



# Historic Rogers House:

## Home of the WVU Campus Ministry Center

As the dust is settling after another busy year, it seemed appropriate to update our supporters on the preservation of the Rogers House and the ministries of the center.

witness on the West Virginia University campus and in the local community through: *Spiritual and pastoral care, social justice advocacy, religious programming, mission and evangelism, WVU curriculum support, and ministry in local congregations.*

The Campus Ministry Center presently houses the campus ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Southern Baptist and United Methodist Churches, two private counselors, and two ministry interns. These ministries provide services to students, faculty, and staff at WVU as well as serving as a link between the community, local congregations, and the university. Pastors in residence at the center teach WVU courses, serve on community and university committees, and conduct programs on campus.

It has been a busy year with exciting ecumenical ventures between the ministries and continued maintenance of the property with an eye to future preservation projects.

The Rogers House is located on the corner of Price and Willey Streets in downtown Morgantown. The house was built in the 1850's and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Rogers House is home to the WVU Campus Ministry Center. The University Christian Council manages the house as both an historic landmark and an ecumenical campus ministry center.

The Campus Ministry Center is home to organizations that commit to providing a united Christian presence and



Toys for Tots fundraiser in December



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### Thank you Lunch for a Buck sponsors!

We are grateful to the following churches who have sponsored Lunch for a Buck since August 2007:

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Avery UMC                               | Harner Chapel UMC                    |
| Berean Baptist Church                   | Kane's Creek UMC                     |
| Bridgeport Presbyterian Church          | Kingwood Southern Baptist Church     |
| Calvary Baptist Church                  | Kingdom Evangelical Methodist Church |
| Clarksburg Presbyterian Church          | Mountaineer Baptist Church           |
| Crossroads Community Church             | Mon County Habitat for Humanity      |
| First Presbyterian Church, Fairmont     | Open Door Baptist Church             |
| First Presbyterian Church, Kingwood     | Spruce Street UMC                    |
| First Presbyterian Church, Morgantown   | St. John's UMC, Charleston           |
| First Southern Baptist Church, Fairmont | University Christian Council         |
| Freedom Baptist Church, Nutter Fort     | Wesley UMC                           |
|   | Woodland UMC                         |

## Rogers House Historical Highlights and Current Needs by Debra Blum

Rogers House and the Campus Ministry Center exist in the matrix of people, places, and events that created them and will shape their future. Rogers House existed before West Virginia was a state and the University Christian Council, its mission the Campus Ministry Center, came out of the social turmoil of the 1960's. Let us look at some of the dates important to the house and the ministry, to see what else was going on in the world, the nation, and the state.

**1856-1857** - WVU graduate students Bev Weaver and Michael Workman determined that the brick portion of Rogers House was built outside Morgantown's northern boundary in these years.

In **1905** to **1906**, the Rogers House underwent a major renovation, as designed by architect Elmore Jacobs. The Rogers family changed the front entry and first floor stairwell and built the frame addition. The year **1905** saw the publication of Albert Einstein's special theory of relativity and the Russian Revolution began with "Bloody Sunday." Theodore Roosevelt was President and residents incorporated the area known as Morgantown. San Francisco's **1906** earthquake and three-day fire left more than 500 dead. Death tolls in West Virginia mines came to 83 that year.

In the late 1960's, campus pastors in service to West Virginia University recognized that students were not interested in traditional programs. They and a group of dedicated individuals created the ecumenical University Christian Council in **1969**. The hippie movement, the Vietnam War and the antiwar protest movement were on the nightly news. The nation elected Richard Nixon President and Apollo 11 landed on the moon. Category 5 hurricane Camille scoured the coastline of Mississippi and nearly drowned the Appalachian Mountain range. 1969 saw the Woodstock Festival, the debut of *Sesame Street* and the Internet (ARPA) went online. Courts sentenced Former Governor W. W. "Wally" Barron to a five-year prison term for jury tampering.

