



For the October 23-24, 2009 Meeting of Presbytery

Committee Informational Report

The Campus Mission Committee met on Thursday, June 25th on the campus of Warren Wilson College. The committee enjoyed lunch together at the college cafeteria then met on the patio of the Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church. Pastor and campus minister Steve Runholt and Church Relations Director Julie Lehman hosted us and joined us for the meeting. After an account of the impact of Campus Ministry in the life of one WWC college student and a brief time to speak with that student, the committee decided that we would continue to hold most of our meetings on the college campuses. We will also ask the campus minister/chaplain to invite 2-3 interested and involved students to meet with the committee for at least part of each meeting as a means of getting student representation in a convenient and affordable way.

Ed Brenegar reported on a successful consultation at the Cullowee Presbyterian Church. The Lees-McRae consultation will not be until next year.

The committee expressed its thanks to Joseph Washburn for leading the workshop at the "Let's celebrate" event in August.

The committee emphasis for the balance of 2009 will be updating and upgrading the Campus Mission section of the Presbytery website and developing a social networking venue for interested college students from all of our campuses.

Two new representative to the North Carolina Presbyterian Higher Education Ministries, Inc.



Warren Wilson students after a Sunday brunch, photo from Eco-Dorm article in the New York Times



Warren Wilson College's Renewable Dorm, photo from the New York Time article.

Board will be appointed by the committee to replace board members rotating off the board. Once confirmed names and contact information will be publicized.

College chaplains and/or Church Relations staff were reminded to send new briefs and updates to Gary Luhr, Executive Director of the Association of Presbyterian Colleges and Universities for possible inclusion in his e-newsletter. It is a no cost means to get out the good word!

Warren Wilson College was written up in a New York Times Magazine article highlighting it's "green dorm" and its nationally recognized environmental sustainability program. For the full article go to:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/27/magazine/27Ecodorm-t.html? r=1>

A bulletin insert master for College Student Awareness Month is attached to this report. For a PDF version check the Presbytery website. Please use this resource in your congregation!

Campus Mission Committee Meeting Dates 2009

November 19th 12:30pm
Montreat College



Did you know that for the college class of 2013:

- The Green Giant has always been Shrek, not the big guy picking vegetables.
- Text has always been hyper.
- They never had to “shake down” an oral thermometer.
- They have never understood the meaning of R.S.V.P.
- State abbreviations in addresses have never had periods.
- The European Union has always existed.
- They have always been able to read books on an electronic screen.
- There have always been flat screen televisions.
- Most communities have always had a mega-church.
- We have always watched wars, coups, and police arrests unfold on television in real time.

(from Beloit College's Mindset List for the college class of 2013)

We are called to ministry with these young adults!

A Prayer for College Students:

Eternal God, in your will our lives are lived and by your wisdom truth is found. We thank you for the gift of life and the promise to be with us on all of our journeys.

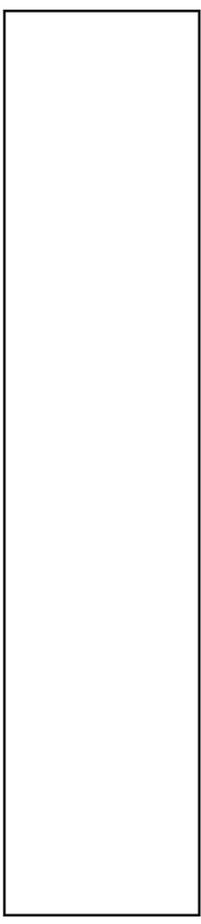
Today, O Lord, we come before you and lift _____(name) as [s/he] enters into a new phase of life. As they leave the comfort and security of their family and friends and their home, we ask that you fill them with a deeper awareness of your continued presence; we ask that you fill them with such awareness that they would never have any doubt that you are with them.

Give them a sense of peace and comfort as they move into a new place and begin the process of making new friends; and with your blessing may they continue to nurture the friendships of their past. As classes begin and _____(name) begins a new section of their journey towards their future open their hearts and minds that they may grow in knowledge, understanding, and experience.

