



Connections with the Crossing

The Crossing: A Campus Christian Center

Who Are We?

By: Doug Pierce

Last July, Madison Campus Ministry entered into a "pilot" partnership with The Wesley Foundation (United Methodist) and Wayland Christian Community Houses (operated by the American Baptist's Francis Wayland Foundation). A name was chosen to signify this new partnership: **THE CROSSING**. This name is appropriate as it symbolizes not only the Christian base of our ministry, but also the combination or "crossing" of several ministries for a common purpose. It also picks up the reality of the hymn, "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life," as Campus Minister-Emeritus, Cecil Findley notes. It is a privilege for us to be at an intersection on campus where literally thousands of students cross daily.

For legal purposes, Madison Campus Ministry retains its previous name. For practical and marketing purposes, we lead with the name that signifies our partnership: **THE CROSSING: A Campus Christian Center**.

Our mission has remained unchanged. As an "ecumenical" campus ministry we strive to be holistic and to provide a Christian community where individuals can question, explore, understand, develop and affirm their relationship to God, each other and the world.

I hope as you look through this newsletter, you will see evidence of how our mission statement has become incarnate in the

programs we offer, but more importantly in the lives of the students with whom we are involved. "Where Faith Meets Life" is more than a slogan for us.

We are blessed to bear witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ in word and deed on a world-class university campus. We know the opportunities for outreach, witness and service are endless. We could have 100 campus ministers and not have enough resources. I am pleased with the staff we have assembled. I am equally thankful for the support we are generating (and it is growing). For the

many gifted people, committed board members, local congregations, area clergy, faculty and staff who have added hands, hearts, minds and voices to strengthen our common witness we are



Group photo that includes (selected) The Crossing Pastoral Staff, Peer Ministers, student leaders, UNICEF manager, Work-Study Student, Environmental Peer Minister, Marketing Intern and Newsletter Editors in front of our new sign.

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Student editors of the newsletter: Anna (left) and Leah (right)



Publisher, Deann MacPherson



Staff editor and Executive Director of The Crossing, Doug Pierce



Wayland Christian Community

- A Profile of Three Students

By: Anna Krecjci

Members from the Wayland Christian Community brought their magnificent talents and endearing personalities to The Crossing this fall. Helena Muller, from Pretoria, South Africa, Xavier Cornejo from Guayaquil, Ecuador, and Jacco de Visser from the Netherlands all contributed to the music team each Sunday evening for Vespers and shared their talents with our group.

Helena came to the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a scholarship to earn a Ph.D. in math education. She also has a Masters in music education from Pretoria University in South Africa. She teaches music to 10-13 year-olds in a government school, and hopes to teach math at the university after completing her higher education. Helena comes from the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa's capital city. After coming from a church with 3,000 members, Helena said she enjoyed the intimacy at The Crossing. "I enjoyed the fellowship at The Crossing, and its warmth. I felt like I belonged," Helena said. She acknowledged that while multiple services at her home church accommodated large numbers of intergenerational members, the beliefs expressed at



The Crossing and her home church were similar.

Jacco, who also practices the Dutch Reformed faith, studied political science at UW-Madison during his stay at the Wayland House. He intends to complete

As an experienced trumpet player of 12 years, Jacco contributed greatly to our music. For Jacco, The Crossing was a place to meet people who did not fit his stereotype of the United States. Based on US foreign policy, Jacco said he expected Americans to be arrogant; however, he said "There are at least as many people in America who pay attention to other, more important values of life. I am very glad that I could meet so many of them in Madison and at The Crossing."

Xavier's knowledge of Ecuador's plant life led him to Madison after a UW professor of botany invited his help in researching and in co-authoring a book, which will be published by the Department of Systematic Botany in Sweden. Xavier, who is working on publishing his own book as well, accompanied Helena, Jacco, and the rest of the music team with percussion instruments, keeping our gathered community in rhythm. "Music is a way to make friends and to have a good time," he said. In Xavier's view, even though the group members met by circumstance, and each person must follow different paths in the future; human connections are a basic human need and studying Christianity together enhances these encounters. "A human is a gregarious being," he said.

Helena, Jacco and Xavier are greatly missed, but their friendship and contributions to the group have not been forgotten.



Three members of The Crossing's music worship team were Wayland residents

UNICEF By: Anna Krecjci



Since September, the United Nations Children's Fund Store has been located at The Crossing. Previously it was run out of Cecil and Helen Findley's basement. Money generated by the purchase of UNICEF cards, toys and calendars supports children worldwide. UNICEF funds vaccinations, education, and children's rights campaigns.

