

the IVY LEAGUE CHRISTIAN OBSERVER



Freshman Orientation

Campus Ministries Fervently
Reach Out to New Students

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CHRISTIAN UNION

Developing Christian Leaders to Transform Culture

The Ivy League Christian Observer is published by the
Christian Union, an independent Christian ministry.



CHRISTIAN
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PRAY WITH US

FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS WHO WILL TRANSFORM CULTURE



At Christian Union, we are prayerfully seeking God for transformation at Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale. Each year, thousands of students pass through the halls of these institutions and move out into positions of leadership in our society. Unfortunately, over 90% have had no regular Christian influence in their lives during these critical college years.

Christian Union sends out monthly, campus-specific e-mails that describe the needs of the ministry. E-mails are available for Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale.

Will you join us and pray regularly for the development of Christian leaders at some of our nation's leading universities?

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Matt Bennett, Cornell BS '88, MBA '89

MANAGING EDITOR

Tom Campisi, College of New Jersey '88

SENIOR WRITER

Eileen Scott, Mount St. Mary '87

FIELD REPORTERS

Luke Foster, Columbia '15

Brian Zhang, Harvard '15

Jihye Choi, Harvard '14

PHOTO EDITOR

Pam Traeger

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please send us your feedback regarding events and topics described in this magazine at the e-mail or regular mail address listed above.



By God's power and with the help of other ministries, the mission of Christian Union is to change the world by developing Christian leaders and networking them together to make an impact for Christ in the larger culture. Matt Bennett (Cornell BS '88, MBA '89) founded the ministry in 2002 in Princeton, New Jersey. To learn more about Christian Union, please visit www.Christian-Union.org.

The purpose of *The Ivy League Christian Observer* (this free quarterly magazine) is to inform Christian alumni, students, parents, staff, faculty, and friends about the spiritual activity at eight of the country's most influential colleges, including Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale. Our desire is that you would be encouraged to pray for these universities, give financially to Christian initiatives on the campuses, and use your influence for the cause of Christ.

Cover image photo credit: Daniel Yue, Harvard '16

Once Again Trusting In God's Faithfulness



We praise God for the start of the new academic year, and thank Him for His grace in providing the finances for more ministry fellows to accommodate an ever increasing number of students interested in participating in the ministry. This fall we launched leadership development ministries at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard Law School, which is our first graduate ministry. We pray that God will raise the finances so that we can begin undergraduate work at Brown in the summer of 2014, which will mean Christian Union will have a full time presence at all eight Ivy League universities.

Last spring, 800 students were enrolled in our rigorous Bible courses (which include personal mentoring). After graduating 115 seniors we were trusting God to bring in 415 freshmen to raise the total number to 1,100 students in Bible courses. God has more than answered our prayers, as has been the case in the last number of years (ever since we, as a ministry, began praying together two hours a day). We would have many more students in Bible courses if we had the finances for more ministry fellows.

Although there is great fruitfulness, there are always obstacles and difficulties and we would appreciate your prayers. After two years, students at Dartmouth have still not been able to get the student group officially registered and we are probably going to seek the help of a civil rights organization. Sadly, we had to do the same at Princeton back in 2005 when a civil rights organization advocated on our behalf after three years of delay and deceit.

We have still more concerns at Princeton. After seeing how Vanderbilt University de-recognized Christian organizations because they insisted that their student leaders be Christians (i.e. student leaders must believe and adhere to the Christian sexual ethic of sex only in the context of a man and women in an enduring marriage), I have had several meetings with the Dean of Religious Life and the VP of Campus Life, asking them if Princeton would do the same. Sadly, Princeton has not been willing to give me verbal assurance that they wouldn't also de-recognize religious student organizations.

We would appreciate your prayers as we consider the next steps on this matter, and would love to have you join in praising God's great name for the incredible increase of students in Bible courses. "Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed" (Acts 4:25, 26).

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Matthew W. Bennett

Founder and President, Cornell '88, MBA '89

P.S. *The Ivy League Christian Observer* reports on the programs of Christian Union and those of various other Christian organizations. While it is our desire to foster unity, encouragement, and awareness among campus ministries, Christian Union is not an umbrella organization.

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DEBATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Leadership Development Ministry Co-Hosts Event with Harvard Humanists, Atheists, and Agnostics

H Students of various faith backgrounds (and no faith backgrounds) gathered in Harvard's Science Center's Auditorium B on the first Sunday after the start of classes for a debate on the topic, "Can the Christian God Be Good in Light of the Suffering in the World?"



In September, Harvard College Faith and Action and Harvard Community Humanists, Atheists, and Agnostics co-hosted a debate that explored issues of suffering and divinity.

For the second consecutive year, Harvard College Faith and Action (HCFA) and Harvard Community Humanists, Atheists, and Agnostics (HCHAA) co-hosted a debate. HCFA is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

Welcoming the students, HCFA President Alastair Su '14 noted that *debate* is a misnomer, saying the event was more of a discussion. Julia Bruce '15, president of HCHAA, extended a warm welcome to students of all backgrounds and emphasized community.

The debate was moderated by Jay Harris, dean of undergraduate education and the Harry Austryn Wolfson professor of Jewish studies. In his opening remarks, Harris eloquently set the tone, reading from Jeremiah 12. He noted that the

event's topic has occupied the greatest minds of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions for over 2,000 years.

Stephen Mackereth '15 and Veronica Wickline '16 represented HCFA.

"The problem of suffering puts God's goodness on trial," said Wickline. "And to question someone's goodness, one *must* appeal to a moral standard of good."

"For love to exist, humans must have free will," Mackereth asserted. "For our free will to matter, our actions must have recognizable consequences in the world."

HCHAA was represented by Sarah Coughlon '15 and Will Harrington '16, who focused on why God would create a world in which humans have free will along with the capacity to limit the free will of others and inflict suffering. While Coughlon and Harrington were debating the goodness of a God whose existence they question, they were respectful and

rigorous in their inquiry. The dialogue was courteous, and Harris moderated with questions that helped each side round out its position.

"For love to exist, humans must have free will. For our free will to matter, our actions must have recognizable consequences in the world."

—Stephen Mackereth, Harvard '15

Even so, the weight of the topic was clear. Wickline countered a common criticism with a quote from Oxford Professor John Lennox, who once said, "Could God have made electricity that

wasn't dangerous? Could He have made fire that didn't burn?" Mackereth joined in by stating that "there is one great redeeming factor that utterly transforms suffering, and which assures us that suffering is not the end of our story." The HCFA team addressed the gravity of the debate topic, while centering on the importance of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ in redeeming suffering.

"For anyone who loves Jesus, for anyone who chooses to act as Jesus would act towards God and men, Christ's resurrection proves that God will relieve all suffering and bring that person to a state where they can experience the full benefit of loving and being loved by God and men," concluded Wickline.

Mackereth's and Wickline's preparation began six weeks prior to the event, as there were vigorous online discussions across the organizations. Hence, the debate itself was only a glimpse into the ongoing dialogue between the two student organizations.

Looking back, Mackereth reflected, "I am personally a great deal more confident in God's goodness, after thinking about every possible argument, every possible counterpoint. I can see myself doing more apologetics."

"I deeply valued this opportunity to share God's word in such a public forum," said Wickline. "I think it has

opened my eyes to more opportunities to share God's Word in and around Cambridge. I pray the discussion shed light on some important God-questions for those present." ■

MORE THAN MONEY

Finance Executive is Keynote Speaker at Veritas Forum Event

C At Columbia University, economics is by far the most popular major and the majority of economics students work in the financial sector after graduation. Any event promising networking potential is an automatic success. Yet Columbia also has a strong liberal arts tradition rooted in its Western classics-based Core Curriculum. Student culture is largely divided between those who instinctively agree with Keats that, “Beauty is truth, truth beauty” and those focusing on a pre-professional acquisition of job skills.

The Veritas Forum works nationwide and around the world to bring students together to examine the relevance of Jesus Christ to all of life. On October 8, Veritas hosted over 210 Columbia students for a dinner entitled “More than Money: How Does Spending Transform Us?”

Robert Doll, a finance executive with experience at BlackRock and Merrill Lynch, came to give the keynote address, sharing how his Christian faith had shaped his thinking on work, money, generosity, and the meaning of life throughout his career. Over 35 professionals from industries across New York City came to guide students at each dinner table through an exercise to examine their worldviews and identify their highest values. Each discussion climaxed in asking students and professionals whether they were spending their money in ways that reflected the people they aspired to be.

Event organizers aimed to attract both philosophically and pragmatically inclined students to come think about money—a subject intensely interesting to

everyone—in light of the claims of Jesus Christ to be Lord and Savior. The practical implications of the Gospel are particularly immediate and yet difficult to implement here: Jesus taught much more about money than about sex. Doll’s talk focused on gratitude’s connection to generosity.

“Everything I have is a gift,” said Doll, Chief Equity Strategist at Nuveen Asset Management, LLC.

The Forum also addressed a gap in Columbia’s culture, explained Xavier Du Maine, Logistics Director for Veritas at Columbia and a junior in Columbia Faith and Action, a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

Through a Columbia education, “I’ve been learning how to be successful (how to make money), but not what to do once I’m successful (how to use it) or how my personal values relate to how I use my money,” Du Maine remarked.

The Columbia team responsible for organizing and staffing “More than Money” reflected the broad appeal of conversations like this one that put Christian worldviews into conversation with secular ways of thinking.

Members of InterVarsity (www.columbia.edu/cu/ivcvg), Columbia Faith and Action (www.columbiaifa.com), and Columbia

Catholic Ministry (www.columbia.edu/ce/earl/ccm) all serve on the team. The members range from new recruits like Social Media Director Tiffany Tuedor '17, who

hails from Nigeria; to Veritas veterans like Treasurer Julia Selafani, a junior from Irvine, California, who’s been a key member of the team ever since she pitched in to help during her freshman year.

Columbia, like many of America’s liberal arts colleges, was founded with a deeply Christian identity. Emblazoned on Low Library in the center of campus is the phrase “For the Advancement of the Public Good and the Glory of Almighty God.” The Veritas Forum is helping to bring the best of Christian thought into conversation with other worldviews to

allow students on these campuses to connect the truths of God’s revelation with the highest human wisdom.

And the recent dinner was just one way this is happening at some of our nation’s leading universities. Bob Doll reminded Columbians, “You can’t control the length of your life, but you can control its depth.” The Veritas Forum showed that our colleges can and should be places where students plumb the depths of goodness, truth, and beauty in light of eternity.

For more information on the Veritas Forum, visit www.veritas.org. ■



Robert Doll, Chief Equity Strategist and Senior Portfolio Manager at Nuveen Asset Management, LLC, was the keynote speaker at a dinner hosted by The Veritas Forum.

The Veritas Forum is helping to bring the best of Christian thought into conversation with other worldviews to allow students on these campuses to connect the truths of God’s revelation with the highest human wisdom.

LIFE, SUCCESS, AND HAPPINESS

Cornell Alumnus: 'Faith and Reason Are Not Polar Opposites'

Cornell HUMANS were made for fellowship with God, and that relationship is central to the quest for individual satisfaction, according to a noted Christian scholar and financial expert.

"There is something deeper in the human soul, a desire for the Creator," said Charles Lee, a Stanford University business professor.

As such, student believers need to establish a meaningful relationship with the Lord Almighty and pause to consider divine calling in their career decisions.

"The most important thing is what my Creator wants," said Lee, a Cornell alumnus. "There is no success apart from that. I have to figure out why I'm made."

Despite impressive credentials, the partner in Nipun Capital also noted career achievements and even loving relationships are not enough for ultimate fulfillment. During the spring, Lee appeared at Cornell, where he previously served on faculty and earned a master of business administration in 1989 and doctorate of management in 1990.

Fulfillment, Lee said, is tied to a rela-

During the event, Lee faced longtime Cornell economist Robert Frank to probe polarizing views on the role of religion in personal contentment. For his part, Frank highlighted the influence of financial stability, goals, family background, and interpersonal relationships in shaping



Cornell Professor Robert H. Frank (l) debated Charles Lee (r), Cornell M.S., M.B.A. '89 and Ph.D. '90, at a Veritas Forum last spring. Andrew Chignell (c), associate professor of philosophy at Cornell, was the moderator.

overall well-being.

Along more spiritual lines, Lee reminded students the quest for happiness is tied to the search for virtue and goodness. Absent of a God-centered life, humans struggle with exemplary moral behavior and character. They also battle an inherent sinful nature.

"What is the human dilemma that

Lee lamented the distancing of modern universities from their religious roots in exchange for embracing technical knowledge. "We've privatized our faith," he said. "Faith and reason are not polar opposites."

tionship with Christ. In turn, the Savior delights in sharing life's journey and crafting its stories.

Lee shared those thoughts as well as his decision to embrace Christianity during a Veritas Forum entitled "You are NOT Your Resume: Christian and Atheist Economist Discuss Life, Success, and Happiness."

makes happiness such a challenge? A self-centered creature is going to have a lot of problems," Lee said.

Many people prize beauty, power, money, and intellect in the pursuit of gratification. But, such drives can lead to ruin, particularly if they become obsessions.

Goodness, especially when rooted in re-

ligious conviction, remains central to individual and collective human contentment, Lee said.

Along those lines, Lee lamented the distancing of modern universities from their religious roots in exchange for embracing technical knowledge. "We've privatized our faith," he said. "Faith and reason are not polar opposites."

Indeed, spiritual lessons remain critical for young people.

In the aftermath of the bombing that shook the Boston Marathon, Lee asked students to consider the key principles for emerging adults to absorb. "Does the world really need more smart people or more good people?" Lee asked, rhetorically.

At the same time, there can be a brutal gulf between knowledge and moral behavior, even among students at the institutions that serve as the pinnacle of the world's universities.

"As they say in England, mind the gap," said Lee, referencing that country's famed warning to passengers along railway platforms. "Look carefully. Mind the gap in your life."

As well, students should pause to consider the role of their worldview as they set career and life goals. While success is admirable, some people make it a point of being accomplished liars, thieves, or even terrorists. "The real question is whether your goals are good," Lee said.

At a practical level, "that cogent worldview is going to affect how you live," Lee said. "In work settings, our day-to-day lives are shaped by what we believe in."

Not surprisingly, both Lee and Frank noted work matters are closely intertwined with personal satisfaction.

For his part, Frank encouraged students to pursue careers that fulfill their passions. "Pick a job you love. Get immersed in it. Get good at it," he said. "If you are really good at something, that's when material success will come. Be the

best at what you do.”

At a personal level, Frank, a prolific author of scholarly papers and books, said he has found his writing duties to be particularly gratifying. “The days just flew by,” he said.

As for Lee, the Taiwan native said he was profoundly struck as a young man by the convicting words of Romans 3:23. They proclaim, “All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.”

Lee decided he wanted to know God,

and his decision to accept Christ as his savior quickly transformed his life and brought abundant joy.

“If God is knowable, that is the thing I wanted to know more than anything else,” Lee said. ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

AT A DEEPER LEVEL

Worldview Sessions Draw Students from Columbia, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale



In May and August, students from some of the nation’s leading universities attended the Christian Worldview Summer Sessions at the Hopewell House conference center in Upstate New York.

Hosted by Christian Union, the Worldview Sessions intertwine biblical perspectives, philosophical and scholarly inquiry, and camaraderie. Overall, 23 students attended the colloquium.

“The aim is twofold: intellectual engagement and fostering community,” said Jesse Peterson, the conference’s key organizer and a Christian Union ministry fellow at Columbia University. “We want the students to understand Christianity at a deeper level.”

Peterson and Christian Union teaching fellows tackled in-depth topics tied to key issues of the faith to strengthen student believers as they encounter challenges at leading universities. Students from Columbia, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale universities participated in the intellectually robust seminars and dinner discussions.

Key topics focused on Christian epistemology, hermeneutics, the resurrection and lordship of Christ, the authority and historicity of the Bible, creation theology, major-life queries, humankind’s divine image-bearing status, cultural engagement issues, and vocational topics.

In addition, Peterson highlighted Christian Union’s training on the principles behind biblical leadership and a seeking-God lifestyle. Peterson, who based the course on his experiences at

two L’Abri Fellowship properties, designed the conference to include opportunities for discussion and interaction based around household meals, chores, study, and recreational activities.



Christian Union Ministry Fellow Jesse Peterson (l) and students at a Christian Worldview Summer Session

Dinner topics included ones tied to perseverance, the relationship between believers and the government, and the role of Christians in fields such as art and music. The wide range of majors among the students, including engineering and humanities, helped promote lively conversations.

In 2012, Christian Union leaders seized the opportunity to launch the pilot version of the conference after a retired Maryland couple, Rev. Glen and Betty Jane Knecht, donated their family’s historic summer home to the ministry to serve as a training center and venue for small retreats and gatherings.

Stephen Mackereth, Harvard ’15, described his participation in this year’s

Christian Worldview Session as a delightful combination of study, recreation, and fellowship.

“There is no better place to learn about Christianity than in Christian community. I was blessed to be part of a fantastic group of students,” said Mackereth, a mathematics major who participates in Harvard College Faith and Action, a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union. “I very much cherish the lasting friendships that we formed.”

Mackereth also noted the Christian Union’s colonial-era, mountainside facility “entirely lent itself to prayer and thoughtful reflection, the dissection of arguments and the exegesis of passages, and the profound wonder and delight of contemplating God’s creation.”

“It was intellectually intense. We all said our brains really hurt at the end,” Peterson said. “But, we also had a lot of fun together.”

Ultimately, Peterson and other ministry leaders want the training provided through Christian Worldview to strengthen undergraduates as they engage and confront secular philosophies and culture at the nation’s top tier universities.

“One of my goals is to equip future Christian intellectuals and academics. If they’re going to be in that world, they need to know the body of Christian intellectual literature,” Peterson said. “We want them to take the intellectual side of the faith very seriously.” ■

RELIGION AND INTELLIGENCE

Analyzing the Analysis: Is the Narrative Changing?



Editor's note: The following story was reprinted with permission from Christianity Today.

My story is almost always met with surprise: How could an atheist convert to Christianity at Harvard, the bastion of secular intellectual elitism?

Now this reaction has some empirical justification. A recent meta-analysis of studies on religion and intelligence found that yes, overall, people with high IQs and test scores are less likely to be religious. Researchers analyzed 63 studies on religion and intelligence from the past 80 years with differing results to discover the slightly negative correlation between the two.

Unlike previous studies that tried to explain the data by suggesting that smart people simply see past religion's claims, these researchers, led by University of Rochester psychologist Miron Zuckerman, tried to identify other social factors in play.

Nevertheless, the hype about their conclusions is overblown, and all of us—the religious and the non-religious—should be wary of placing too much weight on their findings.

There are the standard caveats. Correlation does not equal causation. Just because intelligent people are less likely to

logical research, which is heavily weighted toward a particular population that is rather WEIRD—Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, Democratic—when compared to the rest of the world.)

The most significant issue comes with the



Jordan Monge, Harvard '12

very question these researchers chose to explore. The way they framed their study suggests an implicit bias in the way scholars think about religion. "Secular researchers are likely to discover what they already suspect, which is a co-relation between their values and high levels of intelligence," noted atheist sociologist Frank Furerdi. He questioned the value of such a project, where "social science research turns into advocacy research."

Furerdi's point echoes something I've previously argued about religion among academics: Intelligent people don't simply reject religion because it's wrong; they reject it because their social environments lead them to think it's wrong. We choose which questions to grapple with on the basis of how important they are to us. When society keeps repeating that "smart folks reject religion," then religion becomes an object no longer worthy of investigation. Everyone finds questions really worth their time and leaves religion to the fools who just don't

know any better.

