERN: SHALA PUGH

Check out Shala’s column on page 2. Shala is serving as our Campus Ministry Intern this year and also serves as our 2011-2012 President. Shala is a Junior from Mitchell, IN.



INTERN: SAM DAWKINS

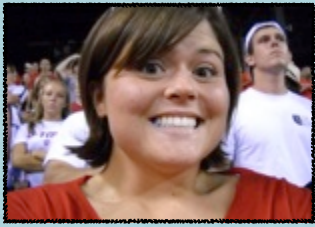
Sam Dawkins is an intern with us serving with The Friendship Class. This class is a local church ministry serving adults with physical/ intellectual disabilities. See story column, pg 5.



THE IMPACT OF SPRING BREAK MISSIONS

Meet Ryan Swayer, who after one of our Spring Break Mission Trips to West Virginia, returned there to work as an intern all summer in 2011. Read his story, page 5.

OASIS



PRESIDENT & INTERN

My name is Shala Pugh and I am currently serving as President and Intern at The Oasis Campus Ministry. I am also a resident while I work on my degrees in Psychology and Ceramics. I have been a member of The Oasis since 2009 and I'm enjoying every bit of helping out with the ministry.

Help Us Connect

The very best way our campus ministry can connect with students is to be able to meet them before they arrive at Ball State.

Pastors, Youth Leaders and Parents, can invite us to come to your town to meet your student, have lunch with them and maybe speak at your church.

We would love to schedule an opportunity to come to you!

Student inspired mission to give much needed help to local ministries...



I am currently organizing a scarf drive (see photo above) for a local Christian shelter. Multiple students are knitting and crocheting scarves to donate on November 18th. I am also working collaboratively with a student from The Found at Purdue on a combined student retreat to be held at Indian Creek Baptist Camp and Retreat Center, January 20-22, 2012. We always love getting together with our sister ministry at Purdue to build relationships between our ministries.

We thank you for your support and affirmation of our ministry to the Ball State Campus. Please come by and visit when you are in Muncie.

The photo above shows the full bag of scarves, mittens, gloves and toboggans knitted by Shala Pugh, and other students.

They will be donated to local mission organizations in Muncie who provide winter clothing for those in need.

This is just one way some of our students take the initiative to live out their faith by using their gifts and abilities serving those in need.

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so much meaning, purpose, and discipleship to those who have come before - our alumni.

During the summer of 2009, I was able to meet a couple of students who would be coming to Ball State that Fall by invitation of their Pastor who scheduled me to preach at their service and then arranged for me to have lunch with these students in his home, introducing me, and helping me get to know them as we shared a meal and conversation. From there, and with some of returning students at Ball State, we somehow had each room at the house filled. In November that year, we embarked on a student retreat with 9 students and myself to begin rethinking and re-envisioning The Baptist House at Ball State.

As a result of that meeting, the students worked through a process of discernment that included Bible Study, personal devotion time, mission, and an opportunity to consider our purpose and identity at Ball State. As we worked through issues, questions, and the Biblical focus, our students came up with our new mission statement, which is:

AS OUR FUNDING GOES DOWN STUDENT INVOLVEMENT GOES UP WE NEED YOU!



We need our Baptist House Alumni and Friends to re-connect with us so that they can help us rebuild a strong, relevant ministry to Ball State and Ivy Tech.

We need alumni willing to serve on our Leadership Team, give financially, speak to our students, serve as Spring Break Mission Trip Volunteers and to continue to pray for our success.

We need our American Baptist Churches of Indiana/Kentucky and Greater Indianapolis regions to continue, restart or begin supporting us financially, through prayer, and volunteering to meet a variety of needs we have for the house and ministry throughout the school year and summer.



The former Baptist House most of you know

Mission Statement

“Providing hospitality to students of all backgrounds, the mission of The Oasis Campus Ministry at Ball State University is to open its doors as a home-away-from-home environment; giving students spiritual support and emotional guidance through Christian leadership in an open and non-judgmental way.”

