



UP↑LIFT

Lifting Up the Ministry of UPCaM

United Protestant
Campus Ministries
in Cleveland

Serving the Students of:
Case Western Reserve
Cleveland State
Tri C Metro Campus

Representing the:
American Baptist
United Church of Christ
Disciples of Christ/Christian
Episcopal
Presbyterian USA
and
United Methodist
Churches of Cleveland

Mission Statement:
UPCaM seeks to develop
Christian faith, leadership,
and community that inspires
spiritual inclusion, learning,
and service among students
on our college campuses.

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Volume 1, Number 1 • May, 2010



**Orientation at
Tri C Metro Campus**

**Sundaes on Sunday –
Our Interfaith
Open House**



**Getting
ready for
the 2009
Silent
Auction
Fundraiser**

UPCaM: WHERE WE'RE IMPACTING LIVES



We are well into rebuilding our campus ministry by developing community. Donna and our intern, Ebony Speakes, met with a number of students, one on one to determine their hopes, dreams and desires for campus ministry – and to pray with them. Out of that conversation, we offered weekly worship/ fellowship on Wednesday nights and a weekly leadership meeting. Our Thursday night and Coffeehouse, “Common Grounds”, reaches out to international graduate students gives them a place for fellowship and to practice English. We are active in the interfaith community as well. In the fall there will be an active student leadership team. They are planning fellowship activities like bowling, Indians’ games, trips to the zoo, weekly worship, work-mission trips to Cambodia and South Dakota, two retreats, a science and faith study, and outreach to the community.

Diedre Hawkins worked as our intern this year at Cleveland State. Our goal was to develop community and interact with students through Facebook and other means. We have also been active with the new Multi-faith group at CSU serving as part of a monthly program presented to and with students. We are pursuing a partnership with Agape Ministry (Lutheran, Episcopal Campus Ministry) to offer weekly study and worship on Campus.



Our intern, Linda Ervin, coordinates weekly Bible study and fellowship every Thursday. The group is planning to do outreach through Cleveland’s City Mission working with at risk youth through local nursing homes and youth groups.

TEACHING AND MODELING WAYS TO IMPACT LIVES

The Rev. Donna Hughes-Hargraves is the Executive Director of UPCaM, the Protestant “pastor” at CWRU and has been an ordained United Methodist minister for 17 years. She makes herself available to students for informal conversation, spiritual guidance, and as a listening ear when a student needs to talk with someone. Her contact information may be found on the front of this newsletter. In addition to her ministry on campus, Donna is available for supply preaching, mission presentations,



Donna

presentations on spiritual direction, on the emerging generation and how the church can reach this generation for Christ. She also leads retreats, speaks to women’s spirituality, conducts weddings, funerals and teaches on world religions. Being out in the community in any capacity brings to light UPCaM’s mission and presence in Cleveland. Rev. Donna’s care for and commitment to the students at CWRU has prompted the following letter to her about her nomination for a Student Affairs Staff Recognition Award: *On*

the behalf of the Professional Development Committee, we are pleased to inform you that you have been nominated for a Student Affairs Staff Recognition Award.

You were nominated for the category of "Outstanding Student Affairs Partner". Some of the many comments your nominator made about you include:

"Donna partnered with the Center for Civic Engagement & Learning to coordinate the Alternative Spring Break trip to Nicaragua.



Mixing Cement

From the start, she was a true partner in helping review applications, talk logistics and plan pre-trip sessions. She also helped facilitate pre-trip sessions, even if it meant coming to campus on a Saturday afternoon. Perhaps most importantly, she dedicated her spring break to working on service projects with our group in Nicaragua and was an indispensable co-leader. Donna has also



Some Local Children

been involved with ELP this semester as a staff facilitator. I think this is just another way

that she contributes to the mission of Student Affairs. Her work with the ASB service trip to Nicaragua and her involvement with ELP show her commitment to the Student Affairs' values of community involvement, civic engagement, personal learning and leadership development."

