

CAMPUS MINISTRY REPORT

No. 2, March 25, 2008 • First Church Berkeley, UCC

Working With Students at Cal and other local campuses: Campus Ministry's Leadership Council

God
is still
speaking,

Members of the Campus Ministry Leadership Council are actively working to shape and reshape First Church, United Church of Christ sponsored programs for Berkeley-area undergraduate and graduate students. The Council meets on the first Sunday of every month—feel free to drop by Durant House—and is engaged in an array of projects benefiting Berkeley campus communities, and the community at-large.

First Church Campus Ministry students are exploring problems of hunger and poverty in the Bay Area. Our students are also key participants and facilitators in the growing interfaith dialogue on the Berkeley campus.



Tinley Ireland tabling on Sproul Plaza for the Interfaith Action Initiative.

Providing space for the spiritual needs of our students is also primary concern for our Campus Ministry

program. Time is dedicated in all Leadership Council meetings to explore matters of faith and spirituality. Using art (last month we all mapped our spiritual journey), meditation, and Bible study, First Church's Campus Ministry program is providing graduate and undergraduate students with tools and the space to pursue what it means to be a Christian today.

If you are a undergraduate or graduate student and would like to get involved in the Campus Ministry Leadership Council, or if you are a church member interested in working with the Campus Ministry program, contact Rev. Shelly Dieterle at sdieterle@fccb.org.

Student Profile: Andrea Ford

Each month in this Report we will profile a student leader in the Campus Ministry program.

Andrea Ford is a Cal senior, majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies. She will receive her B.A. in May and is exploring some interesting post-graduation possibilities like an award to conduct a year-long project on progressive Christians and Muslims in the United States and around the world. Last semester she completed her senior thesis: "Crosses and Corsets: Religious Symbol Appropriation in Goth Subculture."

Andrea joined the church during her freshman year and was one of the students Rev. Dieterle interviewed during the Pilot Project that year. She participated in our first Katrina Work Team and is co-leading this year's Spring Break trip to Watsonville and Salinas. The service-learning trip, entitled *La Fruta del Diablo?*, introduces students to the multi-layered strawberry industry with hopes of discovering why farm workers call strawberries *The Fruit of the Devil*. Last academic year, Andrea worked with Gracy Huntley to design and facilitate this fall the first DeCal (student-run courses available for credit to Cal students) sponsored by our Campus Ministry:

"Food, Religion and Hospitality in the International Community."

In March, Andrea worked with the Adult Education Committee to present (March 12) Bill Jersey's recent documentary, *Campus Battleground*, about U.C. Berkeley and Columbia student views on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. She also participates in Cal's Interfaith Dialogue Group, coordinated by the newly launched Interfaith Action Initiative on campus.

Andrea recently participated in Edwin Rutch's Progressive Values Project, engaging in a panel discussion with other graduate and undergraduate students about what is means to be a progressive Christian in the world today.



Campus Ministry Leadership Council Member Andrea Ford

Coming up...

March 26-30

Campus Ministry Spring Break Service-Learning Trip

La Fruta del Diablo?

Watsonville-Salinas Area
See Rev. Dieterle, Andrea Ford, or
Gracy Huntley for details.

Tuesdays, 7:15 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Circle of Spirit Bible Study

First Church, Durant House
2330 Durant Avenue
Berkeley

Wednesdays, 3:10 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Interfaith Text Study

109 Wheeler, UCB
Rabbi Dorothy (Hillel) and Rev.
Shelly (First Church), facilitators

Thursdays, 11:10 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Christian Bible Study

FSM Café
Rev. Shelly Dieterle, facilitator

First Sundays (April 6)

12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Campus Ministry Leadership Council Meeting

Durant House, 2330 Durant

First Sundays (April 6)

12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Free Student Lunch

Durant House, 2330 Durant

Campus Ministry Programs...

Worship and Spiritual Life

Jason Hill, director of the Spirit Band in the Jazz & Gospel service, was instrumental in arranging the University Gospel Choir's appearance in worship on Sunday, March 9. First Church member (and harpist), Karen Costello, sings in that choir. The Gospel Choir is a for-credit class in the Music Department, taught by Rev. Dr. D. Mark Wilson. The class meets every Thursday evening, 6-9 pm. ... During this Lenten season, the Campus Ministry weekly E-News, *LifesJournez*, featured special Lent and Holy Week sections, highlighting special services and resources. The newsletter provided links to four published series of daily devotionals, including the popular First Church booklet. ... Tinley Ireland was the undergraduate student who offered one of the reflections on the last seven words of Christ in the Campus Community Good Friday Service.

Interfaith at Cal

Leadership Council member Carson Baucher is a co-facilitator for Cal's Interfaith Leadership Project, a part of Cal's Interfaith Action Initiative. The Interfaith Leadership Project is a six-week commitment where a group of religiously/spiritually diverse students come together once a week to talk about issues of faith, religion, and spirituality (or lack thereof). At the end of the six weeks, the group will design a project to highlight a powerful or instructive topic from the group's discussion and share it with the greater campus community. Andrea Ford, Tinley Ireland, and Lisa Coronado-Morse are all participants.

Education

This semester, Tinley Ireland is facilitating a service-learning DeCal, "Hunger and Malnutrition in the Berkeley Area." Twenty-four students meet in class to learn about hunger issues and then engage in local service projects to gain first-hand experiences. Tinley's class volunteered at the Youth Emergency Assistance Hostel (YEAH) and cooked a meal that the class planned, budgeted, and shopped for. Other service sites include Quarter Meal, Shattuck Avenue United Methodist, Berkeley Women's Shelter and the Alameda County Food Bank.



Student participant in DeCal sponsored by Campus Ministry

Get Involved in Campus Ministry at First Church!

To learn more about the Campus Ministry program at First Church of Berkeley UCC, and how you can help, email Rev. Shelly Dieterle, Geoffrey Gaskins, or Tinley Ireland at the addresses below. Or stop by Shelly's office at 2345 Channing Way in Berkeley, or give her a call at 510-848-3696, ext. 22.

CAMPUS MINISTRY CONTACTS

Rev. Shelly Dieterle, Minister of Campus Life, sdieterle@fccb.org
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