

O N W A R D

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Antioch Project

The Antioch Project is a project of the Moravian Board of World Mission. It provides opportunities and support for young adults seeking to participate in Moravian mission around the globe.

These opportunities encourage personal spiritual growth, increase awareness of worldwide needs, and provide global perspective on what it means to be a strong Christian witness within the context and complexity of our ever-changing world. The Antioch Project Mission Servants experience transformation and with the Holy Spirit, return to become strong witnesses and leaders in our own churches and communities.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Moravian Church is a mission movement—sending god’s people out into the world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ

VISION

The BWM seeks to create opportunities through which the congregations and individuals can accompany Christ’s Body in God’s global mission. The Antioch Project develops leaders who are both globally equipped and informed. The Church will benefit from leaders who have the ability to relate to people cross-culturally and will benefit the church as it moves forward in the 21st century.

The New Antioch

Much like the Antioch of Paul, the Board of World Mission [BWM] is making a place of missionary training and discipleship through the Feet First Mission Summits, short term trips, and opportunities to serve in year long mission experiences. It is beginning with the development of three Antioch Centers in Nepal, Costa Rica, and South Africa.

Through the development of schools of worship and music, the BWM is finding that the diversity of gifts for leadership, musical ability and sharing are welcomed in these environments. In both Nepal and Costa Rica, the schools are well on their way to becoming sites for Antioch Project Mission Servants. In South Africa there is a church building which is one of two that was left in District 6 during Apartheid. It is located directly next to a technical school—the opportunities are being explored for ways to engage in incarnational ministry that would be able to include many different gifts.

Over Labor Day weekend this year, the 2nd Annual Youth In Mission Summit was held. Discussion was held about how god is working and calling our youth to service in their neighborhoods, their churches and the world. Many humbling stories were heard about the miracle of God’s call in the lives of these young people. We heard from Hannah Spring, Roman Nelson and Leah

Weatherman about their experiences in Kenya this summer. After losing a bag on the flight over to Kenya, Hannah shared that she realized how little she really needed the stuff she packed when her bag arrived 2 weeks later. It reminded us all that Jesus sent the 70 out with only the sandals on their feet.

Becky Frey spoke about her trip to Nicaragua where she was introduced to the AIDS curriculum and the needs present in the Nicaragua prisons. The experience so changed her life that she feels called to seek out ways to work with the HIV/AIDS epidemic by using her gifts in other parts of the world.

Justin Rabbach returned home after the

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Moravian Band member, Grady Shelton, on the quad of the Wake Forest campus prior to the 550th Mission Celebration Lovefeast. Story on Page 2.

A Message From Our President

It has been said that war is hell, but being a veteran could be more challenging in coping with the after effects of war. What does this mean? As we enter the holiday season I cannot think of a single group that is more deserving of a better life than our veterans. They should be ministered, and be surrounded with the love of our church family. After all they defend our country and preserved our freedom. What happens to our veterans when some wars are over or they are wounded and are no longer capable of defending our country?

It has been estimated that over 300,000 veterans are homeless across the US. Accurate numbers are difficult to come by but some estimate put the number as high as 400,000 in any given year. The vast majority are single, most come from poor, disadvan-

tagged communities, approximately 50% suffer from mental illness and have substance abuse problems.

America’s homeless veterans have served in World War II, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Lebanon, Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan), and Iraq.

Some of the factors that contribute to homelessness are shortages of affordable housing, low income, inaccessibility to health care and the lingering effects of war. The Department of Veterans Affairs; take care of the homeless to some degree. With an estimated 400,000 veterans homeless at some time during the year, the VA reaches about 25% of those in need; leaving about 300,000 who must seek assistance elsewhere. The question is why? Why do we as a nation neglect/ignore our veterans after they put



their lives on the line to preserve our freedom?

Our veteran population should be one of our mission fields. When we needed our soldiers they were there, when our veterans need us where are we? I can imagine our veterans carry a heavy burden from the killing fields of war. Let us find a way to reach out and help our brothers and sisters who have ensured our freedom at a tremendous cost. May God continue to bless America. Truth is always the first casualty of war.