Last year the store collected nearly \$20,000. Currently, the store responds to orders from 19 Madison area churches of all denominations. According to Caroline Boza, who managed the store first semester, its new location makes the gift shop more visible to the community and may attract more students, faculty, staff and volunteers.



Lisa Valenti-Hein, (pictured right) UW-Madison student and member of The Crossing, has supported UNICEF and The Crossing by helping at the free trade fair and managing the store second semester. For Lisa, UNICEF makes it possible to change the world because most of the profit reaches children. "Helping others is a mission of the church," Lisa said. "UNICEF is an organization that allows children to help other children from a very young age with the trick-or-treat for UNICEF program, while at the same time reaching out to adults and allowing them to contribute to help the world around them."

Blitz Build

By: Travis Tennessen



As dawn broke on January 13th, 10 students from The Crossing piled out of a van and gathered around two concrete slabs that would become the foundations for two Habitat for Humanity houses. After a week of

pounding nails, measuring, cutting (and re-measuring and re-cutting), two new houses stood at the end of a long row of Habitat houses on Stillwell Avenue in Palatka, Florida. The rapid construction of these homes, the 23rd and 24th Habitat houses in Putnam County, was a result of the 4th annual Blitz Build. The Blitz Build was organized by Don Peterman, president of the Putnam County Habitat for Humanity chapter, in cooperation with local sponsors and Dane County Habitat for Humanity. Each year, volunteers from Dane County travel to Northern Florida to help local volunteers “dry-in” two or three new houses. In the following months, local volunteers will finish the interior of each house. Five members of the UW Habitat for Humanity chapter, as well as several other Wisconsin volunteers, local volunteers, and the future homeowners accompanied our students on the build. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the community of Palatka



Loma Klossner with the group

as well as grateful for the \$2,000 grant given by the UCC Wisconsin Conference that provided us with transportation to Florida. When we were not at the building site, we were either being chauffeured to a fantastic meal provided by one of the local churches or relaxing in our rooms at the Budget Inn.

We also visited St. Augustine, the oldest permanent European settlement in the U.S., where we were given a bus tour, walked around the Spanish fort, ate lunch at a beachside restaurant, and climbed the city’s lighthouse.

The spirit surrounding the build was exhilarating and heart-warming. With so many well-organized volunteers,

Featuring Phil

For two years Phil Kollmeyer has been our student organization President. Phil completed his sophomore year at the UW-Madison. He is an electrical engineering major. He comes from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. This summer, Phil will be the Conservationist at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. (He is an Eagle Scout with a long scouting history). Phil’s energy and enthusiasm have been contagious. Students and staff alike have valued his leadership gifts. THANKS PHIL!



minute-to-minute. One great challenge was keeping up with the house as it grew around you, always learning how to help when a new task arose. At the end of the day, when the hammers stopped pounding, the transfor-



mation from the morning was amazing. While we all felt blessed to have the opportunity to participate in the build, we struggled to return the thanks and generosity we encountered constantly during the

week. A different community church provided each meal. To our delight, each church seemed to be trying to outdo the others in quantity and quality of food. We were even given gifts at some churches, ceramic angels and crosses at one and giant bags of citrus fruit at another. The Budget Inn of Palatka donated our rooms, as they have done for all 4 groups of Blitz Build volunteers, and were very hospitable.

The week of work and fellowship helped Crossing students create and develop friendships within the group and amongst other volunteers from Wisconsin and Florida. After the final day of work on Friday, we attended the Blitz Build



heard touching musical and oratory praise to the work done by Putnam County Habitat for Humanity. The Crossing student organization president, Phil Kollmeyer, presented Putnam

Habitat with a \$500 donation for the continuation of their positive community impact. The week in Palatka was one of creating and enhancing the connections we each have with our world, connections between individuals, between individuals and their community, between communities, between ethnicities, between North and South, between old and young, and between rich and poor. Each of us hopes to emulate the spirit of cooperation and community we found in Florida and carry it with

Featuring Megan

Last summer, a local pastor called us about a student looking for “marketing” experience. She was willing to volunteer her time, could we use some help? Our association with Megan Frey was begun. This past year, we’ve been blessed with Megan’s involvement, particularly around ways to “get our message out” to students. Megan has graduated with a business degree and accepted a job offer with Kohl’s. She also agreed to serve on our Board of Directors! THANKS MEGAN!



