

## Fitting God into the grind

By Suellen Mathews

Many people say that religion at TCU is purely academic.

Not true. An overt interest in faith is shown by some students through Bible studies, participation in non-denominational groups like Campus Crusade for Christ, and in church-related activities.

An interest in faith is shown by the university through the spiritual, emotional and social guidance offered students by University Ministries.

"What I hope we do here is to provide an adequate witness to the world of what the church is through all the programs, personally as well as to the community, spiritually as well as a direct service," said the Rev. John Butler, minister to the university. "That's why we work at providing all kinds of things."

One of these services is a weekly chapel at noon every Wednesday in Robert Carr Chapel. The ministries also sponsors other services including an Easter Sunrise service and Carols by Candlelight.

Additional activities are counseling, research, acquiring speakers, presenting dramas, pastoral care, worship, education and social concerns. The program is both denominational and ecumenical. Butler said the ministries underscores the importance of commitment to a denomination, and shows how the various denominations can work together.

The denominational ministers on campus work together to coordinate programs, fellowships, retreats, and worship services, Butler said. There are many churches represented on campus with their own ministries. Campus enrollment lists 1,169 Catholics, 786 Baptists, 742 Methodists, 716 Disciples of Christ, 489 Presbyterians, 401 Episcopalians, 222 Lutherans, 135 Church of Christ students, 31 Jewish students, and smaller numbers of other denominations.

The University Ministries was started in 1969 with a full-time staff of three. Butler is the minister to the university, the Rev. Jesse Truvillion is the minister to minorities and Bernice Ewen is the secretary. The offices are on the first floor of the Student Center.

These three staff members are paid by the university. Other part-time ministers are sponsored by the Baptist, Methodist, Catholic,

Episcopal, Lutheran, and Disciples of Christ churches. Salaries and program costs for these ministers are paid by their denominations.

There are also contact persons in other departments in the university who are not ministers, Butler said. They are members of denominations that do not have a minister on campus. When a need arises for a counselor within one of these faiths, a contact person responds.

The Campus Christian Community is a major part of the ministries program. It is an inter-denominational group begun two years ago, and is made up of Disciples of Christ, Methodist, Episcopal, Lutheran, and Catholic students. These groups appoint students to a representative council.

The primary work of CCC is organized through four task forces. The worship task force plans worship services to celebrate Christian and campus events. The witness task force plans campus presentations on the Christian experience. The presentations are in the form of brochures, posters, forums, and other projects.

The Christian education task force presents programs to help students understand their own faiths as well as other approaches. This is done through speakers and study groups that deal with life choices and development of the individual.