Evon Crooks, President, Mission Society, Southern Province and a member of New Philadelphia Moravian Church.

“Please Pass The Salt”: Mission Celebration Lovefeast

It was a colorful autumn Sunday afternoon with the 150 + Moravian Band members playing hymns on the quad of the Wake Forest campus, yet inside Wait Chapel, it was no less colorful as the organ played, the New Philadelphia Bells of Joy rang, the Mission Choir sang, and the Friedberg Steel Drum Band brought the salt to the 550th Anniversary Mission Celebration Lovefeast on November 4th. Over 1500 souls present, Christ and His mission for the world was the guest of honor. The Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon brought a “salty” message that brought flavor to this worship celebration amongst the news of the Antioch Project of the BWM and an army of traditional, contemporary, and cultural songs that made one

want to jump out of their seat for joy.

“We all are one in mission, we all are one in call” sang a large room of voices, uniting all of us into renewed mission. Our Moravian youth were well represented including a very young Moravian who sang “Jesus Loves the Little Children” along with the young childrens’ special mission offering presentation.

All in all, the 2-hour Lovefeast sent each of us on a fresh mission focus; new energy and support for our Moravian youth in mission, and bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all around us. “Please Pass The Salt”.
Glenna J. Tasedan

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Youth Column—Stephanie Davis and Carrie Bandwagon

Camp; One of First Missionary Experiences

PRE-JUNIOR CAMP

This summer I went to Laurel Ridge to volunteer for a counseling job at pre-junior camp 1&2. The age group for the pre-junior ranges anywhere from 6 to 8 years old. The kids arrive at 3:00 pm on either Sunday or a Friday. It would be non-stop moving around till they left at 3:00 pm on either Tuesday or Sunday. For most of the kids at camp it would have been their first time being at Laurel Ridge or even their first time away from their parents. So as a counselor you would have to be with them all the time.

All the little kids look up to the counselors. To be a good role model you had to watch your every move. Being with so many different

kids and helping them along with their camp experience is a great way to better yourself. Helping the different kids strengthen their relationship with God is a great joy. I loved being with those kids every moment of every day they were there. Even though at times they would be rough it was just another chance for you to teach them a new thing. I loved counseling and I would for sure do it again.

By Stephanie Davis



JR. HIGH CAMP

Myspace.com can be good or bad, depending on how you look at it or use it. At Junior High Camp this summer we had myfaithspace.com as the program which allowed us to use some of the basics of the website as a way to look at ourselves, our relationships and our faith. The evening total group had youtubeish videos to introduce the material made by some pretty weird ministers. But it was fun and I learned a lot. Can't wait until next year!

By Carrie Bandwagon



The New Antioch *continued from Page 1*

Feet First mission summit and planned a regional event for the youth in his area that were not able to attend the conference. He shared a passion for empowering more young people for mission and for encouraging the development of all our gifts to be used in God's mission.

Phil Raiford talked about his apprenticeship in Mexico. The stories of transformation of the people in the villages were amazing. He offered testimony about the power of discipleship and the needed for continued growth in the ways that we seek out discipleship and that we offer it through our families and churches.

Jessica Jelinski shared her story of

struggle in Tanzania and the gift of presence that she received from the people she met there. The fact that people took the time to talk to one another and truly cared about what was happening in the lives of their friends and the strangers among them really touched her. She returned home with a new sense of God's presence and call in her life.

There are so many amazing and wonderful stories. I encourage you to invite these, and other young people to share their experiences and how God is asking them to use their gifts in service of the Kingdom. The energy and inspiration of the Spirit is so potent in our young people that we cannot deny that God is working in miraculous ways!

We fully anticipate seeing Antioch Project missional servants in Nepal, Costa Rica and South Africa in 2008. The BWM is working to create opportunities that will develop leadership and discipleship that will impact lives and generate resources for more opportunities.

Please prayerfully support the Antioch Project through your encouragement of our Moravian young people and through your financial support. The future is god's, the mission is God's, the call is ours to BE the people of God's mission in the world.

