

THE BAGPIPE

Friday, December 12, 2014 - Vol. 61.12

14049 Scenic Highway, Lookout Mountain, GA 30750

www.bagpipeonline.com

Sinking UTC Campus

BY CARRIE WOODWARD

On November 24, the UTC administration alerted faculty and students that classes in their Grote Hall would be cancelled due to a sinkhole that opened up near the building over the weekend. Grote Hall, located on the corner of Vine and Baldwin streets on the north end of the UTC campus, is host to psychology, math, and science classes, several of which were cancelled after news of the sinkhole.

University spokesman, Chuck Cantrell, said that the sinkhole appeared because of a burst pipe. "With the big rain yesterday, that's when the pipe broke." He said. "It washed out a lot of dirt, which caused the pipe to collapse...and caused even more water and dirt washing out." The ten-inch storm drain about eight feet beneath a sidewalk collapsed, creating a hole about thirty feet deep in the grassy lawn beside Grote Hall.

An evaluation in November by university personnel and the Chattanooga fire department and their thorough investigation revealed that it is not a danger to surrounding buildings. Because the sinkhole was caused by a burst pipe, it has not compromised the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Helping Without Hurting



PHOTO CRED: WWW.CHALMERS.ORG

BY JACK ROYLSTON

Corbett and Fikkert strike again.

In September of this year, Moody Publishers released a sequel of sorts to the contemporary classic, *When Helping Hurts*, designed to aid short term missions teams in the search to help others without hurting them. Based on the previous international success of *When Helping Hurts*, this new book, *Helping Without Hurting in Short-Term Missions*, is expected to be another classic released by the

Covenant College economics and community development professors Corbett and Fikkert. Katie Casselberry, a 2010 Covenant alumna, also made contributions to the composition of this book.

This new volume, in the words of Moody Publishers, is "aimed at the preparation and debriefing of short-term missionaries," ideally utilized in the contexts of North American short-term missionaries looking to achieve poverty alleviation and ministry to those in need within or outside of the United States.

With United States churches sending oodles of short-term missionaries each year, this book provides helpful resources, based on the fundamental principles found in *When Helping Hurts*, to those involved in short-term missions to consider the biblical principles surrounding helping others.

These superbly profitable voices give valuable tips to practically loving others while avoiding doing harm to all parties involved.

Helping Without Hurting in Short-Term Missions consists of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Camp House Moves On

BY LIZZIE GODDARD

Over the Thanksgiving holiday, the popular venue and coffee shop The Camp House moved to a new location on Martin Luther King Boulevard. Peter Hagemeyer, a barista at The Camp House, said, "It was a sad thing to leave the South side after five years, but in that five years we had gotten to be a part of the revitalization of Main Street, as well as a huge advance in the coffee culture of Chattanooga."

A new space was found earlier this year after the previous location's lease was not renewed. "It was an amiable thing and we still have a good relationship with [the landlord]," assured Hagemeyer. The Camp House is the Sunday gathering place for the South Side congregation of The Mission Chattanooga, and will continue with regular services in the new location. Hagemeyer described it as a collaborative effort, saying, "We have had some incredible craftsmen working almost nonstop for months, as well as many people from the church helping get things ready to go."

The Camp House serves as a venue for concerts and private events, as well as providing a casual and modern atmosphere

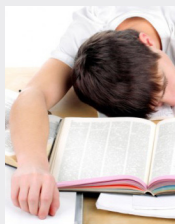
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NEWS 1-3

ARTS 4-5

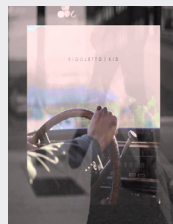
OPINIONS 6-7

SPORTS 8



The Art of Studying

PAGE 4



KID EP Release Party

PAGE 5



Thoughts on Ferguson

PAGE 6



Remembering Christ in Christmas

PAGE 7

CIA Under Fire After Scathing Senate Report

BY EMMETT GIENAPP

On Tuesday of this week, the Senate Intelligence Committee publicly released the results of a 5-year study on the CIA's detention and interrogation program and its utilization of Enhanced Interrogation Techniques on detainees to procure information useful for counterterrorism efforts.

The 500-page report summary highlights several troubling facts about the program which was established after 9/11 and then continued from 2002-2009. According to the report, the CIA was, on multiple occasions, deceptive about the amount of actionable information gained through the program, the extensiveness and brutality of interrogation used, and the number of detainees actually held—139 overall.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, chairwoman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, presented the summary report saying, “under any common meaning of the word, CIA detainees were tortured.”

That revelation is nothing new to the American people and the international community as information had been leaked to the public on several occasions over the past decade revealing cases of CIA torture. In its investigation however, the committee discovered many details about the nature and scope of these tactics that showed the situation to be more harrowing than previously thought.

In response to concerns that releasing the report now might endanger US personnel stationed abroad, Feinsteinn argued that there may never be the “right time” to release it.

Instead, Feinsteinn said, “History will judge us by our commitment to a just society governed by law, and the willingness to face an ugly truth and say, ‘Never again.’”