Fort Benning

By: Leah Hart



Fort Benning, Georgia was, for the eleventh year, the protest site against the formerly named School of the Americas (SOA). A bus from Edgewood College in Madison, WI, traveled to the protest. Two Madison-Milwaukee area buses went along, as well. The leader of the group was Sister Maureen McDonnell, of the Sinsinawa sisters, who serves in Campus Ministry at Edgewood College. It was her fifth trip to the protest. The Edgewood bus passengers included Leah Hart, Jake Strickler, and Timyra Cowling of The Crossing as well as campus minister, Cecil Findley and his wife, Helen. "This is such a cool combination of people," Crossing participant Timyra Cowling commented to her seat partner, Leah, after introductions had gotten underway. The Crossing representatives thoroughly enjoyed the unique community from Wisconsin.



nizing the presence of the spirits of the victims. The peace activists formed lines of ten abreast and proceeded slowly towards the gate of the base in order to pay tribute to the deceased by decorating the fence with pictures, crosses, flowers, fake caskets, folded paper cranes, and other symbols of peace and mourning.



This youngster represents one of the diverse age groups present at the protest

Action taken by law enforcement to deter protestors was greater than ever this year. Last year protestors found ways of crossing the fence, disappointing the authorities with their persistence. They had constructed a fence surrounding the property in hopes of discouraging the mass action of civil disobedience that the protestors traditionally commit by trespassing onto the base, (federal property) in order to express their outrage at the school's existence. About half of the offenders were prosecuted last year (with a maximum term of six months in jail and a \$5,000 fine), 27 of which are still in jail today. This year, all 96 who were arrested are expected to be prosecuted. This is a victory of sorts for the protestors, as it proves that authorities are recognizing the seriousness of the protestors' cause. Those who believe in this movement, who wish to better the world with the closing of such a place as WHISC, hope that their goal will be accomplished soon, but they plan to continue their annual vigil at Fort Benning, until they accomplish their goal.



On the bus-ride returning home from Fort Benning, the people on the Madison buses reflected on their experiences. Moving stories were shared of witnessing arrests, interacting with police officers and military officials in positive ways, particularly striking songs, humorous signs and slogans, and other meaningful moments. One Madison resident shared her emotional experience that occurred during the funeral procession. She had traveled to Guatemala and "fell in love with a six-year old girl," the memory of whose eyes tore at her heart every time she heard sung the ages of infants, toddlers, and children.

The participants agreed that protestors of the school's existence experience a renewal of hope and inspiration in the events of the annual protest at Fort Benning, and feel strongly about continuing to struggle to close the school. Success will come more quickly if the general masses are informed of the atrocities committed by the school's graduates, therefore recognizing the importance of its



Although renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISC) in 2000, the protestors claim that the school has a "New Name, Same Shame." The school or "institute" is a military academy that specializes in training Latin American military troops. The intent is to provide Latin American countries with a force that could theoretically maintain democratic governments. Unfortunately, there are dictatorial-type governments in many countries in Latin America that often control the military. At times, United States' corporate interests are protected by the same dictatorial-type governments (or puppet democracies) that use the United States trained troops to terrorize civilians that wish to change or revolutionize their governments. Those revolutionaries are considered dangerous subversives, many of whom are poor and oppressed people. In short, the WHISC (nicknamed School of Assassins, after its previous name) trains soldiers who have committed numerous human rights atrocities in the name of democracy and in the name of the United States. Protestors resent the government's use of their country's name and the American ideal of "democracy" as its justification of the oppressive methods taught to Latin American military troops at WHISC.

"Presente!" Thousands of people sang this word in response to sung names of the victims of torture, rape, terror, and assassination in Central and South America. The list of names went on for approximately three and a half hours. The people gathered at Fort Benning were committed to nonviolence as their means of protest, as is their tradition. The tradition of the funeral march commemorates those who have been killed at the hands of WHISC graduates. The names and ages of victims were sung this, to which the crowd responded