Further recognition of the work of UPCaM came in recently from InterAct Cleveland: The Board of Trustees of InterAct Cleveland is pleased to announce that the Case Cooperation Circle and the InterReligious Council have been named the 2010 recipient of the "Rebecca Adler Community Partner Award." This award is given by InterAct Cleveland to a group or organization that in the past year has significantly contributed to building relationships across diverse religious traditions though it is not currently an organizational member of InterAct. The student led Case Cooperation Circle and the InterReligious Council have been an outstanding example of InterReligious engagement through your various programs and initiatives at Case Western Reserve University.

Both Donna and the ministry of UPCaM are clearly impacting lives.

Current Members of the UPCaM Board of Trustees:

Taylor Bishop	Michelle Blackford
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Are you ready to become a more active participant in the ministry of UPCaM?

Call or email Donna to discuss becoming a member of the Board or read our varied list of needed volunteers elsewhere in this newsletter.

IMPACTING OUR INTERNS

Developing Leaders for the Future

Lynda Ervin, UPCaM intern at Tri-C Metro Campus: I am a mother of five children, and they are truly a blessing from God. I have a church home (Christian Fellowship Mission) where I faithfully attend and get involved by getting the Word out whenever God puts it on my heart to do so. God has blessed me with yet another chance to get things right for Him and with His help, guidance, love, peace of mind, and etc. I intend to make sure He is pleased with me by doing whatever it is He asks of me. I have been truly blessed by God to be a part of this Campus Ministry, and to have the ability He has given me to do the things that I can do. Campus Ministry is just another place where God's Word can continue to be put into the lives of those who are lost and need to find their way, and who are hurting and looking for comfort. Also, for those of us who are willing to tell others about the love of God with a right heart, mind, and Spirit, etc. When things begin to happen (when souls are being saved) it is God who shall receive full credit for what has taken place, because by God's grace and mercy God has raised Campus Ministries up for that reason, and we are God's chosen people to make sure it happens or we would not be here.



Deidre Hawkins: I'm a May graduate of Cleveland State University with a communications major! I am the daughter of a pastor, so I grew up in the church. I accepted Christ at a young age, but didn't get to really establish a relationship of my own with God until I left for college. I wasn't very active in my faith at the first college I went to, but it led me back home. I started at Cuyahoga Community College in the Spring 2005 and felt a bit lost. I basically went to class and went home, I wasn't happy to be home and going to the school that I never wanted to be at. Occasionally I would teach Bible study at my father's church but beyond that, my faith was slowly dying. I didn't get to connect with anybody my age who shared my faith on a regular basis. A year later, I connected with the UPCaM intern who had a class with me, and she invited me to come to Bible study with the ministry club. I felt it couldn't hurt, so I decided to go. I'm so glad I did! I later went on to become the club secretary until I graduated in May 2007 and went on to Cleveland State University that fall. I established some friendships that I still have to this day. Campus ministry has been a huge blessing in my life. It has fed my faith, to meet people from different walks of life, fellowship with some amazing individuals and has allowed me to grow in ways I couldn't even begin to explain. My faith is the reason I stayed in college and graduated with my degree.



Rev. Ebony Speakes: Driven by my love for God and God's people, I have been laboring in kingdom ministry since the age of 18. Eleven years later, I continue to offer a prophetic voice for this present-day generation and for the corporate Body of Christ. I was ordained in July 2009 by the American Baptist Churches. A native of Springfield, Ohio, I believe I have been called to bring hope, healing, and restoration to those that have been bruised, broken, and forgotten in both the world and the church. I have been blessed to proclaim the gospel in a wide variety of ministerial contexts with a particular passion for social justice issues such as, child abuse and neglect, human trafficking, domestic violence, and institutionalized forms of oppression. My passions have been the guiding force in my participation in UPCaM as the intern for CWRU. UPCaM offered me a chance to share sacred space with fellow students to explore issues of faith and spirituality in a context of diversity. I also serve as an intern for Adoption Network Cleveland where I advocate for permanency for teenagers who are aging out of care.





Worship at CWRU

IMPACTING STUDENTS CURRENT AND FORMER

From Rachel in London: UPCaM was a fantastic part of my Case experience and I'd say that it's where I met some of my closest friends. I finished in 2004, but just a few months ago went on holiday with Chris Weigold to Tunisia who was also there with me and I still keep in touch with other people as well.

