

COMMON GROUND

Newsletter of United Campus Ministry
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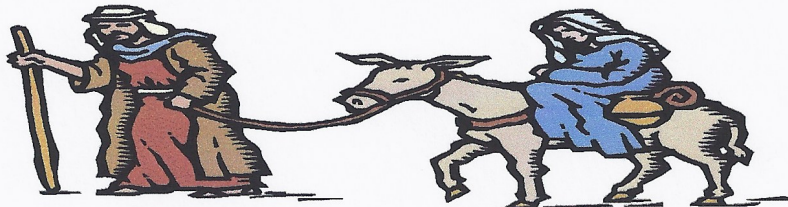
December, 2002

I am reading a Max Lucado book called *No Wonder They Call Him The Savior*. One of the chapters I read today was called "It is finished." In the chapter Lucado writes about how Jesus might have wanted to quit but didn't. Maybe he wanted to quit because of the failures of the disciples, maybe because the cross and the humiliation were too much to suffer, or maybe a combination of several things. But Christ did not quit, he stuck it out until it was finished.

Early in this semester I talked about building a strong foundation. I asked you to please take time to reflect on how these priorities are ordered in your own life. Some of the options I included were studying, sleeping, going to class, eating right, exercising, socializing, clubs, work, personal time with God, and time with other believers. I also included another category so that you could fill in your special hobby.

I realize that everyone has felt their foundation quake from tests, projects, papers, problems in your personal life or frustrations with a roommate. But I hope that you have ordered your life in such a way that your foundation is still strong. I know that the semester wears on all of us and that the darkness drags our systems down, but stay strong in the fact that Christ did not quit. Know that in the same way that the light begins to come back in 20 days, there will still be life after this semester is over. Be aware that in the same way that Christ did not quit on the way to Calvary He will not quit on you. In every test you take, every paper you write and in every project you complete Christ is right there with you feeling your pain, wanting to take on your worries, and there to give you strength. Work hard in these last few weeks and be proud when you say, "It is finished." -- God Bless, David

*Merry
Christmas!*



Finals Care Package Prep. will take place on Sunday, December 8th at 6 pm. Please meet at the office to help assemble our care packages and enjoy a pizza snack. These care packages have been purchased by parents of UAF students for UAF students. Your help will be greatly appreciated and, as always, each others company makes the work enjoyable.

Christmas Party! We will meet at the office at 6 pm on Friday, December 13th for a great evening of singing, fun, and fellowship. After visiting and caroling at the Pioneer Home, we will gather for a white elephant gift exchange and good food at Collin Lichtenburger's parents home. Please bring a wrapped, inexpensive gag gift to the exchange and be creative!

Big Brothers/Big Sisters!!! Also this Christmas, we are sponsoring a family of three from Big Brothers/Big Sisters. We have the opportunity of giving them a box of food as well as gifts for the two boys and the Mom. If you would like to buy a gift for our family, or help with the shopping, please come talk to David. Thanks.