

Tuesday to Sunday: A look at Protestant Campus Ministry



Mark Bartlett plays the guitar for Campus Ministry.

PHOTO BY JEFFREY MILLER

by Erin McCarty
staff writer

Tuesday's Child is brand new to the list of activities at Behrend. Mark Bartlett, a North East native and tool-maker by trade, is bringing his deep faith and impressive guitar-playing skills to Reed 112 every Tuesday night at 6:30 in a program initiated by Behrend's Protestant Campus Ministry. Originally dubbed "Music with Mark," this one-hour praise session's new title carries with it a double meaning. The most obvious origin of name is the fact that it meets on Tuesdays. More obscure but also more interesting is the allusion to the old poem which states: "Tuesday's Child is full of grace."

Coordinator of Protestant Campus Ministry Kelly Shroot is very enthusiastic about this weekly session and is undaunted by the low attendance up until this point. "It takes time for these things to catch on," she

stated. "Not too many people have heard about it yet, but once the freshmen start coming the older students will follow."

Anyone is welcome to attend. In fact, Bartlett is excited by denominational diversity. This program offers a venue for Christian students to gather to discuss God and praise him through song without getting caught up in the differences among the various denominations represented.

"There are three things essential to a healthy spiritual [Christian] life," said Bartlett.

"Consistent reading of The Bible, conversation with God (prayer), and fellowship with other Christians."

Tuesday's Child is a chance to experience all three.

If students are not able to attend on Tuesday nights but still want to get involved in the programs offered by Protestant Campus Ministry, they have plenty to choose from. Sunday nights at 8 p.m. are the church ser-

VICES in Reed 114. Featuring guest pastors from around the Erie area, this service is ideal for students that are from out of town who do not yet belong to a congregation in Erie. Students that play a musical instrument and would like to share their talent during are encouraged to at the Sunday night service.

Students that are looking to make a difference in the Erie community should try signing up to work at Loaves and Fishes, a soup kitchen located at 643 West 17th Street in the basement of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, on the first Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The extra help with cooking, serving and cleaning up food is always greatly appreciated.

So, whether it's Tuesday's Child, Sunday night services, or Loaves and Fishes, Protestant Campus Ministry has plenty to offer. Its programs allow students to meet new people while expressing their faith.

Endowment brings multi-faith chapel to Behrend

by Erin McCarty
staff writer

Mr. Larry V. Smith recently endowed the campus with a generous donation of three million dollars to be used for a multi-faith chapel in honor of himself, his wife and his parents.

The chapel is to be located across Jordan Road, alongside an extension of the path currently leading up to the library, which will eventually end at the Athletic and Recreational Center (ARC). Once the projected constructions are added to Behrend, the chapel will be approximately in the center of the campus.

Though its architectural design is vague at this point, the general idea is to have a wide open space inside. The space can be used for anything from Catholic masses to Jewish Shabbat services to Buddhist meditation. There will be no permanent religious symbols in the chapel, meaning that the members of every faith can worship or pray there in

turn, surrounded only by the object that they hold sacred.

"The general idea," explained Ken Miller, acting Dean of Student Affairs, "is that whatever my faith is, I can worship in this chapel."

In addition to the religious aspect, students may also choose to utilize this building as a quiet place to relax in the middle of a hectic day. The architecture will take advantage of natural lighting, adding to the overall calming effect.

An adjacent building will include offices for caretakers of the chapel and its grounds, which may include gardens with benches. The Campus Ministry offices may be relocated to this building as well. The "living room" area of this building may be used for such events as retreats and poetry readings.

Also adjacent to the chapel will be the bell tower, which will come complete with a set of 48 bells, the largest of which will weigh in at 1400 pounds. The chapel's committee, which includes Provost and Dean Dr.

John Lilley, Senior Associate Provost and Dean Jack Burke, Director of Business and Operations John Ream, and Campus Ministry Coordinators Kelly Shroot and Father John Santor, is hoping Harborcreek will agree to let the tower exceed the township's height restriction.

"We want to get this tower as tall as we can afford to," Miller said. "We want it to be visible from just about any point on campus."

In fact, he fosters hope that this tower may one day be Behrend's signature building, as recognizable as State College's Old Main. He foresees students returning to Behrend to be married in the chapel, which should be completed by the summer of 2001.

"The chapel's presence will hopefully encourage students to ponder the spiritual side of their lives. After all," Miller concluded, "just because Behrend is not affiliated with any particular religious group, that doesn't mean that the students don't have religious lives of their own."

Question of the Week

HOW DO YOU THINK THE BEHREND SPORTS PROGRAM COULD BE IMPROVED?

"A football team - that would keep people here on the weekends."
-Kevin Otteni, 05, Chemistry



"I'd like to see a collegiate bocci ball team."
-Adam Kasick, 01, DUS



"A hockey team - but that might be unreasonable."
-Andy Carr, 01, DUS



"I wish I would have caught the ball."
-Chad Julkowski, 01, DUS, right fielder



"I would like to see gymnastics added."
-AnnMarie Johnson, 06, Management



Bench continued from front page

Police and Safety has a job to do...to keep us safe and to make sure those

benches stay there," said the Niagara leader who wished to remain anonymous.

He also added, "We did this as a family."

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- MONDAY: 10:15 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.**
- TUESDAY: 2:15 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.**
- WEDNESDAY: 2:15 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.**
- THURSDAY: 2:15 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.**
- FRIDAY: 2:15 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.**
- SATURDAY: 10:00 A.M. TO 10:00 P.M.**
- SUNDAY: 10:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.**

***ON THURSDAYS, THE BLUE BUS WILL LEAVE THE REED UNION BUILDING AT 2:15 P.M. THERE IS NO 2:15 P.M. LOOP BEGINNING AT ALMY HALL.**

BLUE BUS CANCELLATIONS ARE POSTED IN THE FRONT FOYER IN REED, THE BACK FOYER IN REED NEAR THE COUNSELING AND ADVISING OFFICE, IN THE GLASS CASE LOCATED BETWEEN THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE AND THE MAIL ROOM, AND THE RUB DESK.