Free Vacation Attracts Students

By Danielle Steckly
Staff Writer

The Lilly Project is offering students a free opportunity to get off campus for a couple days this coming weekend. The Deep Gladness Retreat, held at Highland Retreat Center, will focus students on God's call and one's personal faith. Any students interested in discovering their callings are welcome, and the cost of the weekend will be paid for by the Lilly Project.

There will be four workshops held throughout the weekend. Judy Mullet, professor of teacher education, will lead the first on Saturday morning speaking about "Listening to Self." Saturday afternoon's session will be focused on the topic of "Listening to God," and Heidi Miller-Yoder, instructor of worship and spirituality at the Seminary, will be the speaker. A graduate of EMU's Seminary and pastor at Harrisonburg Mennonite Church, Beryl Jantzi will close out Saturday's workshops with a 6:30 p.m. meeting concerned with "Focusing on Your Story." Following a time of singing and guided meditation, Campus Pastor Brian Martin-Burkholder will finish the weekend on Sunday morning with a message on "Deciding Wisely About Your Future."

Campus Pastor Julie Haushalter said, "The workshops are designed to help students reflect on how God may be currently moving their lives, how God has been involved in their personal story, and how to discern their faith and vocation." The weekend retreat also includes times of worship and fellowship, as well as times specifically meant for personal meditation and reflection.

The Deep Gladness Retreat is sponsored by the Lilly Project, which is a five year grant of $2 million that EMU received in December 2001. It is a private foundation that's purpose is to provide funding for programs and other opportunities that would benefit a student in their personal quest for identifying and responding to God's call.

As Haushalter said, "One of the outcomes of this retreat is to discover life long tools that may be developed to better discern how God might be guiding us in our journey." The retreat is meant to benefit and guide students toward a life of serving God and the community in accordance with the spiritual gifts that they have received from God.

The Lilly Project is based on a challenge to consider professional ministries as a career, and EMU has responded to this focus by improving and adding to the Ministry and Pastoral Assistants (MA and PA) program.

The endowment allows for programs such as the Deep Gladness Retreat to take place. The main focus of this weekend's retreat will be for reflection and education on how to interpret what God is calling each individual to do with their lives.

Haushalter said, "One of the most important things that students can get from this retreat is the opportunity to spend time with their spiritual gifts, and the ways that God has been involved in their personal stories."

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Microsoft operating system such as Linux.

Blaster and similar worms only affect computers running Microsoft Windows XP or 2000, which by default have the Remote Procedure Call (RPC) service active and listening on port 135. Since most faculty and staff PC's run Windows 98, they were minimally impacted. The majority of students, however, either purchased computers with XP or upgraded to it and are therefore at risk.

Rutt says IS took steps when checking-in student computers to prevent this sort of outbreak but could have done more. "We loaded Sophos on every new student computer and scanned it for viruses, but, regrettably, we didn’t install the Microsoft patches at that time."

Returning students were not required to bring their computers in to be checked. Rutt speculates that several returning students unknowingly brought the virus from home. Once connected to the network, these infected PCs began scanning for other hosts to infect, including those previously scanned by IS but still vulnerable.

Correction:

The road marked as Route 42 on the map of Harrisonburg on page 7 of the Sept. 18 edition of the Weather Vane should have been Route 11 South.

NEWS

On the Sidewalk

What did you do during the hurricane and your day off?

"We played hurricane soccer." - Becky Langstraat, Ben Sawatzky, and Dan Brubaker, juniors

"Isabel beat me up!" - Katrina Martin, junior

"I went to my grandparents' house and ate a lot of food." - Hanna Martin, junior

"I went to Food Lion, but it was closed." - Andy Hurst, senior

Compiled by Michael J. Sharp

Drew Foderaro, a junior, had his computer infected twice – once by Nachi-A and later the same day by a variant, Welchia. "They shut off my port in the morning so I took my computer in to be fixed. It worked when I brought it back but in a few hours they shut it off again."

Foderaro is grateful IS removed the virus for free – some schools are charging virus fines but wishes the process would have been easier. "I could fairly easily apply the patch if they gave me the CD, but instead I had to walk it all the way down to IS. They could make it easier on students, especially since it’s not their own fault. It’s a big inconvenience to not have a computer for several days."

Information Systems reports that the virus repair is an involved process that took their User Services Group about half an hour to repair each of the 40-odd infected computers. "They put in a lot of overtime," Rutt said. "It was really intense Wednesday through Friday. By then we had most of it under control."

Rutt expects this round of viruses is just the first of many. "We’re just waiting for the next one. Now we have filters on the routers that put a barrier between the residence hall computers and the rest of the computers on campus to keep certain viruses away from the faculty, staff, and computer lab computers."

Sunday, a new virus known as Swen or Gibe.F was detected that spreads by e-mail or Kazaa and claims to be a cumulative patch from Microsoft to repair XP’s RPC vulnerabilities. When run, it attempts to disable firewall and antivirus software, gathers password information, and then sends itself to others. Users should be aware that Microsoft never distributes patches via e-mail.

To download and install the latest patches directly from Microsoft, IS recommends all students running Windows visit www.windowsupdate.com, especially if running Windows XP. Additionally, XP users can configure the operating system to update itself automatically. All users should be sure they have virus protection and that it is updated regularly.

Students who need help with these tasks are encouraged to call the help desk at extension 4357. The latest EMU virus advisories can be found at www.emu.edu/is/virus.