**1984**, the year that the Campus Ministry Center moved into the Rogers House, was also a busy one. Ronald Reagan was President; it was the era of Punk Rock, the War on Drugs, CD's, cable TV, and VCR's. The Soviet Union and other bloc nations withdrew from the summer



Parking near campus is limited. We are grateful that the 2005 repairs helps us to squeeze eleven cars in our driveway for exam week lunch. So many cars that one could not be pictured!

Olympic Games in the U.S. Toxic gas leaks from a Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India killed 2,000 and injured 150,000. The anti-trust courts broke up the Bell telephone system. In West Virginia, Arch Moore won a third term as governor. Captain Jon A. McBride of Beckley in Raleigh County piloted the Challenger Space Shuttle on its first mission and Fairmont

native Mary Lou Retton became the first woman to win a gold medal in gymnastics at the Los Angeles Olympics.

The year **2005** saw major repairs to the Rogers House and grounds. Contractors strengthened a key support beam, rerouted water pooling behind the house and constructed a new driveway. Internationally, North Korea announced that it possessed nuclear weapons, the Kyoto Protocol went into effect and Pope John Paul II died. Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast, killing at least 1,836 and causing severe damage.

In this year, **2010**, campus ministry and the Rogers House are still part of the people, places and events around them. In 1984, the WVU researchers realized that the house should be painted to protect it. Rogers House was completely repainted ten years ago, and the job is due again. With your support, the center can grow campus ministry at West Virginia University and maintain Rogers House as its home.



The snow and ice of 2010 took its toll on the aging paint

To help support the long term and major preservation efforts of the Rogers House please make donations and pledges to:

**The Rogers House Preservation Fund**  
**293 Willey Street**  
**Morgantown, West Virginia 26505**

## University Christian Council Budget by Ron Latimer

Early this year, some of the University Christian Council's (UCC) members and I were working on the 2010 UCC budget. We were stuck with about a \$2,000 shortfall of expected revenues (primarily office/room rents and endowment earnings distribution) and an already lean expenses subtotal.

The Board wanted to hold the line on both rents and endowment distribution, that is not to increase campus ministry or ministry intern rents and to maintain the distribution amount from UCC's endowments. Someone noticed that UCC had received some \$855 in donations in 2009 without a campaign or even a call. A decision was made to secure this year's budget with a \$2,000 entry made in the "Individual Gifts" line—basically to rely on the kindness of friends. These hoped-for kindnesses would balance the budget for 2010.

Now comes the task of letting our friends know that we could use some help this year. I've been looking at UCC's expense items to find some interesting or exciting items for which your donations could be used. This has proven to be more difficult than I had originally thought. Most expense items on a (lean) budget, although critical, are fairly standard, if not mundane, like office salaries, cleaning and maintenance, phone, utilities, equipment repair and purchase, as well as insurance and government fees.

I thought back to this winter with its frequent and heavy snowfalls and long periods of extremely cold temperatures and how Rogers House and its campus

ministries provided students with a safe and warm refuge from winter's worries. I looked at the impact of the cold and snow has had on the 2010 budget, primarily on snow removal and heating expenses.

Snow removal alone in the first three months of this year has already used 28% (\$670) of the total maintenance budget (\$2400). This expense line item includes yard expenses, all house maintenance, as well as this summer's planned reinstallation of the front steps railings and the installation of a back railing. The Dominion Hope heating charges for the first three months of 2010 were more than \$1650.00 or 41% of the 2010 budgeted amount (\$4000). UCC paid a total of nearly \$3900 in 2009, but this winter's gas charges along with the recent increases in the cost of natural gas means that 2010 heating expenses will likely exceed the 2009 total.

That's some of the reality of 2010, not bad news, just the reality for UCC. Some of the good news is that there's a fine collection of ministers, staff, and friends helping do the work that needs to be done here at WVU as well as great groups of WVU students involved in the ministries here.