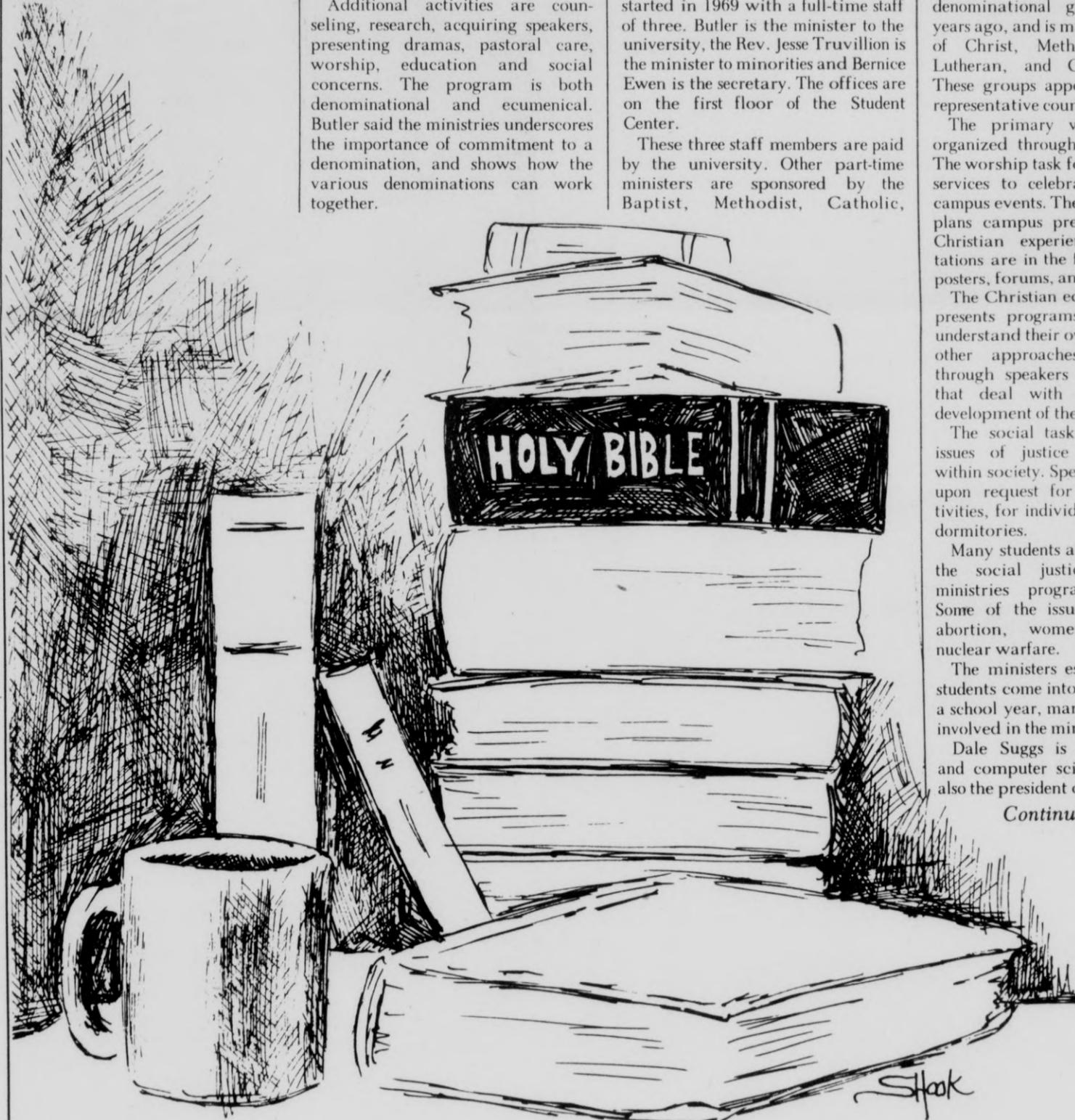
The social task force deals with issues of justice on campus and within society. Speakers are provided upon request for campus-wide activities, for individual classes, and in dormitories.

Many students are involved only in the social justice area of the ministries program, Butler said. Some of the issues dealt with are abortion, women's rights, and nuclear warfare.

The ministers estimate that 4,500 students come into their office during a school year, many of them actively involved in the ministries' programs.

Dale Suggs is a religious-studies and computer science major. He is also the president of the CCC.

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# Local churches fill in the gaps

By Susan Shields

Area ministers agree that all students' religious needs cannot be fully satisfied by on-campus groups and programs. Often students are just looking for a church home—a well-rounded congregation to belong to.

Area churches see as one of their responsibilities supplementing on-campus religious activities. Local ministers say that their churches meet a need that only a full-blown church can meet.

To meet those needs, Sunday college class, Thursday "Rap Night," and growth groups are offered to TCU students through McKinney Memorial Bible Church.

"Worship, fellowship, discipleship and evangelism are our four main goals," said McKinney's the Rev. Kent Marshall. "The programs we develop are a spin-off of these four things."

The number of students who attend area churches is hard to determine. "We don't have anyone standing around counting all of the students who come to Sunday services," said Ken McIntosh, University Christian Church and TCU Disciples of Christ minister to students. He estimated that 150-200 students are involved in the life of the church, including worship, Christian education, fellowship and pastoral education. He said that this involvement reflects students' responsibility to the church.

"They have the same responsibilities as the other members," he said. The commitment to time and stewardship are another part of what he referred to as commitment.

Bringing students into the core of the congregation was also one of the goals mentioned by Homer Massey,

assistant pastor and business administrator at University Baptist Church.

"We try to make students feel like one of the folks and that their home-away-from-home is with us," he said.