Prompted by the new mission statement, the students came up with our new nickname, The Oasis. However, The American Baptist Campus Ministry remains our official, legal name.

After all these changes, we also tackled our Student Organization Constitution which was changed, submitted and accepted by the Student Life Office that Spring.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND PROJECT NEEDS



Support The Oasis!

Checks can be written to **The Oasis or American Baptist Campus Ministry** and sent to:

The Oasis
C/O Rev. David Jones
1400 West Abbot Street
Muncie, IN 47303

You can financially support The Oasis in the following ways:

- 1) Send us a monthly check in the amount of your choosing. We need sustaining gifts.
- 2) Send us a special Once-A-Year Gift to help build up our operational options for the ministry.
- 3) Send a One-time Gift for a special project to help meet maintenance, renovation, equipment, and improvement needs.
- 4) Donate by writing a check to The Ball State University Foundation (in memo line write: Account #7505 - The Baptist House). These funds can only be used for student education/equipment not for worship or other religious activities.

Special Projects/Ongoing Needs

Adding Parking Area

Food Funds for Events

Technology improvements

Bathroom Renovations

Maintenance

Advertising Costs

Painting/Flooring repairs

INVOLVEMENT UP GIVING DOWN

by Pastor Dave

Campus Pastor

...

As many of you know, we have been rebuilding the American Baptist Campus Ministry at Ball State over the last few years. I am happy to report that things are on the upswing in terms of involvement. Right now, our student participation is up, our house is full, and we are serving students in a variety of ways, while encouraging and providing them opportunities to serve each other, the Muncie community, and the Ball State campus.

However, our funding has been going down for many years, even before I came on board. I have to admit that it is difficult in this economy ask for financial support. It has been personally difficult for me to even ask for financial support for the ministry from our alumni and friends because I know that people do not want to be harassed about giving, donating, and supporting when they are personally stretched or maybe a congregation has its own financial crises and are cutting back. Often, donating to this type of ministry is unfortunately one of the first things to get cut from others' budgets.

But, it is critical that American Baptists have a presence and ministry with students, young adults,

on our campus. The reality is we can not provide this ministry without the support of our alumni, friends, and American Baptist congregations.

As we move into a new year, and a continuation of our new identity, with new students, we need your support. Jesus said in Matthew 21:22, *If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.* It comes at the end of the passage where Jesus curses the fig tree.

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.

Why did Jesus curse the fig tree? Well, according to the passage, he was hungry and the fig tree had only leaves on it, no fruit. So, Jesus says, *May you never bear fruit again!* The tree immediately withered and the disciples were amazed. Then Jesus closes this out by saying, *Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.*

So, in faith and believing, I make a request of our alumni, friends, and American Baptist congregations. I

ask and pray that you will consider how you might be able to financially support The American Baptist Campus Ministry at Ball State, formerly known as The Baptist House, now called The Oasis.

I know I ask boldly. But I ask believing that we will receive support when we ask and make you aware of our needs. As you can see in other sections of this newsletter, there are some things we'd like to do to make The Oasis more inviting to students. There are always house maintenance issues, and we need to develop more parking, and do some bathroom renovations, and more. We need more funding in order to have more programming options and to support staffing, student leadership development, discipleship resources, and financial resources for students to serve in missions both locally and around the nation on our Spring Break Mission Trips (in 2012, we are going to Washington, DC).

Please be in prayer for us as we move forward in ministry at Ball State. We truly desire that God will use this ministry as a transforming presence on campus and in the Muncie community. For those who have supported us and continue to support us, we thank you so much. May God answer our prayer to bring others on board.