Pictured above (L-R) Cecil, Sister Maureen and Helen

Vespers *By: Leah Hart*

As [The Crossing](#) was discovering its new identity, one development was the creation of a worship team that would meet regularly to plan *Vespers* services. This team was staffed by [Karla Schmidt](#) and students [Leah Hart](#), [Mark Ray](#), [Diego Roman](#) and [Timyra Cowling](#). As a result of the team's efforts, *Vespers* is a mixture of music, scripture, prayers, reflections, and readings. The worship is designed with the hope that people from a number of different backgrounds can enjoy a fulfilling spiritual experience. The message is given by one of the ministry's gifted pastors- [Doug Pierce](#), [Karla Schmidt](#), [Cecil Findley](#), or [Bill Conover](#). Guest ministers ([Ed Beers](#), [Bill Wineke](#), [Winton Boyd](#), [Hyo-Won Park](#), [Steve Minnema](#), [Bryan Sirchio](#)); guest authors ([Michael Dowd—environmental](#) and [Bob Enright—Forgiveness](#)); guest, [David Newhouse](#), from [Garrett Evangelical Seminary](#) and numerous students each offered a message during worship. [Bob Enright](#) shared 40 copies of his book, [Forgiveness Is a Choice](#), much to the delight of students who were encouraged to take a copy home. We also welcomed [Rabbi Brian Field](#) who led us in a Seder service!

Michael Dowd



Bryan Sirchio



Mark, Katie, Karla and Diego



Music Team



Brian Heins



Student Organization

By: Anna Krejci



A committee of students from [The Crossing](#) meets each month to organize activities providing an environment where friendships are strengthened and where callings as Christians can be fulfilled. The group's foundation was formed in September when an ice cream social following Sunday Vespers allowed members a chance to welcome newcomers. In the Fall and Spring, professional massages were offered by students of the Blue Sky Massage School (as community service) to anyone in need of midterm stress relief.

To build relationships within the group, [The Crossing](#) holds monthly movie nights where films, like "Romero", "Seven Years in Tibet", and "Gandhi" stimulate conversations on religion and political struggles. Popcorn, soda and dinners give moviegoers additional energy for post-movie discussion.



One chilly December evening, students decorated the center for the holiday season. Fellowship over cookies, hot chocolate and cider reminded us that Christmas would soon be here.

Our activities also extended to connections with local churches in the community: raking leaves for senior members of the community, working at Donald Park, (a county

park near Mt. Horeb, WI, (to maintain the future wildlife refuge's natural resources) caroling with a Madison American Baptist congregation, and painting rooms at [The Crossing](#). In addition, a group of students returned to Palatka Florida for a Habitat for Humanity Blitzbuild during their January break!



Through its activities, [The Crossing](#) is always looking for ways to expand and welcome new members. [The Crossing Student Organization](#) will further their goal of providing an accepting, growing faith community by offering activities that encourage strength of faith, by volunteering to better the community, and by enjoying each others' fellowship.



Students receiving Leadership Awards at an appreciation cookout.

Connections

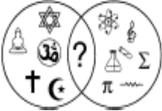


High School students from Bethany UMC



THANKS FOR THE MEALS...to the folks at Windsor UCC, University UMC, First UMC, First Baptist, Middleton UCC, Westminster Presbyterian, Plymouth UCC, Divine Savior UMC, Monona UMC, Verona UCC, Lake Edge UCC, Crossroads UMC, and also to Cec Holder and the Madison Campus Ministry Board for preparing and serving delicious dinners for no-cost student meals following Vespers. THANKS FOR THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT...from First Baptist, Covenant Presbyterian, Verona Salem UCC, First Congregational UCC, Lake Edge UCC, Westminster Presbyterian, First UMC, Orchard Ridge UCC,

University UMC, Middleton Community UCC, Community of Hope UCC, Windsor UCC, Plymouth UCC, Memorial UCC-Fitchburg, Dale Heights Presbyterian. Thanks to Orchard Ridge UCC for sharing the purchase of an LCD projector with The Crossing. A FINAL THANKS FOR THE MANY CREATIVE WAYS CONGREGATIONS SHARE WITH US IN OUR COMMON MINISTRY AND OUTREACH! THANK YOU!



Conversations in Faith: The Intersection of Intellectual Life and Personal Faith

Faculty members from the University spoke about how their academic lives have influenced their personal faith, and how their faith, in turn, impacts their academic disciplines. Dr Phil Certain, Dean of the College of Letters and Science spoke on February 20th, followed by Dr. Pam Oliver, of the Department of Sociology who spoke on March 27th. Dr. Keith Yandell, Department of Philosophy will speak in the fall. These events were held at Grainger Hall. Thanks to Rev. Curt Anderson and to the late Rev. Dave Lyons who joined with Doug Pierce and Cecil Findley in the planning of these events.



HONOR FOLLOWS CROSSING NOMINATION

by Rev. Cecil Findley

Darrell W. Yeaney is this year's recipient of the Annual Higher Education Award from the Presbyterian Church (USA). Dr. Yeaney was nominated by The Crossing in appreciation for his contributions to the church and to the world in a long career in ministry in Higher Education, and for his contributions to our ministry at the UW-Madison.