Rather than the result of a casual correlation, the researchers' findings on religion and intelligence seem to fit inside a particular cultural narrative. In the United States, we assume that intelligent people grow up and reject faith. Faithful teenagers go off to secular colleges, stop attending church, and become skeptics. As individuals situate themselves in this narrative, the story becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

This has been the story in academia for some time now. Jean Bethke Elsh-tain, a political philosopher from the University of Chicago who recently passed at age 72, came back to the Christian faith after abandoning it during college. She described her youthful transition away from religion using a narrative you could easily hear today:

I had slowly but surely inched over to join the company of those who chided those who believed. I decided I was not gullible, like those folks, and if they wanted to cling to wishful thinking, they could certainly do that, but I was at university, after all, where I had learned skepticism, and indeed I had decided that I had become a skeptic myself, joining most of my professors in that designation.

Fortunately, much work is being done to improve the situation in the academy. InterVarsity, Cru, Navs, Chi Alpha, Christian Union, and countless other campus ministries continue to help Christian students navigate their university context and lead non-believers to faith. Their discipleship helps raise a new generation of brilliant Christian thinkers.

I'm proud to work for The Veritas Forum, where we partner with campus ministries and Christian professors to bring together students and faculty for open conversations about their religious beliefs. As we help to expose students to the most credible and articulate Christian intellectuals, often in dialogue with secular peers, we have the opportunity to change the narrative surrounding faith.

Those who attend college are actually more likely to stay religious now than those who forgo higher education.

be religious doesn't mean that their brilliance causes them to reject religion. One look at the intellectual contributions of Christians throughout history—made by thinkers such as Donne, Newton, Aquinas, and many others—does away with this misconception. Plus, in spite of presenting a sweeping meta-analysis, the study's authors relied on a limited range of research, as they admit in the paper. They primarily address Protestants, in the U.S. (This highlights a common problem in psycho-

And things are changing. The Social Science Research Council stated in 2007, “The academy is no longer the bastion of secularism it was once assumed to be.” Those who attend college are actually *more* likely to stay religious now than those who forgo higher education. Note that Zuckerman and his research team found that intelligent people who don’t attend college reject religion at the same rates as those who do, so

education itself can no longer make the difference.

If these trends continue, I can imagine a world in which the prevailing narrative is not “go to college and lose your faith” but “come to college to save your faith.” For just as the university taught me to think rationally, to question well, to delight in knowledge, it was the best place I could come to learn how to worship God

with all my heart, soul, strength, and *mind*.

Jordan Monge is the northeast regional director of The Veritas Forum and a regular contributor to Fare Forward. As an undergraduate, she was a leader with Harvard College Faith and Action, a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union. ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

FINDING ANSWERS IN GENESIS

Brown Alumnus Is a Resource at Creation Museum

B For David Menton, the human body points to pronounced evidence of a powerful, intelligent creator.

As such, the former medical school professor and Ivy League alumnus is spending his retirement years serving as a speaker and researcher for Answers in Genesis. The Kentucky-based apologetics ministry seeks to enable Christians to defend their faith and to provide answers to questions surrounding the book of Genesis, including key ones involving creation. The centerpiece is its Creation Museum, a 70,000-square foot facility that features state-of-the-art exhibits, theaters, and gardens dedicated to the milestones of Genesis.

“For me, the creation issue is very important—it is about) the reliability of the Word of God,” said Menton, who completed a doctorate in cell biology at Brown University in 1966.

In 2000, Menton joined Answers in Genesis after spending 34 years in the anatomy department at Washington University’s School of Medicine near St. Louis. In 2007, he relocated to Kentucky after the ministry opened the Creation Museum, where he works on exhibits, teaches classes and workshops, and produces print and video materials.

A commitment to sharing the wonders of the human body is part of why Menton, 75, continues to work full-time, despite a bout with cancer.

“My Christianity is what’s important,” said Menton, who won numerous teaching awards during his tenure at Washington.

Likewise, Menton maintains a strong burden for reaching teens and college students with the creation message. Since joining Answers in Genesis, the Minnesota native has put together a series of articles, books, and videos highlighting the detailed intricacies of the human body that point to intelligent design.

In particular, Menton showcases the placenta as reflecting the care and handiwork of God at the earliest stages of life.

“Most people give little thought to the placenta, and few appreciate the marvelous complexity and profound importance of this organ that is discarded and forgotten after birth,” he wrote for Answers in Genesis.

However, with the help of the mother’s blood, the so-called super organ must function as the baby’s lungs, kidneys, digestive system, liver, and immune system. One of the placenta’s important roles is to protect the developing baby from an attack by the mother’s immune system. Later, when the baby develops its own blood and blood vessels, the mother’s



Former medical school professor David Menton, Brown Ph.D. '66, is a speaker and researcher for Answers in Genesis.

blood and the blood of the developing baby come into close association, but they never mix or come into direct contact, Menton notes.

In addition, the scholar highlights the complexities of both the human eye and ear as manifestations of God’s extraordinary genius.

As for the eye, it is essentially a living video camera of extraordinary sensitivity, Menton wrote for Answers in Genesis. Like a man-made camera, the eye has a black interior to pre-

vent light scattering, an automatically focusing lens and adjustable diaphragm to control the light. Also, just like digital cameras, the eye has a light-sensitive layer that can adjust to a wide range of brightness.

But, unlike a camera, the retina can automatically change its sensitivity to brightness over a range of ten billion to one. The eye also has the amazing ability to assemble and repair itself, unlike man-made cameras, according to Menton.

As for the ear, long before the radio was invented, the ear was designed to convert pulses of air into electrical signals, Menton noted. The amazing organ uses the outer ear, middle ear, and inner ear to lo-

cate and convert signals the brain uses. In a series of complex steps, the trio of parts conduct sound through radically different media—air, bone, and fluid.

Ultimately, ears can hear everything, from the faint ticking of a small watch to the roar of a jet engine, a range of volume of nearly one million to one, Menton wrote.

While Menton remains passionate

about discussing the workmanship of God, he is disappointed by the hostility within the academic community toward creation views and the skepticism even within some Christian circles. “Sadly, not all Christians see the importance,” he said.

Answers to Genesis is controversial within some Christian sectors for its support of a literal interpretation of Genesis,

including its belief in the recent origination of the universe. Along those lines, the organization teaches God crafted all land animals, including dinosaurs, on the sixth day.

Ultimately for Menton, man is not a mere happenstance of the cosmos. Rather, in a blog, he declared his firm commitment that “humans were specially created in the image of God.” ■

By Ryan T. Anderson, Princeton '04

THE SUPREME COURT AND THE FUTURE OF MARRIAGE

A Path Marriage Proponents Should Take

In a 5–4 majority opinion written by Justice Anthony Kennedy (Harvard Law '61), the Supreme Court in *U.S. v. Windsor* struck down section 3 of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which defined marriage in federal law for federal policy as the union of one man and one woman. The Court held that the federal government has to accept state redefinitions of marriage for federal policies.

The majority concluded its opinion by stating: “This opinion and its holding are confined to those lawful marriages.” So while the federal government has been ordered to recognize all state-recognized marriages, the Court declared that “the definition and regulation of marriage has been treated as being within the authority and realm of the separate States.” The states remain free—and should continue—to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

The Court got the case wrong. While there is little of value in the majority opinion, the three dissenting opinions signal the path that marriage proponents should take from here.

THREE DISSENTS

Alito. Justice Samuel Alito (Princeton '72, Yale Law '75) makes clear the *actual* constitutional status of marriage laws. Alito frames the debate as a contest between two visions of marriage—what he calls the “conjugal” and “consent-based” views. It is a contest in which the Constitution takes no sides.

Alito cites the book *What Is Marriage? Man and Woman: A Defense* (which I co-authored with Robert George, Harvard Law '81, and Sherif Girgis, Princeton '08) as an example of the conjugal view of marriage: a “comprehensive, exclusive, permanent union that is intrinsically ordered to producing new life.” He cites Jonathan Rauch as a proponent of the consent-based idea that marriage is a commitment marked by emotional union. Alito explains that the Constitution is silent on which of these substantive visions of marriage is correct. The Court, he says, should defer to democratic debate.

Roberts. Chief Justice John Roberts (Harvard '76, Harvard Law '79) emphasizes the limits of the majority’s opinion. He writes that “the logic of its opinion does not decide the distinct question whether the States, in the exercise of their ‘historic and essential authority to define the marital relation,’ may continue to utilize the traditional definition of marriage.”

Roberts notes that the “majority goes out of its way to make this explicit” at the end of its opinion. And he argues that “the disclaimer is a logical and necessary consequence” of the fact that “its judgment is based on federalism.”

Roberts insists that the Court refused to manufacture a constitutional right to same-sex marriage. Citizens and their elected representatives remain free to discuss, debate, and vote about marriage policy in all 50 states. They still have the freedom to define marriage in civil law

as the union of one man and one woman.

Americans need to champion this message. Liberals are saying that Kennedy’s opinion reaches further than it does. Roberts has provided insight on how to describe this ruling accurately.

Scalia. Justice Antonin Scalia, Harvard Law '60, accurately characterizes the rhetoric of the Court’s majority opinion:

To defend traditional marriage is not to condemn, demean, or humiliate those who would prefer other arrangements.... To hurl such accusations so casually demeans this institution. In the majority’s judgment, any resistance to its holding is beyond the pale of reasoned disagreement.... All that, simply for supporting an Act that did no more than codify an aspect of marriage that had been unquestioned in our society for most of its existence—indeed, had been unquestioned in virtually all societies for virtually all of human history. It is one thing for a society to elect change; it is another for a court of law to impose change by adjudging those who oppose it hostes humani generis, enemies of the human race.

Scalia writes that he does not mean “to suggest disagreement with the Chief Justice’s view” about the confines of



Kennedy's opinion. But Scalia tells Americans to be clear-eyed: "I promise you this: The only thing that will 'confine' the Court's holding is its sense of what it can get away with."

THREE THINGS TO DO TO STRENGTHEN MARRIAGE IN POLICY AND PRACTICE

The Court will be less likely to rule in a way that usurps the authority of citizens if it is clear that citizens are engaged in this democratic debate and care about the future of marriage.

1. Live out the Truth. Long before there was a debate about same-sex anything, far too many heterosexuals bought into a liberal ideology about sexuality that makes a mess of marriage: cohabitation, no-fault divorce, extra-marital sex, non-marital child-bearing, massive consumption of pornography, and the hook-up culture all contributed to the breakdown of the marriage culture. At one point in American life, virtually every child was given the great gift of being raised to adulthood by the man and the woman who gave them life. Today, that number is under 50 percent in many communities.

Same-sex marriage did not cause this, but it does nothing to help it and will only make things worse. After all, redefining marriage to make it simply about emotional companionship sends the signal that mothers and fathers are interchangeable. Redefining marriage directly undercuts the rational foundations for the norms of marriage: permanence, exclusivity, and monogamy.

Defenders of marriage need to live out the truth about marriage. Husbands and wives need to take seriously their vows to be faithful to one another. Mothers and fathers should take their obligations to their children seriously. The unmarried should prepare now for their future marital lives so they can live out the vows they will make.

2. Protect Religious Liberty. When he "evolved" on marriage last year, President Obama insisted that the debate about marriage was a legitimate one, that there were reasonable people of good will on both sides. He explained that supporters of marriage "are not coming at it from a mean-spirited perspective. They're coming at it because they care about families." He added that "a bunch of 'em are friends of mine...you know, people whom I deeply respect."

But government has not respected these Americans. For example, Christian adoption agencies have already been forced out of the work of serving children because of their beliefs about marriage. Pushing out these agencies does not help those orphans or society at large.

Americans should insist that government not discriminate against those who hold to the historical definition of marriage. Policy should prohibit the government—or anyone who receives taxpayers' dollars—from discriminating in employment, licensing, accreditation, or contracting against those who believe that marriage is the union of a man and a woman.

3. Make the Public Argument. Americans need to redouble their efforts at explaining what marriage is, why marriage matters, and what the consequences are of redefining marriage. Defenders of marriage need to frame their messages, strengthen coalitions, devise strategies, and bear witness. They should develop and multiply artistic, pastoral, and reasoned defenses of the conjugal view as the truth about marriage, and to make ever plainer the policy reasons for enacting it.

The left wants to insist that the redefinition of marriage is "inevitable." The only way to guarantee a political loss, however, is to sit idly by.

TAKE THE LONG VIEW

Marriage matters for children, for civil society, and for limited government. Marriage is the institution that unites a man and a woman as husband and wife to be father and mother to any children that their union produces. Public policy recognizes marriage not because it cares about adult romance, but because it cares about the rights of children.

In this struggle to preserve marriage, as in the pro-life cause, Americans need to take a long view. Such a view does not look to immediate wins or losses, but decades-long paradigm shifts that reshape how Americans think about marriage.

Ryan T. Anderson, Princeton '04, is a Ph.D. candidate at Notre Dame and the William E. Simon Fellow in Religion and a Free Society in the Richard and Helen DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society at The Heritage Foundation (www.heritage.org). ■

Long before there was a debate about same-sex anything, far too many heterosexuals bought into a liberal ideology about sexuality that makes a mess of marriage...

A NEW CHAPTER

Ministry Veterans Help Start Chi Alpha at Penn

P Chi Alpha, an international campus ministry, has launched a new chapter at Penn, where the organization will work to build communities of reconciliation, worship, prayer, fellowship, and discipleship.

“As followers of Jesus in a collegiate community, we are to be ‘salt and light,’ showing the world what it means to authentically love God and one’s neighbor,” said Chi Alpha Campus Minister Dr. Phil McLeod.

McLeod and his wife Valerie have spent decades in ministry and felt a distinct calling to launch Chi Alpha at Penn. The couple previously served as associate pastors at Christian Life Center in Dayton, Ohio, and at Brookfield Assembly of God Church in suburban Milwaukee. Most recently, they worked as administrators at Valley Forge Christian College in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.

But the McLeod’s dream about starting Chi Alpha at Penn began nearly ten years ago.

“We saw the need and waited for someone to step forward,” said Phil McLeod, who received his Ph.D. from Marquette University. Eventually, it was apparent that, given their experience and background, they were the ones to take that step.

“We are a bit unique in that we are in our fifth decade of ministry and we are starting a new and different ministry in a city (Philadelphia) that has no Chi Alpha presence on any campus. As ‘youngsters’ in our 60s, we look forward to great decades of ministry ahead,” said Phil McLeod.

Harley Key ’14, a Chi Alpha student leader, said the McLeod’s vast experience is a blessing.

“Ever since the day I met Phil and Val in person, I have felt as if I was already part of their family because of their warm, loving personalities,” said Key, who took the lead in getting the ministry recognized at Penn. “The presence of Phil and Val can help Chi Alpha feel like a ‘home’ to its members, a place where we show grace, give second chances, get real, and demonstrate love.”



Dr. Phil McLeod and his wife Valerie are helping to establish the Chi Alpha campus ministry at Penn.

With the reflection and self-awareness that comes from being a senior, Key says his goal is to be a blessing to the McLeods, the ministry, and the wider community.

“I used to see my time at Penn as all about me. That has now changed,” he said. “I believe God is leading me to take time to reach out to other people, build relationships with them, and help usher

them into God’s presence, where He can sow the same seed of hope into their hearts as He did to mine.”

Helping Penn students find their hope in a relationship with Jesus Christ is at the heart of the ministry. Chi Alpha is under the United States Missions branch of the Assemblies of God.

“The university environment is often a place where a student’s relationship with God is diminished rather than nurtured and cultivated. We desire to create a place where the Christian faith of the student flourishes and is lived out in a deep, dynamic, and powerful way,” said Phil McLeod.

One of the first steps in being able to help facilitate that nurturing spiritual environment was to receive recognition as a campus organization from the university. With Key’s initiative and leadership, that first requirement has already been accomplished. Phil McLeod said Chi Alpha has been well received by the campus community and the Penn chaplaincy.

“There is a sense of community, collaboration, and cooperation and a real welcoming spirit very evident in the leadership of the chaplains,” he said.

In January, Chi Alpha plans to launch more formal activities designed to engage the students and to provide sound Christian foundations. The ministry will begin holding two small group Bible studies, offer one-to-one mentoring, and hold a monthly evening forum with a guest speaker. The Penn chapter also plans to participate in a regional Chi Alpha retreat held in the Washington, D.C. area.

In addition to all the events and opportunities, the McLeods remain focused on establishing a strong support base on campus that encourages and fosters faith within the students. That’s something McLeod says is particularly important during the influential college years.

McLeod sums up the relationship between mentors, ministers, and students in the words of a friend who once told him, “It’s not that we are so impressive, it’s that they are so impressionable.” ■

AFRICAN BISHOP'S REJECTION AS DEAN OF TUCKER FOUNDATION RAISES QUESTIONS

Dartmouth Professor: 'We Should Be Alarmed'

DIn July, Bishop James Tengatenga of Southern Malawi was selected as the new dean of the William Jewett Tucker Foundation. However, the job offer was soon rescinded by Dartmouth President Philip J. Hanlon because advocates of same-sex attraction raised concern over the bishop's perceived "homophobia."

At issue is not what Tengatenga says, but what same-sex supporters think he believes. The controversy surrounds the bishop's lack of support for the ordination of the Rt. Rev. Gene Robinson as the first openly gay bishop in the Anglican Communion.

At the time, Tengatenga was serving in Malawi, a region where homosexuality is illegal.

Despite releasing a statement declaring that he considers "all people equal before God regardless of their sexual orientation" and that "discrimination of any kind is sinful," the issue remained a roadblock to his leading the university office that purports to educate Dartmouth students "for lives of purpose and ethical leadership, rooted in service, spirituality, and social justice."

"Dartmouth's commitment to inclusion is too important to be mired in discord over this appointment. Consequently, we have decided not to move forward with the appointment of Dr. Tengatenga as dean of the Tucker Foundation," stated Hanlon.

Excluding Tengatenga from the university because of the pervasive influence of one campus faction has left some to question the college's real commitment to diversity.

"Maybe Dartmouth isn't open-minded enough to be ready for him," Catherine

Bryt '15 told *The Dartmouth*. "The climate on this campus right now is very much in favor of one view and dismissive of another angle."

Dartmouth Professor Irene Kacandes,



Dartmouth revoked its offer to Bishop James Tengatenga to be the college's next dean of the Tucker Foundation.

who led the search committee that selected Tengatenga, also raised concern.

"The way that the accusations unfolded is something that we should be very alarmed about," Kacandes stated in *The Dartmouth*. "This man was tried in a court of partial public opinion, and it was

"This man was tried in a court of partial public opinion, and it was not clear that people who wanted to weigh in could do so."

—Dartmouth Professor Irene Kacandes

not clear that people who wanted to weigh in could do so."

But the ripples of the decision to renege on the offer to Tengatenga reach beyond the campus.

The Boston Globe reported that Rev. Kapyra Kaoma, who has conducted research on religion and sexuality in Africa, believes Tengatenga is a friend of gay activists in Malawi. He also noted that Tengatenga organized Southern Africa

bishops to release a statement that countered other bishops who encouraged governments to criminalize homosexuality.

"They have exposed Bishop Tengatenga and then dumped him back into Malawi," Rev. Kaoma told *The Globe*.

Other supporters of Tengatenga—who include Rev. Desmond Tutu; Randall Balmer, chair of the department of religion at Dartmouth; as well as several members of the clergy—penned a public letter that backed the bishop and questioned the atmosphere of the university.

"It casts serious doubts on what is being learned in American universities when members of those communities fail to distinguish between public positions of institutions and the views of individuals who participate in those institutions," they wrote.

This very attitude was exemplified by the words of Andrew Longhi, Dartmouth '15, who commented in a blog for *Huffington Post* shortly after Tengatenga's appointment.

"Tengatenga's appointment is deeply disrespectful to the Dartmouth LGBT community and its allies, who need leaders whom they can trust and learn from,"

he wrote. "I have no doubt that a man with Tengatenga's experiences would have a lot to share, but absolutely not in this capacity."