Rev. Rebecca Craver, 2007 graduate of Moravian Theological Seminary, Coordinator of Antioch Project & Assoc. Pastor, Edgeboro Moravian

1. Our Father who art in heaven, how merciful you are. You lead me through my daily life. Thank you.
2. **First Sunday in Advent.** As we light the first candle on the Advent wreath, let us walk in the light of God's grace. Father, help us to bring the light of your love into the lives of those whom you put in our path today.
3. Pray for doctors Bill and Peggy Hoffman from Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem, Pa. who are serving through the HIV/AIDS ministry in Tanzania.
4. You, oh Lord, have promised to never leave nor forsake us. Pray for Charlie and Vickie Brent from Friedland Moravian Church, serving with campus Crusade in Texas. Father, continue the healing of Vickie's cancer. Meet their every need.
5. Jesus taught us that whoever wishes to be great must become a servant. Lord, give me a servant heart. Lift up to the throne of grace, Caroline and Michael Woo from Advent Moravian Church serving in Asia.
6. Slow me down and let me hear your voice. Pray for Charity Johnson from New Philadelphia Moravian Church, serving with Campus Crusade in Asia.
7. God tells us to trust Him. Take it to the Lord in prayer and then wait for His answer. Pray for George Goff, a pilot from the Honduras Moravian Church serving with Alas de Socorro in Honduras. Jesus, keep George safe as he ministers to sick and hurting people.
8. Lord, send someone for me to help today to do what you would have them to do. I desire to be a servant in your name. We pray for Steve Marx from Christ Moravian Church serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Redlands, Ca.
9. **Second Sunday in Advent.** We may not know when our lord will return, but we do know that we have one less day of our life than we had yesterday. May our worship be preceded by a heart cleansing repentance.
10. We have a story to tell to the nations. Lord Jesus, as we draw nearer to celebrating your coming to the earth, give us the courage to change the world one person at a time. We lift Michael and Cecelia Tesh serving with YWAM in Kenya. Bless the children in the orphanage they tirelessly work at.
11. God reconciled us to Himself through Jesus. Lord make me a peacemaker. We pray today for Mark and Maddy Munn from Dillingham Alaska Moravian Church serving in medical missions in Uzbekistan.
12. Father, help me to understand how to apply your word to my life. Make me more like you today. We lift Emily Korn from Downey Moravian Church in Ca. who is serving with English Second Language in Czech Republic.
13. God's word is alive and active and free to all. Word of life, show me your children in need and allow me to share your great gift with them.
14. I love to tell the story. I love to read the Bible stories to children. Lord, let me live my life in such love and obedience that I will cause others to want to tell your story.
15. Gracious Father, Help me to be more aware of your faithful-

ness as I go about my day. We lift Michael and Brenda Brent from Friedland Moravian Church who are serving with Campus Crusade in Croatia. Keep them safe and bless them with many young people who come to know you through their ministry.

16. **Third Sunday in Advent** "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God" Is.35:4 Take time to enjoy His presence.
17. Fill my cup, Lord. Fill me with your own holy spirit. Bless Anne and Robert Thiesen from Ardmore Moravian Church as they serve you through church planting in Mexico.
18. Jesus said to trust Him. His love for us could not be any greater than it is. It is like learning to float. Ask God to help you trust Him more.
19. Safiatu and Mohammad Braima from the Little Church on the Lane in Charlotte will return to their native village in Sierra Leone this month. Pray for their continued ministry among their friends and family there.
20. Pray for the many people in California who are struggling with the aftermath of the destructive fires. Lord bless those who are giving of their time and resources to help them in your name.
21. As we prepare our hearts for the advent of Christmas, I pray that we will truly experience the true meaning of Christmas. Examine your heart and see if you are worshiping traditions, religious or worldly, or are you finding ways to share your Godly gifts with others.
22. Lift up the staff and students of Alaska Christian College in Soldotna, Alaska. Lord, let them experience Your love this season more than ever before.
23. **Fourth Sunday in Advent.** We light candles and stars and sing of your birth and grace. Enable us Lord to take your joy into a world of darkness and point the way to your great salvation.
24. Lovefeasts are being held in Moravian churches around the world. Pray that many people who have not accepted the free gift of grace will be brought into your kingdom through the Christmas message.
25. Christmas Day-God so loved the world that He sent His son to pay for our sins so that whoever would believe would be saved. Praise God a lot today.
26. Why not continue to praise God, our father, for Jesus, his son, our savior? Worship Him.
27. He is alive! Jesus our savior is alive and hears every one of our prayers. Pray
28. Pray God to keep our bishops, ministers and church workers sound in doctrine and holy in their daily lives.
29. Lord Jesus Christ, give me peace of mind because you cover my sins with your blood shed on the cross.
30. Sunday-Worship God today. Thank Him for another year of life and the privilege of serving Him. Praise Him.
31. Read John's gospel chapter 14 and Ephesians chapter 1. Thank Him. Try bringing the New Year in with praise and worship.

