



## Connecting the Dots

by Beth Hamrick and Lauren Morris

Fire scares in Benedum, dancing with the Bishop, and the traditional Thursday night worship service proved to be highlights of the week and gave youth the spiritual and unforgettable experiences that are expected from Summer Youth Celebration.

Campers poured into the opening celebration in the Wesley Chapel, the returning youth noticing something different. Instead of a 6'6" dean, Jeremiah Jasper, standing in front of them, the familiar faces of Ken and Ellen Kimmel welcomed everyone to SYC. Serving their first year as co-deans, they are not quite "newbies." Ellen has been coming to SYC since 1996 or 1997 and Ken has been here since 1979.

The opening celebration also had several other special guests. The Bishop's cabinet was introduced in a rather humorous way. The campers were asked to identify which person was their district superintendent, while choosing between the real person and two "imitators." Shortly afterwards, the districts met separately with their superintendents to meet and greet each other. Later that night, campers also got to have ice cream with some of the West Virginia Wesleyan staff, as President Hayden is currently in the retirement process.

SYC also welcomed back Mike Quimby this year, who returned to lead us in music for the first time in five years. Mike's mixture of spiritual acoustics and old-school songs, such as the *Milk Song*, kept him a favorite in all of the campers' hearts.

This year's theme, "Connections," helped to show the importance of connecting with friends, family, church, and God. The various speakers throughout the week all used their personal experiences to enrich the theme.

Although the workshop line at registration stretched farther than usual this year, all campers eventually enjoyed the variety workshops that were offered. Ranging from sports and relaxation to

work teams and bible studies, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

As always, many friendships were formed and strengthened during covenant groups. Campers learned more about connecting to Christ by reading about the life and trials of David. They also participated in several games, skits, crafts, and discussions relevant to teenagers.

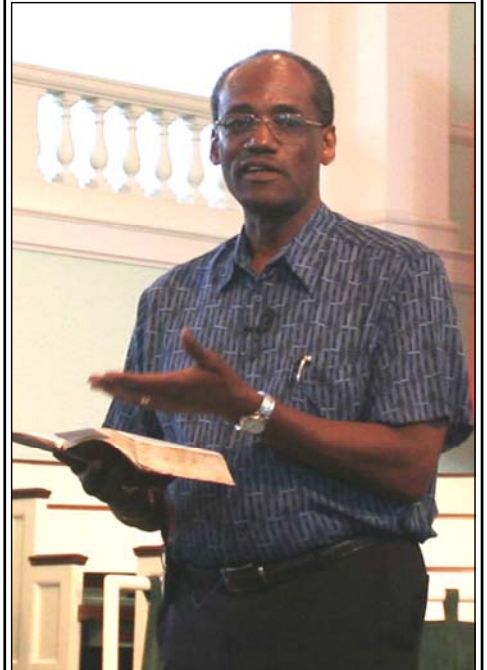
Wednesday evening, SYC was once again blown away by the amazing talents of the United Methodist Youth. With twenty-two different acts, the performances ranged from vocal and musical talents, to skits and even clogging. Zack Fizer and Matt Harper were the MC's of the evening, leaving the audience in hysterics throughout the night. The camper then walked over to the much anticipated dance, eager to spend time with the new friends they had made. The DJ played everything from today's hottest tunes, to the classic *Electric Slide*, leaving everyone happy, yet tired, as they returned to their dorms.

Despite the busy atmosphere that usually accompanies SYC, there is still an allotted amount of free time provided each day. Many campers enjoyed music in the shade while others played Ultimate Frisbee, an all-time SYC favorite. Thursday afternoon there was also a camper/counselor challenge, where the two teams faced off in a Volleyball match.

Friday morning, everyone got one last chance to spend time with their covenant groups, many exchanging contact information and hugs. As the seniors gave their farewell speeches during open mic, many tears were shed. They reminisced about past SYC experiences, but remained hopeful as many of them plan to return later as counselors. Even though the numbers had slightly dropped this year, the spirit of SYC was just as high. SYC 2006 gave connections to many youth which they will carry with them throughout the rest of their lives.

## If You're Happy and You Know It...

by Stephanie Stacy and Zachary Allen



Our Bishop Lyght connects with SYC youth

Thanking the Conference Council on Youth Ministries for inviting him to speak at Summer Youth Celebration Bishop Lyght challenged youth to become more connected.

