

ADOPT-A-MISSIONARY

COLLEGE A5

Mission Support Team-August 2008

Program Goals:

- *Raise awareness of missions at Pleasant Ridge*
- *Support and encourage missionaries and mission works*
- *Strengthen relationships between Pleasant Ridge members and missionaries*



Visit the following websites for updates and additional information:

PleasantRidgeMissions.org

www.friendspeak.org

BIBLE CLASS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Pray each week for the readers and workers involved in FriendSpeak. Check PleasantRidgeMissions.org for updates.
2. Select a liaison from the class to communicate regularly with Ron Haker and the Mission Support Team.
3. Support and encourage the FriendSpeak program in other ways as the class is able.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FROM FRIENDSPEAK

FriendSpeak trains and equips churches to reach out to our international neighbors with English, friendship, and the Word of God. We got our start in the early 1990's as returned missionaries helping foreign college students practice their English while using biblical texts. Today, FriendSpeak offers a proven set of tools and full range of training that enable all Christians to respond to the changing demographics in our communities.

The FriendSpeak strategy is effective because we offer people something they want but have difficulty finding -- a friend who will help them improve their

conversational English. Unlike traditional English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) classes, language missions, or literacy programs, FriendSpeak is conducted in a one-to-one setting with the emphasis on relationships and meaningful conversation, not on teaching the text. The result is a series of heart-felt conversations about faith, love, and the source of abundant life!

As students from every corner of the globe arrive at the University of Texas at Arlington, Christians have an opportunity to reach the world with the Good News of Jesus. Last year, lots of students came to Park Row looking for

friendship and English lessons, and we were so short on workers that many did not get to study. Others had to be in group lessons rather than the one-on-one lessons, which are the basis for close relationships. It is really sad to miss the opportunity to share the Word with students who are asking! Please pray that we will have more workers to study with the new students that are on their way to Arlington right now. Park Row will be opening its doors for FriendSpeak again this year beginning on August 24th. The hours are 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. for the first class and 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the second class.