



**Columbia Students
for Christ**

CSFC Newsletter

CSFC VISION:

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God”

- 1 John 4:7 -

We seek to make the reality of God the deepest part of our lives by intensifying our relationships with God, believers, and non Christians.



Very happy, thankful seniors at Thanksgiving banquet. Nov. 22. Each class cooked a portion of the feast and entertained everyone with awesome skits. Freshmen had a “bring people to God dance off,” sophomores showed the reconciliation of “Desperate Christians” to God, juniors freed the Turkeys from the hands of evil Egyptians, and seniors made fun of all the fellowships but proved how awesome it is to be united through the escapades of a jealous, never-picked-to-be-eaten healthy Tofurkey.

Highlights of November:

- Interfellowship large group
- Thanksgiving Banquet
- Thanksgiving Break
- Veritas Prayer
- Interview with a small group

“Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Hi everyone! There’s so much to share from the happenings of November. Thanksgiving came our way, renewing and definitely refreshing us with good food, good times, and a greater appreciation for God. So eat up as much of this issue as you can, because it’s filled with lots of awe, joy, reflection, encouragement and fun => Though it’s been a rough semester, God never ceases to bring us times of refreshing. Much peace to you during December!

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“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.”

1 John 5:14

Power of Prayer—join us in prayer everyday 8:25 am Lerner 573!

Kai Chang

Wow, it really has been a month already. Since this month was primarily focused on building up unity within the campus, especially among the various fellowships, it has been a really encouraging time. One surprising bit of encouragement came in the form of a surprising influx of people coming to our daily Morning Prayer meetings. These prayer meetings are devoted primarily to intercessory prayer for our campus and for Veritas, the large outreach event we have in the spring. Throughout this past month, many new people have started coming to the meetings. While the number fluctuated wildly from just one person to six or seven people, overall, there seems to be more interest and more urgency in prayer. Without a doubt, these prayers contributed to the awesome Interfellowship Large Group and Thanksgiving Dinner we had. In addition to the encouragement of seeing people come, we’ve also seen a lot of our prayers answered. It is amazing to see something that we thought impossible such as getting the large auditorium for four nights in a row in the middle of show season actually becoming a reality. While there are still many things to pray for both for this semester and the next, I am excited to see what will happen as a result of God using this prayer meeting.



Interfellowshipping, Oh My!

Sabrina Cheng

For my entire career at school, the fellowships have always been distinct in my mind. They each had different goals at Columbia, and their memberships were strictly divided. But in the past year, I found myself getting to know a few people in the other fellowships, and found that our goals are really not so different, and our memberships are pretty much the same, race aside. We are all followers of Christ with desires to fellowship with one another and with God. We pray the same prayers and we sing the same praise songs. The interfellowship events this year have helped me see that, instead of just merely telling myself, or convincing myself, that "we are one body in Christ." I really appreciated seeing all the classes come together during Thanksgiving dinner to put on presentations. In each of them, there was the common string of joining hands to represent unity between the fellowships. In my mind, that's how I would like to perceive the fellowships all the time, even without interfellowship events. And I hope, in time, that is how the world will see us, too.



Irwin Kim, the evil pharaoh, and his fellow Egyptians “present” themselves to the audience.



The freshmen dance-off results in the opponents (the kids in black) coming to Christ, the J.Crew side.



Practicing for Interfellowship Thanksgiving Skits

Michelle Chu



Sophomores expose themselves: *Desperate Christians*. Hi Ellen!

The Interfellowship Thanksgiving dinner held on Tuesday, November 22 was truly a sight to be thankful for. Members from Intersity Christian Fellowship, Korea Campus Crusade for Christ and Columbia Students for Christ filled the Roone Arledge Auditorium. There was delicious food cooked by various members of the fellowships and fun performances from each class. Worshiping God and having fellowship together with more than 150 other members of Columbia fellowships was amazing and reassuring as well. For me, however, the best part was not the night itself but the collaboration and preparation that went on beforehand.

