

Bishop Lyght Soars with Youth

by R. Zachary Allen

Bishop Lyght, presiding bishop of the West Virginia Conference, soared into our midst exhorting youth to fly and showing his support for youth ministry by his presence on Monday night reminding youth of the need to stay in the game as we face issues he never thought about as a teen.

Michael Jordan could fly on the basketball court and the Bishop encouraged youth to follow suit in their daily lives, "Don't drop out, soar like an eagle."

Bishop Lyght urged youth to find and hold faith in God because "...When we find our faith in God we will fly, we will soar." After singing a rousing version of *I Believe I Can Fly*, Bishop Lyght closed

with words of encouragement "You can fly."

Youth of the West Virginia Conference are very lucky to have a bishop such as Bishop Lyght who believes it an important duty to be with the youth and support them.

"I don't like it when people refer to youth as tomorrow's church because youth are in the church today." Bishop Lyght does remember attending youth events but not quite like what exists today. Apparently, pews races were not a staple of events when Bishop Lyght was a youth. Regardless of the discrepancy, Bishop Lyght feels that it is his duty to be present with all parts of the church.



Bishop Lyght reads the Bible verse to SYC as he challenges youth to soar in their life.



SYC 2007: BIAS FROM THE PAST AND STILL CRAZY AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

by Makenzie Hatfield

SYC '07 was true to its name this week at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon as campers from most of West Virginia and Garrett County, Maryland met to enrich their relationships with God.

At 10:00 a.m. Monday morning, dedicated (yet slightly goofy) counselors, staff, and CCYM members started registration set-up. Work stations battled over chairs and tables, materials, and even workers.

Campers started arriving and registration began at 12:30 p.m. Long lines for nametags, t-shirts, workshops, housing, and meal bands awaited the eager SYCers. No one seemed to mind, if the shouts, hugs, and greetings of hello are anything to go by.

At Opening Celebration, Dean Ken Krimmel introduced all of the staff for the week. The first of many pew races occurred, with the right side (facing the

altar) taking the prize. That particular theme continued for the rest of the week.

All met in Covenant Groups for the first time Monday night. Counselors cited some as "quiet as church mice." Cara Kueck told some that Covenant Group Six was wild and crazy. Other counselors agreed and the fight was on for the craziest group.

Bishop Lyght encouraged the youth to believe that they could fly with Christ's love and help. Youth watched a video highlighting Michael Jordan's career and sang an off-beat version of "I Believe I Can Fly."

West Virginia Wesleyan College's President Balch and two admission officers went to Covenant Groups and handed out ice cream. Afterwards, everyone hung out in front of Benedum Campus Community Center before going to bed for the night.

Tuesday morning hit campers brutally. However, the day's activities woke them up. Youth went to their first workshops of the week. They also met with their districts and either elected CCYM district delegates or discussed plans for the coming year. Later that night, *Deadline* played a rousing concert.

By Wednesday, campers had the gist of the schedule. Following lunch, CCYM grade-level elections took place. Later the Talent Show rocked the house with genres ranging from acting to singing to playing musical instruments. The hit of the day was the "Decades Dance". Crazy decade costumes, glow jewelry, and music from all years set the mood. Everyone let loose and had fun. Some even spotted Deans Ken and Ellen Krimmel dancing wildly with campers. The BIG EVENT of

(Continued on page 2)

GUYS DORMS

by John and Phillip Stadelman

One word to describe the boy's dorms is WOW!!! Pop cans, water bottles, clothes, and shoes scattered all over.

With not much space to do anything you sometimes have to improvise. When asked who had the messiest room, Logan Smith was the unanimous choice. Logan commented, "The rooms are hot, small, and not up to date in technology. But who would have known he had these concerns. The room was cluttered with empty pop cans, shoes, water bottles, dirty and clean clothes, and wet towels everywhere.

Although Logan's room may be a dorm disaster, there are a lot of other boys' rooms running a close second.



Do you think we have enough drinks for the week?