Massey guessed that there are 25 international and 50 other students at University Baptist. "The number of international students we have right now is probably the highest we've had in the history of the church," he said. He has been a member of his church for 14 years.

One way University Baptist tries to blend students with other members is to have families sponsor students in their homes. "We usually lack in the number of students to the number of families that want to sponsor," Massey said.

The church also sponsors a College Recognition Day twice a year when members bring covered dishes to share with students after Sunday services.

Encouraging students to become involved in every aspect of church life is important to area churches. The Disciple Student Fellowship (DSF) is a campus ministry sponsored by UCC and headed by McIntosh. He and the campus Christian life division of UCC helps plan college classes every Sunday at 11 a.m., Wednesday congregational dinners and other campus-church related activities like retreats and Friday night recreation in the fall.

The UCC music department sponsors the Collegiate Handbell Choir, which has 15 members, and the Collegiate Choir, with 25. Several students teach Sunday school, and one works in the accounting office.

"We offer a good balance . . . not just fun, not just Christian fellowship,

not just Bible study, but all of these," McIntosh said.

The Catholic community at TCU is headed by the Rev. Peter Lyons, said the Rev. Richard Judge of St. Andrews Catholic Church.

Judge estimated that 100 TCU students attend their services. The responsibility of the church to these students is to help them grow as adult Christians through liturgy, teaching, preaching and counseling, he said.

The number of students involved with area churches appears to be smaller than ministers would like,

however.

"Our numbers are down from the fall . . . but we understand that things can become routine and that students have a lot to be involved in," McIntosh said. "Sometimes we have four people show up for a program, sometimes 40."

Massey said that the "University" in University Baptist was more in name than in principle.

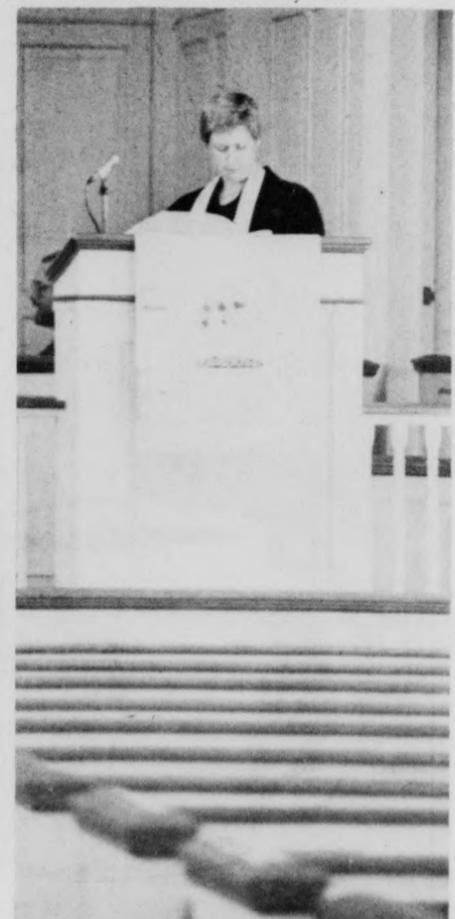
As to how successful the churches are in fulfilling their responsibilities to students, Judge said, "only God knows."



**UNIVERSITY MINISTRIES:** The ministries office is on the first floor of the Student Center by the mall entrance. M. RIKKI CONNELLY / TCU Daily Skiff



**CASUAL COUNSELING:** The Rev. Mike Stiles, minister to the Baptist Student Union, chats with Beth Adams, a senior from Fort Stockton, Texas. M. RIKKI CONNELLY / TCU Daily Skiff



**INTERN:** Annette Sowell. M. RIKKI CONNELLY / TCU Daily Skiff

# Godspell



**PREPARING:** LEFT: Director Don Mahand and producer Marcy Babicz decide on the cast of "Godspell" during auditions held two weeks ago in the Student Center. The play will be performed in Fellowship Hall at University Christian Church on April 22, 23, and 24. ABOVE: Sophomore Carol Scurlock gets in tune for a rehearsal in the Stage Door downstairs at the Student Center. BELOW: Mahand goes over the schedule of rehearsals and performances with his cast. The production is being sponsored by the University Ministries. PHILLIP MOSIER / TCU Daily Skiff



# Chapel voluntary

By Jodee Leitner

As long as TCU has been, there have been chapel services.

