

# CAMPUS MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT



## Presbytery of Western North Carolina

For the April 28, 2009 Meeting of Presbytery

### Committee Actions

The Campus Mission Committee met on Thursday, March 12th at Presbyterian Home for Children in Black Mountain. Our other meetings this year will be held on the campuses where we support college ministries.

The calendar of meetings for the year was set, the committee job description reviewed, the 2009 budget was reviewed, and selected articles of interest in the e-newsletter of the Association of Presbyterian Colleges and Universities were highlighted.

The committee voted to designate up to \$1000 of its Scholarships/Program Grants budget to enable up to 3 persons from our campus ministries to attend the first national

denominational conference for leaders of young adult ministries, the "YAM JAM" at Austin Presbyterian Seminary in May. These scholarship recipients will also lead a "Reaching New Generations" workshop for the "Lets Celebrate" event on August 22nd.

Priorities for the year include:

- Better communication of the good work being done in campus ministry in a variety of ways including reports at Presbytery meetings, building the committee presence on the website, and having college representative at presbytery meetings and special events.
- Develop an understanding that every church with even one college age member is involved in campus ministry.
- To explore and implement ways of having college student representation on or related to the committee.
- To establish a presbytery-wide "College Student Appreciation Month".
- To use part of our budget to place quality Campus Ministry resources in our Resource Center.

### Special points of interest:

- COMMITTEE WORKSHOP OFFERING AT "LETS CELEBRATE" WILL BE "REACHING NEW GENERATIONS"
- LOOK FOR INFORMATION ON A "COLLEGE STUDENT APPRECIATION MONTH" AT THE JULY PRESBYTERY MEETING.
- THE COMMITTEE IS EXPLORING WAYS OF ESTABLISHING COLLEGE STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON OR RELATED TO THE COMMITTEE

### Meeting Dates 2009

June 25th 12:30pm  
WCU Cullowhee

July 28th  
Lees-McRae College  
After Presbytery Mtng.

September 24th Time TBA  
Warren Wilson Col.

November 19th Time TBA  
Montreat College

### Lees-McRae College & Banner Elk Presbyterian Church Will Host the July Meeting of Presbytery Special Invitation for Youth

July 28th meeting of presbytery will be held on the beautiful campus of Lees-McRae College. It is a great spot to escape the summer heat for a day! Banner Elk, Arbor Dale, and Newland Presbyterian churches will be working together to host the presbytery. The meeting will be held in Anderson Auditorium in Cannon Student Center with hospitality in King Shivel Gallery beside

the Auditorium. Lunch will be in McDonald Dining Hall. Campus tours will be available for anyone interested (times to be announced).

The College would like to invite congregations to bring their youth group or confirmation class to this meeting. In the morning the youth can sit in on the meeting and experience first

hand the wider church at work. After lunch the Student Recreations Center will be open for indoor games and the swimming pool will be open.

Lees-McRae, one of your PC (USA) related colleges in covenant relationship with this Presbytery, is looking forward to hosting you!

See Attached  
Pages for reports  
from our  
PC(USA) related  
colleges in this  
Presbytery.

## Warren Wilson's Service Trip with the Lakota at Pine Ridge Reservation

Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is a place of desolation and hardship but is also a place of astounding beauty. Ten students and four staff from Warren-Wilson College have come here on a service trip (including Steven Runholt college chaplain).

Sunday was our first day. Our first task was to unload and sort roughly two tons of food from the Conscious Alliance, a food-distribution group based in Bolder, Co. Our host, Floyd and Natalie Hand, have made it their life's work to help ease the hunger on "the Rez". A part of their efforts is hosting groups like ours. Later that day Floyd, a tribal elder, invited us to sit-in on a tribal council meeting, a rare opportunity for "white people". It was hard to hear contemporary issues discussed and recall how much had happened in the past to the Lakota people in the name of things that are dear to me, America, God, and the church. At the end of the day it was good to know that we had put legs - and our backs - into what we believe. If only every day could be this hard, this good, and this simple.

Day two we traveled to Mary Ann's home to put up a fence between her home and the dilapidated handiwork of her alcoholic neighbor. After completing the fence and other improvements around her home. Mary Ann told us she had prayed for this day, for someone to come and help her. When we arrived she believed that Tunkasila (the Divine One) had sent us to her. Floyd ended our day with songs of praise to the "Great Spirit".



