

SVA Weekly UPDATE



Student Chaplain
Pastor Tim Harley
with some of his
helpers.

D.C. Trip Helps the Homeless

About 30 students went to Washington, D.C. this past Saturday to bring warmth and food to some of its poorest residents. Our students served over 200 homeless a hot meal of rice & beans, vegetables, bananas, apples, and holiday pie. 40 winter coats and 30 boxes of clothes from the church's Community Services Center were also given away, along with wrapped gifts of stocking caps, gloves, and scarves. They also received personal care bags, some of which were donated by the NMSDA's Pathfinders.

The process of feeding and clothing this large group, composed of about 80% men and 20% women, takes about 2 hours. They typically set up a ministry station in a local park, and when the SVA bus pulls up, they come running from every corner. Pastor Tim Harley, SVA's student chaplain and Bible teacher, has been involved with this program for the past 14 years, a favorite among the students.

The next trip is planned for Saturday, January 14. If you have old coats, hats, gloves, or scarves you'd like to donate toward this cause, you can send them back with your child on January 4th!

Highlighting Our Awesome Students!

Seniors Calvin Snyder and Diana Sohn were presented with a special award for their achievement in academic excellence. Both were commended by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for their high scores on the PSAT test last year. Principal Hannah and guidance counselor, Todd Coulter, presented both with a framed certificate of their commendation.

On a sad note, our students and staff said goodbye to four of our beloved international students this week.

Junior Aline Kovar joined for us one semester from Austria. Victor Costa,

also a junior, came to us from Brazil. Seniors Jeniffer Bayona from Columbia and Pedro Nelumba from Angola have returned to their families as well. All of them have touched the lives of our SVA family and will be missed next semester.

Senior Ashley Rich has been commissioned to paint a chemistry timeline along the wall in the science department. She paints when she has time between classes, work, and study time. She estimates the project will be complete by the end of the year. Here is a photo of her progress so far!

CALENDAR

December 21—January 3

- CHRISTMAS BREAK

Wednesday, January 4

- School Resumes

Saturday, January 7

- Junk Scramble Competition in SVA Gym

Monday, January 9

- Student Week of Prayer begins

Friday, January 20

- Last Day to Add a Class

Sunday, January 22

- Sunday School

January 25—January 29

- Homeleave (begins after ½ day schedule) & Southwestern Tournament

Sunday, January 29

- SAT Test



Senior Ashley Rich has started an elaborate wall mural down the science hall.



Aline with friends Susie Lee and Fonda Mwangi.



Mrs. Wendy Dean's prayer group girls bid a sad farewell to Aline.



Christmas Break is finally here!



Students serve D.C. homeless on a blustery December afternoon.



Please Take Note!

- **Christmas Break** runs from Wednesday, December 20 until Tuesday, January 3.
- **School resumes** on Wednesday, January 4.
- Deadline to register for next **SAT Test** on Sunday, January 29 is Friday, December 30.
- Deadline to register for next **ACT Test** on Sunday, February 12 is Friday, January 13.

We pray that each of you has a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Principal Hannah with commended seniors Diana Sohn and Calvin Snyder.



This month, many students received gifts from their R.O.K. (Reach Our Kids) "Parents," a ministry of the NMSDA Church. Newton Msipa is thrilled with his R.O.K. gift!