Of the 139 individuals detained, reportedly 26 “were wrongfully held” and some of that number are even included in the total of 39 detainees subjected to enhanced

interrogation. This included, but was not limited to, waterboarding, sleep deprivation for up to a week, various forms of physical abuse, and death threats to the detainee and family members.

The CIA's reports on these techniques and the number of detainees were in many cases inaccurate or incomplete, and several of the techniques used were not authorized by either the Department of Justice or CIA headquarters.

The report further indicated that the overwhelming majority of information gained was useless in combating potential threats or acts of terrorism. The CIA actively deceived Congress and others about the program's effectiveness in order to maintain support.

Several former directors, George Tenet, Porter Goss and Michael Hayden, were found to have deliberately inflated the importance of the program both in secret briefings with Congress and in public speeches.

John Brennan, the current CIA director said, “The intelligence gained from the program was critical to our understanding of al-Qaeda and continues to inform our counterterrorism efforts to this day.”

The actions of the CIA have been defended by the Senate Republican leadership, particularly by the minority representation on the Senate Intelligence Committee itself. These senators released their own minority report as a rebuttal arguing that the Democratic-led investigation has been biased throughout.

But not all Republican senators are in agreement in the wake of this report.

Sen. John McCain, a veteran of the Vietnam war who was himself tortured during his service, said these interrogations, “not only failed their purpose—to secure actionable intelligence to prevent further attacks on the US and our allies—but actually damaged our

security interests, as well as our reputation as a force for good in the world.”

The findings of this report have drawn heavy criticism from world leaders and international organizations as well.

Afghan President Asraf Ghani, Lithuanian Prime Minister Algirdas Butkevicius, and Ben Emmerson, UN Special Reporter on Human Rights and Counterterrorism have all decried the CIA's actions.

In a statement, Mr. Emmerson said “As a matter of international law, the US is legally obliged to bring those responsible to justice.”

Though the Department of Justice has rejected that assertion and will not in fact be prosecuting any CIA operatives, the report has added fuel to a larger conversation both here and abroad about the role and practices of U.S. intelligence departments in international security efforts.

Helping Without Hurting

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

two components: a leader's guide and a participant's guide, both containing an accessible eight unit curriculum to guide the learner towards a healthy philosophy of helping without hurting. The resources are also designed to facilitate discussion among team members for effective ministry by the authors' use of story, empirical research, and online video content. These resources from Corbett, Fikkert, and Casselberry will prove valuable and effective for any church leader or layman seeking to be better equipped to serve the poor in their community or across

the world. Both the participants guide and the leaders guide are currently available for sale through Amazon.

When Helping Hurts, the duo's first published work and the work that Helping Without Hurting in Short-Term Missions draws its contents from, arrived in 2012, and has not ceased to provide thoughtful, practical, and beneficial principles of poverty alleviation to the church around the world. Moody Publishers, on its web site's page for When Helping Hurts, said that “the reader is brought to understand that poverty is

much more than simply a lack of financial or material resources and that it takes much more than donations and handouts to solve the problem of poverty.” The Covenant professors challenge the reader to consider how the gospel has major ramifications for how one is to love and seek justice for the poor, those who are fellow image bearers of God himself.

Although arriving at Covenant at different times, professors Corbett and Fikkert have been instrumental to the growth and success of the Community Development program at Covenant. Both were active in

the advancement of the Chalmers Center, the Lookout Mountain-based training and research center that equips churches around the world to alleviate poverty, where Professor Corbett serves as a faculty advisor and community development specialist and Dr. Fikkert serves as the founder and president.

Sophomore Community Development major Si Mitchell said of his professors: “Displaying genuine care for his students in and out of class, Dr. Fikkert unlocks the tools of economics in a humorous and engaging manner. Professor Corbett

not only teaches students to live in an understanding and gracious way using the principles of Community Development but displays this understanding and graciousness through his life in and out of class.”

Professors Corbett and Fikkert plan on teaching community development and economics classes at Covenant next semester.

Faculty Quote of the Week

"Don't put that in the *Bagpipe*." - Professor Foreman

The Verdict

Yes, this is the last *Bagpipe* of the semester.

No, we will not miss coming up with "The Verdict" over break.

THE BAGPIPE



Emmett Gienapp
Editor in Chief

Gabby Powell
Layout & Web

Adrienne Siegenthaler
Managing Editor

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Abby Whisler | Photo |
| Liz Simakoff | Copy |
| Hannah McCoy | News |
| Jamison Shimmel | Arts |
| Jonathan Moore | Opinions |
| Nate Frierson | Sports |
| Trent Kelly | Distribution |
| Garrett Sisson | Staff Writer |
| Carrie Woodward | Staff Writer |

Faculty Advisor
Cliff Foreman

For inquiries or comments, contact
Emmett Gienapp
at emmett.gienapp@covenant.edu.

This is a Covenant College student publication.
The views expressed herein do not necessarily
reflect those of the College or the student body.

Camp House

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

during its daytime coffee shop hours. The relocation strives to preserve the unique culture of The Camp House, with the larger space becoming a catalyst for expansion.