To help support the day to day operations and ecumenical ministries of the center please make pledges and donations to:

**University Christian Council**  
**293 Willey Street**  
**Morgantown, WV 26505**

## Lunch for a Buck

In August of 2007, the ministries housed in the center started 'Lunch for a Buck.' Each Friday during the school year the center provides a home cooked lunch for any WVU student for only a dollar. The 'buck' covers the cost of the paper products and drinks. Local churches provide the home cooked lunch.

This year, the lunches have averaged 30 students. Many students come for lunch and spend an hour or two hanging out with each other and the campus pastors. It has been a great opportunity to open the center to students, to introduce them to the ministries provided, to help them feel

at home, and to help them get to know the pastors. In addition, it has provided a place for local churches to reach out to students and provide them a taste of home with a good lunch.

Our list of sponsoring churches since 2007 can be found on the first page. We are grateful for the generosity of these churches who support this valuable ministry.

The program will resume Friday, August 27. If you would like to sponsor a lunch this year please call our office at 304-292-4061.

## Mountaineer Campus Ministries by Michel Boyer

It is amazing to think that another year of working at WVU has come and gone. I have now been working with Mountaineer Campus Ministries (MCM) for more than four years. This past year has been a bit of a blur. We started off the year *with the goal of helping students get one step closer to Christ and through our ministries*; we have had a good deal of success with that endeavor.

At the PRT, we have given away more than 3000 homemade cookies, 3500 cups of coffee and hot chocolate, and 12,000 packs of crackers. This has allowed us numerous opportunities to talk with students who do not have a relationship with

Christ, but are willing to talk about it because of our faithfulness to give them free hot chocolate. Or it might be an individual who arrived at college and took a step away from their relationship with Christ, but was able to get back on track through one of our weekly Bible studies. Maybe it was the way at our weekly Tuesday night meetings we discussed some of the big questions people have about God so that we could answer them more intelligently.

We have also challenged our students to grow one step closer to Christ through missions involvement, including leading youth events and going door to door invit-

ing neighbors to church. However varied our ministry may be, two things remain the same. First, college students are longing to be a part of something bigger than themselves that will challenge them to make the world a better place. Secondly, Christ is the answer to restoring that right relationship with him so that he can draw them to himself and show them in turn, how they can impact the world around them for the best. Our desire at MCM is to lead students, step by step, into an understanding of who Christ is, what he has done for them, and what he wants them to become. Please pray for us as we seek to share with this generation the hope that Christ has provided.

## Presbyterian Student Fellowship by Shelly Barrick Parsons

Each Wednesday night members of the PSF gather for dinner, fellowship, prayer, and a program. The spring semester was kicked off with worship and communion on Wednesday evening. Additional programs this spring have included a three-part series "this is what I believe" looking at doctrines of God, Jesus, and the Church. The campus ministry intern led programs on *Harry Potter* and *What do Presbyterians Believe*. Students also spent several weeks planning the student-led worship. This year's theme was Love.

The PSF glazed bowls for the Mon County Empty Bowls Fundraiser again this year. The students glazed 30 bowls to donate to the fundraiser. Members of WVU Hillel and Muslim Students Asso-

ciation came to help the PSF glaze the bowls. All the bowls this year were thrown by local potter, Scott Burnworth, and some of the bowls were made with clay mined in the area. The Presbyterian Student Fellowship has donated 80 bowls to the Empty Bowls fundraiser since 2007 (10 in '07, 20 in '08 and '09, and 30 in '10).

Special guest speakers have been invited in this year to speak to students about their jobs, lives, and faith. Guest speakers have included: Don Spencer, Jessica Campbell, Tandy McClung, Chris Haddox, Leonard Graham, Jan Palmer, and Debbie Palmer. These times of meal and conversation have provided an opportunity for students to hear about what faith has to do with life after college and that one's vocation is not

necessarily the same job for the rest of one's life.

