

# COMMON GROUND

Newsletter of United Campus Ministry  
P. O. Box 750118, Fairbanks, AK 99775  
(907) 474-7804

Vol. 101, No. 12

December 2001

In closing out this semester I have three thoughts that I believe will help both the last weeks of school and your holiday season go well. Some of these thoughts I have already shared with you and will certainly make it on your UCM final exam.

First, make a list. When the world is hectic and wild it is important to write down what we need to get done. When we make lists we are less likely to forget things. I have a prayer list that not only helps to reminds me of what I want to pray about, it also helps me to stay focused. When I have a "to do" list I check a project off and move to the next project instead of getting a project done and gravitating towards my guitar, the computer or some other distraction. It is a fantastic feeling to check things off your list and an even better sensation when the whole list is done.

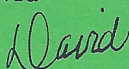
Second, just say no. I love it when people come to me and tell me that they are really sorry but they cannot make it to this or that UCM event because they need to study. I know that you want to be at the event but you have counted the cost and are making the wise decision to study. We are taught from when we are young to please people and to say yes, but there are only so many things and so many people we can cram into our lives until we go nuts. Just say no, and leave the nuts to Planters.

Finally, remember that Jesus is the Reason for the season. I know that you will be busy with finals and final projects and papers, but don't forget to take time to spend with God. I know that shopping and airports and families can be crazy, but Christ is the Prince of Peace. Let that peace be instilled in our hearts and spirits this Christmas season. All semester we have talked about "not my will but thy will be done." And we have sung the song Trading my Sorrow which says, "Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes Lord." Open your heart this Christmas and listen to what the Christ child wants you to do and to be. I believe that as we say yes to God, He provides us with the wonderful gift of His perfect will.

I hope that you have had a wonderful semester. I have had one of the best Falls since I came to UAF in 1993. I have felt God's presence in my life, my family and in United Campus Ministry. Thank you for your prayers and support and may the Lord Jesus Christ bless you this holiday season.

Go In Peace,

David





## WEEKLY EVENTS

**MONDAY: "Ra-Mon-Day"**--Have a free Burrito lunch with friends in the UCM office (306 Constitution Hall.) Drop in anytime between 11:30 and 1:30 p.m.

**MONDAY Music Practice**--Come to the office at 3:30 p. m. to sing, play guitar or just listen as we practice the music for Tuesday's Vespers service.

**TUESDAY Vespers**-- A casual worship service, Upper Lola Tilly Commons, 7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY: Dinner & Bible Study**--At 5:30 pm we meet at the office and go to the home of David Moore for a great home cooked meal and a casual bible study.

**SUNDAY: Leadership**--Open to anyone interested in planning UCM activities and willing to make a commitment to leadership. UCM office @ 3p.m.



## SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

**Finals Care Package Stuffing:** Come to the office at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday December 9th, to help prepare the packages for distribution. This event is always a lot of fun and we will have Pizza when our work is done.

**Christmas Party:** We will meet at the office at 6:00 p.m. on December 14th, for a great evening of fun and fellowship. After visiting and caroling at the Pioneer Home, we will gather for a White Elephant exchange and good food at Collin Lichtenbergers' parents home. Please bring a wrapped , inexpensive gag gift to exchange!

Once again this Christmas we are sponsoring a family of three from **Big Brothers/Big Sisters**. We have the opportunity of giving them both food supplies as well as gifts for the two boys and the mom. If you would like to buy a gift for the family, or help with the shopping, please talk to David.

**Best of Luck on your Finals; Have a wonderful Holiday Vacation.**

**See you in January!!**

Lois  
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