The Bishop also mentioned that he used to come to events like SYC all the time. Then the invitations slowly stopped. "Why," Lyght asked? The answer was simple because he was getting old.

Youth were connected Monday night when Bishop Lyght delivered the news that life is difficult. He called up two volunteers and asked them, "Is life for a teenager difficult?" One volunteer immediately said yes. The second said that life was difficult for everyone not just teenagers.

The Bishop then called on two "mature" teenagers over 21 and asked what they do when life is difficult. The mature teenagers answered that they go to the Lord in prayer and use their faith community for help.

(Continued on page 3)

## A Little Piece of Ghana for Wesley Chapel

by Mary Hill and Rebecca Small

Who knew Summer Youth Celebration could travel to Africa without leaving the chapel? Well, that was the case Tuesday night when members of the WVU Drum Ensemble brought Ghana, Africa to Wesley Chapel.

Zack George and Missy Hance were our tour guides for the night. Combined they have been involved in African drumming for about 15 years. Under the direction of their teacher Pascal Yao Younge, they have been to Ghana to perform and learn more about African drumming. With their knowledge, they are no strangers to teaching the craft. They have taught in Virginia, Maryland, and West Virginia working mainly with school groups.

Agreeing to work with a group of about 15 youth, Zack and Missy created an honorary drum ensemble. Before warming up, Zack explained to the SYC youth the different types of drums they had on stage, particularly the history and structural features. Nicknaming the djembe as an “African drum set,” he mentioned that the elite in African drumming could get about

30-40 sounds out of the djembe while many typical students can only get three or four sounds.

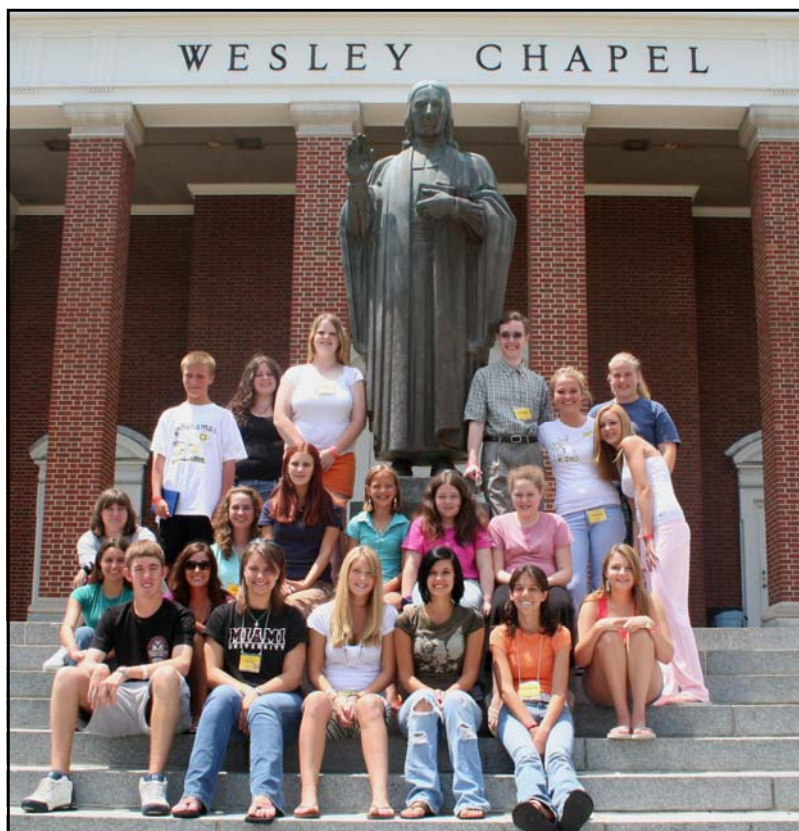
After the general explanation and a warm-up, the honorary drum ensemble preformed a few dances. With the cowbell as their conductor, students preformed dances called the Kpatsa, the Gota, and the Rebobo. Each dance had a specific amount of steps that looked both challenging and entertaining. Along with each dance there was singing in Ewe, the native language in Ghana dances.

