

United Campus Ministry at MSU Billings
Fall 2015 Report by Rob Kirby

The new semester has started and we have seen a lot of new faces at our first few programs of the year. Starting in August a group of UCM students started meeting at Off the Leaf on Sunday evenings about twice a month for tea. The cost was negligible and it was good for some of the student to connect through the summer.



Welcome Week

We took a group of 24 students on a Red Lodge hiking and shopping trip (low water forced us to cancel rafting). They spent some time up the West Fork hiking and then went to town for an art show and general shopping. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the students were new international students. On Tuesday we connected with new students as we tabled at the campus wide BBQ. On Wednesday we had our first fellowship night with 10 students including a number of new faces. Thursday's International Coffee was well attended with about 20 students from 9 countries. The Sunday church visit unfortunately was a complete flop as no students showed.

Upcoming Events

I am excited about our new outreach to Non Traditional students that will meet on Wednesdays from 12:30 to 2pm. It is a very underserved demographic that has some very clear needs. I am hopeful that this NonTrad coffee hour will be well received and the students will take ownership of this program. The international ministry is off to a great start with both a lot of students and a lot of energy.

Weekly activities this semester will include:

- Sunday Morning Flavors of Faith 10ish
- Monday Hiking and Rest on the Rim 8:10am
- Tuesday Famous Parables Bible Study 10:30am
- Tuesday OUT student group 6pm
- Wednesday NonTrad Coffee hour 12:30
- Wednesday Fellowship 8:30p
- Thursday International Coffee 4pm

Some other activities I have been or will be involved in this semester include an Residence Assistant Training, Interfaith Council at MSUB, Phoenix Center, Not In Our Town, Billings Faith Connect, Billings Clergy Association, Mayor's Committee on Homelessness, Rainbow Coffeehouse, and Denominational Meetings.

Some upcoming events and projects at UCM include:

- Sept 23rd Hot Dogs and Smores in the Park 8:30pm
- Oct 6th Dessert at the golf course
- Hiking at Zimmerman Trail
- Retreat at Eagle Rock and Hiking at Four Dances
- Tumbleweed Art Show
- Corn Maze/Haunted House
- Jan 9th - 17th Winter Service Trip to San Francisco

Some events and typical attendance numbers. (Low/Typical/High)

Regularly Scheduled

Flavors of Faith Sun Worship (0/0)

International Coffee (20/20/20)

Famous Stories Study (3/3/3)

Food, Fun and Faith (10/10/10)

OUT Student Group (8/8/8)

Annual

Red Lodge Hiking (24)

Typical Total Weekly Program 41

Typical Weekly Meaningful Contacts 52