



Protestant Campus Ministry at Bloomsburg University

What Makes PCM Unique?

PCM is the only program at Bloomsburg University with an ordained Protestant minister on campus. We work directly with students as well as other university programs and departments to offer a pastoral and theological point of view. PCM supports the spiritual needs of students, faculty, and staff at Bloomsburg University.

But we need your help.

Please consider making a donation to PCM...and keeping us in your prayers!

Campus Engagement by Rev. Jill Young, Protestant Campus Minister at BU

When Dr. Madhav P. Sharma invited me to give the invocation at BU's Cultural Diversity Festival again this year, I was delighted to do so. Among the performances was PCM student leader Hasby Firdauz's impressive Indonesian cultural dance in full costume.

I treasure opportunities like this event, when I am able to plug into the wider BU campus community and provide a ministry of presence. Other campus engagement opportunities this semester have included:

1. BU's Earth Day event, at which PCM was given a table where we expressed concern for the earth from a theological, Christian faith per-

spective.

2. A joint meeting between PCM and IMPACT, a fellowship of black Christians at BU, in which we used

Scripture as a starting point for a beautiful, connecting conversation about racial reconciliation—a small beginning.

3. Finally, an event brought on by tragedy: On April 1, I had the sad privilege of helping to conduct a campus memorial service for BU student Kelci Price, who died in a snow related car accident on the way to school. Kelci's



Photo by Cole Kresch

Memorial Service for Kelci Price

American Sign Language Professors, Kristin Lazor and Jessica Bentley-Sassaman, invited me to visit one of Kelci's classes to offer a moment of silence as well as pastoral care to her classmates. I was so moved by the students' and professors' love for Kelci and desire to honor her as we planned a service together.

It is my deep privilege to share Christ in these ways at BU.

Shepherding Fellow Students by Ben Kalisky, Spiritual Care and Evangelism



Ben preaching at Sermon Jam

When Pastor Jill saw the ways that I was already reaching out to fellow students on campus through spiritual conversations and a walking stick, she asked me if I would make it official and offer my gifts to PCM by becoming part of the PCM

leadership team.

Now as Director for Spiritual Care and Evangelism, my first order of business is to have consistent defined hours in which free and open counsel can be had with anyone that may need it. My Open Care Hours are from 6:30 to 11:00PM most evenings.

My next priority involves any function in which PCM interacts with the student body in an attempt to promote spiritual thought. This means tabling, prayer walks, worship services and on-campus events such as the Sermon Jam.

I had my first tabling event this semester. Using scenic photographs and my philoso-

phy background, I engaged students passing by in conversations around the idea of beauty.

This semester we also held our first Sermon Jam. This 50/50 fundraising event allows students to preach for charity with a competitive spirit. By popular vote after the final sermon, a winner is selected and half of all donations collected are donated to that individual's charity of choice. The other half is given to PCM as a fundraiser. Four students preached (Darion, Alexandra, Fransie and myself) and thoughtful discussions followed each sermon.

I look forward to more opportunities next year for reaching out to my fellow students.

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Springfest Banquet Brings a Breath of Fresh Air by Kasey Jones, PCM Co-President

“PCM has been one of the key components of growing my faith in my freshman year.”

-Amber Srednicki



After months of cold and snowy weather in Bloomsburg, we celebrated the arrival of spring and God's good work in and through Protestant Campus Ministry. On Sunday March 22, we welcomed six local churches, Bloomsburg University students, professors, alumni, friends, and family for a

night of inspiration and fellowship.

We showcased PCM's growth and accomplishments in the past year as student leaders Hasby, Darion, and Ben gave testimonies and the PCM Praise Band performed.

Guest speaker Dr. Bruce Main of Urban Promise shared powerful words and stories about how each of us are God's plan to change the world.

Zach and I also had the honor of thanking Rev. Steve Engelhardt, who will soon be retiring from the position of board Presi-

dent, for his incredible work over the years.

We are most grateful to all of our supporters who came out to celebrate our ministry at BU.



Dr. Bruce Main, our Keynote Speaker

Worship Ministry in Local Churches by Hasby Firdauz, PCM Outreach Coordinator

This semester PCM showed its continued commitment to area churches by participating in Sunday morning worship leading.