Tengatenga has not made his future plans known, however, he did tell the Episcopal News Service that he was considering seeking legal counsel and was "saddened" by Dartmouth's decision.

"They have chosen to trust bigotry over truth and justice," he said. ■

CHARACTER AND THE ACADEMY

Dartmouth Faculty and Staff Discuss Possibilities, Hindrances

DA recent discussion hosted by the Dartmouth Faculty/Staff Christian Fellowship asked a poignant question: “Can a secular college or university have character as its guiding principle; and, if so, what would it look like?”

While some in attendance believed the short answer was yes, the discussion prompted further exploration as to what it would really take to allow character to guide education on their campus.

“Dartmouth needs character,” said Professor Richard Denton, who believes the premium placed upon achievement and success at the renowned college creates an individual-focused environment that lacks the community necessary for character to thrive. Denton, a physics and astronomy professor, recalled how one colleague said Dartmouth actually lessens character in students because they become callous and use others as a means to their own ends.

Additionally, some faculty participating in the September discussion felt strongly that it is not the role of the professor to model character.

“At secular, non-military institutions, there’s been a shift in the last century to achieve a value-neutral environment,” said Aine Donovan, director of the Ethics Institute at Dartmouth. However, she also pointed out that nothing is value neutral, and the end result has been a confused student body.

“Education, at its very essence, has to have a purpose,” said Donovan, who saw character-based education first-hand while a professor at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Schools like the military academies are secular, but still rally around a central core belief in character, duty, and country. Colleges like Dartmouth tend to rally visibly around the nucleus of personal achievement, earning potential, and college rankings. Therefore, they lose focus of the bigger academic picture.

“A lot of colleges miss the central purpose of education,” said Donovan. “Education ought to be about feeding the mind, working the body, having friendships, and the holistic balance of all those aspects to develop good people.”

Christian Miller, Princeton ’99, who is leading the Character Project at Wake Forest University, reinforced what Donovan and Denton are proposing.

“There are a number of ways in which universities can promote honesty in their students,” Miller said. “For instance, they can surround their students with good

fundamental value in and of itself,” said Denton.

Further, character often requires taking a stand for what is right, a concept often lost in politically-correct university speak.

“There are things that are not appropriate. That are wrong,” said Donovan. “People are so reluctant to put any judgment out there.”

Additionally, she said that when the term diversity is used, what’s really meant is a “certain political and social orientation.”

“That’s not diversity,” she said.

Donovan noted that people within the academy who publicly live out their faith are pejoratively called “religious zealots.”

“The academic community is anti-religious,” said Donovan, noting that faith communities have much to contribute to the academy, but believers are often relegated to keeping their beliefs to themselves.

For example, she said people of faith are “dismissed in philosophy,” and admits that one colleague told her it was unbelievable that someone as intelligent as she was a practicing Catholic. Further, she stated that another professor

is often excluded from academic discussions because he is viewed as “nuts” because he attends weekly church services.

Therefore, while Donovan and Denton both conclude that the possibility of a character-led Dartmouth is possible, both agree that more discussion and exploration are required to answer fully the question of whether Dartmouth can allow for a truly diverse community that values the character of the individual person above the unified, socio-political leanings.

In the meantime, the professor and the ethicist combine their talk with action as they remain open about their Christian faith and willing to inspire future leaders of influence and character. ■



Aine Donovan, director of the Ethics Institute at Dartmouth



Richard Denton, Dartmouth Professor of physics and astronomy

role models. They can offer courses on character in philosophy, religion, psychology, and other departments. They can have an honor code and be very clear about how seriously it is taken. In fact, studies have shown that cheating is often dramatically reduced at universities with a serious honor code.”

However, according to Denton and Donovan, the pursuit of character at Dartmouth is often co-opted by the drive for diversity; which, when coupled with relativism, hampers virtue by refusing to declare the moral right, and thus leaving students confused and fending for themselves in a mine field of relativity.

“Diversity is good in that it helps you understand other people, but it is not a

LOVE AND ROMANCE

Yale Journal Explores Biblical View of 'Relevant Topic'

Y *The Logos*, Yale's undergraduate journal of Christian thought, focused on the theme of "Love, Sex, and Christianity" in its fall edition.

According to Richard Lee '14, business director at *The Logos*, the fall issue was inspired by teaching from a Christian Union Bible Course and dialogue created on campus by controversial events like Sex Week at Yale (2012) and this year's Sex Weekend.

In the spring semester, a Sex and Spirituality Bible Course was directed by Yale Faith and Action: An Undergraduate Organization. Yale Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

"[Love, Sex, and Christianity] is an incredibly relevant topic," said Lee. "Many college students are dating. I don't see how we are doing a service by avoiding the topic and pretending that college students are not mature enough for this. We need fewer Yale boys, but more Yale men."

Lee noted that students are very enthusiastic about this theme. He believes it's vital to engage the campus in this kind of discussion, considering the buzz surrounding Sex Week in 2012. And while Sex Week generated a buzz, Lee said the Sex and Spirituality Bible Course provided a coherent framework on which to base a Christian response.

For example, Lee said one message from the course focused on the higher purpose of sex and marriage and the way it reflects the relationship between Christ and His Church.

Christian teachers a list of the prohibited sexual practices, instead of God's beautiful design for sexuality within marriage, and how it reflects the nature and love of God," he said.

Matthews, a guest columnist for the fall issue of *The Logos*, addresses God's purpose for romance in his writing.

"God has designed us not only with sexual desires, but also with romantic impulses that draw us to a specific person, not just towards sexual fulfillment," said Matthews.

Despite differing views of the meaning and purpose of romance and sexuality around campus, Lee said the topic was relatively easy to cover because there are so many areas that interest many students.

The Logos staff, which is made up of undergraduates, is aware that not all students share the same Christian framework of the Godly aspects of romance and love. Therefore, he said, the magazine seeks to target the middle-of-the-bell-curve audience.

Additionally, "there are many whimsical pieces in the magazine to show that being a

"The sexual environment on campus is less toxic compared to a few years ago," said Lee, citing the decreased attention given to this year's toned down Sex Weekend.

"I think the awareness raised by students and groups like Undergraduates for a Better Yale College has been helpful."

Additionally, he said, the Title IX civil rights complaints filed against Yale last year by the Department of Education for inadequately responding to sexual misconduct reports has also played a role in impacting the way sexuality is viewed on campus.

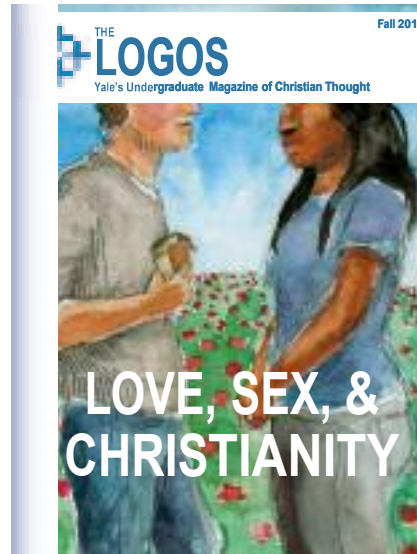
However, Lee does recognize that the hook-up culture is still very common, and that there is a

lack of traditional dating within many social circles on campus.

Still, said Matthews, "I think there is an increase in competing voices here at Yale to the hook-up culture and a view of sexuality that is only morally governed by mutual consent."

As a result, the dialogue about the nature of love and romance continues to expand, and the Christian voice is heard.

As Matthews writes in his column, "For



Love, romance, and sex are the focus of the autumn issue of *The Logos*, Yale's undergraduate journal of Christian thought.

"God has designed us not only with sexual desires, but also with romantic impulses that draw us to a specific person, not just towards sexual fulfillment."

—Chris Matthews, Christian Union's ministry director at Yale

Chris Matthews, Christian Union's director of ministry at Yale, said the intent of the course is to help students grasp the beauty and purpose of God's design for sexuality within marriage.

"Many students have only heard from

Christian is not the same as being a Puritan," said Lee. "We are not boring people."

And, it appears that campus trends may be signifying a change in awareness of how Christian love and romance can be lived out.

romance is not just an impulse, but also a satisfying reward. If romance ever ceases to serve marriage and becomes an end in itself, its connection to God's purpose for humanity is severed." ■

CORPUS CHRISTI AND COLUMBIA

Local Church Is Once Again Home to University's Catholic Ministry



The Columbia Catholic Ministry has come home again.

This fall, the ministry (www.columbia.edu/ce/earl/ccm) moved its location from the Church of Notre Dame back to Corpus Christi Church. Both churches are located nearby in the Morningside Heights section of New York.

Corpus Christi was built in 1906 to accommodate the growing Catholic community in the area, including Columbia University. In 1934, Fr. George Barry Ford, who was the Catholic Chaplain at Columbia, became the church's second pastor. Four years later, one of the church's most renowned converts, author and Trappist monk Thomas Merton, Columbia '38, was baptized there.

Over the years, Columbia Catholic Ministry was moved from Corpus Christi and most recently was at Church of Notre Dame, which is also a parish community that welcomes Columbia students. However, Corpus Christi offers more than a central location for the campus ministry. Although most of Columbia's Catholic students attend mass at St. Paul's chapel on campus, for those like senior Carlos Garcia, Corpus Christi provides additional opportunities to participate in the life of a church.

Regular participation in the Mass and the sacraments is vital to the spiritual nourishment and growth of the students.

"As a busy student at a demanding school, it's great to have so many different

options to keep growing in my faith, and enrich my spiritual life," said Garcia '14.

Laura Scharmer, the team director for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, also sees participation in the local parish as a way for the students to engage their faith outside of the campus gates.

"As they become part of a greater community, they realize the impact that their belief in Christ should have throughout the entirety of their lives," said Scharmer. "It helps them to see that their religious

community is not just a 'club' on campus, but rather a participation in a greater community of faith, one that extends outside the bounds of their campus and one which they can continue to be a part of even after they graduate."

When students participate in their local parishes, Scharmer said, "it brings hope

"As a busy student at a demanding school, it's great to have so many different options to keep growing in my faith, and enrich my spiritual life."

—Carlos Garcia, Columbia '15.

to the parish community, as they get to see and interact with young people who are taking their faith seriously."

Garcia said that after attending Mass at Corpus Christi, which has a large Hispanic congregation, one parishioner stopped to talk with him about the students getting involved in community

can colonial tinge of simplicity. The blend was effective and original. ..."

However, it's not the buildings themselves that make these churches holy places, but rather the presence of the Holy Spirit and the impetus to pray and worship found within.

"There is a dramatic change or contrast in atmosphere when I walk into a church that enhances my approach to prayer," said Garcia, referring to the silence and even the scents found within the building. "It enables me to enter into a space where I can talk to God."

According to Garcia, the weekly Holy Hour (Thursday from 8-9 p.m.) is one of his most valued times. Most students at Columbia don't have classes on Friday, therefore,

he said, Holy Hour provides them with an opportunity to connect with God as they finish the academic week.

"You come into the church and give thanks for the week and prepare for a holy weekend," he said.

Garcia said he feels blessed to have so many opportunities to take advantage of the larger Catholic family in Manhattan. And, as he enters Corpus Christi through its bright red doors, he knows he is not alone.

"I feel at home," he said. ■



Carlos Garcia, Columbia '14



Corpus Christi Church is the new home for the Columbia Catholic Campus Ministry.

events geared toward the local ethnic neighborhood.

Even just walking into Corpus Christi gives Garcia a sense of being connected to the larger Church body and entering into a holy place where he is inspired solemnly to worship the Lord.

From St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, Catholic churches have been places of architectural splendor designed specifically to reflect what's holy and heavenly. And

THE ANCIENT OF DAYS

Students Go Deeper with Yale Faith and Action's Summer Bible Study



A group of Yale students who stayed on campus this summer gathered on a regular basis for a Bible study entitled “The Image of Christ in the Old Testament.”

“I wanted to be a part of the group because I knew I needed some form of spiritual nourishment in addition to Sunday morning services,” said Javier Duren '15, a basketball player who remained on campus for summer athletic training.

“I enjoy Bible courses during the school year, so I looked at the Summer Study Group as a way to enhance my understanding of Christ,” he said.

The study group was offered by Yale Faith and Action: An Undergraduate Organization. Yale Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

The students learned how Christ's life was consistent with patterns laid down through events, people, and institutions throughout history. Duren said he was in awe as he learned more about how the Old Testament and New Testament worked together.

“Every facet of the Old Testament—from events to monuments to the very lives of individuals—all point to the glory of Christ and the New Testament,” he said.

Senior Markus Boesl admits that sometimes Christians don't spend as much time studying the Old Testament, and that until he began this course, his knowledge of the text was somewhat limited in its depth.

“This study gave me a much deeper and broader understanding of the Old Testament. It doesn't just contain prophecies about Christ, but whole institutions and characters that foreshadow Him. The connections are remarkable and can't be incidental,” he said.

Boesl, who spent the summer in Connecticut for an internship at Stamford Hospital, said that the study helped nourish his spiritual growth.

“It gave me greater faith... It helped me to be more confident in the sovereign plan of God,” he said.

As the students found a connectedness between the Old and New Testaments, they also found a connection with spiritual ancestors like Joseph and Moses.

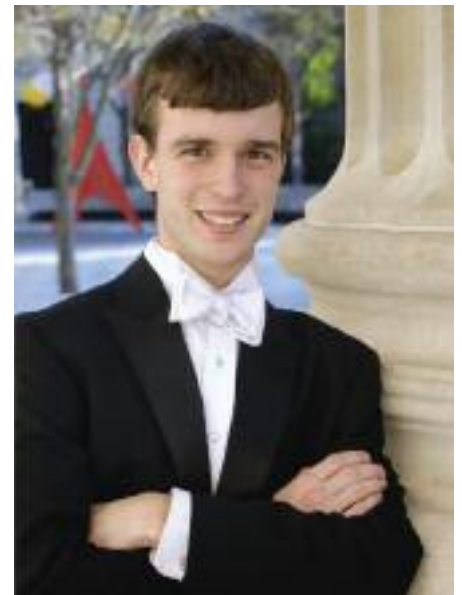
“There are many aspects that are compelling for young people,” said Boesl, citing the encouragement he found in the way Joseph suffered manifold injustice,



nipotent God has worked to shape all of history in order to display the glory of Jesus Christ.

As far as Boesl and Duren are concerned, that goal was soundly accomplished.

“This study really gave me a renewed excitement and appreciation for the Word



Javier Duren, Yale '15 (l) and senior Markus Boesl participated in Yale College Faith and Action's Summer Bible study on “The Image of Christ in the Old Testament.”

trusted in God, and was used powerfully through those trials. He was also inspired by Moses' perseverance in freeing his people from oppression by humbling himself before God.

Duren found similar inspiration and relevance in the lives of the biblical leaders.

“Joseph and Moses are a testament to how God uses flawed individuals to accomplish his good works. God can use others my age, as well as myself, as long as we make ourselves available and have faith in Him just as Joseph and Moses displayed,” he said.

Chris Matthews, Christian Union's director of ministry at Yale, said the study was designed with the goal of giving students a deeper love for Jesus, a greater appreciation for studying the Old Testament, and a truer regard for how the om-

of God in its entirety,” said Boesl, who now sees the people and events of the Old Testament as “revelations of the deep purposes of God in the Incarnation of Christ.”

Further, meditating on the profound ways in which God has made Himself known not only excites the students about what they are learning today, but also gives them joyful anticipation about the future as well.

“When I think of how God has revealed Himself throughout history, I feel confident and refreshed, as if my relationship and understanding of God has taken off into an entirely different direction,” said Duren. “God has promised us that if we draw nearer to Him, He will draw nearer to us; and I'm excited how God is going to reveal Himself in the future.” ■

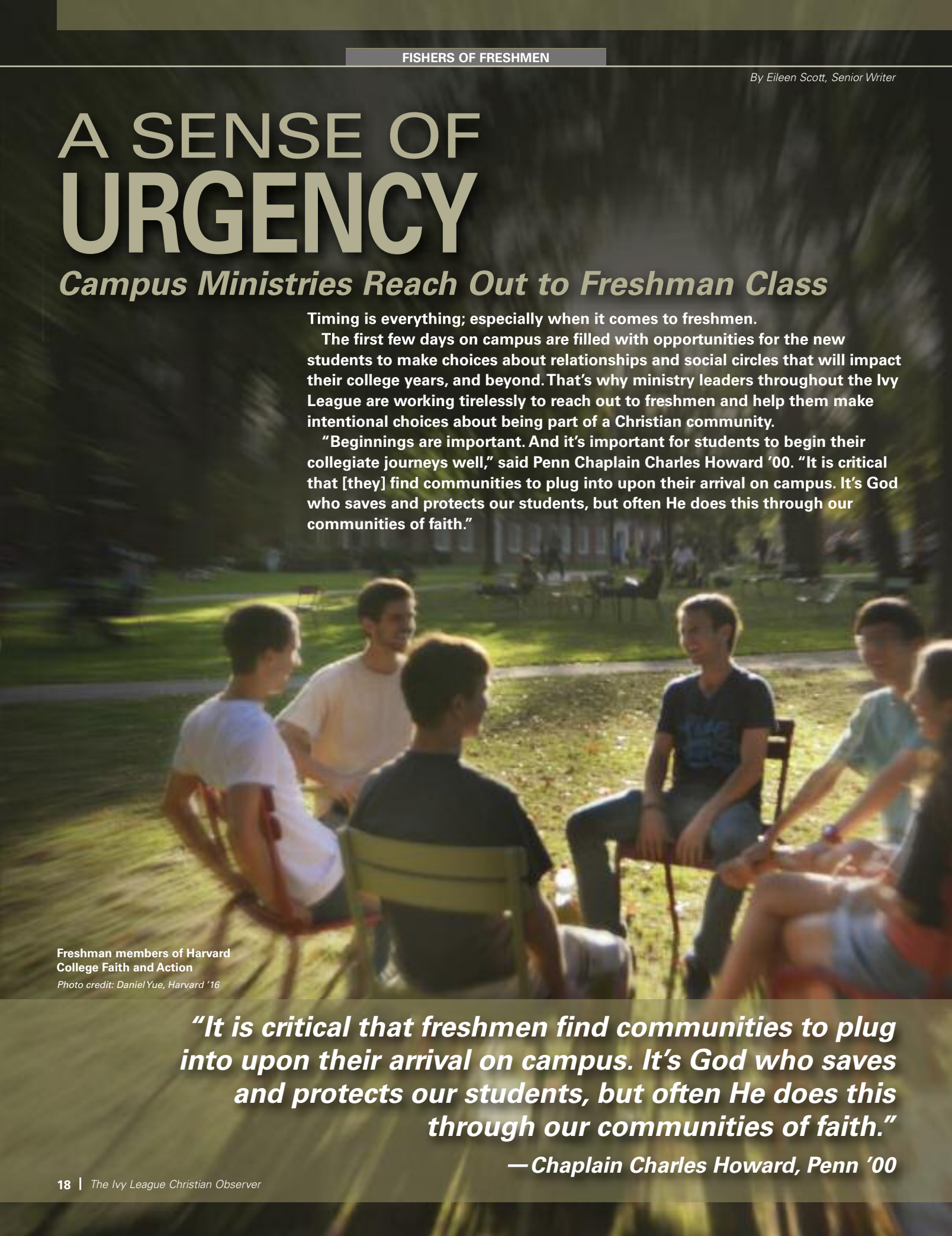
A SENSE OF URGENCY

Campus Ministries Reach Out to Freshman Class

Timing is everything; especially when it comes to freshmen.

