Many of us are preparing to live rather than actually living.

James Bryan Smith

In the midst of rigorous testing, late night cramming, and agonizing defeats in the world of Academia, students search long and hard for the sweet embrace of sanity—for a solace, an outlet, a peace of mind outside of the chaos. Late at night, words like Life Groups, Klemata, Bubba’s, and WaterStock dance like sugar plums in the weary minds of Union students as they anticipate life outside of the books. Though Union University proves year in and year out that nothing deserves more attention than academics, the on-campus programs and activities Union offers reinforce the reality that the college experience is about more than just studying. College bridges the gap between the sheltered and independent life, and mind-easing activities are a vital part of the overall educational experience. In 2002-2003 Union not only provided students with various havens from the notebooks and papers, the university also exhausted every opportunity to give students a chance to make a difference in their community and world by encouraging students in their faith and in their capacities to serve.

Oftentimes, college students eagerly anticipate moving off campus in hopes of growing one step closer to adulthood, leaving behind the walls that fence them in after curfew, as well as immature tendencies that dorm-life seems to evoke. But off-campus living, in all its glory, detaches from the many opportunities given to students by a university to be fully involved in the life of the institute as well as the community. Students are not as motivated to be involved on campus when they have to drive back and forth each time a prolific speaker visits, or each time a musical artist performs on a make-shift coffeehouse stage. Union University in 2002-2003 gave students countless reasons to live on campus as well as endless opportunities to be involved in the life and growth of the Jackson community through inner-city outreach programs, student leadership organizations, and many other unique opportunities.

The health of a university can often be gauged by the amount of participation students put forth in the activities on campus, and the opportunities that Union offers the student body can be easily overlooked as Union has regularly provided students with GO Trips, Focus Groups, Life Groups, Greek Life, Student Government, and limitless other invaluable opportunities to be involved in on campus year after year. 2002-2003 saw students graced with yet another wonderful year packed full of fun and growth as Union University marched forward in the endeavor of enriching the community as well as the students who bear the name of the university.
These children listened intently as Senior Lee Plunkett shared with them about God and His love for them. Union students built relationships and shared Bible stories with children each week through the Inner City Outreach ministry. (ID: 1295)

Sophomore Sarah Bradley played games with the children at Inner City Outreach. (ID: 1287)

Senior Will Trautman, Junior Broc Barnes, and Sophomores Bo Irvin and John Reed studied scripture together during small group discipleship. (ID: 1282)

"Campus ministry is an exciting task. It is in the college years that many people begin to ask the big questions: Who is God? What does He require of me? What a joy it is to see students ask these questions and grow in their zeal for truth!"

Ben Mandrell
Director of Student Ministries

Theology major Lance Parrott led worship during the Family Weekend chapel. (ID: 443)

Klemata, a women’s discipleship ministry, gave students such as Adrienne Bries a chance to worship and seek God. (ID: 1277)

Meah Hearnigon and Jenny Heineken listened as Sarah Beth Webber taught their Rounders class. Rounders are campus-wide, student-led studies on varying topics. (ID: 1301)

Suzanne Mosley spoke to students about sharing God’s glory with those around the world through missions. (ID: 1298)
“The art department has truly been my home away from home. Not only have I met people who affected my life forever, I have gained a wealth of knowledge and skill that has prepared me for life after school.”

Amanda Bain
Senior Ceramics Major

Sophomore Emily Brown, theater major, wandered through an exhibit containing 25 paintings that were on display in the art gallery March 10 - April 2. The paintings were created by Christian artist Edward Knippers, and they portray the life of Christ from annunciation to ascension. (ID: 1038)

Art majors and minors attended a workshop led by Arizona artist Don Reitz on April 9-10. The workshop provided an opportunity for students to observe and learn from a working artist. (ID: 1644)

Union Art Gallery Shows
Abstraction: The Power of Memory
August 26 - September 20
Union in the Rockies
September 23 - October 4
New York Artist Chris Anderson
October 7-31
Alabama Artist Glenn Dasher
November 4-22
Life on the Farm, Roger Sullivan
January - February
Tennessee Artist Warren Green
February 10 - March 7
Student Exhibition
April 7 - April 24

A student admired the work of Melissa Elkins, which was displayed during a student art exhibit. (ID: 1648)

Artists Roger Sullivan spoke to a full house at his artist’s reception. (ID: 905)

Senior Amanda Simpelo Bain posed with her husband Brian by her ceramics work which was featured in her graduating art exhibit. (ID: 1647)
Dr. Kina Mallard (right) and Danielle Thower (left) showed concern for Miranda Wallace in The Odd Couple, a story about the hardships and joys of having a roommate. (ID: 66)

Josh Betts as Homer Smith in Lilies of the Field, the story of a Baptist man who encounters a group of nuns and offers to help them for paid work. Although he has every intention of quickly moving on, he is drawn into the life of the nuns and some meaningful moments along the way. (ID: 362)

“The theatre forces you to act confident every time you hit the stage. You have to reach down and find confidence that you may not have otherwise realized. More importantly, though, it forces you not to laugh when getting heckled in the dark.”