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the dance was the YSF Dance Contest. Everyone at SYC now bows down to the King of Dance, Zack Lusher.

Youth anticipated the YSF Camper-Counselor Challenge all day Thursday. When the results came in, the campers took the day. Later in the day, some gathered to explore the call of Christian vocations. The evening communion service was a highlight of the week.

And finally, SYC came to a close on Friday. After one final Covenant Group Session, YSF Auction, and Worship, campers said goodbye with laughter, hugs, tears, and promises of seeing each other again soon. Everyone had to go "back to the future".

The SYC Design Team thanks everyone for attending SYC and hopes that all had a wonderful time. See you again next year!

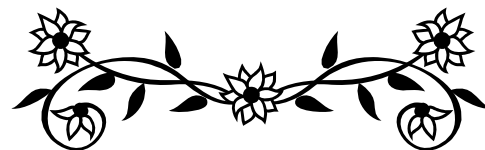
HOT STUFF

by Jessica Cunningham

Excitement over comes you as you walk into your dorm, but that is soon erased as the heat starts to get to you; there is no doubt that the dorms are the hottest things on campus.

After searching the dorms to find the messiest room, it is hands down the dorm room of Danielle Melton and Elizabeth Bowyer. When you walk through the door it is amazing the amount of junk that accumulated in such a short time. There is make up, dirty and clean clothes, tooth paste containers, unrolled electronic cords, and shoes scattered everywhere. Oreo's, Skittles, and empty pop bottles line the dressers and the desks.

Congratulations Danielle and Elizabeth, you have SYC's messiest girl's dorm room.



SYC NEWS BLAST

SYC 2007

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2007 SYC Newspaper Staff



What would SYC be without good music? Mike Quimby uses his gifts and talents to lead the singing and make gatherings and worship services meaningful.

Faith Stories

by Marissa Simms

Ally Kovach

When I was a little younger, my mother and I were sitting on the porch and talking about random things. I asked her if I was a Christian and she said as long as I believed that Jesus died for me and my sins then yes, I was a Christian. From that day forward, I knew I was on the right path. Now, when my friends ask me for advice or lean towards me to help them with a problem, I first pray for them and then help them lean towards God for answers for their problems. I feel that I should share the feelings I have with everyone who cares. When I arrived at SYC I found that whole environment is just surrounded with good people and they're people who support everything you do and they even share their experience on what they have learned. I've learned so much about Jesus that I didn't know. And some people even help me increase my faith. I thank them for that.

Worship as a way of Life

by Stephanie Stacy

He's back! Once again SYC has invited Mike Quimby back to be apart of and lead us in worship. "SYC is very special to me because God used the 2001 SYC Conference to help me realize that He wants me to use music to glorify Him." Quimby stated as I talked to him after his workshop. Last year he told me that he wanted to make worship as a way of life and this year he is starting that here at SYC by leading a workshop about worship. He has such a strong connection not only in worship but with the youth in his workshop as well.

Quimby is 34 and is happily married to Jen, who is also a musician. They live at Bemus Point on the Chautauqua Lake in New York. He told me that next Sunday he is leading a huge worship service on the lake where people come by boats around a floating dock in the lake. Quimby went to Houghton Wesleyan College where he received a degree in Biblical Studies. He is now the Director of Worship and Technical Arts at the Bemus Point United Methodist Church.

Quimby was called to lead worship through music on December 28, of 2000 at a youth convention in New York. He started playing music when he was 8 and can play 5 instruments, the cello, bass guitar, guitar, percussion, and the piano. Last year I asked Mike what instrument he wanted to learn to play next. He said he would love to learn how to play the bagpipes. So, when he came back this year I asked if he had mastered the bagpipes; unfortunately he has not gotten around learn to play them yet.

Once again Quimby has done a great job with worship this year. He really knows how to get a reaction from the campers. This has been a wonderful week with Mike. SYC has a special place in his heart and hopefully we will see him again soon.