Contributors to the December Pray Every Day were Helen Gulledge and Rt. Rev. Robert Iobst. To contribute to the Pray Every Day next month, contact Helen Gulledge at helngull@aol.com.



December

Prayer Focus

January

Hooper Bay, Alaska

In a modest little Yupik village on the coast of the Bering Sea in Alaska a disastrous fire wiped out the school and a lot of the homes in the summer of 2006. Mark Ebert, of the Moravian Board of World Mission, joined Samaritan's Purse as they worked to build five houses before the winter weather set in. The government sent in 18 modular homes, for which Samaritan's Purse provided furnishings. All of the homes were completed and the families moved in on Thanksgiving Day. In response to Samaritan's Purse's inquiry as to the needs of the village, one request was for a Teen Center where the youth of the village could gather for recreation and fellowship.



Hooper Bay is a "dry" village, meaning that possession or consumption of alcohol is illegal in the village, yet alcoholism remains a prevalent problem among youth as well as adults. None of the homes have sewage or running water, only a few businesses and the school and teachers' quarters do. There is very little entertainment to the youth except that provided by the church. Pastor Grant Funk of the Evangelical Church and his family are

doing a phenomenal job of ministering to the people of the village, especially to the youth. That is one reason it was such a blessing to me to see Samaritan's Purse backing Hooper Bay this summer with a construction crew building a new church/teen center and a new home for the pastor.

Summer has come to a close and autumn is almost gone. The snow is beginning to flurry. The distant hills are white and Samaritan's Purse is almost ready to pack up the tent city on the boardwalk and leave

Hooper Bay. Having had the awesome privilege to spend the month of August in one of those tents, my heart longs to be there for the opening of that church and teen center. The most amazing thing about that month was for me to witness the love that so many of the young people craved and the way that various members of the team filled that need with the love of Christ. After ten or twelve hours of hard physical work, team members could be seen walking the three miles to the beach with a number odd teens



in tow. Others could be found outside the kitchen tent just hanging out, talking and showing them the love of Christ. We had so many young people showing up for our devotions in the mornings that we ran out of room and moved the meeting place to the construction site. The new church/teen center is being constructed just across the road from the school so the kids could join the devotions and then go directly to school.

Hooper Bay needs your prayers to combat the satanic influence of drug and alcohol abuse, he fight against physical, sexual and emotional abuse, additional leadership to help shepherd the large number of youth who have come to know Christ in the last few years, the youth who go out to further their education and epically for the youth who will miss the presence of the Samaritan's Purse team and the presence they have played in their lives.

Did You Know?

The Moravian Institute, a project of the world-wide Moravian church provides education, food, clothing and medical care to approximately 300 children. It extends the outreach ministry of Christian love and grace to all people through the English language based school where God's Word is taught daily.