Star quilt pillows were our parting gift from Auntie Mary Anne.

Days three and four we spent with Henry. He runs Lakota Solar Enterprises seeking to bring renewable energy sources to "the Res" along with organic farming techniques, and buffalo restoration. We spent the day repairing a buffalo fence.

The next day we had the opportunity to participate in a sweat lodge ceremony. Symbolically persons enter the lodge as re-entering a womb. The heat sweats out the toxins of hatred, resentment, and all the negative emotions that build up in life. You leave the lodge on hands and knees being cleansed and renewed - a new birth.

Grandfather Johnson is 90 years old, and lives alone in a dilapidated 14' single-wide trailer. He is among the oldest and most respected elders, a living repository of Lakota culture, & history. We help to clean and repair his home and listen to a consultation with this respected leader. By the end of the day we feel he is everyone's grandfather!

On our last day we don't want to leave! We want to continue giving back to our hosts who have given us so much! We share in a delicious feast and in a concert of traditional songs and dance in which we are invited to participate. We are showered with parting gifts including T-shirts, hand made star quilt pillows from Auntie Mary Ann, and prayer wheel necklaces for the group leaders. We are all touched and humbled by their generosity. As I was given the necklace I was instructed to "Pray for the people of the reservation and, when you do wear this necklace and remember us here." We will never forget!

*(This report was adapted by Mae Weed from the trip blog written by Steven Runholt. To see his complete write-up about the trip go to <http://pineridgetrip.blogspot.com>)*



Building Auntie Mary Ann's fence.



Grandfather Johnson - he has become a grandfather to all of us.

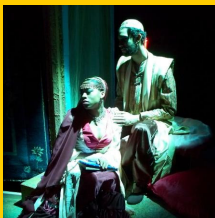
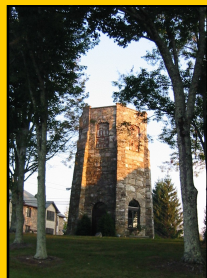


Re-populating the buffalo is one dream of Uncle Henry, a 5th generations descendant of Chief Red Cloud.



Building a buffalo fence.





# Lees-McRae Ledger

APRIL 2009

DREAM DARE ACHIEVE

## *President Bushman to step down in May*

Dr. David W. Bushman announced Thursday, March 5, that he will be stepping down as the 13<sup>th</sup> president of Lees-McRae College effective May 31 of this year. He will return to Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, to serve as the founding dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Math. Dr. Bushman has been president of Lees-McRae since October 2004.

Prior to serving Lees-McRae, Dr. Bushman served as a tenured professor of biology, Chair of the Department of Science, Director of the Office of Assessment and Dean of Academic Services at Mount St. Mary's, where he worked for 13 years.

"While [my wife] Suzanne and I retain strong family

and emotional ties to Maryland, it is impossible to leave Lees-McRae, an institution that means so much to me, without great sadness. I am proud of all that we have accomplished and am optimistic about what the future can hold for Lees-McRae. I will always share in the joy of the renaissance that is taking place here," Dr. Bushman wrote in a letter to students, faculty and staff.

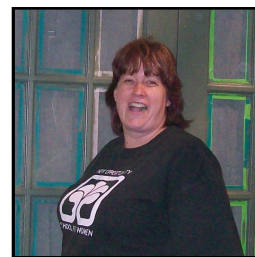
"I thank David for his service to Lees-McRae College. By every measure, he leaves Lees-McRae a stronger institution than it was five years ago," said Jane B. Stephenson '57, Chair of the Board of Trustees. "During his service to the College, we've seen a broadened and deepened base of alumni and donor support, and we continue

to see steady growth in our enrollment and retention. Members of the Board of Trustees and I are committed to providing a smooth transition in leadership for the College to ensure its continued success."

Dr. David W. Bushman joined Lees-McRae College in June 2004 as senior vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of the faculty. He served as Interim President from October 2004 to April 2005, when he was named the 13<sup>th</sup> president of the College. His inauguration was held September 30, 2005.



**Dr. David W. Bushman**  
President of Lees-McRae College



*Sharon Malone, New Opportunity School for Women graduate 2007*

## *New Opportunity School for Women:*

### *A Personal Success Story!*

Sharon Malone, a 2007 graduate of the New Opportunity School for Women, will be receiving her Associate in Applied Science Degree in Landscape Gardening from Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute in May. She plans to transfer to North Carolina Agriculture and Technical University to get her Bachelor's Degree in Agriscience Education.