The first few days on campus are filled with opportunities for the new students to make choices about relationships and social circles that will impact their college years, and beyond. That's why ministry leaders throughout the Ivy League are working tirelessly to reach out to freshmen and help them make intentional choices about being part of a Christian community.

"Beginnings are important. And it's important for students to begin their collegiate journeys well," said Penn Chaplain Charles Howard '00. "It is critical that [they] find communities to plug into upon their arrival on campus. It's God who saves and protects our students, but often He does this through our communities of faith."



Freshman members of Harvard College Faith and Action

Photo credit: Daniel Yue, Harvard '16

"It is critical that freshmen find communities to plug into upon their arrival on campus. It's God who saves and protects our students, but often He does this through our communities of faith."

—Chaplain Charles Howard, Penn '00

According to Tim Henderson, the vice president of University Christian Union, social circles are set within the first days of freshmen arriving on campus. Often, students tend to follow their roommates or classmates without including God in the mix.

Ministry leaders agree that reaching freshmen is of paramount importance, especially when they consider how they can grow in their faith and devotion to Christ and emerge as leaders over their first two or three years on campus.

Harvard College Faith and Action (HCFA) has witnessed this dynamic and works hard to mobilize upperclass students to reach out to freshmen. Nick Nowalk, a Christian Union teaching fellow at Harvard, said this year's HCFA pre-retreat—which focuses on preparing students to reach incoming freshmen—was one of the best yet. HCFA is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

“There was a rise in the spiritual passion of worship and prayer,” said Nowalk.

Upperclassmen play a key role in freshman campaigns as they can connect with fellow students in a very tangible way.

“We see upperclassmen go from being receivers to givers,” said Henderson. “We see them grow and develop and realize it's not just about them, but it's about loving and serving others.”

And that service toward freshmen often begins before the new students ever arrive on campus.

For many freshmen, their first contact with a campus ministry is through social media, especially Facebook.

“It's where upperclassmen can say, ‘I was in your shoes and I would love to show you the ropes,’” said Henderson.

The primary focus of the freshman outreach is to help students build relationships, says Henderson. Ministries spend significant time during the first weeks of the academic year hosting a variety of events designed to engage students and generate relationships around common areas of interest. These rela-



Daniel Yue, Harvard '16

Ministry leaders and upperclassmen across the Ivy League are encouraging freshmen to be members of Christian organizations, study the Bible, and fellowship with other believers.

tionships are often a key reason students are willing to engage more deeply in ministry programs to study Scripture, explore Christian faith, and learn to seek God intentionally.

For example, ministries invite students to professional sporting events, movie nights, pizza parties, and ice cream socials.

In early September, many Harvard freshmen attended the debate co-hosted by Harvard College Faith and Action and Harvard Community Humanists, Atheists,

and Agnostics (story on page 4).

At Cornell, Campus on a Hill (www.campusonahill.org) hosted a ministry fair BBQ which allowed students within the various campus ministries to engage with freshmen on campus and facilitated a larger sense of unity for the Christian organizations.

“For me personally, seeing the body of Christ come together in such a unified manner was simply inspiring,” said John Hui, Cornell '15, who helped organize the event.

Once freshmen plug into a Christian organization on campus, they often participate in weekly Bible studies and/or large group meetings. Christian Union ministry fellows and upperclassmen encourage freshmen to sign up for the ministry's Bible courses. This semester's Bible courses, based on Philippians, offer the same intellectual rigor and depth as the academic courses on campus.

This period of reaching freshmen is often a high-paced, non-stop effort to engage as many students as possible in meaningful conversations and activities in order to provide a path of relationships and faith that strengthens them and furthers the Gospel.

“It's a whirlwind,” Henderson said. “People work hard day and night. It is exhausting. But these are weeks of enormous consequences.”

Chaplain Howard agrees.

“Every year, I see students land softly by connecting with one of our campus ministries and/or one of our local congregations; making not only the transition easier, but I believe their next four years richer, healthier, and more fruitful,” he said. ■

Christian Union's leadership development ministry at Dartmouth hosted several welcome events for freshmen this fall



Joanne Zhao, Dartmouth '16

A FRUITFUL FALL AT COLUMBIA

Freshman Campaign Lasts Over a Month

COLUMBIA The fourth week of classes just ended at Columbia University in the city of New York. It's now five weeks since the heady first days of New Student Orientation, when freshmen are thrown into the excitement of college with all its blessings and its vices. It can be terribly disorienting, especially for students with a Christian upbringing who are suddenly thrust into a very secular environment.

Columbia Faith and Action (CFA), a leadership development ministry resourced and supported by Christian Union, works to welcome new students to the Christian community on campus through its four-week "Freshman Welcoming Campaign." This is CFA's third year on campus. When the ministry was launched in September 2011, there were eight freshman members. This year, 27 juniors and sophomores specifically volunteered to spend their valuable time and energy to welcome the Class of 2017. They hosted dinners, introduced new students to local churches like Redeemer Presbyterian, and played silly games to break the ice. Most of all, they prayed and worshipped with their new brothers and sisters in the faith.

James Lin '15, a computer science major and the president of CFA, articulated the importance of this annual initiative to welcome the freshman class. "The first few weeks of freshman year are a very formative time as people decide whether or not to pursue the Christian faith," he said. "I've seen students not get plugged into a community of faith right away and then lose their commitment to following Jesus."

Lin emphasized that these weeks of effort were just the beginning, both for CFA and for all the ministries at Columbia. "I've seen the hunger for truth—as Jesus said, the fields are ripe and ready for harvest. So many Columbians, even secular people, are eager and curious, and now increasingly aware of the Christian community on campus. And, of course, this Freshman Welcoming Campaign is just a catalyst to start a much bigger reaction—a chance to win footholds in hearts and minds. We need to be praying that reaction continues and becomes

self-sustaining."

This is not just about long-term aspirations for CFA, but about the spiritual struggles of young people stamped with the image of God. Freshman Tiffany Tuedor is an engineering student with ambitions to go to medical school. She knew she wanted to find a Christian organization when she arrived at school, but was sur-

"The first few weeks of freshman year are a very formative time as people decide whether or not to pursue the Christian faith," he said. "I've seen students not get plugged into a community of faith right away and then lose their commitment to following Jesus."

—James Lin, Columbia '15

prised to find CFA. "I thought there'd be a quiet minority of Christians, not particularly active on campus, and probably not bold enough to confront a secular culture. But as soon as I got here I discovered CFA, with all of its passion for bringing people to Christ and all of its enthusiastic outreach to freshmen," she said. "I quickly made upperclassmen friends who consistently kept up with me and I immediately knew I had found a spiritual family here."

Tiffany said she was sure that the first month was only the beginning of an exciting new time as she discovers how best to use her talents to spread the Gospel. She's already been exploring and using her gifts, serving as social media coordinator for the Veritas Forum at Columbia.

"I want to live a life that reveals my values without coming across as a stereotypically religious person," she said.

Jim Black, Christian Union's director of ministry at Columbia, summarized the results of the campaign and explained why he was so excited. "There are 24 freshman men and 27 freshman women now enrolled in Christian Union Bible Courses," he said. "Our calling is to resource, serve, and come alongside students. As they embark on this four-year, world-class educational experience, we invest in them spiritually. Our goal is to develop and prepare them to be leaders for the kingdom of God after they graduate."

That's a lot of work, but he considers getting to do it a privilege: "We have seen God be incredibly faithful again as our ministry continues to grow, enabling us to reach out to scores of students who are now engaged in a Christian community and a Christian experience that's going to make a profound impact in their lives. And that's thrilling. I love that." ■



James Lin '15 is the president of Columbia Faith and Action.

'WORK HARD, PRAY HARD'

Harvard Students Wear T-Shirts to Display Christian Unity

H At the start of every academic year, Harvard hosts an Extracurricular Activities Fair for freshmen and other attendees to explore the variety of student organizations on campus. On a Friday afternoon this September, thousands of students flocked to the Radcliffe Quad to be inundated with information and free giveaways from the various clubs.

Scattered among the "Religious and Spiritual" section this year were numerous students wearing bright green T-shirts and tanks that read, "Work Hard, Pray Hard." The shirts, which displayed the Jesus fish and the words, "Harvard Christian Fellowships" on the back, were worn by student leaders from Harvard's various ministries.

Vivian Chan '15 and Uggi Lee '13, both members of Harvard Asian-American Christian Fellowship (www.hraacf.org), an intervarsity ministry, took the lead in designing the shirts. Chan, who is also a member of Harvard's Delta Gamma chapter, got the idea when she saw sisters in her sorority wearing tanks that read, "Work Hard, Play Hard." So she designed a shirt that said, "Work Hard, Pray Hard"

"We are a school that studies hard. Ideally, we should be praying as hard as we study, if we do rely on God," Chan said.

Chan thought that wearing the T-shirts would be a natural way for students to be a witness on campus. By turning the T-shirts into an inter-ministry project, Chan also hoped to encourage unity in the body of Christ as freshmen arrived on campus.

"In the past, freshmen have noted a subtle hostility or competition between ministries during the activities fair, or in reaching out to freshmen before they come," Chan said. "I thought that [attitude] did not embody the overall mission that we should have as Christians."

Over the summer, Chan shared the idea with students in other ministries to see if they would be interested in purchasing shirts. She garnered an enthusiastic response, and put in an order of 56 shirts, with a second order coming soon.

Barry McKenna '14, who attended the activities fair, said he saw at least one person from every Christian organization wearing one of the shirts. McKenna, a leader of Harvard Christian Impact, a Cru ministry, pointed to the simplicity of the T-shirt idea as a factor in the project's success. "Over the years, inter-ministry unity is something that a lot of people have really been passionate about, but they often get burned out," McKenna said. "The T-shirt idea was refreshing in that it was very low-key, yet all of us could still be involved and feel represented."

According to students, unity among ministries at Harvard has seen varying degrees of success through the years. When Cherish Connelly '14 arrived on campus her freshman year, she said there was much less unity among Harvard's Christians. Connelly, a member of Harvard College Faith and Action (HCFA), helped start up an inter-ministry worship night, One in Christ, which has continued regularly ever since. HCFA is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

This past April, Lea Parker '15 of HCFA helped organize One

in Christ, and although the event saw a large turnout, Parker felt a sense of disjointedness in the planning process. Together, Chan and Parker decided to start the Harvard Interfellowship Liaison Team to increase communication among the leaders of different ministries.

"We realized the need for a group that regularly meets to have the ministries get to know each other better," Parker said. "We hope that planning events can be more easily coordinated and that we can be more open about where we see unity going."

The team met for the first time last May and served as an avenue for Chan to propose her T-shirt idea, take orders, and distribute the shirts efficiently. The students plan to meet monthly



During this year's Extracurricular Activities Fair at Harvard University, students involved with campus ministries wore T-shirts and tank tops sporting the phrase "Work Hard, Pray Hard" in an effort to increase unity among believers.

and is currently brainstorming ways to foster unity that go beyond large-scale worship events.

"We're starting to have things that are spread throughout the year, and I think that's going to do a lot to reinforce the idea that even though we're all these different campus ministries, we are still one body in Christ," Connelly said.

As she was praying for unity over the summer, Chan was surprised by a simultaneous desire among the incoming freshmen. On Facebook, some students had started their own group titled "Christians of Harvard Class of 2017," which grew to over one hundred members.

"We definitely recognize how God is leading us into this new period of Harvard Christian unity, so we're just trying to answer that call," Chan said. "Regardless of denominations, cultural backgrounds, or institutions, as Christians, we should be able to be above that and work together and be unified in our mission to witness about Christ on campus, because Christ is the one that unifies us." ■

PICTURES WORTH THOUSANDS OF WORDS

Princeton Senior Tours Europe to Research Thesis

Photographing the remnants of some of the earliest churches across the Mediterranean gave a Princeton University senior key insights into the spread of Christianity from humble beginnings – without institutional backing – to the world’s largest religion.

From August 13 to September 3, Blaire Bloxom travelled across Italy, Greece, and Turkey, where she snapped about 5,000 pictures of church structures dating to the fourth, fifth, and sixth centuries as part of the research for her senior thesis. Likewise, Bloxom '14 also spent much of her summer in the nation’s capital on a separate internship tied to her passion for justice for the oppressed.

While the precise argument for her senior thesis is still being developed, Bloxom’s capstone paper is likely to reflect the politics and finances that helped ancient churches emerge from sects within synagogues to gatherings in private homes and, ultimately, to distinct places of worship, particularly after the legalization of Christianity in 313.

“You can tell a lot about the politics based on the locations, foundations, mosaics, and structures,” said Bloxom, a history major from the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Some of the inspiration for her topic came from reading retired Princeton Professor Peter Brown’s *Through the Eye of a Needle: Wealth, the Fall of Rome, and the Making of Christianity in the West, 350-550*.

Brown, an Oxford University alumnus of 1956, examined the rise of the Church through the scope of money and the challenges it posed to the early religious institution. He explored the influx of wealth to care for the poor and highlighted the followers who gave away worldly goods in pursuit of eternal treasure.

Though Christianity originally served as a counterculture that promoted the renunciation of individual riches, the Church ultimately relied upon shared resources to build infrastructure, expand, and provide for the needy.

Such funding also paid for artwork, including mosaics highlighting the central

stories of Christianity on the walls of primitive churches.

“It was very moving,” Bloxom said of the portraits of Christ, Mary, the apostles,



Over the summer, Blaire Bloxom, Princeton '14, travelled across the Mediterranean, where she took thousands of pictures of some of Christianity’s earliest churches for her senior thesis.

John the Baptist, and even Old Testament figures.

In her thesis, Bloxom also plans to spotlight the work of the famed, late art

Bloxom said she treasured the opportunity to explore Christianity’s roots and even to attend a service at an ancient Greek monastery. “I love theology. I love history and understanding the past,” she said. “You appreciate the present more.”

During her travels, Bloxom also checked out some archeological and mosaic museums and she went to a dozen excavation sites. She even visited two primitive baptismal sites, including one with celebrated historic ties.

Bloxom received a Lawrence Stone and Shelby Cullom Davis prize fellowship to help fund her research, which ultimately proved both inspiring and intellectually stimulating.

As profound as Bloxom’s ventures across the Mediterranean played out, her explorations were just one component of a life-changing summer.

From June 3 to August 8, the potential law student interned with the International Justice Mission (IJM) in Washington, D.C.

The human-rights agency combats slavery, sexual exploitation, and other forms of oppression. The IJM’s attorneys, investigators, and other professionals work with local officials across the globe to secure victim rescue and aftercare, prosecute perpetrators, and encourage justice systems to protect the underprivileged.

In 1997, Gary Haugen, Harvard '85,

Bloxom received a Lawrence Stone and Shelby Cullom Davis prize fellowship to help fund her research, which ultimately proved both inspiring and intellectually stimulating.

historian Richard Krautheimer, who documented how Rome’s monuments of art and architecture help tell the story of Christianity.

left the federal government to found a Christian organization that has expanded into one of the nation’s largest human-rights groups.



Photo credit: Blaire Bloxom, Princeton '14

Today, IJM professionals work in 16 field offices in Asia, Africa, and Latin America to help secure protections for poor and oppressed individuals through local court systems.

During her internship, Bloxom assisted Bethany Hoang, director of the Institute for Biblical Justice, with writing speeches and researching her latest book. Bloxom also assisted with efforts in global brand development.

More importantly, Bloxom, who serves an outreach leader with Princeton Faith and Action (pfanda.com), was especially touched by the organization's commitment to daily staff prayer and reliance on God for wisdom and assistance. Princeton Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

"IJM is a really awesome organiza-

tion. It was such an inspiring group of people, working against such horrible darkness," said Bloxom. "God's mandate is for us to seek justice, to rescue the oppressed."

Along related lines, Bloxom, who is mulling a career in the legal field, spent part of summer 2012 serving with a ministry that works with villages in the eastern region of Uganda. Bloxom served with the Rural Orphans and Widows AIDS Network, a California organization that seeks to empower orphans and widows infected or impacted by HIV/AIDS through economic development, educational, and medical initiatives.

Overall, Bloxom finished her recent ventures tired, but fulfilled. "I learned the importance of reflecting, being still," she said. "I'm trusting God." ■



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FOR GOD, FOR COUNTRY, AND FOR YALE FOOTBALL

Hank Higdon Reflects on Success on the Gridiron and in Life

Y Henry “Hank” Higdon II is an unabashed sports fanatic who is passionate about sharing the lessons he absorbed while playing football for Yale University.

As such, the financial recruiting executive and Yale alumnus of 1963 helped co-found the Ivy Football Association, which seeks to celebrate Ancient Eight football and its impressive legacy of producing graduates who become distinguished leaders.

Since its founding in 2000, the organization has staged seven, biennial dinners in Manhattan to honor former players from each university who excelled in their professional endeavors. “It’s a hot ticket in town,” said Higdon.

The honorees at the black-tie affairs have included former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Princeton ’42; former U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, Princeton ’54; and former Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke, Yale ’71, Harvard Law ’76. The list also has included actor Tommy Lee Jones, Harvard ’69, and former Penn State University Coach Joe Paterno, Brown ’50.

“We resent the idea of the typical football player being a dumb jock,” said Higdon, chairman of Higdon Partners, an executive recruiting firm based in New York City.

“These guys are not thunderheads, but rather true scholar-athletes who do wonderful things in society after they graduate.”

Rather, each of the cumulative 56 honorees represents a “great life story,” and football played a role in most of the successes, said Higdon, the Yale recipient in 2011.

Namely, football offers student athletes valuable lessons in leadership and strategic decision-making during their formative years.

“I just see the benefits of playing – the lessons, discipline, preparation, being a team player or leader, learning how to accept results, learning how to rebound and get ready for the next game,” said Higdon, who captained Yale’s team in 1962.

As an adult, Higdon played rugby and

squash and coached scholastic football, and he continues to work out several times per week. “I love the camaraderie,” said Higdon, who also served with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve for six years after graduation from Yale.

Likewise, Higdon drew confidence from his athletic background as he entered the executive-search arena in 1971, then an emerging field, and launched his own firm in 1986, specializing in investment management.

“I saw the need for outstanding talent was going to increase exponentially,” said Higdon.

As much as he embraces the virtues of sportsmanship, Higdon also touts the supreme importance of faith and family. “Whatever happens to me, I’m loved by Jesus Christ,” he said.

“My faith is absolutely core to my being. It’s the most important thing. I work hard, pray, and look to the Lord every day.”

At 72, the Connecticut resident also cherishes his relationship with Erika, his wife of 45 years, and their three children and four grandchildren.

Higdon’s daughters graduated from Yale in 1992 and 1996 while his son, Henry Higdon III, played professional ice hockey for the Hampton Roads Admirals for one year after graduating from Harvard University in 1998.

As for the elder Higdon, his love affair with sports began in his childhood as the son of a retail executive and Harvard alumnus of the 1930s who moved his family frequently. As such, Higdon relied on his athletic abilities to help him make new friends. “I found out I had some talent and ability,” he said. “I was accepted right away.”

Ultimately, during his senior year at Phillips Academy in Andover, Higdon was named the Massachusetts boarding school’s outstanding athlete for his par-

ticipation in varsity football, basketball, and baseball. In 2012, the academy’s Athletics Hall of Honor inducted the former football co-captain and 1959 alumnus.

At Yale, in addition to captaining the football team, Higdon played baseball and rugby. Higdon was voted the Yale freshman team’s most-valuable player after an undefeated campaign, and he was one of three sophomores to letter on the Bulldogs’ perfect 1960 varsity team.

Not surprisingly, Higdon has been active in alumni affairs for both Phillips Academy and Yale. Higdon chaired Yale’s 25th Class Reunion, and co-chaired the 50th Reunion. He also served as president of the Yale Football Association.

But, Higdon said he

has made a recent commitment only to take on new causes tied to faith-based service. In New York City, Higdon sits on the board of Christian Herald, the parent company of The Bowery Mission, which serves the homeless and hungry.