1. As we enter a new year we would wish to follow you in our daily lives and worship you with our whole heart.
2. Call upon the Lord and He will answer you. Precious Jesus, we call out to you for guidance and discernment. Grant us your patience as we await answers to prayers we offer up to you. Help us to be totally in your will.
3. Rejoice in the Lord and again I say rejoice. We do rejoice in the honor of being called by You and being called into Your service. Help us to spread your joy and your unconditional love.
4. You O Lord have done great things for me. Thank you. Give me the courage to step out into a world of pain and discouragement and share the glory of what you have done for me.
5. Heavenly Father, we ask your protection on our beautiful America. Instill in us a love for the poor and hungry. Help us to lift them to hopeful heights and to a life of joy with you.
6. **Sunday-Epiphany.** "The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them." Lk 2:20. May we each live so that we inspire those around us. Show us your glory every day, dear God.
7. Dear Heavenly Father, bless those who serve you in various ministries around the world. Enable them to discern and follow your plans. Encourage them with your presence and your strength.
8. Lord God, continue to provide opportunities for each of us to witness to your love and power to a lost and hurting world. We pray for those ministering in foreign places in cultures other than their own .
9. Wise men came to see Jesus. Father from the very beginning you have sent your disciples out into the world. We thank you for Likewise Ministries.
10. All the peoples of the earth will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven. It is our feet that will take your Good News to those people.
11. Lord we lift the Braimas as they follow your leading in ministry to their beloved people in Sierra Leone. Give them and all others ministering in your name, strength for today, peace for tonight and hope for tomorrow.
12. "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." Ph.4:13 We pray for our men and women who are serving in the armed forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and other areas of conflict.
13. **Sunday.** Your mercies are indeed new every morning. As we gather together in your house today to worship you make us ever mindful of your mercies.
14. "Let the word of God dwell in you richly." Heavenly Father, we are thankful for your infallible word. Give us minds that absorb your word and enable us to commit it to memory.
15. "What a friend we have in Jesus! Pray for the many people in Nicaragua who continue to suffer from the devastation of the recent hurricane.
16. "Let love be genuine. Hate what is evil. Hold fast to what is good." Rm 12:9. Bless those who study to make themselves qualified to present your word to those seeking more of you.
17. "God is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to do work for His good pleasure." Phil2:13 Lift Celeste Handy, a native Cherokee and graduate of Salem College, to the throne of grace.
18. "Glorify the Lord with me, let us exalt His name together." Ps.34:3 Phil Raiford, a member of Friedberg Moravian in Mexico planting churches among the Mixtec.
19. "Be silent before the Lord your god." As we spend this day in rest and recreation, doing chores or what ever your Saturday presents, take time to prepare your heart for worship tomorrow.
20. **Sunday.** "O worship the King, All glorious above; O gratefully sing of His power and His love." Praise to you.
21. "Let the word of God dwell in you richly". Col.3:16 We are rich because we have been adopted into your family. Your power strengthens me and your mercy comforts me. Your grace is sufficient for me. Thank you, Father.
22. My soul, wait only upon God and silently submit to Him; for my hope and expectation are from Him. Ps.62:5
23. "Because your loving kindness is better than life, my lips shall praise you." Ps 63:3 How great it is to praise you o lord. Your greatness is all around me.
24. "It is because of the Lord's mercy and loving kindness that we are not consumed." Lam3:22 Make my heart's desire a closer walk with you I pray.
25. "Blessed is the man whom you choose and cause to come near, to dwell in your courts." Ps.65:4 I lift those who are working with Samaritan's Purse in strife-ridden areas around the world.
26. "I thank my God every time I remember you" Phil 1:3 Remember those Sunday School teachers who helped to develop a sense of God's love in your life. Remember those who are serving in areas away from home and family. Remember those who are sick or lonely.
27. **Sunday.** "Show me your ways O lord, teach me your paths."Ps25:4 As we go to your house to worship today, pray for an open heart and a renewed spirit. Ask God to give you a new or expanded ministry for Him.
28. "Give and it will be given to you. A good measure pressed down, shaken together and running over.."Lk 6:38 Ask God who you should reach out to and be willing to follow his direction.
29. "Let us boldly draw near to the throne of grace that we might receive mercy" Heb 4:16 God is love and He wants to shower us with love. Praise him and share that love with some one today.
30. "In the morning, long before daylight, He went out to a deserted place and prayed." Pray for missionaries, Bible translators, AIDS and orphanage workers, Pastors and church leaders. Think of others and pray for them.
31. "For I the Lord your God will hold your hand. I am the Lord who says to you fear not. I will help you." Is.41:13 Pray for all children who need a God-fearing example in their lives

Mission Principles: Part I V

Mission Principles: Part I V

If we want to GO where God wants us to GO, then we need to BE where God wants us to BE!