Overall, many reports indicate that the concert was, entertaining, informative, and interactive. Although at times the



Youth from the rhythms of faith workshop help with the African drum concert. They were the, “honorary drum ensemble,” who preformed various dances and demonstrated various drumming techniques.

audience’s eagerness presented a problem in the auditory department, Zack and Missy, as Ebert and Roper would say, “get two thumbs way up!”



2006 SYC newspaper staff smile for the camera as they connect with John Wesley.

### The Heavenly Connection SYC 2006

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## Youth Worship at Wesleyan

by Gary Bradley and Zachary Allen

Each day at Summer Youth Celebration 2006 youth from across the conference joined in worship. Through our connectional United Methodist Church we came together as friends, family, and a community of believers to demonstrate our connection to God.

Bishop Lyght lead us in opening worship on Monday speaking on our need to connect to God and leading us in a rousing chorus of *If You're Happy and You Know It*.

Tuesday morning's worship was lead by the Rev. Ken Ramsey who told us that Jesus always has hope for each us. "You will find the hope and joy when God's dreams become your dreams," Ramsey said.

The Rev. Clare Sulgit-Horn delivered a lesson on Wednesday about being connected to family. She talked about how

your friends will come and go but your family will always be there for you. However, she said that the real connection is not to your biological family but the connection you have with your spiritual family.

Thursday morning's sermon was lead by the Rev. Scott Sears. Rev. Sears suggested that it is easier to make a connection to people you don't know than to people you do know. Then He reminded that the greatest gift of friendship came from God through His Son, Jesus. And, we need to remember that just as we can be betrayed by our friends, Jesus was also betrayed by his friends.

Thursday evening one of our co-deans, the Rev. Ken Krimmel, led us in our communion service. He used the texts 1

Samuel 20:18-23 and John 15:9-17. The major illustration for the evening was the connection between Jonathan and David. The Rev. Krimmel had three main points: friends are more precious than gold, friends stand by each other, and friends help each other survive.

Friday Morning we were lead by Luana Cook-Scott in our closing worship. The theme of the service was community.

Phillip Norman, who will be graduating this year, had this to say about worship, "All the speakers this week spoke deeply about real situations about their lives pertaining to us."

The worship at Wesleyan during SYC was, as usual, an incredible experience. Led in music by Mike Quimby worship was an integral part of the week.

## Mike the Music Man

by Stephanie Stacy

"I love being here; I love fellowship with other adults and engaging in interesting conversations with the campers."—Mike Quimby

SYC is welcoming back Mike Quimby after a five year wait. He came back with hair and his music is still as good as it was five years ago. He has a strong connection with youth because he is a kid at heart. I got to know this kid very well after our interview. Quimby is 33 years old, and was recently married to Jen, who is also a musician. They live at Bemus Point on the Chautauqua Lake in New York. Quimby received his Biblical Studies Degree at Houghton Wesleyan College. He is starting a new position at his church, Bemis Point United Methodist, as the Director of Worship and Technical Arts. He said that he really loves to lead and be apart of discovering God in other peoples life's. He wants to make worship a way of life.

Mike Quimby was called to lead worship through music on December 28, 2000 at a youth convention in New York. He picked up his first instrument when he was 8 years old. Quimby started out playing the cello; his list has now jumped to 6 instruments including bass guitar, guitar, percussion, cello, and the piano. Quimby states, "I think my next instrument of choice to learn will be the bagpipes. A fun fact about Mike Quimby is that he is a huge M\*A\*S\*H freak! He has done a great

job getting SYC into worshiping God through music. He has great stage presence and knows how to rock a stage. This week we have had a lot of fun with Mike and hopefully more fun yet to come.



Mike Quimby leads singing at SYC.

(Continued from page 1)

The evening's message referred to Psalms 146, which expresses the temporal and unstable help of people versus the lasting and complete help of God. The Bishop instructed the youth to create a connection with God because "...If you think your life is difficult now...then you just wait!"

As we get older we mature in faith and our relationship with God. It is, therefore, very important to "create, keep, and nurture our relationship with God."

Bishop Lyght then read the Beatitudes from Matthew's Gospel. After the reading, Bishop Lyght asked us to replace the word *blessed* with *happy* and asked "how could anyone in these situations be happy?"

We were then amused as Bishop Lyght told us the story about getting his transmission change when he was young. He thought it was funny that the serviceman would ask how he would be paying.

When he got home he recounted the story to his father who said, "didn't he know I am here."