Patrick Myers
Sophomore Theatre Major

Union Theatre Productions

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Nathan Ross, Allie Campbell, and Jared New performed in Story Theatre. The production is a medley of eight familiar children’s stories. (ID: 1283)

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Sophomore Dan Schafers, Freshman Andrew Skaggs, and Senior Wesley Smith played their guitars for the Jazz Band. (ID: 1304)

The Choral Union, conducted by Richard Joiner, performed *All People That on Earth do Dwell* at Union’s Fall Convocation 2002. (ID: 182)

Dr. David McClune directed a Symphonic Band rehearsal in preparation for a concert. The band performed in chapels throughout the year and offered one concert each semester. (ID: 1306)

Sophomore Christina Brandt sang with the University Singers at spring graduation. (ID: 1140)

“In addition to providing solid musical training and knowledge, Union University’s Music Department cares about students’ lives. I value the time spent with professors outside of class, for their accessibility and their openness in sharing wisdom.”

Brandon Collins
Music Major

Union Music Department Special Performances

- Peter Richard Conte, guest organist
  - *McAfee Organ Concert*
  - October 24
- Anne Koscielny, guest piano recital
  - November 8
  - “The Proposal”
  - Opera Workshop
  - November 8-10
- David Vaughn, guest trombone recital
  - April 1

Sophomore Dan Schafers, Freshman Andrew Skaggs, and Senior Wesley Smith played their guitars for the Jazz Band. (ID: 1304)

The Alumni/Student Jazz Band performed during the Homecoming 2003 basketball games. (ID: 841)

Senior music major Jason Hamlin gave guitar lessons during his free time. (ID: 279)

“In addition to providing solid musical training and knowledge, Union University’s Music Department cares about students’ lives. I value the time spent with professors outside of class, for their accessibility and their openness in sharing wisdom.”

Brandon Collins
Music Major
Roommates Chris Pashley, Ian Ellis, Nick Ellis, and Bryan Plumb enjoyed time together in their dorm room. (ID: 1294)

Junior Sarah Thompson, of Arkadelphia, Ark., began the process of cleaning up the damage in her kitchen as a result of the tornado that came through on November 10. (ID: 598)

“As I look back and consider the events of the 02-03 school year, I continue to think of how blessed each of us are here at Union. I consider the thought that God has special plans for so many people who choose to study here at Union that He spared any harm during the tornados, so that these experiences will be a testament of His provision over our lives.”

Dan Herr
McAfee Complex Residence Director

A large crowd came out to enjoy the music at the annual residence life music festival called WatterStock. Musical acts included JONAS, Tracy Howe, Reckless June and CZ. Pictured here is Christian music artist Jason Eskridge. (ID: 954)and (ID: 956)

More than 500 cars suffered glass and dent damage when 110 mph winds blew through the McAfee Residence Complex parking lot. (ID: 642)

Junior Bethany Davis read in her bedroom. Union’s residence life is unique in that all dorm rooms are apartment style so that each person has his or her own bedroom. (ID: 1273)

Freshman Alice Calvary decorated her dorm room during freshman move-in to make it more inviting. (ID: 1278)
Brett Logan stayed warm by the smoldering campfire while he slept at Cardboard City, an event sponsored by International Justice Mission to promote awareness and raise money for those experiencing injustice around the world. (ID: 1303)

Amanda Smith and India Hickman raced down the bouncy slide at Fall Fest 2002. (ID: 269)

“Student events are an exciting way to get away from the busyness of college life and relieve the stresses from exams and projects. They help unite the campus by bringing everyone together for a time of fun and fellowship. Some of my fondest memories of my freshman year at Union are from awesome student events put on throughout the year.”

**Brad Spencer**
Member of Student Activities Council

Students enjoy watching *Cat A Me / You Can* during a drive-in movie sponsored by SAC. (ID: 1649)

Career services secretary Renee Jones helped students learn proper behavior for a lunch interview during an etiquette luncheon. (ID: 1388)

Students intently watched *2001: A Space Odyssey* as part of the communication art department’s 2003 spring film series. Movies were shown every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Jennings 225. (ID: 1051)
Student Government Association officers: Bethany Davis, Lauren Oldham, Matt Oshel, Nathan Robertson, Kristin Ulmer, Keelan Cook. (ID: 1302)

“Union University is blessed to have an incredibly strong and passionate group of student leaders. These students take servant leadership seriously and are making an impact in every area of campus life.”