TCU students have been going to chapel ever since the late 1800s when a big bell called them to services at Addran College in Thorp Spring every morning at 7:45. When the school moved to Waco and became Addran Christian University, students still attended mandatory chapel services.

Later, when TCU was established in Fort Worth, students went to services at the Morro Chapel, housed in the Brite College of the Bible, now the Bailey Building. Today they attend Robert Carr Chapel on Wednesdays at noon.

Chapel services were mandatory until 1943, according to Jerome A. Moore's *TCU: A Hundred Years of History*. That year students were allowed to attend on a voluntary basis, but a chapel hour was set aside during which no classes or other activities could be scheduled on campus.

John Butler, minister to the university, said that since then, services have been scheduled at several different times, including Sunday evenings and Fridays at noon, but the present time was chosen because the least number of students are in class then.

Butler said that although attendance is not as high today as it once was, the services still meet the needs of students who attend on a regular basis.

"The purpose (of the services) is not to get everyone to come," he said. Rather, it's to show the Church's presence in the midst of the TCU community.

More students usually attend chapel during the fall semester when the school year is new, Butler said,

while attendance at special services such as Howdy Week, the carols by candlelight service at Christmas, Ash Wednesday and Easter are very good.

Butler said services don't cater to any specific denomination, but attempt to cross denominational lines by bringing together the diverse groups represented on campus.

Weekly chapel, which lasts about 30 minutes, features guest speakers and campus ministers as well as ministers from local churches. The Chapel Choir provides service music and undergraduates act as liturgists, writing and leading prayers and reading Scripture.

Services are planned by Butler and the worship task force of the Campus Christian Community.

Senior Vaughan Braden is one student who has actively participated in the services as a liturgist.

"It's one way to get involved in campus life," she said, adding that she enjoys the opportunity to prepare parts of the service and work with people.

Junior religion major Ben Hubert, who attends chapel regularly and also participates as a liturgist, says he likes chapel because it's a break from the usual crunch—a time for personal worship.

Hubert said he doesn't see the services as a replacement for regular Sunday worship. Instead, he feels their purpose is to strengthen the Christian body at TCU and to provide students the opportunity to worship.

Hubert said he thinks attendance at services is poor. Although the time may keep some students from going, he said, it really has to do with the convictions of individual students.

"People know that it's there. The solution can't be very simple; otherwise it would have been solved before now."



**VOLUNTARY SERVICE:**The University Ministries office reports an average attendance of 60 to 100 students at TCU chapel services. M. RIKKI CONNELLY / TCU Daily Skiff

## TCU From page 1

Suggs said there used to be the feeling that incoming freshmen might feel the denominations were working against each other. Consequently, students might not be as enthusiastic to participate as they otherwise would be.

He said CCC was started to express the value of denominations working together for spiritual unity, and that ministries program is a stabilizer on the TCU campus.

"It gives me a chance to be involved with other students and to take my faith and put it into action," he said.

Susan Sawyer, a freshman business major, is involved in the social justice task force of CCC. She said the ministries is an effective program at TCU.

"It keeps me involved in church and I am able to meet new Christians through the program," she said.

Marcy Babicz, a senior liberal studies major, became involved in CCC two years ago. She said it has taught her a lot about how to understand the diverse groups.

"It helps to bring some type of guide or religious concept into

somebody's life," Babicz said.

A recent self-study of the ministries program revealed that its performance is good. Butler said the weakest area the study showed is informing students what is available through University Ministries.

Dr. Carol Patton, director of university advisement for freshmen and pre-majors, was a member of the committee that evaluated the ministries' self-study.

"I think it's right on target for what TCU needs," Patton said. "It embraces the most fundamental to the most liberal of students."

Patton said she thinks the TCU ministries program is more visible than most campus ministries because of its location and its many ministers.

Before 1969, University Ministries was housed with Brite Divinity School. In earlier years the ministries program consisted of a religious coordinator who helped denominations schedule programs. After that there was a campus Chaplain and then a Dean of Chapel. These offices were involved in counseling and teaching.

