



September 10, 2012
Montreat, NC 28757

The Whetstone

Montreat College's Student Voice

AMERICAN ECOSYSTEMS 2012

It can sometimes seem impossible, when I look back on pictures, to believe that I was part of such an incredible trip. This past May 13-30, two professors, Dr. Shores and Dr. Joyce, braved living on a sleeper bus with filled with 19 students for the trip of a lifetime. The American Ecosystems trip began in our hometown of Montreat, and traveled to the west coast and back. Stops were made in Tennessee, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, California, Nevada, and Wyoming in exploration of national parks and their corresponding ecosystems.



Students quickly learned that the class would consist of much more than classroom note taking, as we would hike, ride mules, or kayak to our teaching destination for the day. We couldn't stop ooh-ing and ahh-ing as we were treated day after day to spectacular landscapes and stories to tell to the folks back home.

Living situations varied from Death Valley, where the temperature was over 100 degrees, to Yellowstone, where we were surprised our first night with road-closing snow. One of my personal favorite locations was Zion Canyon in Utah. There were several world-famous hikes and sights to see, along with new birds and trees.

This trip can truly be enjoyed by students of any major (even us Communications majors) or interest. See Facebook, one of the professors or students pictured, or the ES department for more info on how you can get involved in future trips with Montreat College in this category. American Ecosystems was truly an incredible journey.

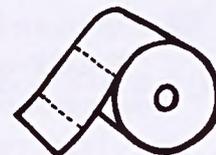
- Heather Carr



VERSE
of
the **WEEK**

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

2 Cor 5:17



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