



Mission at Second Presbyterian

VCU PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP UPDATE



Exciting new things are going to happen on the campus of VCU in downtown Richmond. This Fall, the Presbytery of the James and Second Presbyterian Church have joined together to launch *VCU Presbyterian Fellowship*, a new campus ministry and student group. Campus Ministry is one of the most important investments we can make in the future of the church, and our hope is to provide a place for students at our Presbytery's largest university to explore and grow in their faith, through fellowship, mission and worship. We've got exciting things planned for the fall, from service opportunities to retreats.

We are a growing mission endeavor! If you are or know of students at VCU or at nearby J. Sergeant Reynolds community college, contact Howard Dudley! Similarly, if you have a heart for college students and would like to help, please contact us as well. Furthermore, if you know of folks from other churches you think might be interested in helping to support this ministry please let us know. If we are to make this a successful endeavor, we need interested people from across the presbytery!

To reach us, email Howard Dudley, at howard.dudley@upsem.edu.



AMELIA VOGLER TO SERVE AS A YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER IN KENYA



Amelia Vogler, a child of this church, daughter of Jim and Allison Vogler, and sister to Erica, has been selected by the General Assembly Mission Council to serve in mission on behalf of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). She will serve with the International Young Adult Volunteer program in Kenya.

The International Young Adult Volunteer Program offers opportunities in Christian service and learning for young adults (21 - 30 years of age) in six sites around the world. Funding for her time serving internationally is shared by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Young Adult Volunteer Program, supporting congregations and presbyteries, as well as family and friends. She was commissioned by Second Presbyterian to this work during worship this summer. Our prayers, love, and care go with her on this important venture!

Sneak-peak from this Summer's happenings...

MARY HUNTER MCDANIEL WORKING FOR CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS

Our own Mary Hunter McDaniel (daughter of Alan and Kathy) spent her summer working for California Conservation Corps throughout California's wilderness areas repairing and working on various trails, roads, and other conservation projects! Here she is in the San Rafael Wilderness area in Los Padres National Forest. It will be fun to hear in person about her experience later this Fall.

We give thanks for her service!



YOUTH MONTREAT TRIP



On Saturday, July 9th, sixteen youth, led by Gail Monsma, Robert Johnson, Charles Kelly, Whitney Caswell, Allison Mays, and Andy Morgan, left for a week at the Montreat Youth Conference. Montreat is often described as a "thin place," where the world and God seem to be close together. This "thinness" helps foster deep spiritual growth for many. God made God's self known to each of the youth at Second Presbyterian Church during their week at Montreat in unique but powerful ways.

The theme for the 2011 Youth Conference was "Searching for a Signal," which discussed finding God amidst our often noisy world and how to respond to that signal with transformative discipleship. This year, the youth participated in a service project on their Wednesday afternoon off by working at the Asheville Food Bank.

The youth bonded with one another and made friends with many of the participants from other churches. The week was filled with laughter, some tears, hugs, prayers, and more laughter, and the experience was truly transformative for many of the youth.

Although it is not quite as easy to hear God's voice in our busy day to day lives as it is in intentionally "thin" places like Montreat, the Youth Ministry Leadership will use and build on the experiences that the youth had in Montreat as they move forward with a year of spiritual exploration in youth ministry. On behalf of the Youth Ministry Leadership, we are so thankful for Second Presbyterian Church's prayers and support for the Youth Ministry program and trips like Montreat.