We ask, O Lord, that even as _____(name) leaves our midst that they would continue on their journey of faith. Grant them a vision of who they are and who you are calling them to be as your child. Open our eyes and hearts that we may continue to pray for him/her during his/her journey.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,

Amen.



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Simple things you and your congregation Can do to support College Students Let them know they are not forgotten That they are still important to you

- Send gift boxes of goodies not just at exam time but anytime!
- Send gift cards, particularly to restaurants, a welcome break from food in the cafeteria!
- Encourage people to write to students and send cards.
- Ask for volunteers to “adopt” a student and be in regular contact with them while away and invite them to lunch or dinner when back home on breaks.
- Have a College Student Note Day in worship one Sunday. Have every person write a note to a student and send them all together with a gift box.
- Send e-mails about what is happening in their home church.
- Include college students in worship leadership when home on breaks.
- Plan a reunion for college students during a break.
- Ask students to report on participation in any mission or service trips at college.
- Notify a church near where your students are attending that they will be in the area and ask them to contact the student with an invitation to worship.

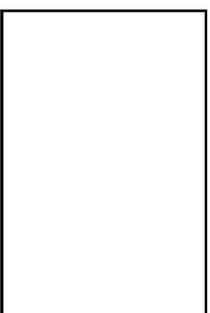


If your church is in a college community:

- Invite the college students to worship - don't assume they will come.
- Start a College Sunday School Class or weekday study.
- Match students with a member of the congregation - their “adopted” family away from home.
- Invite them to a covered dish dinner once a month - a special event or with the whole congregation.
- Invite them to participate in mission projects, holiday decorating, and other special events or services.
- Start a “Youth Group” for college students.
- Treat them like you would anyone else in the church - invite them for a meal, hang out together.

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THE HISTORY of North Carolina Presbyterian /Higher Education Ministries, Inc.

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The five North Carolina presbyteries (Charlotte, Coastal Carolina, New Hope, Salem, and Western NC) share a common history and a common theology for ministry in higher education (campus ministry and church-related colleges).

In 2004 we recognized a shared **need** and a singular **opportunity** as presbyteries.

The need was to respond to the decision of the Synod of Mid-Atlantic to withdraw from mission programing and the funding of ministries which have been done from a regional base and with the resources provided by congregational benevolences.

We needed to provide the means by which these resources might be added to those funds in current presbytery budgets, funds which are designated for campus mission. We needed to commit to a common strategy oriented to the multi-campus and multi-cultural field - one of the mission fields to which we are called as Presbyterians in the state of North Carolina.

The opportunity present in this crisis is to rethink traditional patterns of doing campus ministry, to reaffirm that students are at the heart of our mission, and to recognize that students cross presbytery boundaries to go to college and that each presbytery and its congregations needs to share in the task of providing a ministry to and with these students wherever they chose to be students.

The opportunity is ours to break new ground and develop nontraditional ministry in higher education, in particular, we are committed to finding ways by which congregations may be related to the community colleges of North Carolina.

As the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) seeks a more visible presence in racial ethnic minority institutions and a larger share of its membership from racial minority groups and internationals, it is imperative that our present minority ministries be expanded.

There is an opportunity present also in the call for closer working relationships with other governing bodies. We have resources in each presbytery to be deployed for the good of the whole region. We will use personnel currently employed and experienced volunteers without using our limited funds to add staff or administrative personnel.

Over the year 2004, representatives of our five presbyteries worked as a Design Team to develop North Carolina Presbyterian Ministries in Higher Education. Once the specific needs and opportunities of those in North Carolina were identified, the process went forward with renewed enthusiasm and a deep sense of God's providence that has led us to this place and time in the life and mission of the presbyteries we represent.

In December 2004, the first meeting of the newly named Governing Board was convened. The Board has subsequently been incorporated and received assurances that it will share in the distribution of funds formerly controlled by the Synod of Mid-Atlantic. Five Advocacy Teams and a Task Group for a Community College Initiative carry forward the vision and the responsibility for state wide strategy and program.

Updated: May 2007