Campers Win

by Philip Stadelman

Before the Camper-Counselor Basketball Game tension was building in the sanctuary. There were three games between the campers, and another games between the counselors. Some of the stars for the campers are Jon Stadelman, Logan Smith, and Valerie Jasper. The stars for the counselors are Jim McCune, Jeremiah Jasper, and Bob Cover. This game has been played for many years. The way the games would usually turnout was that the counselors would beat the campers. Jon Stadelman said "We tried to give the counselors some slack, but in the second half we are going to bring the heat."

Logan Smith a six year camper here said, "it has always been a good experience every year, but this year was the best time since I've been at SYC. There was a special referee named Pepper Reesnover. Pepper is only an eighth grader but has been requested by some counselors.

Determined Deans of SYC

by Haley Stover, Kaitlyn Whyte, Emily Munson and Katie Moore

Two years ago Ken and Ellen Krimmel were recruited to be the deans of SYC for three years.

When asked what a dean does Ken and Ellen responded "A dean is in charge of SYC staff." The Krimmels' also told us that their favorite part of being a dean is working together.

The Krimmels' have four kids and still have time for SYC. They do have to make sacrifices like staying up late and working Saturdays. The Krimmels' have one more year to be deans. They've done a great job this year and we look forward to seeing them strolling around campus holding hands next year.



Ken and Ellen are participating in worship as Michael Atkinson preaches on Thursday morning.

Sharing, Caring, Playing

by Aubrey Hawkins

Fun, games, caring, and sharing are all ways covenant groups get closer to God and each other during SYC.

Most campers who come to SYC think these groups help you meet new people and understand more about the Bible.

Covenant groups met in the morning and in the evening usually directly after worship. Many covenant groups stayed inside but some wanted to enjoy the warm weather outside.

Groups do devotions, reading scriptures and playing lots and lots of games. Some games are knots, the name game, and the much loved red rover.

Knot's is a mind game. First everybody gets in a circle. Then they hold one hand with a person across the circle. Then they take their other hand and do the same with another person. Finally everyone tries to untangle themselves.

The name game is very difficult. The first person of the circle states their name, where they are from, and something interesting about themselves. The next person first says what the person said and then states their name, where they are from, and something about themselves. This goes until it is all the way around the circle.

Red rover is somewhat a strength game. The group divides in to two teams. Then the teams line up facing each other and hold hands. The first team picks someone from the other team to try to break into the line. If the person does then

On Tuesday the President Balch of West Virginia Wesleyan surprised the groups with much appreciated ice cream and discussion about the college.

Many campers agree that covenant groups are an important factor of SYC. Making new friends and learning about God are the highlights of the week.



You have to have this to eat.

HAVING A BLAST AT SYC

by Jessica Samuels

What brings SYC campers back to Wesleyan College each year? The memories... the funny, crazy, and sometimes sad memories that we experience and talk about year after year. In his last year as a camper, Tyler Moore says he loves coming to SYC. He likes hang out under a tree with his guitar and friends during free time and relax.

SYC campers will always remember the year when they would yell "Expedia" and everyone else would yell "Dot Com". Do you remember when Ben Love and Josh Hurley made a slip n' slide in front of the Christopher Hall of Science Building? Campers would slide down the hill, then run and jump into the pool and go down the slide again. Every year we had some campers who had the bright idea to stack the salt and pepper shakers with the napkin dispensers. They would always fall and make a huge mess of salt and pepper. The next morning we come in to find that all of the salt and pepper shakers had disappeared. Kayla Smith will never forget when she got locked in the bathroom stall and couldn't get out. She says she was embarrassed, but will never forget it.

All of SYC memories aren't funny. Every year we have to face the fact that we are losing an amazing group of seniors. Although it is their last year as a camper, they will hopefully return as a counselor in a few years. "I love coming back and seeing the kids grow from junior high to young ladies and gentlemen," said Lorrie Mottesheard.