Just like his dad was there for him, God will be there for us. We can be happy because we have a good relationship with God. Bishop Lyght then asked, "If you're happy, everyone should know it, right?" SYC gave a resounding yes and he led us in the singing of *If You're Happy and You Know It*. As Bishop Lyght and a group of campers were dancing in the front of the sanctuary, a huge train of campers swarmed out of the pews and into the aisles of the sanctuary.

As he closed, Bishop Lyght issued a challenge to the youth, "go back to your churches and your pastors, and tell them when they're happy to clap their hands, stomp their feet, turn around, and shout Amen...". Bishop Lyght was able to make a strong connection to the youth of the Annual Conference and will most certainly be invited back next year.

## Youth Service Fund

Serving the Youth of West Virginia, Garret County Maryland, and Bath County Virginia

by Zachary Allen

The Youth Service Fund (YSF) is a mission fund exclusively of United Methodist Youth. YSF is money raised by youth, spent by youth to benefit youth. For every dollar you give to YSF 70 cents stays here to help youth in our conference and 30 cents goes to the Global YSF.

In this past year we have given \$3000 to Project Chacocente, \$1500 to the New Life Camp facilitated by Spring Heights, \$200 apiece for five people going on mission of peace. We also gave money to Volunteers in Mission and Summer Youth Celebration work teams.



Youth connect during free time.

# Up Coming Events

## North Eastern Youth Gathering

by Amelia Mackey

The connections you make with youth at Summer Youth Celebration can grow at other activities. Sometimes it feels like it is just too long to wait for Fall Workshop or SYC. This summer and next summer, there will be the chance to participate in other exciting youth activities.

Coming up on July 27, North Eastern Youth Gathering begins at West Virginia Wesleyan College. This is a three day event, and everyone is encouraged to attend. If you cannot attend for the entire

day, a \$20 fee is required for meals and access to the conference events. But, if you can be there for the entire time, the gathering costs \$150 per person. Youth from all over the Northeastern part of the U.S. will be attending. Activities at NEJCYM include worship, singing, workshops, speakers, and YSF activities. If you are interested in attending NEJCYM, talk to Nancy White (nancykhw@aol.com) or Rich Hogg (righogg@yahoo.com) for more information.

## S. P. L. A. T.

by Hallie Massey

Seek Pray Learn Act Teach will give youth from all over the country a chance to fellowship together at Greensboro, North Carolina, July 11-15, 2007.

This event is held every four years. It is a good experience for youth. Everyone was close and it was hard to imagine how to get any closer, espe-

cially when 10,000 of your closest friends are already there.

There are lots of different styles of music to satisfy participants. Everyone enjoys worship and speakers.

The best thing about SPLAT is you get to meet tons of wonderful people from all over the United States. Try not to miss out!



## Who Are All Those Youth In Blue T-shirts?

by Lauren Morris, CCYM Secretary

The Conference Council on Youth Ministries is comprised of 32 youth, ages twelve to eighteen, who meet about six times a year for the planning of Fall Workshop and Summer Youth Celebration, spiritual guidance, youth ministry, and fellowship. Rachel Kenaston once described CCYM as, "the student council for United Methodist youth." CCYM elects twelve members—at-large at SYC, two members from each of the nine districts, and two balancing members. Over ten adults also help and provide leadership and spiritual assistance to the CCYM.

Throughout this past year, they have met in Clendenin, Parkersburg, Oak Hill, Nitro, and twice in Buckhannon. Not only have they tried to provide ministry for the youth of the West Virginia Conference, they have also kept the focus on our four purposes: mission, leadership, discipleship, and fellowship. In addition, the CCYM also consists of five sub-committees—Youth Service Fund Project Review, Spiritual Life, Communications, Constitution, and Election. Five female seniors served as the Executive Committee, all doing innumerable responsibilities in addition to those of the other CCYM members.

CCYM is an extraordinary ministry to the youth of this Conference. For those wishing to pursue a career in ministry or simply wanting to take an active role in their faith, consider this as an option. For more information on CCYM and the West Virginia Annual Conference youth, check out <http://www.wvumyouth.org>.



2005-2006 CCYM takes time for a photo before SYC starts.



Bishop Lyght and youth discuss the difficulty of growing up.