Each class had to give a presentation that involved as many people from the three fellowships as possible. The juniors prepared a funny skit about turkeys and

Egyptians—a story very loosely based on the story of Moses and his struggle to free the Israelites. It had several parts to it, which meant that some of us met in smaller groups to work on our individual parts. As one of the narrators, I was responsible for helping write the narration, for which I had to meet with the other narrator, Israel Jung from KCCC. It was not only fun to write the script but it was good to get to know someone I had always recognized but had never really talked to. The joint practices where all of us juniors gathered together were even more fun. It could be hectic at times with so many people but there was so much energy. I had not realized that there were so many juniors I didn't know and it was great to be able to work with them to practice and to make costumes. It was a joint effort that helped us to gel better as a class. Although the finished product was a funny skit which everyone loved, I think what we gained most came from the meetings and practices that happened in preparation for the dinner. 😊

Here come Susan on her pony— COME ON, Susan!



08's for JESUS

"I want the plump one! Ew, don't get the Tofurkey. The tall one is too skinny. I pick Norman."





I don't wanna be a chicken. I don't wanna be a duck. I just wanna be a tuuuuuuur~key! Juniors fight for their right to be Turkeys.



Those CSFC boys. They're so ho-...they're so holy right now.



Tien is too tall. Sabrina, Joyce, Yingdi, and Jessica are perfect.

Interview with a Barnard Small Group

Juniors Joyce Yan and Christine Chang are the leaders of a great small group. They're a whacky small group, with cackles, smiles, and tangents every 2 seconds. And for every cup of silliness, there's definitely an overflowing cup of thoughtful discussion and sweet fellowship.

Who are the leaders...

What is it like being a small group leader?

Joyce: It's interesting. Even when we prepare answers, we get God insights during small group.

Christine: I love being a co-leader! I can't really consider it leading though, because I learn from the girls just as much as I contribute. One of my friends recently told me that sometimes responsibility can become burdensome in light of how much we think we have to accomplish, but I've found leading to be no burden at all. Everyone has such unique experiences to offer, and we love to fellowship. So it's great...other than having to clean up your room once a week so three's room for everyone to sit.

What have you learned?

Joyce: Impulsiveness. ::hand motions and voice effects::The Holy Spirit~!

Christine: I personally enjoyed studying who God is during small group. Because most of the material is foundational, it was a great way to use it as a simple reminder in how God has fulfilled and revealed those qualities of His personality in my life. It's amazing how much you can attribute to God's blessing when you stop and think about it. Also, junior year has been horrible for me in terms of maintaining relationships, and small group reminds me how important relationships are.



Favorite pastime?

Joyce: Do you mean "happen in the past"? I love sleeping. And laughing real loudly.

[insert Ellen]: I like it when Joyce laughs really loudly. And then I laugh!

Christine: I like to sleep and I like to eat. Please don't make me choose between the two! An odd pastime of mine is to watch trailers on apple.com, and I like to read cartoons, but only if they are funny.

Favorite book in the Bible?

Joyce: Ooh that's a good one. Galatians or Acts...or James. Yea.

Christine: I don't have an answer to question 4.

Who are the small group ladies...

What do you like about small group?

Lu: Joyctina Yan Chang. Talking about God's Word with other people is so cool.

Ellen: Yaaaah, man! [Jamaican accent] I like sharing.

Jess Lui: Sharing. It's nice that we're not alone in our spiritual walk.

Jess Hwang: The sound effects people make. Oh, I like the series on God we've been doing.



Interview with Joycetina Yan Chang's Small Group cont...

How has small group impacted your spiritual growth?

Jess Lui: Small group encourages me.

Ellen: I learned more about God and the Bible.

Lu: in a way, it helps me keep accountable. This isn't just a personal spiritual experience. Jesus didn't die just to have a one way interaction between Him and us. Small group reminds me of the basic commandments. Reading the Bible reminds us how much we don't know. For shiz.