A lot of SYC's memories are centered on worship services. Thursday night brings out many emotions. We also have the Thursday night service, which isn't so much a sad service, but we are trying to find God and when we do the only emotion that tends to come out is crying.

If it weren't for these memories, we wouldn't want to come back to SYC to see what other memories we can make. It is memories that involve friends and our growth in faith that keeps us coming back year after year.

TOP 10 FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT SYC

by Kelsey Stagers and Daniel Howell

1. Free Time
2. Making Friends
3. Worship
4. Meals
5. The Dance
6. Workshops
7. Swimming in the Pool
8. The Music
9. Having the Roommate
10. Boys/Girls



Mike Quimby leads camper in singing during worship.



Work teams spruce up
Upshur Parish House.

Faith Stories

by Marissa Jimms

Allie Jones.

I was born into a Christian like family so I was raised with my parents and sister teaching me about Jesus along with going to church every Sunday and always going to youth group whenever I could. I would share the word that I've learned with other people by talking to them about it. Not shoving it down their throat but just in a way that they can understand and be interested in it more. The people at SYC are like that too. They're not like people at home that I talk to about things, I can ask anyone here about something and they'll make it related to Jesus or the Bible which is different than I'm use too.

Upcoming Events

Youth 2007—July 2007

Fall Workshop—November 2007

Blasting the Air ways with Word of God

by Amber Kenney

We have been blessed this week to have many great speakers to bring Gods Word to us and reach everyone's heart. Worship this year was a time to gather and surround ourselves with other Christian youth. It was a time to lift up our hearts and give praise.

Our first to lead us was Bishop Ernest S. Lyght who taught us that, we can all fly. Reading from Isaiah 40, he showed us that God doesn't throw us away. God wants us the way we are. Bishop Lyght said, "Don't drop out, soar like an eagle." He used Michael Jordan as an example. Bishop Lyght said, "Michael Jordan can fly, you can too!" The Bishop showed us that often times there are restrictions that can keep us from flying. Like a bat can't fly from the ground. But Bishop Lyght let us know that when we find our hope and faith in God, we will soar. Lyght ended his sermon with the song "I Believe I Can Fly."

Everyone who was here last year remembers the woman who busted out singing a song from the popular movie RENT. It was Luana Cook-Scott from Huntington. "Keep your eyes on the prize," she said. Cook-Scott told us that she doesn't agree with the commonly used phrase "Forgive and Forget." She thinks that we should forgive and remember. Remember the past and use that to learn from them. But sometimes we need

to turn away and never look back. Cook-Scott used a slide show that kept everyone's attention. One of the most popular slides was the one that said "REPENT! Its tough on sins." But along with Cook-Scotts decorative slides and her singing, she always brings a good message to us.

The Gospel is watered down. That is the message that Pastor Okey Harless brought from Dunbar. Teaching from Jeremiah 4:1-4, he says that we have fumbled the ball, missed the shot. It seems that the adults, who should have passed the church to you, have failed. Harless says we have to stop watering down the Gospel. He apologized to all the youth on behalf of the church. "It is partly our (the adults) responsibility for the lack of young people but it's partly yours (the youth)." Harless asked us how many of us have friends or know someone who doesn't go to church or hasn't found Christ. He wanted to know that if we brought all of those friends, what SYC would be like. Harless said that its time to stand and be a part of the church. He said, "you are the church, you are the children of God." He said to stand up and tell people that sin is sin. Harless asked us, "are you willing?"

Michael Atkinson joined us on Thursday morning to show us to face our giants. He told the story of how David slayed Goliath. Atkinson had Suzanne Ellis to play David and Jim McCune to

play Goliath and they acted out the story as Atkinson read it from the Bible. Atkinson showed us how David overcame his fears and turned to God for strength to help him to beat Goliath. He said that we are all facing giants. They can be at home, or school, or anywhere. They can also be anything. Atkinson told us that you couldn't pay him any amount of money to live as a teen in the world we live in today. We face more today than he ever could have imagined. We all recited together "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Atkinson also moved some teens to the altar and joined them for prayer.