# Faith Connection

by *Stephanie Stacy*

This year at SYC has been a lot different for me than the past years. Honestly I think this whole year not just SYC has been really odd for me. After my best friend graduated I really just feel alone. I just felt like I hadn't had a good connection with anyone else that I knew. I just felt empty because in the past my so called "best friends" have turned out to be back stabbers. So really the reason why I only have a few friends and which most of them have graduated is because I do not want to put myself through losing friends anymore and hearing the words they have to say about me when I'm not around. Feeling empty is not something I wish upon anyone and especially me because I am the type of person to be around everyone and always be doing something. I started praying to God about how I felt because I really couldn't talk to anyone. I just felt that no one would understand. Finally when the Show Choir season started at our school, God had sent me someone and the ironic part is that they have always been sitting in front of me and I never knew it. We connected not only in our friendship but in our faith. She's been the one to pick me up when I've fallen.

I've realized that when I felt alone I wasn't alone because God was always with me from the start. He was my best friend, my diary, and listener. No matter what has happened to me by my past I know that God will take care of it. Before I didn't think that there was much hope left for me and I was proven wrong. I've realized if you think you don't have any friends that you are wrong because God is always there for you. If you pray about the things that hurt you and for the ones that hurt you, God takes care of it. He brought me someone when I was in need and I am grateful for everything that has happened, and that He has given to me.



Zachary Allen entertains at the talent show.

## Youth Show Their Talents on and off the Stage

by *Kaitly Marler and Kaitlin Buchanan*

The 2006 talent show was bursting with an array of talents ranging from the Liturgical Dance Workshop led by Jenna Harmon, to an amazing rendition of "Tocata in D minor" performed by none other than the multi-talented and glorious Zachary Allen. Everyone displayed more than just exceptional talent on Wednesday night. This year also held its fair share of both musicians/vocalists as well as just musicians and/or vocalists with little to no accompaniment. Beth Hornsby played and sang Poison's "Every Rose Has It's Thorn," and Patrick Goodall shredded on guitar a very difficult Jimi Hendrix piece. Along with them were the very popular "Tall Boys", consisting of Matt Harper, Zack Fizer, Chris Tallman, and Ryan Jackson, performing the older yet well loved Backstreet Boys song, "I Want It That Way," which left the ladies swooning and craving more. Each and every performer did a phenomenal job and showed off their God given abilities very well. After much applause and standing ovations, the campers were more than ready get down with their bad selves.

The DJ played an enormous variety of music keeping everyone on their toes with each selection. There were a few 80's rock songs and a few newer rap songs, along with the traditional electric slide and the cha-cha slide. It kept everyone pumped and having a good time. The slow songs allowed everyone to catch their breath and possibly chat with people they hadn't been able to talk with very much. Adequate space for the Holy Spirit was left, leaving very little for the counselors to do but walk around and enjoy the music. Those who weren't into dancing very much enjoyed (or tried to) The Chronicles of Narnia: the Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, swimming, sitting outside, or the game room. A good time was had by all, leaving few negatives to say about this years' Wednesday night options.

### 2006-2007 Conference Council on Youth Ministry

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Tori Hawkins, Michael Ludle, Chrissy Snider

9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

Cara Golden, Jamiela Isaiah, Roxy Brake

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Seth O'Neal, Ben Shears, Erica Simmons, Olivia Morris

Balancing Members

Wesley Sites and Emily Smoot

### District Representatives

Greenbrier: Marybeth Romine, and Connor Kenaston

Little Kanawha: Zachary Allen and Jessica Samuels

Midland South: Mackenzi Hatfield and Logan Smith

Mon Valley: Emma Moore and Valarie Jasper

Northern: Josh Doty and Erica Sapp

Potomac Highlands: Valerie Hedrick and Gary Bradley

Southern: Laura File and Elizabeth Hornsby

Wesleyan: Kaylin Carpenter and Kirby Williams

Western: Zach Lusher and Candice Wright

## Connecting with Ireland

by Jacob Romine, Elizabeth Bowyer, and Daniello Melton

This summer Matt Harper, Rachel Kenaston, and Jacob Romine are going on a mission trip to Belfast, Ireland. They will be in Ireland for two weeks doing repair work and also will be trying to ease religious tensions in the country.