What is your most memorable moment about small group?

Jess Lui: Hm, I don't know...when we were all dancing to air guitar...post small group.

Joyce: That was a great day.

Ellen: WAK WAK! Learning *kaw kaw, kaw kaw!* backwards, aka *THE HERA*.

Lu: I don't have a favorite moment. Tangents are good.

What have you learned from small group?

Lu: Right now, because it's still in my head, there's a reason for suffering.

Ellen: Discipline. God disciplines us. We ask "why is it happening to me?" and God is like "You need it to be more holy".

Joyce: *Transforming power of discipline...*

Ellen: Especially when we're little and we're like "Hey man. Why do I have to get hit? *pout*"

Jess Lui: Community is goooooood.



Small group leader Christine and small group leader Jessica are so happy.

Grace and Lu serve dinner.

GOBBLE GOBBLE



CC, SEAS, and BC classes of 2009 and their first interfellowship Thanksgiving dinner =]



Five thankful, beautiful Barnard women: Christina Chu, Ellen Wu, Lu Han, Grace Yeh and Christine Chang.



In closing...

Jess Hwang



Jung prepares her Intersivity turkey, Richard.



Turkeys, Aaron and Moses, [Lillian Lam and Kai Chang] lead the Turkeys to freedom!



3 great John Jay ladies: Michelle, Samantha and Andrea!

Nearing the close of the semester, many of us have been experiencing the wrath of God—Hehe woops, OK definitely not. I mean the wrath of...ourselves? Not to say that we haven't been enjoying these days. Interfellowship large group united so many of us in corporate worship and aligned us to the vision of academia that God has for us, Thanksgiving dinner in John Jay was really tasty, and interfellowship Thanksgiving banquet satisfied our hunger for class fun and food. The list of blessings and *thanks God!* can go on and on. But I've been letting school drag me around more than praising God with a grateful heart. I don't think I've cut so many classes consecutively before; someone in my suite (616 4D—visit and we'll feed you) is always awake at 5:20 a.m.; and Thanksgiving is a past memory of "I did no work over the weekend" and a stuffed tummy. I was getting fat, in a spiritually lazy, cellulite-ful kind of way. Then early one morning around 5 a.m., I woke up from a nap and groaned to whoever was online. A good friend of mine suggested, "do a qt to wake up? And then study?" Oh. Well, I guess I could... and then suddenly early morning prayers began! For the past few days I've been falling asleep at midnight (without doing much work), waking up around 5, and going through the book of Mark (the book that stresses more action rather than themes). And Jesus...He took action. When the disciples were like "Meh, Jesus, send the people away so they can buy themselves something to eat," Jesus said, "*You give them something to eat.*" Having compassion on people whom he saw as dumb sheep, calming storms and healing the weak in spirit, he checked the people's faith and they got told. So many verbs!

What really strikes me is his scriptural insert: " 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.' You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men." [Mark 7:6-8] He was telling the Pharisees to stop criticizing people who don't ceremonially cleanse themselves before eating, because you know what? "Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him 'unclean.'" Now there's an interesting paradox—doing too much action and getting carried away with man's traditions. Lucky for us, Jesus reminds us to keep our hearts close to God.

During my "fattening days", I kept stressing about how I need to be more active: actively praying, actively doing school work, actively "not sinning". But since Jesus was super active and super clean, I can joyfully take action, hopeful that what comes out of us will be clean if we keep our hearts near to Him and trust. It's nice to know that standards or influences of society will not make us unclean. We can't blame outside forces. It's also nice to know that we are not our own. We're God's, so we should understand the magnitude and sovereignty of whom we trust, or else we'll just bog ourselves down and make ourselves unclean. There's so much more to these passages too. Read it and learn =)

So where is my heart? Mmm in a state of awe, really grooved out by Jesus', "Psh, no. You do it, son," and his utmost respect for the Father.