Her journey began with the New Opportunity School for Women

(N.O.S.W.) held on the campus of Lees-McRae College. The program is designed to help participants learn life skills, receive support and counseling, and most importantly focus on themselves, their needs and goals. Sharon was one of 14 women from the southern Appalachian area chosen to participate in the program. The N.O.S.W. sessions helped her assess her interests and abilities, walked her through the application process for the college program of her choice, and

provided support that started her on her life-changing journey! Her success has also been an example to her three children of how to face and overcome difficulties.

The New Opportunity School for Women is funded primarily by donations from individuals, churches, and community organizations. If you would like to make a contribution or get an application for participating in the N.O.S.W. contact Director Carrie Guy at Lees-McRae College (1-800-898-8905 or [guyc@lmc.edu](mailto:guyc@lmc.edu)).

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### Dates to Remember

- ◆ *The Love of the Nightingale*  
April 17-21 in Hayes  
Auditorium
- ◆ Lees-McRae Saturday  
Open House - April 25
- ◆ Lees-McRae Saturday  
Open House - May 9
- ◆ Baccalaureate - May 22
- ◆ Commencement -  
May 23
- ◆ June is for Juniors -  
June 28
- ◆ New Opportunity School  
for Women July 12 -  
August 1
- ◆ Western North Carolina  
Presbytery Meeting on  
Campus - July 28
- ◆ Lees-McRae Summer  
Theatre Productions  
www.lmst.lmc.edu or  
828-898-8709

**VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE  
WWW.LMC.EDU**

Lees-McRae offers three exciting scholarship opportunities for students who are committed to helping others: The Bonner Leaders Program, The Service Scholars Program and the Presbyterian Scholarships. Scholarship amounts vary from \$2000 to \$4000 per year and require a significant commitment of out-of-class time to working with a community or faith-based group to meet the needs of an at-risk population. Selena Hilemon, Director of Community Outreach, screens proposals from host organizations to create a selected list of approved projects from which students may choose to meet their service requirements. Both the Bonner Leader and Service Scholars programs place students in settings where a multiple year commitment is encouraged. This offers opportunities for increasing levels of responsibility and growth in leadership skills. The Presbyterian Scholarships are limited to members of PC(USA) congregations who are willing to commit a minimum of 20 hours per semester of service to Presbyterian congregations or a PC(USA) ministry.

Requirements for and the amounts of the scholarships vary. Applying for any of these scholarships requires an additional application packet that must be filled out and returned to the college. Scholarships are limited, so if you know of interested students, urge them to apply early! For information contact: Selena Hilemon (828-898-3318, hilemons@lmc.edu) or Mae D. Weed (828-898-8777, weedm@lmc.edu).

### *Ten Days in Cuernavaca*

If you truly want to understand Mexico, don't go as a tourist. Instead, let the Benedictine Sisters of Cuernavaca introduce you to the real Mexico!

During the January Term a group of ten Lees-McRae students and staff stayed with and worked with the Sisters of Las Missioneras Guadalupanas de Cristo Rey. The Sisters' overriding mission is the pursuit of social justice in Mexico. After several lectures by university professors and government officials, the Sisters delivered an unfiltered look at the challenges faced by Mexico's poor in the purest way possible: by taking their guests to meet the people themselves. They met them in their homes, in an indigenous village outside Tepoztan, in Base Christian Community meetings, in the marketplaces, in an orphanage, and in a women's economic coop.

The group also enjoyed rich cultural experiences through visits to the Basilica of Our Lady of

Guadalupe with its historic cloak, the pyramids and ruins of Xochicalco (a 1300 year old archeological site), and experiencing first hand an indigenous Nahuatl ceremony.

The Sisters' parting gift to members of the group was a little lapel pin with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The story of her appearance to Juan Diego in 1531 is much more than a story to the poor of Mexico. It is a symbol of God's love and promise to the poor and she is venerated as a champion of the poor and a restorer of dignity. How fitting that participants should bring back this little reminder that what really matters is how we incorporate the message of the story, whether of Our Lady of Guadalupe or the call of the Gospel, into our lives.

Thank you to the churches and presbyteries whose generous financial donations made this opportunity possible for our students!

A helping hand  
with your education...



A helping hand  
to the world!

