



the Lampost

an EVERY-SO-OFTEN NEWSLETTER OF LAMPOST THEATRE CO.

asking the "Why?" Sometimes we take for granted that people know why we do what we do.

Why the COFFEE SHOP?

When you go to the mission field, you need to learn the language of the people, and you need to find a common ground. Lampost is called on a mission to contemporary Americans living in a fast-paced culture. That is why we use theater and the performing arts - to connect with life through an active and expressive language.

The coffee shop gives us another way to connect with this culture. In fact, you'll find that coffee is somewhat universal: in most cultures around the world (from Mongolia to Amsterdam) - people gather around coffee to relax and to share life. Isn't that one of the most needed elements in our fast-paced culture?

The coffee shop is our "front door" to this culture, a common ground where we can meet the "outside world." Not only that, but the coffee shop is a natural bridge between the campus culture and adults from the community. It is an environment where both feel welcome - and where they can be brought side-by-side.

In addition to these philosophical issues, there is a practical side to the coffee shop. We hope it will eventually create enough income to support the operational expenses of our facility. That way, the coffee shop becomes our "tent-making" activity to support discipleship, creativity, and missions.



students connect in the coffee shop

do you still TRAVEL?

Yes, we still take our performance ministry to churches and campuses.

In fact, let me tell you a story about that...

A few weeks ago we loaded up the van with the stuff and loaded up the kids, too. (Myka and Rachel have become even more a part of our ministry.) We traveled a couple hours to a location where we were doing a dinner theater for a "M.O.P.S. and Pops" group. On the trip home, we began to discuss whether it was worth the trouble to make these trips. We later discovered that the audience that night was about 50% non-churched, and that the following Sunday several non-churched couples had come to the hosting church as a result of the evening. Who are we to second-guess God?

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204 W. Seerley Blvd.
Cedar Falls, IA 50613



making a space...

A year ago, God gave us a place. It was a building and some land. But that was only the beginning. Since then, we have been trying to create a space -- a space for resting, connecting, creating.

But you fill that space.

You fill it with your prayers, your presence, and your support.



- some of you volunteer a few hours in the coffee shop - your hospitality creates an atmosphere of welcome as people gather in this space.
- some of you support us regularly with your financial giving - you help to pay the bills and keep this space open.
- some of you populate this space - you bring your small-groups for study or prayer, or just to hang out here together.
- some of you come for the coffee, but by buying a cup here rather than elsewhere, you help support this space and the mission it houses.
- some of you pray for us, because you know that makes an impact in this space.
- some of you support us because you want to touch students, some because you believe in spreading the Gospel creatively, some because you want to stand beside our missions work.

If you're not one of these people, would you consider partnering with us in creating this space?

APRIL 2009

APRIL: A MONTH

OF CELEBRATION!

This month we celebrate 1 year since we gained possession of our new home. Come join us throughout the month as we celebrate with comedy • drama • music • interactivities • and a few surprises along the way.

bryan bergman
was the first musician to perform in the new theater

extravaganza:
everything's half-price at the coffee shop as we reprise our favorite moments of comedy, music, and interactivity from the past year. this may be your last chance for jousting!

ransomTHEdonKey
is a national touring performance ensemble sponsored by InterVarsity
www.ransomthedonkey.com

variety de l'amour
back by popular demand! the comedy/variety show that made such a splash at valentines returns in time for spring fever

friday night alive
join us the last friday of each month for a time of worship and prayer

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1 fool's bash After-BASIC 9:30pm	2 bryan bergman in concert 8:00pm	3 anniversary extravaganza comedy/fun/??? 8:00pm
8	9	10
celebrate Easter with family & church		
15 tj calcarra After-BASIC 9:30pm	16 an evening with... 8:00pm	17 ransomTHE donKey 8:00pm
22 rachel olson After-BASIC 9:30pm	23 variety de l'amour 8:00pm	24 variety de l'amour 8:00pm
29 BASIC band After-BASIC 9:30pm	30 friday night alive 8:00pm	

Winter 03-04: Keeping

WARM THROUGH POSITIVELY

The past months have been filled with plenty of opportunities to challenge, exhort, train, and grow! Here are some highlights:



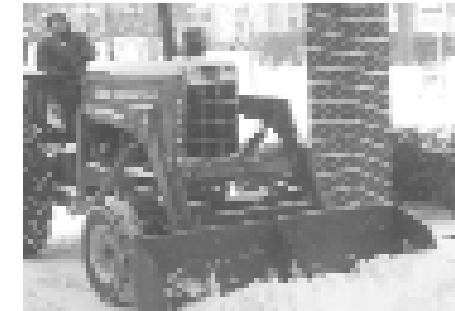
student team ministers at BASIC

JAN:

- Lampost performs and presents the keynote for a large gathering of religious educators from across Iowa.
- Lampost hosts the student body of a local christian high school for their spiritual emphasis week. The new theater now allows us to "bring audiences to us."
- Navigator's men's retreat is held at Lampost.

FEB & MAR:

- The valentine's show sells out each night. The cast includes several of our discipleship students (even barista Matt gets in the act!)
- Hansons travel to the Youth Evangelism Assoc. convention. They train leaders, students, and deliver a keynote.
- Lampost ministers at several area churches & a few dinner theaters.



challenges to owning a parking lot...



announcing:
inter * act
Creative Ministry Team

co-sponsored by
Heartland Vineyard • First Baptist Cedar Falls • Orchard Hill Church

inter*act is a new project we are undertaking with our Creative Ministry Partnership. Lampost will weekly train and disciple a team made up of members from each of three churches. The team will develop material to share periodically in the worship services at each church. What an opportunity to build bridges between the Body of Christ in the Cedar Valley! At the same time, we will be equipping these team members to be creative ministry leaders for their own churches.