Our dean this year, Ken Krimmel, did his sermon on the past, present, and future. It was called "You Are Somebody". He told us that you are free from the past, you have a new beginning, and a hope for a better future. As Krimmel spoke to us, he told us, "you are somebody because you are a child of God!" As for Jeremiah Jasper who read from Psalm 23, he told us "you have bread of life, keep it fresh." Jasper was the last to do a message for the youth, ending SYC on Friday.

Worship this year has been very touching. It has really been life changing for many. We were blessed this year with many great speakers who have been blessed by God to bring us the word.

Blasting Talents Delight Campers

by Lora Stewart

SYC 2007 Talent Show gave performers a chance to overcome stage fright and entertain their fellow youth campers and staff. The Talent Show included:

Stephanie Frasher (singing): "Amazing Grace"

Emily Harki (singing): "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Accp. By Mike Quimby

Essy Ford (singing): "Ain't no Other Man"

Brad Goodall (piano and singing): "No Body Her"

Covenant Group 3 (skit) "Joan 'n the Whale"

Laura and Carol Good and Emily and Anne Preston (clogging): "Work-a-Holic"

Robin Samuels (singing): "Holy"

Devin Gibson (singing): "Joy to the World"

Michael's Angels (pantomime) "Be Prepared"

Patrick Staunton and Eli Morgan (singing and guitar): "Failed Escapest"

Higher Vision

Amber Kenny, Stephanie Stacie and Katie Stewart: "Gloria"

Tyler Moore and Elizabeth Hornsby (guitar and singing): "Home"

Daughters of God

Lauren Hart, Becca Small, Emily Harki and Anna Marie Scarberry..."Daughters of God"

Ryan Kresst (guitar)

Sexy Mel and the Water Spiggots: "Rocky Raccon"

Zachary Allen (organ): "Toccato"

This year's Talent Show was a hit with selections from some Gospel singing to a Rock-n-Roll.

Dance for the Memories

by Lora Stewart

The SYC 2007 dance was classic. Starting with some Rock-n-Roll from the hit movie: "Grease".

Music and outfit's from way back when. While still saving some room for some present day jams.

Of course we couldn't forget the traditional dance off ending with everyone's favorite Zack Lusher, who was crowned Dance King.

Not to forget about the legendary outfits worn by the outgoing individuals.

Bob Cover was dressed as a groovy disco dude complete with an afro and white leather suit.

A favorite among all would have to be Zack Lusher who was clothed as an 80's basketball player complete with very short shorts, knee-high socks, and absolutely awesome sweat bands.

And of course we couldn't forget the lovely ladies dressed as groovy disco girls with huge bushy hair, and high, tight, leather boots.

Most creative could have been Stephanie Stacie who was dressed as an 80's diva complete with a very blonde wig and awesome, green converses.

Jamiela Isaiah was wearing an absolutely stunning red and black polka-dotted dress that was very fashionable.

Reminding us of all of the good times of the past SYC's the dance captured years of memories the different styles of dress and excites us for the future summers at Wesleyan College.



Jamiela Isaiah and Betsy Lawson pose for the camera in the dance attire.

What's in a Name?

by Teri Skidmore and Kaitlyn Whyte

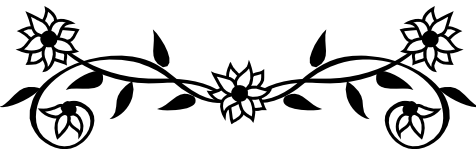
United Methodist Youth have been meeting continuously in West Virginia to discuss topics important to youth and getting closer to God since 1959.

Jeanne Rampp organized the first youth event called Youth Annual Conference (YAC), which was held June 12-14, 1959. Three hundred and thirty people, including counselors, attended. YAC converted to Youth Congress in the late 1970s. The West Virginia Board of Education of the United Methodist Conference sponsored the event.