All three of the youth had to raise \$2,100 to go on this trip. Rachel Kenaston and Jacob Romine raised their money by doing auctions, sales, and donations. Matt Harper raised his money by mowing grass and doing other small jobs. His father also paid half the money and Matt paid the balance.

All three youth who are traveling to Ireland have helped with mission work teams. Some of the various places that these youth have traveled include the continental United States, Alaska, and foreign countries such as India.

Matt Harper has always wanted to go to Ireland. Part of his inspiration for going to Ireland is due to his Irish background and his desire to help people. Rachel and Jacob are also excited about the opportunity to go on the voyage and to help the people.

If you would like to go on a mission trip out of the country contact Tom Clark or West Virginia Volunteers in Mission in Summersville, WV.



Work team removing porch to do repairs on the house.



Cloggers connect with taps.



Work team paint house for Upshur Parish.

## Drums, Dancing, and More

by Olivia Snyder and Mandi Wines

Summer Youth Celebration 2006 offered many awesome workshops that were hits among the many youth in attendance.

The Banners workshop helped the youth express their faith in banner design.

Casey Arnold said, "It was very fun and unique. You get to express yourself in a banner. It helps you connect with God because you also get to see how other people connect with God in their banners."

Stephanie Trupo said, "Banners was a fun and creative way to make friends and express yourself. I liked the class a lot."

Work Teams composed of SYC youth, experienced Christ by helping the community in three projects.

Laura File said, "I liked the work teams because you had options of what you wanted to choose. I've never really done physical mission work. It was interesting because you didn't need to be able to build and the people really appreciated it."

Mike Quimby helped create the ultimate Christ experience through praise and worship in the Praise Team workshop. Essy Fond said, "It was good to hear our harmony."

Kristen Rumble said, "A prayer walk. Just you and God in complete silence." The Prayer Labyrinth workshop was a quiet walk in meditation and prayer.

Two members of the WVU African Drum Ensemble lead the Rhythms of Faith workshop. Par-

ticipants involved in this workshop performed with the ensemble during Tuesday evening's service. Ashtyn Whyte said, "It was a very good experience. I really liked performing on stage." Lydia Krimmel loved learning about all the different drums.

Karli Casto said, "I really enjoyed it. It was exciting to perform those dances on stage."

The Spiritual Formation workshop worked with the youth to develop a pathway to a deeper and richer relationship with Christ. Valerie Hedrick said, "We only had three people, but the class was better as a small group. We had a meditation with music."

This year's workshops offered a variety of wonderful experiences for the youth.



Covenant group works on build trust on Thursday morning during their meeting. This youth is shown falling into the arm of trusted friends.



Youth take time to relax in the pool.



Reading the Bible is an important part of covenant groups

## Covenant Groups

by *Kaitlin Buchanan and Kaitly Marler*

“The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.” – 1 Corinthians 12:12

This verse was the basis of study for this year’s nineteen covenant groups. The theme of SYC is being connected, and it was stressed in covenant groups.

There were two sessions on Monday, in which there were many get-to-know-you games played. Monday night, each group wrote a covenant, a statement that allowed everyone to share their opinions without fear of ridicule or shame.

Tuesday we began studying David and his role in his family. It was stressed to campers that there is no one like you and that everyone fits into their families uniquely. Also, campers were asked to share a special talent they possess and a talent they wish to possess.

Wednesday, the story of David and Goliath was reenacted in a play where Goliath, “the Big G Kahuna,” was defeated by Dave, a scrawny surfer, when he was struck in the head by a bottle of Smoothstone sunscreen while trying to catch the perfect wave.

Thursday was about being connected to your friends. The friendship of David and Saul’s son, Jonathan, was studied and traits of a good friend were discussed. Committed, trustworthy, accepting, and fun were some characteristics that made the enormous list. Also, a “trust fall” helped us become closer to our group members and leaders.

The last session was about being connected to the church. We looked at David’s life through Psalm 95:1-7 and how connected he was to God in his worship. With each session, the theme of connection was brought out through the story of David and the perils in his life.

The main goal is to stay connected to God throughout our trials and tribulations and He will bring you through it all.



Youth dance the night away on Wednesday evening.

## SYC Youth Make a Difference

by *Molly Kirkland and Samantha Hollen*

Connecting to the community many Summer Youth Celebration youth helped fix up houses around the neighborhood. They were all working hard at the two resident’s houses and the parish house where they built a new back porch, put in a new sidewalk, and re-painted.