From the CWRU Observer: Colleen Hosler is a sophomore sociology major. Next year, she plans to apply for the five year Masters of Social Work Program through the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences. Colleen is the Vice President of Membership on the Pan-Hellenic Council, the governing body for Case's sororities, and the Student Missions Coordinator for the United Protestant Campus Ministries. In addition to these activities, Colleen also works as a tour guide and was an orientation leader this past summer. Over winter break, Colleen visited Dmitrov, Russia where she spent most of her time in one of the city's orphanages on a mission trip.

Colleen: . . . during orientation this summer we took the groups around to all the different main offices on campus and one of them we stopped at was the Interfaith Center, and so I heard about this trip to Russia about four times and each time I heard about it I was like "Oh! That's really cool!" And so, during the summer sessions in July, I talked to Reverend

Donna Hughes-Hargraves who is head of it there and she was telling me about this trip, and our trip leader, Kathryn Adams, actually went on a trip with her to Russia in 1996. And so basically, she was like, "Yeah, she's awesome, she's a great lady. She's coming to campus soon, you should meet with her." So, I ended up meeting with her and she gave me all of the information.

We actually stayed in an orphanage, which was really a cool experience because on previous trips, there's a really hard process getting into Russia with the visas and everything and actually being able to volunteer there because they don't want outsiders to just perceive them as needing charity.

And so, in past years, they haven't been able to stay in the orphanage, but this orphanage we got to stay in is in Dmitrov, Russia which is two hours north of Moscow. So, we lived there, and actually the kids would walk by and walk into our rooms so it was really neat because we were able to bond with them a lot more because we lived there. Mainly what we did was just spend time with the kids. We would get up early in the morning, eat breakfast, and we would basically play with the kids all day. And at this orphanage, all the kids had special needs, whether physical or mental. We had a really big communication barrier, a language barrier.

But it actually really worked out. I learned some basic Russian words. They knew a little bit of English because this group had been in the orphanage before. But a lot of it is just non-verbal communication and just loving them and giving them hugs. They love playing American clapping games or whatever, they just absolutely love that.

There were some kids who were very frustrated with it [*the language barrier*]. At this orphanage, there were people from ages five to 20. So for the older ones who were



Colleen and Friend

our age, it was a little bit harder. But there were computers there so we used the translator system to talk to the older ones, which was really cool. And the little ones, the five to ten-year-olds you know, they just want to sit there. A lot of them would just want to sit on your lap all day long.

I learned how privileged we all are here, how blessed I am to be able to use all of my limbs. These kids are absolutely inspiring. As part of the trip we each had to bring two suitcases - one with our clothes and one with donations for them. We brought tons of hoodies and just tons of different toys like Barbies, Hot Wheels cars, candy. We made up little gift bags and gave them to them on their Orthodox Christmas which is January 7th. But anything they would give to us, they were so appreciative. They got candy on New Year's Eve and they would give us candy all of the time. One boy gave me a little tiger keychain. They would draw us pictures. I mean they were just so loving and appreciative. They acted like nothing was wrong with them. It was great.

What's nice is there's a center here, The Inamori International Center for Ethics and Excellence. Basically they offer grants for students doing work, ethical work, and so I got a \$1,000 grant from them which made it a lot more affordable to do. There are tons of opportunities from MSASS. The social work school at Case offers short term study abroad courses. Our United Protestant Ministries is going to be offering different trips to go on,

and that's actually my new position (cause I went on this trip) - helping coordinate all the mission trips. So, we're hoping to go on one every spring break and every winter break. It's definitely good to go out in the community and help others, especially living in the Case bubble; it's good to branch out.