On March 1 the PCM Praise Band led contemporary worship at St. Luke's and also had the opportunity to personally invite church members to our Springfest banquet. On April 12 at First Presbyterian, six PCM students participated by reading Scriptures, leading prayers and music, and giving the children's sermon. Student leader Darion Nomie gave a moving sermon on I John 1.

The following Sunday at



Pastor Jill & students at First Presbyterian

Trinity Reformed UCC, six students again participated in worship leading. Student leader Ben

Kalisky powerfully preached on the story of Barabbas and proclaimed that Jesus is enough. Trinity hosted a delicious brunch after the service in honor of Kasey and Zach who are graduating and will be greatly missed by Trinity and PCM.

All of these opportunities not only gave us opportunity to share about PCM and connect with these church communities, but to share God's word with others and use the gifts Jesus has given us in order to praise and glorify His mighty name!

Has your church included Protestant Campus Ministry in its benevolence budget?

Your congregation can give needed ongoing support to PCM by including it in their annual benevolence budget. Please check with your mission committee about supporting our mission on the university campus!

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Serving Our Bloomsburg Community by Darion Nomie, PCM Service Coordinator



Protestant Campus Ministry has done some incredibly beneficial things for the community this past year. Many of our service events, such as serving meals and participating in a clothing drive, were held at or done in partnership with surrounding churches.

This semester on a Saturday in February, PCM partnered with

First Presbyterian to serve the Community Friendship Meal at Wesley UMC. We learned a lot from our church partners who

planned a delicious Italian meal and from the experience of serving food to Bloomsburg families in need.

In April a couple of PCM members had the opportunity to help our long-time supporters John and Sandra Walker by cleaning up their yard for the spring and rearranging their

barn.

PCM is committed to serving the community it is rooted in, and we aren't looking to slow down any time soon.



Did you know...

that Protestant Campus Ministry is not funded by the University? Support for PCM comes from local churches and some of their governing bodies, from parents, alumni, and community members.

Bloomsburg University generously has given us office space and free use of meeting rooms for our campus events, but for everything else—books, study materials, food, equipment, transportation, printing, and salaries—we are dependent on you!

Passing the PCM Torch by Zach Gilbert, PCM Co-President

Protestant Campus Ministry has undergone many changes within the past few years, and as the currently serving co-president, I have witnessed them all.

I saw the group stand together in joy after participating in the sacrament of baptism or enjoying our yearly catered dinner banquet. I also took notice of the worried faces when numbers dwindled and leaders moved on to their post college life, and I felt excitement when numbers began to build again. This journey has been nothing short of a roller coaster ride, and I have enjoyed every last minute of it.

After four years, three majors, and a mixed bag of general education classes it is finally my chance to walk across the stage at May's commencement ceremony. I am greatly looking forward to starting my career within the public relations industry, but not before looking back at the memories PCM has privileged me.

PCM has afforded me many ways to grow in faith, and develop leadership qualities that seamlessly transition from the sanctuary to my future professional office. I could not feel more prepared to enter the

workforce than with the education received here at Bloomsburg corresponding with the counsel received from PCM which has pushed me onward.

PCM welcomes to the helm student Hasby Firdauz. I have had the great honor and privilege to get to know Hasby over the past two years and look forward to all of the great things PCM has yet to discover. Hasby the torch is yours....



Congratulations to our Co-Presidents Zach Gilbert and Kasey Jones as they graduate, and to Rev. Steve Engelhardt, President of the PCM Board who will retire this year. We are grateful for how God has blessed PCM through you!



If you prefer to "go paperless" and receive your newsletter via email, you can send an email to jyoung@bloomu.edu indicating your preference. Thanks!

*SAVE THE DATE for
PCM's Golf Outing Fundraiser on Oct 10, 2015.*

PCM - The Welcoming Place



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You are Welcome at PCM

About PCM...

Protestant Campus Ministry (PCM) is a multi-denominational fellowship that offers members of the university community opportunities for exploration and growth in the Christian faith. PCM is staffed by the Reverend Jill Young, an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and is also led by a group of students committed to their discipleship in Christ.

PCM is supported by:

- The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- The United Methodist Church
- The Presbyterian Church (USA)
- Local Churches
- Parents & Alumni
- People Like You!

For more information about how you can support PCM, contact Pastor Jill Young: 570-389-4950, jyoung@bloomu.edu



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