Kimberly Thornbury
Dean of Students

2002 LIFE Group leaders Rachael Lovelace and Lance Parrott enjoyed a refreshing dip in the fountain. The other leaders for 2002 were: Adam Graig, Becky Wilson, Bo Irvin, Stephanie King, Brian Wells, Stephanie Trecci, Bruce Greenway, Adrienne Briles, Casey Stafford, Kelly Rhodes, Chad Davis, Wendy Wilshire, Chadd Hodges, Traci Steele, Clint Verner, Sara Dorris, Crystal Shelton, Ashley Foster, Dan Schafer, Connie Cooper, Daniel Duncan, Sarah Hubbard, David Carothers, Laurie Skinkle, Dwan Stotska, Erin Hezel, Graham Mayfield, Bekah Traynor, James Waddell, Janie Myatt, Josh Howerton, Reema Nanasallah, Marc Glass, Shelly Bradshaw, Matt Glass, Reagan Carfield, Michael Talley, Leah Anderson, Mike Peasley, Rachel Ryan, Mike Smith, Amy Getzen, Paul Monroe, Bethany Davis, Troy Wallach, Lauren Oldham, Wayne Campbell, Andrea Mitchell, Will Ziegenshorn, and Ginger Rowlett.

Juniors Laurie Skinkle and Meghan Daily received the Barnabas Leadership Scholarship for their display of servant leadership both on and off campus. (ID: 1270)

FOCUS Leaders (Front L-R)- Andrea Mitchell, Katie Sorrell, Emily Brown, Sara Dorris, Lori Powers, Rachael Lovelace, Laura Lee Moore, and Director of Student Leadership Development, Stephanie Lee. (Row 2 L-R)- Stephanie Butler, Sarah Anderson, Amanda Hornbuckle, Cam Armstrong, Kristin Ulmer, Bethany Davis. (Row 3 L-R)- Paul Monroe, Keelan Cook, Valerie Burnett, Cindy Harrell, Kelly Rhodes. (Row 4 L-R)- Mike Peasley, Jason Castles, Chad Cussuboom, Ashli Sutton, Ginger Thompson. (Back L-R)- Jason Vaughan, John Reed, Brittany Woodward, Lauren Webb. (ID: 1285)

Focus leaders John Reed, Ashli Sutton, and Keelan Cook performed a skit during the FOCUS Show 2002. (ID: 1208)

The Union Student Ambassadors: (Back - L to R) -- Bo Irving, Chad Farneth, Daniel Verbist, Laura Lee Moore, Blake Neill, Brennan Uthe; (Front - L to R) -- Leslie Wolfe, Charli Cox, Lauren Oldham, Jaddrian Bamard, Caroline Lay, Allison Seaman, Kristin Ulmer, Jeremy Wamer. (ID: 420)
Digital Media Studies Society President Amy Edge discussed ideas at the charter meeting for the organization. (ID: 1308)

Students waited anxiously to see who would outlast all others in the van during the Young Alums-sponsored Roadtrip to Nowhere. The Young Alums organization seeks to build a relationship between Union’s alumni department and current students. (ID: 1267)

“Being involved in various campus organizations has added a richness to my Union experience. In the classroom, you gain knowledge and learn Christian principles. Outside the classroom, you have an opportunity to flesh out what you’ve learned.”

Ashley Guinn
Senior English Major

Union alum Kirby Atkins talked about computer animation and digital filmmaking to a room full of students, faculty and staff. The event was sponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery. (ID: 723)

Sigma Alpha Iota members Sarah Thompson and Rachel Sebby talked to a freshman about their music organization at the Campus Life Fair during New Student Orientation 2002. (ID: 390)

Gospel Choir members Erin Hetzel, Meghan Daily, and Jennifer Hanes worshiped during a rehearsal for a performance at a church in Trenton, Tenn., on Sunday, March 9. Gospel Choir performances are based upon invitations from churches across West Tennessee. (ID: 994)
Members of Lambda Chi Alpha washed cars to raise money for the Second Harvest Food Bank. (ID: 467)

Chi Omega hit their last note during their performance of a number from Grease at All-Sing during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 858)

“Being involved in Greek Life at Union has added so much to my college experience. It has helped me to learn more about who I am in relationships with the girls, in different leadership roles, and in so many opportunities to serve, be it amongst the ladies around me or in the community.”

Lisa Whiffen
President of Zeta Tau Alpha

Chi Omega made a difference through their involvement with Make-A-Wish Foundation. (ID: 469)

SAE Josh Gilmore (white) lateraled the ball to allude a tackle in an intramural flag football game between SAE and LXA. (ID: 544)

Kappa Delta members and their families got into some football action during Family Weekend 2002. (ID: 445)

Members of Zeta Tau Alpha walked in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. (ID: 468)

ATO Josh Lefler manned the booth for his fraternity at the Campus Life Fair during New Student Orientation. (ID: 349)