In the early 1960's, YAC moved from Charleston to Buckhannon. After the move, attendance declined. This encouraged the change from YAC to Youth Congress. However, the focus of Youth Congress remained on legislation.

In 1990, Youth Congress transformed into Summer Youth Celebration (SYC). SYC focused on spiritual development. SYC is still held today at West Virginia Wesleyan College and is still evolving. The most recent change made was the addition of Covenant Groups.

J.F. Lacaria once said, "It's always been fun. It's been one of the highlights of my years."



Faith Stories

by Marissa Simms

Wes Sites

When I was 11 years old, I went to one of my friend's church for Vacation Bible School. Right then I knew I wanted to get closer to God, so I accepted him into my life. I pray for people and I always invite friends to my church hoping they'll come back with me again. At SYC, the fellowship and worship are being taught by people that know what they're talking about. I'm hoping to learn from them and then I can help increase other people's faith by talking to others and sharing what I've learned.



Rev. Bell talks to Zachary Allen, CCYM Chair, on Monday evening.

Learning for Life

by Marissa Simms

The decision of choosing to take in Creation or the Bad Girls of the Bible, all 22 workshops were sure to help you increase your faith and teach you something that could be helpful in the future. Campers have different taste in interests or could surely lack the arts and crafts skill you would need for banners, every class was different and unique in their own type of way.

Stepping into different workshops one experiences a taste of what campers had the opportunity to learn. Campers could choose workshops from Spiritual Formation which focused on prayer, church, bibles, and devotions. It also taught about different types of bibles like the one-year Bibles. Being intrigued by the unique set up of burning candles and figures, it was only occupied by a small group of campers.

In creation, you had the chance to make the world they way you wanted and dreamed your world to be. With the different types of people there, I'm sure every world was unique. Learning about sovereign, majesty, splendor, unfathomable, it's been said that class was anything but boring. But one workshop that caught many people's attention was the Goals of dating. With open discussion about pressures most teenagers go through today, abstinence was the key topic.

While other workshops brought people to sleep (relaxation and relieving stress) every workshop had their own little flavor. Even though just doing community service some campers did for the Mission Teams, they've learned how to give and help instead of take and be selfish.

Workshops helped campers to get skill that they can use the rest of their lives.

Txting w/John Wesley

by Haley Stover, Katie Moore and Emily Munson

Methodman1: Where ya been
 Campers03: @ SYC
 Methodman1: whats SYC
 Campers03: Summer Youth Celebration
 Methodman1: whats happning
 Campers03: singing, wrkshps, & Bble stdy
 Methodman1: u g2 b jk
 Campers03: @ same tme ther' s swming, dncing, & hving fun w/ friends
 Campers03: @ nite we eat snacks & go 2 drm meeting
 Methodman1: bet ur singing a lot
 Campers03: ROFL ya Mike, worship guy, is gr8
 Campers03: g2g have 2 write a stry 4 SYC papr
 Methodman1: TTYL



CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

June 2007 – June 2008

Greenbrier District: Marybeth Romine and Connor Kenaston
 Little Kanawha District: Sarah Allen and Jessica Samuels
 Midland South District: Makenzie Hatfield and Logan Smith
 Mon Valley District: Corey Kovach and Emma Moore
 Northern District: Josh Doty and Erica Sapp
 Potomac Highlands District: to be announced
 Southern District: Laura File and Eray Haney
 Wesleyan District: Kirby Williams and Cara Golden
 Western District: Wesley Sikes and Zack Lusher
 11th and 12th grades: Jamiela Isaiah, Valerie Jasper, Michael Peaytt,
 and Ben Shears
 9th and 10th grades: Chrissy Snider, Michael Ludle, and Maggie
 Blackwood
 7th and 8th grades: Tia Carter, Demi Thaler, and Gwen Walker



Bishop Lyght (right) shares ideas and thoughts with President Balch, WVWC president, before Monday evening service. President Balch later visited covenant groups to talk to campers and deliver ice cream.