Work teams have been a popular workshop at SYC for many years. Ron Hollingsworth have participated in this workshop for three years, and this is Robyn Welch’s second year. “Last year, we built a new

front porch and it’s still standing,” Blaine Means said.

When asked why he wanted to do this, Hollingsworth said, “I used to work on constructing things, and I wanted to give things back and help others.”

“I figured it would be interesting and it’s for a great cause.” Courtney Hall said.

“I really love to help people” said Kristin Arnold.

In charge of work teams was Val Markel. She has been participating in work teams at SYC and around the

world for many years. Her husband helped out with restoring houses when he was younger. When they got married, they wanted to let kids have the same experience. Markel said, “I’ve gone to Michigan, North Carolina, and Vermont.

Courtney Hall has participated in work teams with her youth group. “I think more people need to join next year” stated Hall.

The 2006 work teams had a positive connection with the community of Buckhannon.

# A Chat with the Deans

by Mandi Wines

The following interview was conducted at West Virginia Wesleyan College during Summer Youth Celebration 2006 with Ken and Ellen Krimmel new SYC deans.

**Mandi:** *What made you want to be the Dean of Summer Youth Celebration?*

**Ken:** I wanted to be a dean because we love the youth so much! We've always committed at least one week a year to youth camp. We have a passion for youth ministry and we just couldn't say no when they asked us. I have been doing this ministry for 27 years.

**Ellen:** I haven't been here as long as Ken has, but I have been here about 8 or 9 years. They are always looking for counselors and we try to commit one or two weeks to camp. We just think it is very important.

**Ken:** I also had very good role models that were very helpful to me in my faith journey and my formation of faith. So, I see it as giving back what I received from a lot of caring pastors. I have worked in both district camps and conference camps.

**Mandi:** *What are your duties?*

**Ken:** We are really in charge of everything. We had to find a professional staff, which includes the music/group leader, getting the DJ for the dance, and then finding staffing for everything from covenant groups to other various volunteers. We sent our first letter out in February inviting staff to come and we were still getting responses from staff up until the night before camp.

**Mandi:** *Have you started to work on SYC 2007?*

**Ken:** We have started thinking, and I will tell you Ellen's dream. She would love it if Michael W. Smith would come, but we think he may be a little bit out of our league. We will try though; we could always write a letter and see if we could get a response.

**Mandi:** *How many times have you two actually attended SYC?*

**Ken:** For me, I cannot even begin to count. I have been here consecutively since 1993, so about the last 14 years. And prior to that there were some times when I was here from 1979-1993.

**Ellen:** I started coming in 1996 or 1997, so probably the last 10 years consecutively.

**Mandi:** *How has your youth ministries helped you connect with God?*

**Ellen:** I think anytime you do something like this and you have a covenant group and you are sharing the material with them, you are both learning a lot.

**Mandi:** *What are some things you hope everyone gains from SYC 2006?*

**Ken:** We hope that they see that we are connected through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Ellen:** We hope that they will feel connected to each other, just like how some campers come back as counselors they all feel connected

**Mandi:** *Have you found it easier to keep your connection to God when you come to SYC?*

**Ken:** Definitely anything you do like this always strengthens your faith.



Connecting in the Wesley Chapel.



Connecting sometimes requires trust.



Deans Ellen and Ken Krimmel relax on the steps of Wesley Chapel during free time.

## The Benedum Fire

by Elizabeth Hornsby and Chelsea Massey

The girls in Benedum Hall had a rude awakening Tuesday morning at around 8:00 a.m. when the fire alarm rang.

"I was in my room getting ready for breakfast when I heard the alarms," says Olivia Snyder. As she exited the building, Olivia smelled smoke and saw the flashing emergency lights.

When the alarms went off most girls ignored the sounds and went back to what they were doing. Some were in the shower and others just getting up. Natalya Krimmel, one of the girls that was in the shower at the time, said, "I figured if it were important enough my roommate would come get me."

Whatever the girls were doing, they had to get out of the building because there was indeed a fire.

After everyone evacuated their dorm rooms, they found out that the fire was caused by a tablecloth left on the stove in the Nellie Wilson Lounge. Luckily, no one was injured and the fire was extinguished quickly.