“We’re called to serve the poor, needy, sick, and lame,” he said.

Higdon is also a founder and director of Greenwich Leadership Forum, an organization which explores issues of faith and ethics in the workplace and highlights the research of David Miller, the founding director of the Princeton University Faith & Work Initiative. Previously, Miller directed the Yale Center for Faith & Culture and served as director of its Ethics and Spirituality in the Workplace Program.

As for Higdon, the business executive and accomplished athlete said he simply wants to be remembered as a family man who embraced humility and Christ’s callings.

“You cannot have a huge ego and be a Christian,” he said. “You cannot be narcissistic.” ■



Hank Higdon, Yale '63, is the founder and chairman of Higdon Partners LLC.

AN ANSWERED PRAYER

Yale Junior Experiences God's Presence, Power

Y Whether it's helping to write public policy for the uninsured or standing for the unborn at a pro-life rally, Emily Poirier, Yale '15 has a heart for the disenfranchised.

As a firsthand witness to God's redemptive power, it's easy for her to have empathy and hope.

Poirier, from the small community of Apple Springs, Texas, was one of 15 students to graduate from high school in a town plagued by poverty and drug abuse. Water baptized when she was eight years old, she had many questions as a child and teen when it came to faith.

"We have four churches on my seven-mile-long road alone, so why was Apple Springs such a sad and ungodly place?" Poirier wondered.

And with little Christian influence in her social circle, being raised by a single mother gave her an even more "desperate need" for a Heavenly Father.

"I remember using my birthday wish every year to ask, 'God, let me see you,'" she said.

Despite the hardships, Poirier was able to embrace her studies, thanks to her mother's strong support and emphasis on learning. At Yale, she has been able to reflect upon the questions of her youth, and has begun to see that God had already answered that simple birthday prayer.

A member of Yale College Faith and Action: An Undergraduate Organization and Choose Life at Yale, she has immersed herself in communities of robust faith and social action. Yale Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

"I can see that God *was* revealing Himself to me. He made His character known as He led me through adversity and to Himself," she said. "He didn't put me in a perfect community or give me a perfect family, but He perfectly orchestrated every detail so that I would come to know Him as He is—a God who redeems."

Additionally, Poirier said growing up in Apple Springs gave her awareness of the social and economic consequences of drug abuse and mental and behavioral disorders, and the inaccessibility of medical care for the poor.

"These problems are devastating to the family unit," she said. "I want to help lo-

pansion for people who can't afford health insurance.

"I've been trying to approach my work from a Christian perspective and trying to figure out what does a society look like when it's constructed around Christian goods," Poirier said. "What kind of policies really help people [holistically], and not just give them a tax break?"

Through her internship, Poirier wanted to get a more practical understanding of how policy making and laws come to be. And while she studied the germination of laws, she also advocated for change by rallying against abortion. She was working in Austin, Texas during the controversial hearings surrounding late-term abortion, and used her lunch hour to join pro-life demonstrators.

"As a Christian, I believe every person has a soul and is loved by God. A person has a claim to life and ought to be allowed to grow and live in a family, whether biological or adoptive, and to pursue their relationship with God," she said.

Although undecided about her future plans, as Poirier goes forward, her focus remains on the soul and dignity of the individual. And she remains inspired by the knowledge that the God of the universe made Himself known to her.



Emily Poirier '15 completed a summer internship with the Center for Health Care Policy in Texas.

cal communities find workable solutions, and I know it will take a good bit of political and economic savvy to put them in place."

And this summer she did just that, completing an internship with the Center

"God made His character known as He led me through adversity and to Himself."

for Health Care Policy in Texas, a non-partisan resource foundation. While there, she wrote a policy perspective on the topic of county indigent care. The paper explored alternatives to Medicaid ex-

"God never chose to reveal Himself to me in a cloud of smoke or radiant light," said Poirier, "but I know He is here every day of my life, protecting and holding me close to Him." ■

'A PRIVILEGE THAT CONFERS RESPONSIBILITY'

Brown Honors Baccalaureate Speaker, Celebrates 50-Year Partnership with Her College

B As it has done for more than two centuries, Brown University reflected its spiritual roots during a baccalaureate service at one of the nation's oldest churches.

During the service at the First Baptist Church in America, Beverly Wade Hogan encouraged members of the class of 2013 to strive to create opportunities for "all humankind to share in the bounty of God's earth."

"I challenge you to take seriously the notion that higher education is a privilege that confers on the recipient responsibility," said Beverly Wade Hogan, baccalaureate speaker and president of Tougaloo College.

During the university's 245th commencement a day later on May 26, Hogan received an honorary doctor of humane letters. Brown recognized Hogan for a lifetime of professional service on behalf of the welfare of the people of Mississippi.

Most notably, she assumed the presidency of Tougaloo College, the historically black college from which she graduated in 1973 with a degree in psychology.

Brown honored Hogan as it prepares to mark the 50th anniversary of its partnership with Tougaloo. That partnership has provided for student and faculty exchanges, a joint academic program in public health, collaborative research, an admissions program to the Alpert Medical School, and other initiatives. The institutions signed their partnership agreement in May 1964 on the 10th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

A native of Crystal Springs, Mississippi, Hogan grew up in a household that was rooted in community affairs and church attendance. As an adult, she administered mental health programs, served as a commissioner for worker compensation, and provided leadership for government agencies and nonprofit organizations.

Hogan encouraged Brown's newest

crop of graduates to leave a legacy focused on serving the needs of others.

Among her extensive credentials, President Jimmy Carter named Hogan to serve as a delegate to the 1980 White House Conference on Families.

As well, Hogan, who holds a master of public policy from Jackson State University, serves on President Barack Obama's board of advisers for historically black



Beverly Wade Hogan, president of Tougaloo College, served as baccalaureate speaker for Brown University.

colleges and universities. Obama, Columbia '83, Harvard Law '91, appointed Hogan in 2010 to the board tasked with promoting strategies to strengthen such institutions.

Hogan took the helm of Tougaloo in 2002, after six years on its board of trustees and five years in its executive ranks.

In her address to Brown's class of 2013, Hogan expressed appreciation for the community institutions that affirmed her worth during her formative years and beyond. Hogan, who highlighted the support she received from her home, school, and church, is a member of the Mt. Wade Missionary Baptist Church. She also is a regular worshipper of Union Church of Christ/Woodworth Chapel at Tougaloo College.

As for her engagement in academic circles, Hogan has been a scholar with the Kettering Foundation, where her research focus centered on higher education and civic responsibility. She also has served as a presenter in the Oxford Roundtable at Oxford University and as a participant in leadership seminars at Harvard University. Hogan is engaged in further doctoral studies in human development and organizational leadership at Fielding Graduate University.

Also during the baccalaureate service, Hogan, a youth during the civil rights movement, told Brown graduates to honor those who served as soldiers in America's moral movement against racism and injustice.

"Use responsibility to make the world a better place," she said. "Invest in others for the collective good."

Hogan told members of the class of 2013 that they are entering life's journey during an exciting period in history. As such, they should mobilize and galvanize electronic communications to promote causes for the wellbeing of others.

"Your generation has so many tools," she said. "I hope you will think about how you will use the tools, technology, and social media for good."

Ultimately, "you will manage and shape our future," said Hogan, who also wished love, blessings, and peace upon new grads. "May God bless you."

By charter and in honor of its history and tradition, Brown uses First Baptist Church, the oldest Baptist church in the United States, one weekend per year for commencement activities.

In 1636, Roger Williams founded Rhode Island, and, in 1638, the Puritan outcast established First Baptist. Congregants built the church's pillared hall in 1775.

In recognition of the intertwined heritage of the meetinghouse and university, Hogan reminded students they were gathered where "ancient voices of the past echo a stilled refrain."

Brown grads, in turn, also should leave a resounding legacy as they enter a world of challenge and opportunity. ■

EARLY ABOLITIONISTS HAD A DREAM

Historian Notes the Contributions of Rhode Islanders

B As the nation paused to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the pivotal equality march in Washington, D.C., a historian affiliated with a Brown University program paid tribute to a Christian preacher who vigorously opposed slavery in the late colonial era.

Keith Stokes, Cornell '80, also recognized the efforts of a handful of African Americans in Rhode Island who established the groundwork for racial justice long before the Civil Rights Movement and its famed March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

"The well-known civil-rights legacies of Marcus Garvey, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and Angela Davis would not have happened if it was not for the largely unknown vision and leadership of Newport's early activists," Stokes told *The Providence Journal* in August.

Stokes, a government relations specialist, is a regional historian with extensive connections within Rhode Island's business and academic communities. Among his credentials, he has been featured in Brown's Scholars Online Videos, which showcase experts fielding questions to supplement the program's curricula on current and historical issues.

In August, *The Providence Journal* spotlighted the contributions of early Rhode Islanders to racial integration as part of a series leading up to the anniversary of King's famous *I Have a Dream* speech. More than 250,000 people descended on the nation's capital on August 28, 1964 for the transforming speech.

At the urging of Stokes, the newspaper championed the efforts of Rev. Samuel Hopkins, a key Christian abolitionist who died in 1803.

Namely, the Yale College alumnus of 1741 denounced Rhode Island's thriving slave trade from the pulpit and opposed the practice of merchants bankrolling slave trips to Africa. As well, Hopkins banned slave dealers from Newport's First Congregational Church, the *Journal* reported.

Hopkins, who studied divinity under the celebrated preacher Jonathan Edwards, also penned an anti-slavery tract to the representatives of his fledgling nation's

colonies. Edwards, a former Princeton University president and Yale alumnus of 1720, is best known for his sermon entitled *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*. He also was a key figure in the First Great Awakening of the 1730s and 1740s.

As for Hopkins, he eventually earned a doctor of divinity from Yale in 1802. But, he is best remembered as one of the first Congregationalist ministers to decry slavery. His efforts coincided with a 1774 law forbidding the importation of slaves into Rhode Island and a 1784 law granting freedom to slaves born in the state after March 1785.



As the nation marked the 50th anniversary of the equality march in Washington, D.C., historian Keith Stokes paid tribute to a preacher who opposed slavery.

As such, Stokes is quick to point out that civil-rights efforts often have spiritual roots.

"During the Great Awakening, you see this mad rush to convert Africans to Christianity and end the slave trade," Stokes said. "Most civil rights have been championed through the pulpit."

Another early abolitionist was Moses Brown, one of the founders of Brown University. Following the tragedy associated with his family's role in operating the slave ship, Sally, Brown broke with his brothers and refused further involvement in such trade.

In 1764, a brigantine owned by the brothers' merchant firm embarked from Providence on an ill-fated slaving voyage. Of the 196 Africans on board, at least 109 died, some in a failed insurrection and others by starvation, disease, and suicide, according to records.

After becoming a Quaker, Moses Brown began a lifelong crusade against slavery, Stokes said. Brown University's John Carter Brown Library preserves the records of the Sally expedition.

As for Stokes, the longtime government guru and historical researcher said he is deeply inspired by the activism of his state's abolitionists and civil-rights champions, including at least one distant uncle. "All of those men and women helped me get into Cornell," Stokes said.

Along related lines, Stokes and his wife, Theresa Guzman Stokes, are working to preserve God's Little Acre, a colonial slave cemetery within the Common Burial Ground in Newport, Rhode Island.

Stokes is a frequent national, state, and local lecturer in community and regional planning, historic preservation, and interpretation, with an expertise in early African-American and Jewish-American history.

Early in his career, Stokes worked as a senior policy adviser to former Rhode Island Governor Bruce Sundlun, Harvard Law '49. More recently, he headed the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and the Newport County Chamber of Commerce.

Today, Stokes serves as the president of strategic economic planning and development with the Mayforth Group, a government relations firm.

In addition, Stokes is a regular contributor to Brown's Choices Program, a non-profit division that develops curricula and offers workshops, institutes, and in-service programs for high school teachers.

Among his duties, Stokes speaks to secondary school teachers on ways to explain slavery and showcase African-American history to students.

"I tell them the truth. These were not simply empty beings coming across the Atlantic," he said. "I talk about who these Africans were. We look at this from the human perspective, not the trade perspective." ■

THE LEGACY OF SADIE ALEXANDER

Penn Alumna Earned Several Degrees, Was Civil Rights Pioneer

P While she was born more than two decades before women won the right to vote in the United States, Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander surmounted significant gender and racial barriers during her long and remarkable life.

The University of Pennsylvania alumna, who died in 1989, also left a rich legacy of academic and civic achievements that reflected her spiritual heritage.

Of key merit, the Philadelphia native became the first black woman to gain admission to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1927, launching a career devoted to civil and human rights, according to BlackPast.org.

Much of Alexander's success was intertwined with her extensive studies at Penn and religious roots that bolstered her determination and compassion.

Although she earned a scholarship to Howard University, Alexander's mother pointed her to Penn, where she entered in 1915. Despite struggling with discrimination from students and professors, Alexander graduated with honors in 1918 with a degree in education.

Alexander continued her studies at Penn, where she earned a doctorate in economics in 1921, making her the first African-American woman in the United States to secure the degree.

Unable to find work in Pennsylvania, Alexander joined the minority-owned North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1921 as an assistant actuary.

However, she returned to Philadelphia two years later to marry her college sweetheart, Raymond Pace Alexander, a Penn alumnus of 1920 and Wharton's

first black graduate. After completing Harvard Law School in 1923, Raymond Alexander launched a distinguished career that included the founding of Philadelphia's premier black law firm, according to university and biographical sources.

Among his extensive credentials, Alexander served on the Philadelphia City Council from 1951 to 1958, and became the first black judge on the Common Pleas Court of Philadelphia in 1959.

As for Sadie Alexander, the minister's granddaughter became the first African-American woman to enroll in Penn's law school in 1924. She graduated with honors in 1927, making her the first African American to hold both doctoral and law degrees.

Though a trailblazer, Alexander did not encounter enthusiastic support for her studies on campus. The dean of the law school refused to speak with her and forbade the other female students to study with her. When Alexander qualified to be on staff of

the school's law review, the dean canceled her selection. However, Alexander used her strong religious faith, family support, and courage to propel her through legal studies.

For three decades, Alexander worked with her husband, specializing in family and estate law. She also worked on cases in the Orphans' Court and later advocated against racial discrimination, segregation, and employment inequality, according to BlackPast.org.

Alexander served as Philadelphia's Assistant City Solicitor from 1928 to 1930 and again from 1934 to 1938. As well, she formed a legal aid bureau to assist African Americans who could not afford lawyers.

Sadie and Raymond Alexander were active participants in the civil rights movement in Philadelphia and beyond.

President Harry Truman's Committee of Human Rights tapped Sadie Alexander in 1947. Later, Alexander served on the Commission on Human Relations of the City of Philadelphia from 1952 to 1958.

As for Raymond Alexander, the former counsel for the NAACP challenged many segregated institutions in the Philadelphia area, making an indelible impression on the city and the profession of law.

Sadie Alexander's accomplishments are not surprising in light of her extended family's distinguished credentials.

Her grandfather was Bishop Benjamin Tucker Tanner, editor of the *Christian Recorder* and the *AME Church Review*. An uncle, surgeon Nathan Mossell, co-founded the now defunct Frederick Douglass Memorial Hospital, and an aunt, physician, and social worker Hallie Tanner Johnson, helped establish the Tuskegee Institute Training School of Nurses. Other uncles were Henry Ossawa Tanner, an acclaimed painter, and Lewis Baxter Moore, a dean of Howard University.

As well, Sadie Alexander's father, Aaron A. Mossell, became the first African-American person to graduate from Penn's Law School in 1888.

At Penn, the influence of Raymond and Sadie Alexander lives on in the professorship named in 2007 in their honor. Likewise, an elementary school in West Philadelphia, the Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander University of Pennsylvania Partnership School, also pays tribute to the former civil-rights leader.

Ultimately, faith was central to Sadie Alexander. As such, Penn's extensive collection of her personal papers and archives includes a series of devotional works, including the doctrines and disciplines of the AME church.

Raymond and Sadie Alexander had two daughters, Rae Alexander-Minter, Penn Ed.D. '81, and Mary B. Cannaday. Sadie Alexander practiced law until her retirement in 1982, and she died in 1989 at age 91. ■



Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander surmounted significant gender and racial barriers during her remarkable life and career.

MUCH WORK TO BE DONE

World Vision President Exhorts the Church with New Book

C In *Unfinished: Believing Is Only the Beginning*, Richard Stearns challenges Christians to rethink their purpose and fully embrace the mission given to them by Christ.

The president of World Vision United States, Stearns, Cornell '73 and Wharton School of Business '75, declares that Jesus left His disciples with the mission to preach the Gospel to the whole world. But it wasn't a short-term mission for the initial few. Rather, Stearns declares that believers are called to the unfinished business of sharing the Good News with all the nations.

In 2009, Stearns issued a similar challenge to the Church with his first book, *The Hole in Our Gospel*, a clarion call to those who feel justified by their salvation, yet exhibit no active love and compassion for their neighbors. As a leader with the humanitarian organization, World Vision, Stearns has a close-up view of the overwhelming need of poor nations ravaged by HIV/AIDS and crippled by poverty and disease.

In his latest book, Stearns declares that every follower of Christ has been called into kingdom work. Yet, despite the calling, the author says that many Christians fail to perceive God's direction amidst lifestyles of comfort and affluence.

The work of God's kingdom lies undone, and "God's people seem to have lost their sense of purpose in the world," he writes.

"Our careers and our life circumstances are not ends unto themselves; they are means to the end of serving Christ and building His kingdom."

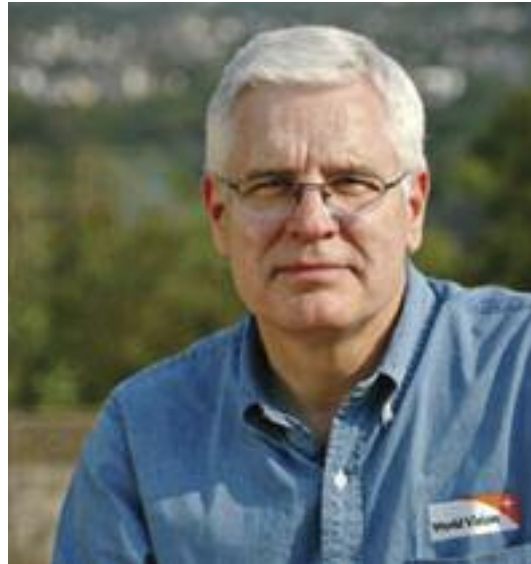
"God has invited you to join Him in changing the world."

With an echo of St. Augustine's words that "our heart is restless until it reposes in thee," Stearns shares insights for Christians who want to discern their true purpose and help finish the work to which Jesus has called all believers.

"Our careers and our life circumstances

are not ends unto themselves; they are means to the end of serving Christ and building His kingdom," writes Stearns.

With an easy style that interweaves comic book analogies and first-person accounts of leaving his own lucrative pro-



Author Richard Stearns, Cornell '73 and Wharton MBA '75, sounds a wake-up call to complacent Christians in his new book, *Unfinished: Believing Is Only the Beginning*.

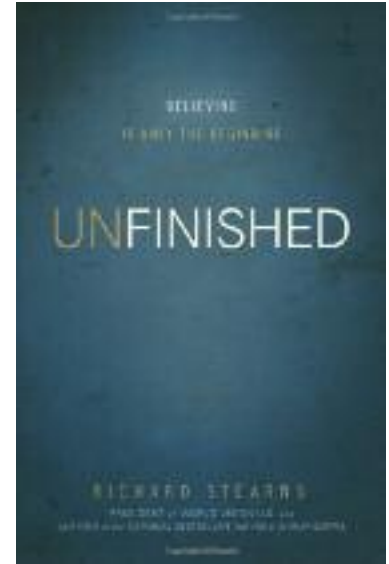
fession in corporate America to take the helm at World Vision, Stearns' engaging writing encourages readers to look beyond themselves and their limited aspirations and toward the possibilities presented through living for Christ. He

calls the theology of the Holy Spirit "nothing less than the single enabling power that now makes it possible for ordinary human beings to be transformed and live differently than was ever before possible."