Ryan Swayer

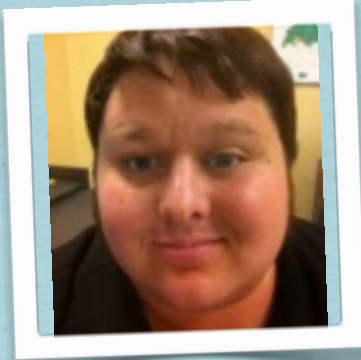
Serving in West Virginia

Ryan Swayer became part of the group in the Fall of 2009. He was part of our 2010 Spring Break Mission Trip to Asheville, NC and joined us again on our 2011 Spring Break Mission Trip to Northfork, WV.

After participating in the 2011 West Virginia trip, Ryan decided to apply to serve with Mustard Seeds and Mountains as a summer intern and returned to West Virginia. There, Ryan worked with the ministry and helped groups who came in for the summer. Youth and church groups from around the U.S. come there to serve this mining/lumber community that is mired in poverty.

Ryan has many gifts that helped him in his task in leading groups as they served, including gifts of home

ENHANCE THE MEDIA PROJECT



My name is Kyle Swabb and I have been affiliated with the Oasis for over three years now and am currently living here attending Ball State University for my masters in network engineering. I am taking the lead on this project. One of the projects that are currently in progress is updating the video and audio resources that we currently have in The Oasis. Over the years these resources have proven to be valuable tools. Unfortunately, the projector has become severely out-of-date. Cost for this project will be approximately

* \$2,389.00. Once approval and funding is achieved I will make the installation happen quickly. The result will be a projector that plays blu-ray disks in full HD, with 3D blu-ray capabilities. The projector is also completely backwards compatible with all other video formats (DVD, CD, VHS etc.).

The audio will be upgraded to 5.1 THX digital audio unit that will be mounted for enhanced audio quality. This is a huge upgrade from the projector setup we had prior that was wheeled around on a cart and frankly a safety hazard due to the amount of loose cords and general setup. This update will provide the Oasis with the resources and tools it needs to serve the community in a more effective manner.

repair, construction experience, as well as worship and group Bible study leadership.

Please keep Ryan in your prayers as he is considering another summer with Mustard Seeds and Mountains. He, as has Shala, Sam, Kyle, and several others, have been great additions to our ministry at Ball

State. Students are putting feet to the gospel, not just words, in so many ways and need your continued prayer and support. We need your support in order to resource and mentor these students to serve and find ways of expressing their faith both on and off campus, both locally and around the nation.



SAM DAWKINS SERVING AS INTERN W/ FRIENDSHIP



Samantha (Sam) Dawkins

Student Sam Dawkins has been serving this semester as an intern at Riverside Avenue Baptist Church with what is called The Friendship Class.

Friendship Class is a group designed to serve adults with intellectual and physical disabilities. Classes begin with welcoming participants from area institutions or homes where they live with family. Sam then leads the group in singing. The major part of Sam's role is to explore how her studies in the area of special education can also be used in the context of ministry.

After singing, the group takes prayer request, then participants help lead prayer, there is a Bible Story time, then often a craft and/or games to play. Also, as part of this experience, Sam has volunteered to serve as a companion at a SonRise Retreat which serves the same population of adults, but from a broader area around the region.

SonRise Retreats and Camps is an organization that hosts Fall/Winter/Spring Retreats for these adults and also hosts camps during the summer. Students, even youth who are 14 and over, can serve with these retreats and camps and is a great opportunity for youth groups from Indiana to get involved in this very special ministry. Please pray for Sam as she continues to serve her internship this year.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



www.bsuoasis.org

Directions to the The Oasis:

Coming South on 69:

Take the HWY 332 Exit to Muncie.

Turn left off ramp.

Follow into Muncie, turn right on Tillotson

Turn Left on Bethel, Right on New York and

1st right onto W. Abbott Street. We are at 1400, half-way down on the right.

Coming North on 69:

Same as above except turn right off exit.



THE OASIS

AN AMERICAN BAPTIST CAMPUS MINISTRY

1400 WEST ABBOTT STREET

MUNCIE, IN 47303