Darrell Yeaney intersects with our ministry most directly by having introduced us to Father Elias Chacour. He led a peacemaking group to Israel-Palestine which included Cecil and Helen Findley. The trip took us to Ibillin in the Galilee, where we met Father Chacour and were tremendously impressed by his work. Along with Palestinian friends George and Samia Shalabi, we were able to bring Father Chacour to Madison to speak to appreciative audiences on two occasions under the banner of our Beyond Terrorism program, the second of which included the presence of Sue and Darrell Yeaney. This contact helped lead to the establishment of Quest, our program of sending seven members to Ibillin to work with Father Chacour and his Mar Elias Educational Institutions. The connection goes on as Quest presents programs on their work at a number of churches in and around Madison.

Darrell Yeaney has given long and meritorious service in campus ministry in Kansas, California and Iowa. He has developed special programs such as that at the University of Iowa School of Dentistry where he became an advisor and adjunct faculty member, teaching courses in ethics. He has served in special leadership roles in Presbytery and Synod, and in retirement has maintained a ministry of speaking, writing and leading trips in pursuit of justice for Palestinians.

We are pleased that our nomination led to this honor, and that our judgment that Darrell's work is exemplary has been supported and confirmed by the Higher Education Program Area of the Presbyterian Church. The award will be given at this year's General Assembly of the church.

INTERNATIONAL FORGIVENESS INSTITUTE

by Dr. Robert Enright director@forgiveness-institute.org

The mission of the International Forgiveness Institute is to promote the psychology and education of forgiveness. We are in contact with people from all over the world, who are also interested in studying and promoting forgiveness.

Currently, the IFI is talking with people in Northern Ireland about a program on forgiveness for children in Belfast. This program is being researched at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Eleven schools in Belfast are piloting at the forgiveness curriculum in grade P3, which is equivalent to our first grade. Next year, P4 (second grade) will get involved, along with more schools starting the curriculum in P3. Each year more grades, schools and classrooms will join the effort.

We are making a multi-year commitment to the children of Northern Ireland, in the hope of involving an entire generation of children (from the first grade level through the end of secondary school) in Forgiveness Education. It is our hope that such an intensive exposure to forgiveness will help these children, once they become adults, to handle their conflicts between and among one another with greater peace-based on the principles of forgiveness.

Northern Ireland is a land that has not known peace for at least 800 years. We, at the International Forgiveness Institute, will try to support teachers, pastors and parents by giving them information as they help the children learn to forgive, in the hope of affecting a deeper and more lasting peace.

We would appreciate your prayers as we pursue this project, along with our ongoing search for funding.

(Editor's Note: The Crossing is delighted to welcome IFI's presence in our building.)



Staying Connected

I attended **MCM** and sang in the choir with **Jonathan Overby** from 1991-93. I graduated in May of 1993. **MCM** was a significant faith home on my life and spiritual journey. It was there that I first heard and considered a call to pastoral ministry. I entered Seminary at **Pacific School of Religion** in 1998 and graduated with my M.Div. in May 2001. I am currently the Associate Pastor at **Brookfield Congregational UCC**. I am incredibly grateful for the presence and ministry of **MCM** during my time there and beyond. It is an important voice on the **UW-Madison** campus for those who find their way through its doors. **Rev. Tisha Brown**

It's been quite a journey since our years in the **Wayland Club**, and a great deal of progress. Our years there (1947-48) were so meaningful--**Shor ty Collins** alerted us to the **Young Baptists World Conference** in Stockholm, and we went. So appreciative of your peace emphasis and support of spiritual growth. We wish you all the very best in your work. **Helen and Maury Branch**

My husband and I appreciated the leadership of **Rev. "J" Olson** in the late 1940's. Sincerely, **Winifred Hardy**

I received my Ph. D. in adult and continuing education at **UW** (1997). During my years of association with the University, I appreciated all forms of partnered ministries. As a **Wayland Resident** (1986-89), **MCM** student chaplain (1986-89) and at **University UMC and Wesley Foundation** (1986-89; 1995-98). Currently I am Dean of the Seminary and Associate Professor of Ministry at **Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary**, 1998-present. Now I am training pastors and campus ministers. **Dianne Reistroffer**