And in living differently, believers can do more with their lives. As a result, Stearns shares the insights and lessons he learned from his own life and offers steps

to help readers reset their internal compasses.

In a review in *Christianity Today*, Collin Hansen says that "Stearns seeks to reinvigorate our Christianity with zeal to resume the revolution launched by Jesus, so we



can storm the very gates of hell."

Unfinished includes a study guide that allows for deeper exploration and conversation surrounding God's purposes. And the book has purpose, too—all proceeds are being donated to World Vision.

But like many books about faith, growth, or finding purpose, the ways and means are set before readers, but the onus is ultimately theirs to choose to continue wandering along their own misguided path or to correct course and engage the true purpose of their existence. For readers who listen to Stearns' exhortation to engage their faith, the results can be transforming.

"We can rediscover this great calling upon our lives and reignite the revolution," writes Stearns. "The twenty-first-century church has everything required—the resources, the knowledge, the scale, the mandate, and the power of God's Holy Spirit. All we lack is the will. It's time to finish the job." ■

'A TRUE HUMAN RIGHTS CHAMPION'

Professor Robert George Named Chair of Religious Freedom Commission

P *Editor's note: The following story was reprinted with permission from Baptist Press (www.bpnews.org).*

Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence at Princeton University and a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, was elected July 23 as chair of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF). Professor George was appointed to the Commission in 2012 by Speaker of the House John Boehner and is serving his first term as a commissioner.

Dr. Katrina Lantos Swett, USCIRF's out-going chair and an appointee of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, announced Professor George's selection. "I have been honored to work alongside Professor George this past year in the struggle to guarantee religious freedom abroad for people of every faith and shade of belief. He is a true human rights champion whose compassion for victims of oppression and wisdom about international religious freedom shine through all we have accomplished this past year. Our bipartisan Commission is united in its admiration for Professor George's skills as an advocate and leader of the international religious freedom movement. The Commission is eager to continue its work under his able leadership."

"I am deeply honored that my colleagues have entrusted me with this position of leadership," said George (Harvard Law '81, Harvard Divinity School '81). "I have big shoes to fill: Dr. Lantos Swett is a visionary leader who brings people to-

gether and empowers them in support of international religious freedom. As our leader, she tirelessly and effectively promoted this most fundamental of human rights. It will be my constant endeavor to live up to her outstanding example as USCIRF works to ensure that the cause of religious freedom, understood in its most robust sense, is given the high priority it deserves in the formation and execution

of the United States, where he received the Justice Tom C. Clark Award. An award-winning teacher at Princeton, George is a prolific writer in the areas of moral and political philosophy, philosophy of law, and constitutional law and theory. His most recent book is *Conscience and Its Enemies* (ISI Books, 2013). His scholarly articles have appeared in the *Harvard Law Review*, the *Yale Law Journal*, the



Robert P. George, Harvard Law '81, was recently elected as chair of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

of U.S. foreign policy. While much has been accomplished, much remains to be done."

Prior to joining USCIRF, George served on the President's Council on Bioethics and as a presidential appointee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. He also has served on UNESCO's World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is a former Judicial Fellow at the Supreme Court

Columbia Law Review, and other leading journals of law, philosophy, and political science. His writings also have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *National Review*, the *Boston Review*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*.

Professor George is a recipient of many notable honors, including the United States Presidential Citizens Medal and the Honorary Medal for Human Rights of the Republic of Poland. ■

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THE RACE

Princeton Alumni Complete Intercontinental Mission

P Two Princeton University alumni recently wrapped up an intense missionary expedition that took them to impoverished corners of 11 countries in 11 months.

Libby Bliss '11 and Daniel Weiss '12 returned to the United States in late July after devoting a year to a Christian missionary program that allowed them to serve the needy of South Asia, India, Australia, and Africa.

Though both were involved with Princeton Faith and Action (pfanda.com) as undergraduates, Bliss and Weiss made individual decisions to participate in World Race without knowledge of the other's plans. Princeton Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

"God is teaching me what it looks like to find my treasure in Christ alone," she wrote in May. "He is teaching me the joy of power, and what an honor it is to suffer for the glory of God and the power of the gospel."

Bliss and Weiss were part of a squad of 55 young adults who traveled as a team together across borders, but then split into separate crews of five to seven for missionary duties.

"Every month, you're under a different contact team, mostly local ministries," said Weiss.

Duties ranged from construction work to teaching English and other subjects, including children's Bible lessons. The myriad efforts also included hospital and prison ministry and evangelism.

in January, Bliss fell in love with the "culture, colors, chaos, and children. God taught me that He is good in all circumstances and He is worthy of all my time and trust."

For Weiss, the experience sparked a desire to devote his life to missionary work. "I've developed a passion for remote, dangerous places," said Weiss, a civil engineering and architecture major. "Now, I cannot imagine myself living anywhere else."

Despite the practical level of sacrifice required in missionary work, Weiss said he benefited immeasurably from his ventures with World Race.

"A lot of people come with the idea they are going to serve, and that gets flipped around," Weiss said.

As well, participants learn about interpersonal dynamics and conflict resolution. "God has taught me a lot about community, family, and other people who wouldn't be my first go-to as friends," Weiss said. "You learn lessons from everyone you meet."

In 2006, the first World Race squads launched from Mexico. Participants attend a nine-day preparation camp before their departure. The cost of each trip can vary depending upon the lineup of countries, but generally hovers around \$15,500.

"The team dynamic really creates a forum to learn. It's a really cool environment," Weiss said.

Bliss described her year abroad as the best and worst of her life. The challenges centered upon realizing she was limited in the resources she possessed to offer others. "I cannot love anyone on my own. I need Jesus to love them and fill their hearts with love and joy," said Bliss, a native of Princeton, New Jersey. "I couldn't function without putting all of my identity in Christ."

Ultimately, Bliss learned she is "eternally loved. I can love people fearlessly. I don't have to worry about how they will receive it or if they will receive. I'm bringing the good news to the nations and to myself. I came home a different and changed person." ■



Princeton University grads Libby Bliss '11 and Daniel Weiss '12 finished an intense missionary expedition that took them to impoverished corners of 11 countries in 11 months.

The World Race, which is part of Georgia-based Adventures in Missions, offers young adults (ages 21 to 35) opportunities to serve "the least of these" via their choice of four routes that launch three times per year. In addition to South Asia and Africa, major routes also center on Eastern Europe, as well as Latin America and the Caribbean.

On a blog this spring, Bliss, a politics major, said she would return to the United States as a transformed person.

In October, Bliss blogged that she "cleaned a lot of toilets" during her venture to Australia. "God taught me to worship Him in all things," she wrote.

The service opportunities provided diverse lessons for Bliss and other participants. During her stay in Vietnam, while ministering to orphans and the elderly of DaNang, Bliss noted her "heart broke for the people, especially the disabled men and women."

While serving at an orphanage in India

PARTNERS IN HOPE

Ivy League Students Serve Widows and Orphans in Uganda

P Students from Cornell and Princeton Universities spent three weeks this summer working in a pioneer program to bring the gospel's transformative and hope-filled message to the people of Uganda.

The five students spent two weeks in the East Ugandan village of Mawanga, meeting with the villagers and evaluating ways in which future missions trips can

ally feel the Lord at work. I enjoyed being part of the ongoing practical change the organization brings to the people," said Renee Drago, Cornell '16.

Specifically, Drago and the team explored the possibilities for students involved in Christian Union's leadership development programs to study and assist in community development in Uganda.

sire for spiritual growth," she said.

In addition to Smith, Drago, and Jiang, others students on the trip included Jackie Coronado, Cornell '16, and Rachel Lawrie, Princeton '15.

The strength of the people who have endured so much was a source of inspiration for the students.

"As my week progressed, the words of the song, 'Trading My Sorrows' and the'



Asha Garretson (l), a Christian Union ministry fellow at Cornell, led a team of students on a missions trip to a remote village in Uganda.



assist people facing the daily hardships of poverty and HIV/AIDS.

Asha Garretson, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Cornell who accompanied the students, said the purpose of the trip was to foster a partnership between Christian Union and the Rural Orphans and Widows AIDS Network (ROWAN), which seeks to "transform orphans and widows into change agents in their communities through biblical training, economic empowerment, and holistic relationships."

"From the moment you step onto the red soil in the village of Mawanga, three things are extremely evident: the presence of God, and the incredible love and joy expressed by the people there," said Lauren Smith, Cornell '16.

"What ROWAN is doing there is so blessed and full of the Spirit; you can re-

The team from Cornell and Princeton began each day in Mawanga awakened by roosters and sipping morning tea with fresh boiled milk from local cows. They participated in home visitations as they collected information from about indige-

verse, 'Gospel's joy of the Lord is my strength' began repeating in my head," said Lauren Smith, Cornell '16. "The people of Mawanga demonstrate the meaning and the reality of these words - they thrive because of them - and I found myself be-

The strength of the people who have endured so much was a source of inspiration for the students.

nous families and also shared the good news.

"Though many of those whom we visited were Christian families, we also saw several individuals come to Christ," said Ester Jiang, Cornell '16.

"It was exciting not only to witness the readiness for the gospel, but also the de-

side them, striving to do the same. The spirit of Mawanga can never be forgotten, and there is much to be learned from it."

And that rich source of learning, coupled with the desire to share God's Word, is the impetus for the projected internship which would begin next year.

The month-long trip would include a

week of training in the United States, followed by three weeks serving in a rural village assisting local leaders with development projects, including literacy training, savings and loan initiatives, children's programs, and medical relief. The Christian Union team of interns would also focus on creating a Bible training and discipleship course for local ROWAN leaders and their families.

"We wanted future teams to be able to live life with the villagers and bring knowledge of the Word as well," Jiang explained.

According to Jiang, Christian Union

and ROWAN are poised to learn and benefit from each other.

"We recognize that the greatest gift ROWAN can offer interns is facilitating their immersion into the local community, and the extraordinary experience and growth it affords students to assist in ROWAN's mission. As for us, Christian Union students are well-equipped with biblical knowledge and resources. If we are able to combine the two, we believe that a powerful partnership can be created," she said.

As for students like Jiang who traveled to Mawanga this summer, deep relation-

ships have already formed between students and the members of the Mawanga community.

"By living alongside the people of Mawanga and working with a part of God's ministry through ROWAN, my eyes were really opened to the call for unity within the kingdom of God. Building relationships is the key to that unity," said Jackie Coronado, Cornell '16. "This trip provided an incredible opportunity for both the village and ourselves to proclaim and demonstrate the unifying power of the gospel, which bridges gaps between the nations." ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

DREAMS AND VISIONS

Christian Union Staff Conference Features Insight into Prophetic Ministry



God can speak powerful words of encouragement and warning to believers during their sleep.

As such, Christians should be open to the possibility of God communicating with them through dream interpretation, as well as via visions and prophetic utterances.

Jackson pointed to the words of Job, the beleaguered biblical figure who acknowledged the reality of God's voice, even in slumber: "For God speaks again and again, though people do not recognize it. He speaks in dreams, in visions of the night, when deep sleep falls on people as they lie in their beds. He whispers in their ears" (Job 33:14-16).

For this reason, Jackson implored Christian Union ministry fellows and staff to value their dreams and have a heart of expectancy.

"Believe God will speak," he said. "Write down your dreams."

More than 80 members of the Christian Union team, spouses, and guests attended the organization's conference, which was held in August at Sandy Cove Ministries overlooking the picturesque Chesapeake Bay. Christian Union also staged a Vacation Bible School for 30-plus children and spiritual training for about 20 youths at the retreat center in North East, Maryland.

Theologian Paul House of Beeson Divinity School in Alabama served as another keynote speaker for the conference. The prolific author spoke on the theology of friendship and noted how comrades in



Author and theologian Paul House served as a keynote speaker at Christian Union's summer staff conference.



Christian Union Founder and President Matt Bennett (Cornell '88, MBA '89) interviews international minister John Paul Jackson (l) at the Christian Union summer staff conference.

That message came from John Paul Jackson when the international minister and author from Flower Mound, Texas served as one of the keynote speakers for Christian Union's staff conference this summer.

ministry are called to believe, hope, and endure with one another, especially in the face of inconvenience, suffering, and individual shortcomings and flaws. House

taught from Jeremiah about how vital friendships helped encourage and sustain the prophet during dangerous and tumultuous times.

As for Jackson, the founder of Streams Ministries International is a frequent conference speaker, where he discusses supernatural issues, including his widely publicized visions and prophecies.

Jackson, who is regarded for his accurate record of forecasting global financial and news events (including Superstorm Sandy on the East Coast), recently began hosting the *Dreams and*

ers, Jackson said, pointing to scriptural support in Daniel chapter 9. Gabriel, an angel who served as a messenger from the Lord, appeared to Daniel during intense prayer and intercession.

Modern dreamers also need to know the impact of a dream is only as good as the interpretation. Dreams use symbolic language involving objects, activities, places, and people to provide insights. Understanding the spiritual messages requires a combination of skill and revelation.

“You have to have some measure of

“I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions.”

— Joel 2:28

Mysteries program on Daystar Television Network. Likewise, Streams’ training center offers classes and workshops on topics including signs, wonders, healings, miracles, spiritual warfare, hearing from God, and understanding dreams and visions.

During his sessions with Christian Union, Jackson highlighted the promises found in Joel 2:28 as additional biblical backing for God’s desire to communicate via supernatural methods. The prophet proclaimed, “I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions.”

At its core, effective dream interpretation can provide timely, succinct insights, inspiration, and guidance. “Always reduce the dream to its simplest form, instead of intellectualizing it,” said Jackson.

Ultimately, God simply desires to increase understanding among believ-

ers, Jackson said. “What is the solution? That’s up to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives you the answer.”

Along related lines, Jackson reminded Christian Union ministry fellows and administrative staff members of the benefits of a pure heart and actions and active spiritual engagement when desiring to hear from God. “If you can remove the character issues that cloud your life, you will see and hear better,” Jackson said.

While seeking God, both ministers and students should be open to divine insights, even those received during sleep—and seek interpretation. “Knowing the meaning of a dream can be life changing,” Jackson said.

Jackson encouraged the Christian Union’s ministry fellows to pray for revelation as they develop students as Christian leaders at Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton, and Yale. ■



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'ALLOW THE LITTLE CHILDREN TO COME TO ME'

Newman Catholic Community Serves in Rural Tennessee

PENN Going a week with only one shower and no cell phone might seem like the aftermath of a super storm. However, for a handful of students with Penn's Newman Catholic Community (www.newman.upenn.edu), the austere living was a conscious choice that helped them serve others through simple acts of charity.

The students were part of the Appalachia Mission Trip that took place this summer in Grainger County, Tennessee. They were invited to the region by the Glenmary Home Missioners, a society of priests and brothers dedicated to establishing a Catholic presence in rural areas of the country.

As part of their mission work, the volunteers from Penn ran a day camp for children in a trailer park community. Many of the parents there are migrant workers on local farms and must leave teen and pre-teen children alone during the day to care for themselves and younger siblings. The service, like the living conditions, was simple as they provided the children with outdoor recreation, arts and crafts projects, and educational skills. Because Stephanie Miodus '16 watched a baby, a 10-year-old sibling and caretaker had the freedom to play; and a typically lonely, ordinary day was transformed into childhood bliss.

"I was happy that I could give [his sister] the chance to forget about her responsibilities, at least for a little while," said Miodus.

And those responsibilities are many.

Elizabeth Feeney '15 remembers a rainy day when some of the younger children came inside cold and soaked.

"The older girls gave [the younger children] their own raincoats to make sure they kept warm. It was touching to see



Students with Penn Newman Catholic Community served many children and families on their Appalachia Mission Trip.

how much the kids took care of each other," Feeney said.

Although speaking to the children and the families about their faith wasn't central to the day camp experience, the students did so when such topics came up. But they may have shared the most when saying the least.

"We did say short prayers before we ate lunch and sang some Bible camp songs," said Andre Rosari '16. "But, I think if we did share our faith, it was by example. I think we showed them what Christian service can look like."

The time in Appalachia also gave the students, who are from urban and suburban areas, a chance to look at their lives and their faith against a completely different background.

"The area had such a beautiful simplic-

ity, which fit well with our simplistic leaving for the week," said Miodus. "The trip made me so much more appreciative of things such as looking out over the mountains, stargazing with my new friends, and listening and dancing to folk music (on the last day of the trip at a local restaurant)."

Rosari agrees. "We were disconnected from conveniences like super stores and our phones. This helped me to focus on the people around me—my fellow volunteers, the children we organized the camp for—instead of all my friends at home, and their fleeting and sometimes unimportant status updates online."

Miodus also admits that she had drifted from her faith while at Penn last year. It was the first time she had not attended a Catholic school, and she began to feel that just volunteering was enough to remain close to God. Her experience in Appalachia caused her to think differently.

"I now make sure I take time out of each day to pray and have been reading and reflecting on a passage of the Bible every day. Now when I volunteer, I, once again, feel that connection to God and it makes every experience that much more fulfilling," she said.

And the students won't soon forget the connections they made with the children of Appalachia. Rosari recalled a young boy named Shawn and the bond they shared; as his van left the region, it passed by the boy's house.

"He was still playing outside, and he saw me through our open windows, and we waved goodbye," said Rosari.

It was a simple farewell, for a simple place where service meant being kind, sharing joy, and allowing children to live lives of innocence; and where Jesus Christ was represented in the loving arms that held a child. ■

"We were disconnected from conveniences like super stores and our phones. This helped me to focus on the people around me...instead of all my friends at home, and their fleeting and sometimes unimportant status updates online."

—Andre Rosari, Penn '16

IGNITE AMERICA

Dartmouth Students Return from Conference on Fire for Their Campus

D Dartmouth students were among the nationwide gathering of young people who kindled their passion for the Lord at Ignite America 2013 in Oklahoma City this summer.

“There is so much power in the corporate body coming together to seek God’s face, and I was so blessed and encouraged knowing that students from across the nation really have a heart to see God move in power on their individual campuses,” said Janice Yip, Dartmouth ’15.

Ignite attendees included representatives from Dartmouth ministries Agape Christian Fellowship (www.dartmouth.edu/~acf/), Bethel Christian Fellowship, and Christian Union’s leadership development ministry on campus. A Christian Union grant helped underwrite the conference expenses for the Dartmouth contingent.

The students were particularly challenged by speakers such as Jerry and Judy Ball (Breaker of Dawn Ministry), Dave Warn (Collegiate Impact), Advertising CEO Vicki Garza, and radio host Kyle Martin (Time to Revive Ministries), among others.

“The speakers really stirred up my thirst for a move of God [on campus],” said Timothy Toh ’14. The conference also offered sessions for individual and corporate prayer, which, according to Toh, provided “honest time with God.”

“It was extremely encouraging to be there, especially with people from Dartmouth who were actively seeking the Lord in the midst of our messy lives,” said Jay Schulte ’15.

“If the heart of God is to move in this world or on my campus, then it has to come from an outpouring out of His Spirit.”

“Revival is the only solution to the problems we face,” said Toh. “What we desperately need is an external power from the Holy Spirit in our Body...Unity cannot happen except for individual, per-

sonal revival and hunger.”

According to Toh, there is already evidence of the Holy Spirit working at Dartmouth.

“Christians are being stirred up to recognize our inner need for Jesus and to desperately, hungrily seek Him,” he said. There seems to be more “energy and passion for inter-ministry cooperation and a greater initiative for outreach and service.”