From Meredith Crosby, a Yale Fellow:

Dear Rev. Donna,

I write to you as a former graduate student who was impressed by the depth of Rev. Dr. Kim Hauenstein and the wonderful programs he fostered. I know that many lives were touched by Kim and the students at Case were especially lucky to have had such a person who built a program with staying power. As for me, I defended my PhD in Cancer Biology/Environmental Health Sciences at the Cleveland Clinic/Case Western in December, 2005 and came back to my home state of CT. I am a postdoctoral research fellow at Yale, working again on cancer. My research is supported by a grant from the American Cancer Society. So, that is a bit about me. I thank you for taking the time to write back to me. I have been back to Cleveland only once in the past year. Nonetheless, my reason for contacting you and UPCaM is to offer support for those who may benefit from the program.

IMPACTING THE COMMUNITY

From the Newsletter of Church of the Saviour United Methodist Church: My wife, Barb, and I recently volunteered to help at the Campus Ministry Center at Case Western Reserve University. On Thursday nights UPCaM (United Protestant Campus Ministries) offers a coffee house which focuses on sharing hospitality with international students and helping them with their command of the English language. Our evening was delightful from start to finish! We met graduate students from China, Thailand and Taiwan in nursing, pharmacology and electrical engineering programs. They shared



**Making Mission Trips Possible
Silent Auction Fundraiser**

their stories, and we shared ours. They asked us questions about our lives, our families, and our work. Interacting with these students reminded us of the challenges we faced when we have traveled in countries where English was not the primary language. The constant effort to translate is exhausting!

While our primary purpose in spending a Thursday evening at UPCaM was to share Christian hospitality, we were quickly reminded how much we have in common across cultures and how much we can receive from each other.

The international students were so appreciative of the fact that we were willing to spend an evening with them. We were able to make connections and help the students in several significant ways. We did not intentionally bring certain resources to the experience. We simply shared who we were and what we are about.

You have resources to share as well. The Rev. Donna Hughes-Hargraves, Executive Director of UPCaM, will welcome your participation at an upcoming coffeehouse. And the ripple effect will continue.

The Rev. Charles D. Yoost
Pastor of Church of the Saviour

A Recent email: Thank you for inviting me to participate in the Ash Wednesday service. I was moved by the large attendance, high level of student participation, and spiritual reverence of students attending the service. This is such an important ministry and I am so excited to witness the impact of your hard work.

May God continue to bless you and your ministries.

Daniel J. Tisch, PhD, MPH
Assistant Professor,
CWRU School of Medicine

HOW YOU CAN IMPACT THE MINISTRY OF UPCaM

Become a volunteer: *(Fill out a form on our website)*

- + **Provide funds for one or more weekly meals** at CWRU or Tri-C Metro – the cost is \$30.00 per week at each school
- + **Provide treats for CWRU International Coffeehouse** any Thursday night
- + **Come to CWRU weekly International Coffeehouse any** Thursday and be a cross-cultural conversation partner
- + **Provide a student scholarship for work-mission** (a full scholarship or any amount toward one is most welcome)
- + **Make a sandwich board sign** for our advertising events (Needs to be light and interchangeable)
- + **Do our weekly website updating** (instructions provided)
- + **Purchase miscellaneous promotional signage** at a cost of \$200.00
- + **Help with newsletter or other mailings** – bonus fellowship is provided!
- + **Help with fundraising events** – organize, set-up, solicit auction items – a huge variety of tasks are available
- + **Email Donna and tell us what other talents you may have** that will help our ministry grow and thrive!

Support us financially:

We are on the cutting edge of faith development. We grow and nurture spiritual leaders for the campus, the church, and the world. You can contribute to this mission field by your donation.

- + **We accept credit cards online** – simply go to our website www.upcam.org, and utilize PayPal.com to make your contribution. **We can also process your credit card by mail!**
- + **We accept checks.** Simply use the enclosed envelope.
- + **Be a part of our annual Silent Auction and Dinner!** Even if you cannot be a volunteer to make the evening happen, your attendance lends financial support to our ministry with young adults. **Mark your calendar now for November 6th and join us at the Cleveland Skating Club!**



2009 Silent Auction & Dinner

Whether volunteering your time and/or expertise, providing funding for activities or scholarships, or joining us in November for the 2010 UPCaM dinner and silent auction, you will be showing your support for the development of the spiritual leaders of today and tomorrow through the ministry of UPCaM!

To enable us to be better stewards of the environment, please send us your email address as a way of keeping in touch.