## events etc.

### Monday 18

- Personnel Interview** 8:30 a.m., Student Center Room 202
- Residence Hall Staff** 9 a.m., Student Center Room 222
- Relaxation** 11:30 a.m., Student Center Room 204
- Ballet Ensemble** noon, Student Center Ballroom
- Economics Luncheon** noon, Student Center Room 211
- Economics Reception** 3 p.m., Student Center Room 207
- Academic Affairs** 3 p.m., Student Center Room 202
- IFC** 3:30 p.m., Student Center Room 222
- Performing Arts** 4:30 p.m., Student Center Room 202
- Delta Delta Delta Dinner** 5 p.m., Student Center Room 205
- Films** 5:30 p.m., Student Center Room 202
- Film: "Fame"** 7 p.m., Student Center Ballroom
- ECO** 7 p.m., Student Center Room 207
- Campus Crusade** 8 p.m., Student Center Room 205
- Campus Crusade** 9:15 p.m., Student Center Room 204

### Tuesday 19

- Personnel Interview** 8:30 a.m., Student Center Room 203

- Stress Management** 9:30 a.m., Student Center Room 205
- Housing** 9:30 a.m., Student Center Room 222
- ASID** 10 a.m., Student Center Lower Lobby
- AHE** 11 a.m., Student Center Room 209
- Insurance and Investments** 11:30 a.m., Student Center Room 218
- Film: "Fame"** 12:30 p.m., Student Center Lounge
- Marriott Managers** 1:30 p.m., Student Center Room 204
- Traffic Appeals** 2 p.m., Student Center Room 202
- Sigma Delta Pi** 3:30 p.m., Student Center Room 207
- Public Relations** 4:30 p.m., Student Center Room 203
- Parents Weekend** 4:30 p.m., Student Center Room 202
- House of Representatives** 5 p.m., Student Center Room 222
- Recreation and Travel** 5 p.m., Student Center Room 214
- Angel Flight** 5:30 p.m., Student Center Room 205
- Wranglers** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 204
- BSU** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 218
- Campus Chest** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 203
- Mortar Board** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 215
- ECO** 7:15 p.m., Student Center Room 205
- Forums: Albert Hague** 7:30 p.m., Student Center Ballroom

### Wednesday 20

- United Way** 8 a.m., Student Center Rooms 205, 206
- United Way** noon, Student Center Room 207
- Lili Kraus Committee** noon, Student Center Room 208
- Money and Credit** noon, Student Center Gallery
- Books Alive** 1 p.m., Student Center Room 220
- RHA** 4:15 p.m., Student Center Room 202
- Programming Council** 5 p.m., Student Center Room 211
- Student Foundation** 5:30 p.m., Student Center Room 222
- Alpha Phi Omega** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 218
- Circle K** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 205
- ECO** 7:15 p.m., Student Center Room 218
- Wednesday Night Bible Study** 8 p.m., Student Center Room 207
- Masters Class with Albert Hague** 9 p.m., Stage Door

### Thursday 21

- Stress Management** 9 p.m., Student Center Room 205
- Recreation and Travel** 12:30 p.m., Student Center Lounge
- Army ROTC Awards** 1 p.m., Student Center Ballroom

### International Students 2 p.m., Student Center Room 214

- Army ROTC** 2:30 p.m., Student Center Room 207
- Delta Sigma Pi** 4:30 p.m., Student Center Room 205
- Student Leaders** 5 p.m., Student Center Room 211
- Arnold Air Society** 5 p.m., Student Center Room 222
- ECO** 7 p.m., Student Center Room 207
- Church of Christ** 7:30 p.m., Student Center Room 202
- Kappa Alpha Psi** 7:30 p.m., Student Center Room 216
- Lutheran Ministries** 8 p.m., Student Center Room 214

### Friday 22

- Student Life Staff** 8:30 p.m., Student Center Room 214
- Arthur Anderson and Co.** noon, Student Center Room 208
- Economics Luncheon** 12:30 p.m., Student Center Room 211
- Construction Planning** 2 p.m., Student Center Room 203
- Black Student Awards** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 207
- Cornerstone** 7 p.m., Student Center Room 205