The final installment of this “Mission Principles Bible Study” begins with what is called the Great Commission (sometimes referred to in jest as the “Great Omission” or the “Great Suggestion!”).

Read Matthew 28:16 – 20 (*that’s right, begin with verse 16, not 18, so that we can see the context of this commission*), and think about these questions:

- Where were the disciples when Jesus gave them this commission?

Why were they there?

We see that the disciples *went to the place where Jesus told them to go* (the mountain). That put them where they needed to be in order to hear what Jesus had to say to them!

Might this imply that going into all the world is a step-by-step journey? We have to be willing to take the first step (which might not be as exciting as “going into all the world!”). But if we’re not where Jesus wants us to be, then we won’t know where Jesus wants us to go!

Now read **Acts 6:1-4**.

Do you remember how great things were going along in the early church in the first 5 chapters of Acts? They were filled with awe; they were on a “Pentecostal high;” they shared their belongings; they had an impact on the surrounding community. Everyone was ministering and being ministered to!

Well, almost everyone. I guess it depended on whom you asked. According to Acts 6:1-4 there was a minority group that was being neglected. But the church was willing to take important steps (even to re-examine its structure!) in order to provide a setting where effective ministry and mission could take

place. They did what they needed to do (*they were where they needed to be!*) in order to allow God to work in them and through them in a more inclusive and all-encompassing way! And it wasn’t long before God began to send them out into all the world!

Now go to **I Corinthians 12:19 – 26**.

Paul compares the church – the Body of Christ – to our human bodies. Think about these statements:

- the church is an organism, not an organization.
- Effective ministry takes place when *every part* is functioning.

If this is to happen, then *every part* must be given the freedom to function, and *every part* must be equipped for ministry – *every part* must be where it *needs to be* in order for the body to be able to *go where God wants it to go*.

Finally, read from the **Ground of the Unity**, from the “Essential Features of the Unity,” in the section on “The Vocation of the Unitas Fratrum and its Congregations”.....

“The Unitas Fratrum recognizes the priesthood of all believers... All members may gladly and confidently carry on their work in and for the congregation and by their devotion and faithfulness all can render service to the whole Church”.

We recognize that we *all* have a part in being where God wants us to be, but we also admit that this can only happen if we all offer ourselves and our service to the Head of the Body, Jesus Christ. As the Ground of the Unity puts it:

They can render their service well only through the grace of their Chief Elder.

A 4-Part Series

So, *where* are we? *Where* does God want us to be? *Who* is God calling us to be? *Where* do we need to be in order for that to happen? *What* keeps us from doing that and being that?

Well, if you were looking for answers, you came to the wrong Bible Study! But hopefully these *questions* will stay in your minds and hearts, and we can work on answering them *together!*

Rt. Rev. Samuel J. Gray, Director of Intercultural Ministries and Communication, Moravian Board of World Mission, North America

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Story of the Rev. Fruto Padilla Plusney

He was born in Dakura on April 1st, 1926. His father, Abisai Padilla, was a lay pastor in the time of the missionaries; he did the Lord's work in Dakura. His mother was Isabel Plusney. Both his father and mother have gone to be with the Lord.

He attended the Moravian Bible Institute in Bilwaskarna. Rev. Howard H. Stortz was the director of the school at that time. He received his diploma in Theology there. In 1948, he married a young woman from Dakura whose name was Marta Michael. Bishop Hed-

ley Wilson performed the marriage ceremony in Dakura. Rev. Fruto and his wife had 14 children. He entered into the service of the Lord in 1953 and served in Haulover, Sangsang, Auhyapihni, Wasla, Cabo Gracias a Dios, Asang, Alami-kangban, Karawala, Krukira, Sandy Bay and Dakura. He was ordained in 1962 by the Bishop Hedley Wilson and retired from active ministry in 1991. At the end of his life, he was 81 year. He and his wife had been married for 59 years and had been doing the Lord's work for 54 years. His day on earth finally ended on Septem-

ber 4th, 2007 during Hurricane Felix, when his house fell on him. He was buried in his hometown of Dakura.

Submitted by Rev.Svantos Cleban



550th Mission Celebration Lovefeast Band on the Quad of Wake Forest University

