

April 14, 2018

Dear Friends at Rogersville,

This winter we completed our 50<sup>th</sup> Annual two-week BCC Winter School in Seoul, South Korea.

Each year brings new students, and new and exciting challenges!

**David South**, former teacher at Freed Hardeman and now preacher for the Woodland Hills Church in Memphis, taught Old Testament History, **Brandi Kendall**, former missionary to Singapore and now Dean of Ministry Training for SIBI (Sunset International Bible Institute). taught Church Growth. (See picture – Brandi is on the left and David is on the right.)

Among the students who attended there were several new Christians from a new congregation. Individuals included in this group were high school teachers, undergraduate and graduate students, a college professor, college chaplain, preachers, seminary students, a retired court officer, venture capitalist, carpenter and more. Their interest is not in theology, as is taught in most seminaries, but studying the Bible as it is. **That's what our teachers do and they love it.**

As most of you know, we've been offering two 2-week training sessions a year, one in the winter and the other in the summer.

The first winter school began in 1968 on the Korea Christian College campus with 23 students. The students attended classes seven to nine hours daily. Each day the schedule began at 5:20 a.m. with devotions and ended about 10:00 p.m. with a sermon. Even then, many students stayed up much longer studying or engaging in discussions.

O.P Baird, former missionary to Korea, wrote in an article, **"Our experience teaching together in the BCC winter school was one I shall never forget. When teaching in that school we knew we were teaching people who were eager to learn and were there for no other purpose. I felt that what we were teaching would have a strong and an immediate affect and that some of those whom we were teaching would go immediately to teach others. The fact that only one remained without baptism when the school ended was an indication of how sincere they were and how effective the teaching was."**

Through those fifty years many of the students have become Christians and are teaching others. Some have begun new congregations. There is no way to completely measure the good work they have done. Only God knows.

For many years the school met on the Korea Christian College campus. It also met at a retreat center in Uijeongbu, not far from the DMZ for several years. One year it met in the basement of a hotel near our office that we remodeled before using. Since 2005, we have rented the top floor of a 7-story building, where we are now.

Our present location has served us well, but it's getting more and more expensive; it's not large enough, it's not permanent, and it's not ours. We are hoping to complete this building before the next winter school begins January 7, 2019.

The new building will have four stories.

- First floor – Classroom for 45 people, baptistry, reception office.
- Second floor – Same size classroom, Office, Conference Room
- Third floor – Six sleeping rooms – two large, four small
- Fourth floor – Kitchen and Dining/Fellowship room.

The plans for the building have been approved; the contract has been signed with the builder, and the two rental houses on the property were removed last week. This week work has already begun on the foundation.

Money-wise we are now within \$79,000 of reaching our goal!

Please pray for this project--and help as much as you are able. **Your gift will be more than an investment in a building; it will be an investment in training faithful leaders for the future.**

Thank you for your initial gift of \$500 for the land and your continued support for many years. I know you rejoice with me that the building has finally begun.

With Christian love,

Bill Ramsay