In addition to inspiring unity and a passion for renewal, Ignite 2013 also satisfied the deep hunger of individual students.

Toh said he felt personally convicted in areas of his life that he had not fully surrendered to God. That led him to prayer and accountability with others; which, coupled with a word of prophecy, enabled him to be aware of God’s presence and grace during the event.

“At the conference, the Lord really spoke to us about repentance and brokenness,” said Schulte. “In a way, the biggest obstacle to Christ at Dartmouth is ourselves, our unwillingness to love each other, our arrogance, our bitterness, our



Dartmouth students gathered with their peers from around the nation for Ignite America 2013 in Oklahoma City.

spirit of God at Dartmouth College.”

Schulte also seeks the prayers of other Christians to help keep their passion for the Lord ignited.

“If you were to pray for one thing this fall for the Christian students, leaders, and community at Dartmouth, and for

“At the conference, the Lord really spoke to us about repentance and brokenness.”

—Jay Schulte, Dartmouth ’15

apathy towards each other, our cynicism, our rivalry, and a competitive spirit.”

As a result, Schulte and his peers sensed the Lord is calling them to unity and corporately to seek the face of God and seek “a massive outpouring of the

the college in general,” he said, “it would be that Christ Jesus would overcome us with a heart of corporate confession, repentance, and forgiveness, because only then will we be able to carry the Ark of God into the city.” ■

FIRE AND FRAGRANCE!

National Organization Hosts Events in the Ivy League

I An outreach within the Youth With A Mission network is working with ministries across the Ivy League to help spark spiritual fervor across the Ancient Eight.

During the spring semester, a team from Fire and Fragrance in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania staged major evangelistic concerts at Cornell and Dartmouth universities and concentrated on making inroads at other top-tier colleges.

Fire and Fragrance, which began in 2008 at YWAM's University of the Nations in Hawaii, seeks to train believers in evangelism and discipleship. From three

concert dubbed "The Landing," which was held this spring on Cornell's Arts Quad.

About 300 students attended the event, which also featured preaching from Brian Brent of YWAM affiliate Circuit Rider and co-author of *Freedom Class Manual*.

Various campus ministries helped stage the event that also featured music from United Pursuit, a worship band, and a testimony from Savannah Johnson, Cornell '13. As a result of the event, one student accepted Christ as personal savior and another recommitted to faith.

"It was a very unique event," said Kahan-

written by Christian Union grants.

At Dartmouth, about 300 students attended Luminocity, which featured worship music from United Pursuit and Michael Ketterer, a solo artist via United Pursuit Records. As well, a handful of students, including Thomas Prewitt, '13 and a former offensive lineman for Big Green, spoke during the event near fraternity row.

A half dozen or so ministries staged the concert, which also featured dub-step music and hip-hop dance.

Dartmouth students modeled their outreach after the one held at Cornell. "We



Fire and Fragrance hosted "The Landing," an outreach event at Cornell.

branches in the United States and two abroad, the non-profit organization sends teams to partner with area ministries to host outreach events, as well as worship and prayer sessions.

In particular, the crew in Harrisburg aims to establish a "beachhead of revival" on the East Coast, especially by promoting spiritual awakening on university campuses across the Northeast.

"A large focus on this base is toward the Ivy League," said Yasmin Kahan-Groves, a Columbia alumna of 2011 who is serving with the Fire and Fragrance operation in Pennsylvania. "This ministry has been partnering on campuses with existing ministries."

The biggest outreach of 2013 involved a

Groves. "Our heart is for the students to take the lead. I'm amazed at the power of students to work together."

In preparation for the concert at Cornell, a team from Fire and Fragrance coordinated with campus ministries to hold a nine-hour workshop to provide evangelistic training for undergraduates.

"The students prayed for boldness, practiced sharing the gospel in small groups, and then went out to various parts of campus to share the hope they have in Jesus," said Jim Thomforde, Christian Union's ministry director at Cornell. "They came back filled with greater faith."

In addition, Fire and Fragrance helped stage a similar concert outreach at Dartmouth in May. Both events were under-

looked a lot to the Cornell experience," said Timothy Toh '15, who helped organize the outreach.

As well, Fire and Fragrance hosted prayer sessions and mini concerts for a week prior to the event. "The event went really well. It was amazing how many of our prayers were answered," said Toh, a member of Agape Christian Fellowship (www.dartmouth.edu/~acf/fellowship.htm).

"I saw a new level of unity. This is a vibrant, living community with a purpose."

A team from the YWAM network also staged a worship session for believers at Yale University in February. Fire and Fragrance also recently hosted an event to coincide with the commencement of the fall term at Princeton University. ■

ALL IVY

Faith, Law, and Morality

Yale Law School and Yale Divinity School are offering a new course, "Faith, Law, and Morality." The class is led by Cathleen Kaveny, a visiting professor from Notre Dame University. Kaveny is a 1994 alumna of Princeton, and holds

four degrees from Yale,



Cathleen Kaveny, Yale J.D. '90 and Ph.D. '91, is teaching a class at Yale entitled "Faith, Law, and Morality."

including a J.D. (1990) and a Ph.D. (1991). Her newest book, *Law's Virtues: Fostering Autonomy and Solidarity in American Society*, won a 2013 Catholic Press Award. One section of the course will explore the actions taken by committed Christians when they confronted laws they believed to be deeply unjust.

Chinese Activist Accepts Fellowship with Witherspoon Institute

Chinese legal activist Chen Guangcheng recently started a position at a think tank with ties to Princeton University.

In October, Guangcheng announced his acceptance of a three-year fellowship with the Witherspoon Institute. With the intervention of then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Yale Law '73, Guangcheng fled the People's Republic of China in 2012 after being imprisoned for challenging a government campaign behind thousands of forced sterilizations and abortions.



Chen Guangcheng

Princeton Professor Robert George (Harvard Theology '81, Law '81) co-founded The Witherspoon Institute, which seeks to enhance public understanding of the moral foundations of democratic societies.

Millennial Progressives and Conservatives

A growing number of young adults are being identified as religious progressives, according to a survey conducted by the Public Religion Research Institute and the Brookings Institute.

The survey noted that 23 percent of the millennial generation, aged 18-33, are religious progressives, while 17 percent identify as religious conservatives. Further, 22 percent of that generation identifies as "non-religious."



A recent study reveals more young people are identifying themselves as "religious progressives."

According to the survey, progressives define a "religious person" differently than conservatives. Among the beliefs expressed, nearly 79 percent of religious progressives said that "being a religious person is mostly about doing the right thing."

BROWN

R.I. Governor Legalizes Same-Sex Marriage

Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee, Brown '75, signed legislation in May that made Brown's home state of Rhode Island the tenth in the country to legalize "same-sex marriage."

The signing was among the featured news on the *Brown Daily Herald* Web site, which reported



Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee, Brown '75

that student Julia Harvey '14 was among those who testified in support of "same-sex marriage" during a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"I am proud and honored to make the Marriage Equality Act the law of the land," Gov. Chafee stated after signing the bill.

Cru Focuses on Frosh

Students with Cru Brown (cru-brown.org) began the new academic year with a big push to reach out to frosh.

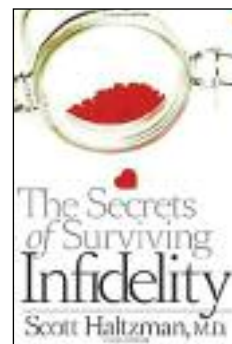
Returning students gathered over the weekend of August 31 and September 1 to participate in an event they dubbed the "Slingshot Retreat" to plan their outreach to freshmen. They staged the retreat at the home of Cru staffers, Greg and Brodie Friesen, where participants also prayed for their community. In addition, Cru joined with other ministries, including Brown Christian Fellowship (blogs.brown.edu/bcf), in holding a prayer night on September 3.

**Social Media Can Challenge Fidelity**

Over the last decade, electronic communication, including text messaging and social media, has arisen as a major challenge to marital fidelity, according to psychiatrist Scott Haltzman

(Brown '82, MD '85), author of *The Secrets of Surviving Infidelity*.

"Hidden electronic communication allows a new relationship to begin and permits a relationship to flourish," Haltzman told news agencies. "In past decades, those relationships would have fizzled because of the near impossibility of being able to sustain communication."



CHRISTIAN UNION

Summer Reading Keeps Students Plugged In

Some students at Harvard and Columbia remained connected with fellow believers during the academic off-season by participating in summer



participating in summer
Two of John Piper's books, *Future Grace: The Purifying*

Power of the Promises of God and *Desiring God* were studied during summer reading programs at Columbia and Harvard.

reading programs that featured John Piper books. Both Harvard College Faith and Action (harvardfaithandaction.com), and Columbia Faith and Action (columbiafa.com)—leadership development ministries supported and resourced by Christian Union—offered online discussion and fellowship opportunities. Harvard students read *Future Grace: The Purifying Power of the Promises of God*, while Columbia students studied *Desiring God*.

HCFA Welcomes Freshman Class

Students involved with Harvard College Faith and Action (harvardfaithandaction.com) launched a comprehensive



Daniel Yue, Harvard '16

campaign to welcome members of the class of 2017.

Freshman Welcoming Campaign activities included a

pizza dinner, a picnic, and a reception featuring dishes from Cambridge restaurants. In addition, 146 students packed into Harvard Hall on September 6 to attend the ministry's inaugural leadership lecture series. These activities and other outreach initiatives were planned during HCFA's pre-retreat in late August in Vermont. About 75 returning students and Christian Union ministry fellows attended the retreat.

Leadership Development Ministry Reaches Freshmen

Students involved with Christian Union's leadership development ministry at Dartmouth College are actively reaching out to this year's frosh.

In September, some of the welcoming events included a bonfire and ice cream. Freshmen were encouraged to sign up for Christian Union Bible Courses and attend the organization's leadership lecture series.



Joanne Zhao, Dartmouth '16

Previously, Christian Union ministry fellows and about 23 returning students held a pre-retreat in Upstate New York to prepare their campaign to welcome freshmen. Kevin Collins, Harvard '89, is Christian Union's director of ministry at Dartmouth.

COLUMBIA

Ministry Students Plan Outreach

Twenty-four students from Columbia University travelled to Upstate New York in August to prepare for Columbia Faith and Action's campaign to welcome members of the class of 2017.

The undergraduates, along with Christian Union ministry fellows at Columbia, gathered August 22 to 25 at Christian Union's conference center in the Adirondack Mountains.



Columbia students gathered at Christian Union's conference center in New York to prepare for Columbia Faith and Action's outreach to the class of 2017.

During the retreat, ministry fellows led teachings that focused on developing a heart of compassion and godly love for freshmen. "They left ready to get on with the freshman campaign and reach out," said Jesse Peterson, a Christian Union ministry fellow.

The Price of Life

InterVarsity and organizations at Columbia University participated in The Price of Life National Anti-Human Trafficking Campaign/Rally, which was held in New York City from October 1-12. A wide range of events—from concerts to book promotions to a fair and carnival—were held on college campuses throughout



This fall, students at Columbia University participated in the "Price of Life" National Anti-Human Trafficking Campaign/Rally.

the city to raise awareness of the horrific practice of modern-day slavery. Columbia sponsors included Columbia Faith and Action (columbiafa.com), Columbia/Barnard Hillel (hillel.columbia.edu), and Korea Campus Crusade for Christ (columbiakccc.tumblr.com).

Gothic Architecture and Faith and Reason

Dr. Andrew Tallon, Columbia Ph.D. '07, presented the Faith and Reason Lecture sponsored by the Columbia Catholic Ministry (columbia.edu/cu/earl/ccm) on September 18. The topic of the presentation was "Gothic Architectural Perfection."

Tallon, who teaches medieval art and architecture at Vassar College, graduated summa cum laude from Princeton in 1991. His areas of research include architectural structure,

Vassar College Professor and Columbia Ph.D. Andrew Tallon '07 spoke about "Gothic Architectural Perfection" during a Faith and Reason Lecture.



medieval acoustics, and the virtual representation of architectural space. Tallon has authored articles on Gothic flying buttresses and is working on a book about the early-Gothic structural revolution.

CORNELL

Loving Science and Jesus

Can Jesus and Darwin be my Homeboys? That was the topic Cornell students turned out to explore during Cru’s Real Life large group (cornellcru.com) meeting on September 20.



The smartly named discussion was designed for students to come together around the intersection of faith and science. Going deeper into the connection of the seen and unseen, students asked the question, “Is it possible to love science and Jesus?” The topical subject matter has tangible relevance within the academy, where believers are often discounted in scientific circles for their faith.

‘What Is So Good about Being Good?’

Author Brett Harris and his father, social philosopher and theologian Gregg Harris, spoke on the topic “What’s So Good about Being Good? What’s So Bad about Being Bad?” during an evangelistic outreach event sponsored by Campus on a Hill at Cornell (campusonahill.org).

The younger Harris is the co-author of *Do Hard Things: A Teenage Rebellion against Low Expectations*, a book he wrote with his twin brother, Alex, who is currently attending Harvard Law School. Brett shared with the students the impact the gospel has had upon his life. His father addressed the issue of moral absolutes and God’s response to evil.

Author Brett Harris and his father, theologian Gregg Harris, spoke at Cornell in September.



Chinese Bible Study Hosts Prayer Meetings

Chinese Bible Study (CBS) at Cornell is hosting weekly meetings to encourage students to

pray corporately for both the ministry and for the Cornell community. The prayer meetings are held on Mondays and Wednesdays. CBS (<http://cbcornell.wordpress.com/>) is also coordinating a prayer partner program that encourages sharing spiritual walks and regular times of intercession. The ministry is open to all students regardless of nationality.



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DARTMOUTH

Students Witness DOMA Decision

In June, four Dartmouth students witnessed the Supreme Court’s decision that a section of the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional. After camping out overnight, the four fellows with the Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Public



Four Dartmouth students were witnesses to the Supreme Court ruling on the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) this spring. Justice Anthony Kennedy, Harvard Law ‘61, wrote the majority opinion.

Policy and the Social Sciences received passes to hear the ruling.

Maureen Mentrik ’16 described the experience on the *Dartmouth Now* Web site by saying, “Listening to Kennedy, Roberts, and Scalia grapple with and explain some of the most contentious issues of our time was awe inspiring, and for me, no moment will ever rival the ripple that went through the courtroom as hands flew to cover mouths that hung agape as each person realized that Justice Kennedy had just deemed DOMA unconstitutional.”

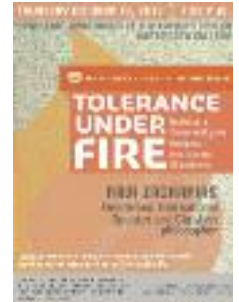
Ravi Zacharias Speaks at Dartmouth

International minister and author Ravi Zacharias and an associate appeared at Dartmouth College in October as part of a Veritas Forum.

Zacharias spoke on October 10 in Spaulding Auditorium, where he delivered a talk entitled “Tolerance under Fire: Building a Community on Respect – Not Double Standards.”

A day earlier, Nabeel Qureshi, Associate of Christian Apologetics for Ravi Zacharias International Ministries, spoke on “Christianity in the Public Square for the Public Good: How to Have Productive Dialogue With Our Neighbors.”

The Veritas Forum at Dartmouth was supported by a Christian Union grant.



Ravi Zacharias was one of the speakers at The Veritas Forum.

Former Cru Staffer Joins Ratio Christi

Cru senior staffer Tony Feiger recently joined Ratio Christi as the director for the Northwestern Michigan College chapter. Ratio Christi seeks to

place apologetics clubs at universities across the world to equip students with answers to life’s pressing questions.

The move allows Feiger, who grew up in Traverse City, to be closer to family members. Most recently, Feiger served as a senior staff with Cru’s chapter at Dartmouth College (crudartmouth.org). In January, Feiger plans to begin pursuing an advanced degree in science and religion via a distance-learning program from Biola University.



HARVARD

Journey Church Hosts Outreach

Journey Church held its annual Back to School Outreach for Harvard students October 5-6. Church members passed out water bottles, coffee certificates, and other items to the students near the campus entrances. The outreach provided an opportunity to bless the students, invite them to church, and to initiate spiritual conversations. A Christian Union grant helped underwrite the Back to School Outreach.



Journey Church welcomed students back to campus with its annual Back to School Outreach.

The Boston Project Welcomes Alumnus

Damaris Taylor, Harvard '12, is the new director of volunteer engagement at a community-based ministry in Boston. The Boston Project Ministries works toward renewing neighborhoods through partnerships with faith-based and secular organizations.



Damaris Taylor, Harvard '12

Taylor previously served as a Christian Union intern at Harvard. As a student, he was known for his powerful voice and singing gospel hymns during the Harvard Talent Show.

Putnam Receives Humanities Medal

Author and social scientist Robert Putnam (Yale Ph.D. '70), the Peter and Isabel Malkin professor of public policy at Harvard, received the 2012 National Humanities Medal this July from President Barack Obama, Columbia '83 and Harvard Law '91.



Putnam received the award in a ceremony held in the East Room of the White House. According to remarks made by the president, Putnam received the honor "for deepening our understanding of community in America. Dr. Putnam's research inspires us to improve institutions that make society worth living in, and his insights challenge us to be better citizens."

PENN

Cru Hosts Fall Retreat

Penn Cru (www.phillycru.org) held its annual fall retreat October 18-20 at Black Rock Retreat Center in Quarryville, Pennsylvania.

According to the retreat coordinators, the retreat was a time to bring the ministry together to unite under a common vision and a renewed passion to see their campus reached and their communities transformed. The speaker for the event was Jared Ayers, the preaching pastor for Liberty Center City, a local church.

A Christian Union grant helped underwrite the event.



Jared Ayers, pastor at Liberty Center City, Philadelphia, was the guest speaker at Penn Cru's Fall Retreat.

Law Lecturers Oppose Gay Marriage Ban

In July, two University of Pennsylvania law lecturers — along with 21 other plaintiffs — joined a lawsuit to oppose Pennsylvania's ban on "same-sex marriage."

Fernando Chang-Muy and Len Rieser, Harvard '71, were part of a suit complaining Pennsylvania's law prohibiting homosexual marriage hurts the ability of homosexual couples to achieve life goals and dreams. The suit also alleged the ban denies such couples "dignity and status of immense import."

In July, University of Pennsylvania law lecturer Len Rieser and 22 other plaintiffs joined a lawsuit to oppose Pennsylvania's ban on "same-sex marriage."



However, supporters of marriage countered that a court challenge could undermine the will of the voters.

Prof's Blog Creates Controversy

A Penn professor came under fire this summer after posting a blog entry following the trial of George Zimmerman, the neighborhood watch captain who was found not guilty by a Florida jury after shooting teen Trayvon Martin.

Anthea Butler, an associate professor of religious studies, discussed the acquittal in harsh terms via the online magazine, *Religion Dispatches*. Butler



Penn Professor Anthea Butler.

expressed outrage at the religious and societal issues reflected in the controversial verdict, including the deep wounds and feelings of betrayal festering within the nation's community of color.

"God ain't good all of the time. In fact, sometimes, God is not for us..." she wrote.

PRINCETON

First Lady Recounts Princeton Experiences

During an appearance in Chicago to promote education among inner-city youths, Michelle Obama shared some of her experiences at Princeton University.



The 1985 Princeton alumna recounted one of her earliest memories at college. "I met the granddaughter of the person whom the dorm was named after — it was just like, really? There was a whole world of people and privilege and opportunity," said Obama, who also earned a law degree at Harvard ('88).

The key to her success at Princeton was in finding a support base. "Find your support system and know that you can't do this yourself," said Obama, according to news reports.

Princeton Named Second Smartest City

Princeton, New Jersey, home to the famed Princeton University, has been named among the 50 smartest cities in the United States.