Just a short note to bless you on your way! Like you, we have high hopes for rebuilding an open Christian student ministry (for and by and with students) at 1127 University Avenue. Our very best thoughts and prayers for your outreach. We met at **Wesley Foundation** 50 years ago--my parents met there 75 years ago (my mother, 94, is the oldest member of **University Methodist Church**). Through our years in Davis, we have supported the campus ministry here, but you have raised our sights to new possibilities for the Spirit of God through **The Crossing at Wesley Foundation**. In faith, **Elizabeth Bradford**

Was very impressed with the group who led in worship at **First Baptist Church** in Madison in March. **Ruth Evans**

Your **Crossing** letter stimulated many memories for us of our time in Madison (1945-47) and especially **Wesley**. This is where my wife Doris and I met.... **Carroll and Doris King**

I've kept "**Crossings**" in my prayers and am excited by all the possibilities that exist and all the wonderful opportunities for ministry.



Sarah Kinney is the **Environmental Peer Minister** of **The Crossing**. She is a graduate student working with **Dr. Cal DeWitt**. **Sarah** has a passion for combining environmental science with her love of biblical stewardship. For **Earth Day**, **Sarah** created 3 different book marks and offered area churches the opportunity to use them as bulletin or newsletter inserts or hand them out in other ways. Over 3500 bookmarks were requested by 15 area churches.



Marcus Bovre has recorded a new CD entitled **FULL FRONTAL CONFESSION**. It includes many of the songs he had previously written for vesper worship services at **The Crossing**. **Crossing** favorites: *Still Small Voice*, *Help Me See*, *Good News and Heaven Halve*

Me, are included along with six other songs. The lyrics of each song are posted on our website: www.crossingministries.org. This CD can be purchased at **The Crossing** for \$5.00 (student price) or \$10.00. All proceeds go to support **The Crossing** ministry. For **Marcus's** gifts and support we are grateful! **Marcus** was recently featured in a WI State Journal article for his contributions to the Madison music community.

NEW CENTURY CLUB

The initial support for **THE NEW CENTURY CLUB** has been encouraging. We hope for 100 new supporters of at least \$100.00. After three weeks, we are pleased that we're nearly a third of the way there, with **28 members**. A great big thank you to those listed below. Your contributions make a real difference! If you are still considering making a gift, please send it to **The Crossing**, 1127 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin 53715.

Gifts of \$500 and above:

Jim and Kathryn Allen
Wynn and Loree Davies
Doug and Sherry Caves
Gil and Nancy Emmert
Bill and Mary Fiore
Lydia and Palmer Haynes
Petra Streiff and Larry Streiff-Stussey

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Helen Branch
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Winifred Hardy
Dianne Reistroffer
Karla Schmidt
Deann and Scott MacPherson
Amy Slagle

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Patricia Quinn
Tisha Brown
Martin and Ruth Massengale
Candace Hurley
Pat Hitchcock
Carol and Doris King
Don Hausch and Joanne Thompson
Ervin & Elizabeth Oelke



The Crossing: A Campus Christian Center

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Peer Ministers *By: Leah Hart*



Diego is a resident at **Wayland** Housing community. **Karla**, as the new Pastor of **Wayland**, recognized his quiet, joyful nature and strong faith as good qualities for the worship team. He is from Ecuador, and so brought a unique perspective to the team. Like most Latin Americans, he has a strong Catholic background. He is teaching elementary school while also taking classes at **UW-Whitewater**. Despite his busy schedule, he served the worship team for the fall semester.

Leah is a second-year student at Madison. She was one of the pioneers of the campus ministry last year. She expends her extracurricular energy at **The Crossing** in a variety of ways. Her home church is the **First Congregational UCC** in Platteville, WI. She is serving her second semester as a peer minister. She and co-minister **Timyra** helped lead the music for the worship services.

Mark is a freshman at **UW-Madison**. He came to us from **First Baptist Church** of Madison. He confesses he didn't know what to expect when he joined the team this fall. He now appreciates **The Crossing** slogan "**Where Faith Meets Life**." He is impressed with the faith that leaders and members of last year's **Madison Campus Ministry** possessed to make the campus ministry flourish and grow to the point it is today. He is a valuable team member who shares his technological talents with the ministry. He runs the power points which serve as a replacement for bulletins during worship.

Timyra, who comes to us from **Wauwatosa Ave. United Methodist Church**, is joining the team for the first time this semester. She is sharing the task of selecting and directing music with **Leah**. She will graduate next Spring with a degree in sociology and women's studies. Her cheerful personality, respectful listening skills, and strong Christian faith make her a well-received member of the worship team.