In addition, many students drop in to the center to relax and enjoy lunch for a buck, and drop in the campus pastor's office to touch base or get ready for upcoming programs.



## United Methodist Student Movement: From Bounce House to Ronald McDonald House by Cindy Stackpole

With the close of the 2009-2010 school year quickly approaching as I write this piece, I look back with such tremendous emotion. We kicked off the school year with a carnival at the Campus Ministry Center, complete with a bounce house, cotton candy and snowcones. We hosted an International Pot Luck. Taking a closer look at the Gospel According to Disney, we discussed "What Shadow Do You Cast" based on *Peter Pan* and "Temptation and Redemption" from *The Princess and the Frog*. Focusing on a "Green" Christmas, we recycled items like old t-shirts into dog chew toys and puzzle pieces into Christmas ornaments. Our students also participated in traditional Bible Studies and a Lenten worship service at Spruce Street United Methodist Church.

All three groups under the umbrella of the Wesley Foundation place outreach as a high priority. More than 70 hours of community service have been logged by each of the groups, not including the Spring Break Mission Trip that I will talk about later. This means with a total membership of 55 students the Wesley Foundation has logged 3,850 hands on service hours. Some of the agencies we worked with this year include: Ronald McDonald House,

Rosenbaum Family House, Harner Chapel Flea Market, Friendship Manor, and Habitat for Humanity. In addition to these agencies we engaged in various acts of kindness to the area homeless, spontaneous notes of encouragement to Resident Hall Advisors, secret cleaning of University classrooms and such.



Twelve students made a trek to Williamsburg, VA for this year's WVU Alternative Spring Break Mission Trip. We kicked off our work week worshipping at Williamsburg United Methodist Church and a day of play at Busch Gardens. The next four days were spent working with Housing Partnerships, Inc. Our students learned how to raise tresses and hurricane proof walls all while laughing with joy as they helped build a brand new home for an 85 year old woman who has never had running water. They practiced patience while insulating a new home for a couple whose trailer had been severely damaged because of a condemned sewage system. They experienced teamwork under frustrating conditions on a roof in blistering heat stripping off 8 layers of shingles. They prayerfully and

humbly gave thanks as they painted four rooms, two bathrooms, and a hallway for a woman who is disabled and recently lost her only child. Our service ministry was embodied with this spirit of grace and gratefulness.

Many thanks to Avery, Kane's Creek, Spruce Street, Wesley, and Woodland United Methodist Churches for your support of our ministries. We are also grateful for private donors who help make possible our programming. Please continue to keep us in prayer as key student leaders graduate this May. We look forward to welcoming new students in the fall as we prepare a "New Generation of Christian Leaders" (the National United Methodist Student Movement Statement of Purpose).

## Ministry Interns: Izaak Kitzmiller & Steve Allman

Christian ministry on a university campus requires a team effort, often involving both ordained clergy and laypeople. Since early in the school year, the two of us have been involved in the Campus Ministry Center's outreach to WVU and Morgantown serving all ministries of the center and working with the pastors of two ministries in particular. Izaak, a WVU student, is an intern for the Mountaineer Campus Ministry, and Steve, a recent seminary graduate and lay pastor, in-

terns for Presbyterian Student Fellowship.

Our contributions to the CMC's ministries have included helping to feed the homeless, participating in (and sometimes leading) Bible studies and fellowship groups, attending retreats, and publicizing campus ministry activities under the supervision of campus ministers. We've attended Christmas parties and student lunches, and met other college-age

Christians as we seek to do God's work on the WVU campus.

The opportunity to observe how the campus pastors minister to college students, and the chance to learn how to minister to them for ourselves, has been invaluable. Both of us have grown in faith, and have appreciated seeing how students integrate their Christian faith, their career plans, and their studies.

**UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN  
COUNCIL NEWSLETTER**

293 Willey Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505

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