Princeton finished second, trailing Stanford, California., according to a report recently released on Lumosity.com. Three million people, between 15 and 65, took part in five training exercises offered by Lumos Labs, a cognitive training and neuroscience research firm in California. The categories for the online study included speed, attention, flexibility, memory, and problem solving.



Rankings were compiled from the average brain score among participating residents.

Cambridge, Massachusetts, home to Harvard, finished fifth.

Manna Kicks off the Year with Outreach Events

Manna Christian Fellowship kicked off the new academic year with a slate of events aimed at reaching the class of 2017,

including an ice cream social in September and an apple picking outing in October. The ministry also held a reunion for returning students at the beginning of the year.



Manna freshman and sophomore students enjoyed the annual apple-picking trip together.

Manna (manna.mycpanel.princeton.edu) is holding weekday prayer sessions at Campus Club and weekly large-group gatherings in Murray-Dodge Hall.

YALE

Jonathan Edwards Center Opens in Japan

The International Christian University has announced the establishment of a Jonathan Edwards Center in Japan. The location in Asia will serve as a rich resource centered on the life of Jonathan Edwards (Yale 1720), a pastor, revivalist, and renowned writer.



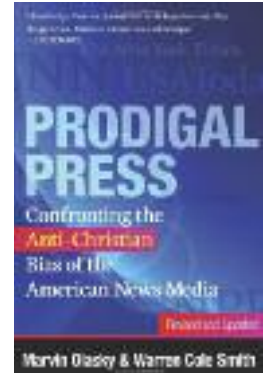
Professor Anri Morimoto will direct the new Jonathan Edwards Center in Japan.

The center, which is affiliated with the Jonathan Edwards Center at Yale, will be directed by Professor Anri Morimoto, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ in Japan, and a Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Prodigal Press Re-Released

Marvin Olasky, Yale '71, recently released the revised and updated edition of *Prodigal Press: Confronting the Anti-Christian Bias of the American News Media*.

The new edition includes additional material and revisions by Olasky and Warren Cole Smith. *Prodigal Press*, originally released in 1988, was one of the first books to explore the liberal and anti-Christian bias of the American news media. Olasky is the editor-in-chief of *WORLD Magazine* and has authored more than 20 books. Smith, the author of *A Lover's Quarrel with the Evangelical Church* and other books, is the associate publisher of *WORLD*.



Yale Center for Faith and Culture Welcomes New Director

Skip Masback, Yale M.Div '94, is the new managing director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. Masback was previously the senior minister for the Congregational Church of New Canaan.



Skip Masback, Yale M.Div '94

Miroslav Volf, the founding director for the Center of Faith and Culture and the Henry B. Wright professor of systematic theology, said, "I have known Skip for many years, and one of the key things that bound us together was a common interest in 'faith as a way of life' in response to God's self-revelation in Jesus Christ, a zeal to explore what 'life worth living' looks like today in a variety of spheres and settings."

THE MISSION AND VISION OF THE CHRISTIAN UNION



Following is the mission and vision of Christian Union, printed in each issue of the *Ivy League Christian Observer* to keep new readers informed of the ministry's purpose and passion.

INTRODUCTION

The United States is unusual in the industrialized world for its possession of significant spiritual devotion, but lack of Christian vitality among cultural innovators. Many of the most influential leaders in academia, the arts, business, education, government, media, medicine, and law are decidedly secular in their individual outlooks. Regretfully, the Christian community itself is mostly to blame for this sad state of affairs. More than a hundred years ago, large segments of the Christian community decided that intellectualism and positions of cultural influence were to be avoided and, therefore, left those arenas to secularists. Now, Christians lament that so much of the culture is directed and shaped by those holding values contrary to the gospel of Christ. Of course, this should be no surprise.

WHY THE MINISTRY EXISTS

In 2002, Christian Union was founded to rectify this imbalance by developing Christian leaders to impact the larger culture. The ministry strategically focuses on a highly influential and unreached segment of the U.S. population—current and future leaders who shape many of the decisions that affect the daily lives of all Americans. Such influencers are found in two primary places: the top tier of academically-oriented universities and a handful of powerful, “global” cities in the United States.

UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN UNION

One of the two branches of Christian Union is known as University Christian Union, and it develops Christian leaders at eight university campuses with extraordinary influence. Research has shown that just eight of the 2,500 universities in this country produce 50 percent of the most powerful leaders. It's incredible to consider that a tiny segment of only

100,000 college students—out of 21 million nationwide—on just a handful of campuses will occupy 50 percent of the most strategic roles in the United States. Graduates from these schools also will exercise tremendous impact on the international scene.

Currently, these campuses are extremely secular in their outlooks, representing a slow-motion train wreck that has been negatively impacting this country and world for a generation. More than 90 percent of the students on these campuses have no regular Christian input in their lives. The campuses are Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale universities.

Even with the help of local churches and godly national campus ministries, the proportion of Christian involvement and strengthening on these key campuses has not changed in 50 years. There is no good reason to expect the United States will substantively change spiritually in the next 50 years if these campuses are not dramatically changed in our present day. New approaches and energy need to be poured into making it a priority for the Christian church to ensure the lives of future leaders are strengthened with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the mission of Christian Union is to develop Christian leaders at these colleges to reshape dramatically the direction of the nation.

CITY CHRISTIAN UNION

In addition to University Christian Union, the second branch of the ministry, City Christian Union, concentrates on a handful of the country's most influential cities, starting with New York City. Other cities of focus to be given increasing attention in the future include: Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington D.C., and Boston. By many measures, these cities are



Christian Union Founder and President Matthew W. Bennett, Cornell BS '88, MBA '89.

extremely prominent nationally and internationally but, unfortunately, also are generally secular in orientation. Heroic efforts have been made in these cities in the last few decades to strengthen Christian communities, and much more needs to be done to see these cities become known for their love for and devotion to Jesus Christ and His purposes.

FOUR VALUES OF THE MINISTRY

In its mission, Christian Union has four values of paramount concern that characterize its approach. First, Christian Union works deliberately to engage students and marketplace professionals. To have a realistic chance of seeing such individuals develop into Christian leaders in just a few short years, the ministry utilizes workers of substantial caliber to mentor and teach. The Christian Union's ministry workers are called “ministry fellows,” and they possess exceptional professional and educational credentials. Many hold advanced seminary training, including master of divinity and master of theology degrees, and several possess doctoral degrees. Others have substantial experience at some of the top companies in the world, including Merrill Lynch and McKinsey and Co. Years of educational training and life experiences give ministry fellows the ability to mentor successfully students and professionals, as well as instruct them in biblical depth, theology, a Christian worldview, and the integration of faith into academic disciplines and vocations.

Secondly and perhaps more importantly, Christian Union emphasizes the relevancy of seeking God wholeheartedly. What's the point of having a Christian in a position of cultural influence if his or her devotion to God, faith, and spiritual strength is so weak that the individual's values do not significantly differ from sec-

ularist peers? Daniel of Bible fame serves as an inspiration. He was organized and purposeful in his leadership, which was to be expected of a man second in command in the most powerful nations in the world in his day: Babylon and Persia. He also was known to be extremely intelligent, which is why he was selected to enter the king's service in the first place, learning the literature of the Chaldeans. Yet, he also possessed a devotion to God so strong that even under the threat of death, he would not eat food defiled by idols, bow down to the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar, and cease praying three times per day. While teaching students and professionals to be good leaders organizationally and developing their intellectual knowledge of the Christian faith, the Christian Union also instills a deep appreciation for the importance of seeking God wholeheartedly day and night. Participants learn to pray fervently, practice humility, read the Scriptures often, repent of sins daily, and obey the Spirit promptly, persevering day in and day out in love and devotion to the only true God of the universe. Only with such qualities will Christian leaders have the spiritual power by the Spirit of God to fulfill His purposes for their lives.

Thirdly, the Christian Union networks participants for the purpose of cultural engagement. Christians can make mistakes on both ends of the spectrum. Either, they are fully engaged in the culture, but lack Christian companions and contacts and become weak spiritually and unable to call on a wider range of resources for impact, or they have many Christian friends, but do not expend the energy to interact with the larger culture that needs the salt and light of Jesus Christ. For Christian leaders to be successful, they need a network of close, like-minded friends who love and urge them on as followers of Christ. They also bring additional resources to bear in key cultural struggles, and they need to be outwardly focused, looking for ways to engage and improve the larger culture and make sacrifices for the purposes of Jesus Christ.

Lastly, the ministry is organizationally disciplined in its approach. Several leaders in the ministry possess master of business administration degrees, and their

expertise helps the ministry to be strategic and purposeful in its goals and objectives. Every quarter, the ministry compares its progress against goals in a series of key indicators. Jim Collins' monograph, "Good to Great in the Social Sector," has been a

personal mentoring as described below. It culminates in a leadership project that each student individually conceives and implements. The initiative needs to impact the campus environment for good and can take a variety of different forms.



tremendous aid in providing direction for a disciplined, metric-driven approach.

ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS

As of fall 2013, University Christian Union is active at Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Columbia, Penn, and Cornell and it plans to expand to Brown in the near future. Christian Union fulfills its mission on these campuses through a variety of strategically conceived activities. The following are the ministry's principle offerings on campuses.

Leadership Certification Curriculum

Christian Union employs a proprietary two-year curriculum to develop students intellectually, spiritually, and socially for the purposes of cultural engagement. The curriculum comprises 2,000 pages of reading, participation in Bible Courses, attendance at weekly lecture series, and

Among them, students may engage social leaders on campus to reduce reliance on alcohol or the hook-up mindset, interact with professors who have been advocating anti-Christian worldviews, or reach out evangelistically to peers.

Bible Courses

The centerpiece of the ministry on campus consists of Bible Courses comprised of eight to ten students of the same sex and a Christian Union ministry fellow as the leader. These are extraordinarily popular, and there is often a waiting list for students to join. Students need sponsorship to be able to join a Bible Course, so there is great need for additional support to touch the lives of more young people. (For information, see www.christian-union.org/sponsorship.) Every undergraduate sponsored means one more student receives the opportunity to develop into a Christian leader.



Weekly Leadership Lecture Series

Every week on campus, the students are taught in a lecture setting by Christian Union's ministry fellows or special lecturers from across the nation and beyond. Topics include biblical depth, theological grounding, Christian vocational or academic integration, and other subjects. To succeed as Christian leaders, students need deep teaching from the Scriptures and role models of Christians in various vocational fields. Weekly lectures provide the necessary intellectual strengthening for success.

Personal Mentoring

Educational theorist and University of Chicago Professor Benjamin Bloom discovered years ago that one-on-one instruction dramatically increases a student's learning when compared to conventional teaching methods. Reducing class sizes down to four or five students only modestly improves learning. However, one-on-one input radically improves

understanding because tutors are able to give tailored feedback and allow students to master a subject before moving on to other concepts. Because of the impact of one-on-one interaction, Christian Union ministry fellows provide personal mentoring to guide students spiritually, and to provide leadership coaching.

Conferences

To augment instruction students receive through the above activities, the ministry also hosts a variety of conferences and retreats during the academic year and longer programs during the summer months. World-class theologians, leaders, and speakers convene to inspire and teach students in a context of worship, fervent prayer, and relationship building. The power of these week-end or week-long gatherings is so strong that often more Christian growth and strengthening happens during a conference than through a whole semester of other programming.

ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK CITY THROUGH CITY CHRISTIAN UNION

Ministry to New Yorkers began in 2005, but only recently is New York City Christian Union able to make a stronger impact because of the hiring of both a director and an event manager. The ministry is expanding its impact through the following programs:

NYCU Bible Courses

The New York City Christian Union Bible Courses are similar to the ones offered to students on campuses, except that the application of the biblical text is geared toward working professionals and parents. The emphasis on relationship building and deep biblical teaching remains the same for the purposes of spiritually strengthening the participants.

NYCU Salons

Christian leaders need periodic interaction and inspiration from the leading intellectuals and influencers of the day in order to make the impact for which they have been called. Salons are periodic gatherings of 10 to 20 participants, hosted by an NYCU member, to hear from a leading, Christian cultural influencer.

CONCLUSION

Christian Union exists because of Jesus' words in Luke 12:48: "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required." All who have received much in terms of education, industry influence, wealth, and prestige need to be inspired, strengthened, and equipped to use what



they possess for the purposes of God for the world. He blesses His people so that they can turn and be a blessing to others. We look forward to the day when the United States is dramatically changed because of the selfless leadership of countless devoted Christians using their positions of leadership for the purposes of Jesus Christ.

For more information about Christian Union, see www.christian-union.org. ■

Because of the impact of one-on-one interaction, Christian Union ministry fellows provide personal mentoring to guide students spiritually, and to provide leadership coaching.

OUR PLACE IN GOD'S WORLD

Who wrote the first commentary on Genesis' opening chapter? Not St. Augustine; not even the Apostle Paul. An ancient Hebrew poet, clearly steeped in Genesis 1:26-28, penned the following reflection (known to us moderns as the eighth psalm) as a singular celebration of humanity's place within God's world:

*O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.
3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
4 what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?
5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.
6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,
7 all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
8 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
9 O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

Notice a few things in this psalm. First, the bookended refrain of v 1 and v 9: "O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" This is where the psalmist begins and ends—the majestic Creator God who reigns over all the earth and evokes joyful praise from His creatures. God's glory is the Alpha and Omega of human existence. "For from him, and through him, and to him are all things..." (Rom. 11:36)

Second, what falls between the bookends of God's glory? In vv 3-4 the psalmist is overcome with an inquisitive astonishment, not only at God's creative power in constructing by His mere "fingers" the heavenly panoply which so dutifully fills our evening skies, but, even more so, that such a seemingly unapproachable Potentate could be bothered with thoughts of us puny little humans. *He would care about us?*

Third, contrary to all *a priori* metaphysical obligation, God's "care" for humanity comes not merely as an off-handed glance in our direction, but as a bonafide coronation ceremony. "Crowned with glory and honor"—the psalmist's vivid paraphrase of Genesis 1:26-28—humanity has been divinely bestowed with the royal right to rule creation, to cultivate and steward the earth's resources for the sake of blessing others. Of course, this investiture does in no way usurp God's own heavenly throne. Humanity has

therefore been placed in a specific mediatory position in the universe. We are "below" God, but "above" the rest of His creation. We have been called as God's *vice-regents* to rule the world on His behalf.

The writer of the New Testament book of Hebrews employs this eighth psalm in order to retell the story of humanity around the story of Jesus (Hebrews 2:5-9). After citing the middle verses of the psalm and concluding that God had originally "given all things to mankind" and "left nothing outside his control," he raises a problem: "But we do not see everything in subjection to him [man/humankind]." The writer of Hebrews is not naïve. We may indeed read Psalm 8 and marvel at the dignity and privilege of humanity's original vocation in the world. But when we look outside our window, we simply "do not see" such an idyllic reality. Instead, "we see" a tsunami-desolated Japanese coast, a sub-Saharan AIDS epidemic, or a family member in the final stages of Alzheimer's. We see creation taking the reins, sardonically mocking its supposed overlords.

And yet. We do see something more. "But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death..." (2:9) The crown that fell from humanity's head has been placed on Adam's understudy, the true and faithful Vice-Regent. And through Christ's trailblazing, God is "leading many sons to glory" (2:10), thus restoring us to our original "glory and honor" prerogative.

In the story of Jesus, however, the crown becomes a crown of thorns. Jesus did reclaim for humanity the royal right to rule creation, yet not by forcefully seizing the throne, but by humbly bearing the cross.

What, then, does our vice-regency look like as followers of Christ? The reclamation of our original vocation means we must take up the call to be culture-makers, cultivating the earth's resources to bless others in thousands of creative ways. Yet the remaining brokenness and futility of the world cast a specific shape to our vice-regency, one never delineated in texts like Genesis 1 or Psalm 8, one of *cruciformity*. Which is to say that, for us too, restoration does not take place apart from brokenness, nor growth apart from decay, nor leadership apart from service. Following Jesus in the overlap of the ages, the place of "glory and honor" turns out to be one of costly responsibility as much as gifted privilege. ■

Jesse Peterson is a Christian Union ministry fellow at Columbia University.



BROWN

- Pray for the Branch Christian Fellowship (a local chapter of Chi Alpha) as members gather each Friday evening for a time of worship, reflection on the Word, prayer, and fellowship.
- Pray for the students in the Brown Catholic community as they participate in a weekly Interfaith supper and discussion with students from other ministries and other faiths.

COLUMBIA

- Pray for the 40 students with Korea Campus Crusade for Christ who recently returned from a fall retreat. Pray that they will take to heart what they learned about “Wise Friendship” and “Using Our Gifts in Community.”
- Pray for the students from the Catholic ministry at Columbia who reside at Ford Hall as they live in community and engage in Bible study, prayer, and service.

CORNELL

- Pray for Charles and Kimberly Fick, campus ministers with InterVarsity, as they bring the Gospel to students through Cornell Christian Fellowship and Asian American InterVarsity Fellowship.
- Praise God that students who attended the Chi Alpha retreat were encouraged by the talks on “Faith and the Promises of God.” Pray that they will minister to the needs of those around them.

DARTMOUTH

- Pray for the staff of each campus ministry, that God would give them wisdom, strength, good health, and family time. Also pray that their financial needs will be met as they dedicate themselves to discipleship and evangelism at Dartmouth.
- Pray that Christians would continue to depend on God and humble themselves before Him. Pray that they would be bold in sharing their faith.

HARVARD

- Pray for the female students at Harvard, that the Lord would provide godly role models who mentor and disciple them.
- Pray for this fall’s “Jamful Jamful” concert with a cappella groups Under Construction (from Harvard) and Full Measure (Penn). Pray that these groups would minister that evening and also provide a strong witness to the students at Harvard and Penn during the school year.

PENN

- Pray that each Christian athlete will set aside time each day for personal devotions. Pray also that they effectively balance heavy academic workloads, demanding athletic requirements, and social activities.
- Pray for ministries on Penn’s campus—that through welcome events, fall retreats, and campus-wide services—students will find a place to be involved and have godly role models to guide them through their college years.

PRINCETON

- At the end of October, students with Manna Christian Fellowship went on the ministry’s fall retreat. Pray that students will continue to draw closer to God on a daily basis.
- Pray that students with depression will be able to share their struggles with someone and find help. Pray that campus ministries would also be a source of hope for these students.

YALE

- Pray that the pro-life movement at Yale continues to gain momentum following the inaugural Vita et Veritas conference, which was held in October. The event was hosted by Choose Life at Yale.
- Pray that the international students and visiting scholars would attend the Alpha Course sponsored by the International Church at Yale, and that God would draw all of the attendees to Himself.

Thank you!

Through your generous giving,
Christian leaders are being
developed to change culture.



CHRISTIAN
UNION



Charissa Shen PRINCETON CLASS OF 2014

Hometown: Randolph, New Jersey

Major: Anthropology, certificate in Global Health Policy

Campus Activities: Undergraduate Student Government; Residential College Advisor; Student Health Advisory Board; Ivy Club

“There was a time I did not feel I could be a witness to someone who was indifferent, or antagonistic, toward Christ. The teaching and mentoring I’ve received through Christian Union has radically changed that.

My sophomore year, I attended a student leadership retreat with some of the brightest students I’ve met at Princeton. Late one night, I was encouraging a friend to participate in a Christian Union Bible course. Suddenly, many leadership students poured into the room and joined our table. Nervous to continue, I prayed for the Spirit to guide my words, and then I boldly kept up the dialogue.

Of course, this sparked a wide-ranging conversation with the other students in which I explained Christian faith, discussed church history, and delved into social issues. Later one of the students said, “I’ve never thought about Jesus in this way. I want to consider this.” Today, that friend is a brother in Christ! I’ve had the privilege to share my faith in many settings since then and, by the grace of God, to walk with many more students as they embrace faith in Christ.”

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