Through the addition of a commercial kitchen and the work of Chef Jose Alfaro, the menu now serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner, as well as draft beers and wine. The increased space also provided the means to increase the quality of the coffee to even higher standard, including a new espresso machine.

The Camp House fosters local culture, partnering with the Chattanooga Songwriters Association to host a singer/songwriter event on Thursday nights. As well as promoting Chattanooga creativi-

ty, The Camp House is a venue for concerts. "We are also excited for the larger space because of the concerts we can book. We have already booked Noah Gundersen for this January, and we hope to have more acts of his caliber as time goes on," said Hagemeyer.

The diverse nature of The Camp House has made it an iconic meeting place within the city, capturing the essence of Chattanooga's innovative spirit. The MLK location opened on December 1st, near the heart of downtown.

Hagemeyer described the vision for the new space, saying: "Even in our first few days we had a lot of people come in that we had never seen before... The old space was really wonderful as a meeting place where multiple businesses

were formed, and we are hoping our new location will be a place of creation as well."

The space also serves the large population of college students in Chattanooga. Calvin Cummings, a senior at Covenant visited the new location saying, "While they [The Camp House] were already one of the best shops in the city, serving some of the best coffee in the Southeast, they continue to pursue excellence above what they have already achieved. That kind of

team is one to support. If they sold jerseys I would buy one."

The new space of The Camp House has built upon the thriving accomplishments of its first years of business, and this expansion promises continued success in the years to come.



Eulogy For Sarah Grace Nkchehi Madueme

BY LIZ SIMAKOFF

On the morning of Thursday, December 4th, the infant daughter of Shelley and Hans Madueme, Sarah Grace Nkechi Madueme, went to be with the Lord. In addition to her parents, she is survived by her older brother Caleb Madueme. A funeral was held Saturday,

December 6th at St. Elmo Presbyterian where friends of the Madueme's as well as many Covenant faculty, staff, and students gathered to mourn the loss of Sarah Grace.

Sarah Grace had been diagnosed with a chromosomal disorder in July, and was given very narrow odds to live through her first year of life. She passed away at 29 days

old, from the disease.

The Madueme's chose to give Sarah Grace the middle name Nkechi, which is a name from the Ibo tribe in Nigeria, meaning "The child God has given." We cannot say why the Lord chose to take Sarah Grace Nkechi Madueme so close to Christmas time. However, on Saturday, Reverend Cal Bor-

oughs reminded us of the hope that came with another infant whose birth we celebrate in anticipation of his death. Because it is by Jesus' death that we might be freed from all our pain and suffering, and taken to a place where he will wipe every tear from our eyes.

UTC Sinkhole

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

structural integrity of Grote Hall, or the library on the other side of the sinkhole. Neighboring Lupton Library has been rumored to be unsound for years and has numerous cracks in its front steps, but will be replaced by a new library, set to open at the end of December.

Though classes resumed in Grote Hall within the week, students filled Instagram and Facebook feeds with photos of the sinkhole and while it was being filled in the days following

its emergence. According to Amy Brock-Hon, who teaches geology at UTC, certain parts of Tennessee are more prone to sinkholes due to geological factors, rainfall, and water drains. Chattanooga is part of the Tennessee region with ground of carbonate bedrock, which dissolves after contact with groundwater, sometimes resulting in empty spaces that collapse under the weight of heavy soil. "You can say that this is a region prone to sinkhole development," Brock-Hon said. Since June 2012

there have been at least multiple reports of sink holes appearing in various parts of Hamilton County, and the City of Chattanooga faced a lawsuit because of a large sinkhole that opened up in the parking lot of the Suntrust bank in St. Elmo.

Sinkholes are common enough in the southeast, especially Tennessee and Florida, that some home insurance covers sinkhole damage, lest it cause cracks in a building's foundation. Most sinkholes are filled with "con-

trolled low strength material," also known as "flowable fill," which is a cement mixture which can replace soil safely and easily because it is a fast, economical, and shrink-resistant solution.

As for the sinkhole on UTC's campus, Grote Hall has been holding classes as normal, and a sinkhole appearance in one place does not necessarily mean there will be others nearby.



The Art of Studying

BY ANDREA BEACHLEY

As much as I love being a student, I have never found it easy to sit down and study for an extended period of time. I've tried a lot of different tactics: drinking coffee, standing instead of sitting, moving from one subject to the next every fifteen minutes, the list goes on. Why is it so hard to focus on my schoolwork for more than an hour?

I want to share some of my thoughts about the art of studying. Please note, studying is not a skill I have or probably ever will master. My personality loves to multitask and get distracted by the little things. However, I believe that being creative with your environment is part of what it means to be a student. If being a student helps prepare us for the real world, then I think we should be learning about the environments that are healthy and life-giving for us, as well as the environments that are destructive,

or perhaps just distracting. Ask yourself the questions that bring awareness to the aesthetic importance of a learning environment, as well as a working environment and a social environment.

I would be happy to share all of my ideas and dreams for the perfect study spot, but everyone is different and needs a unique environment. That being said, here are a few things that I recommend every student pay attention to, if and when they are having trouble focusing: the external, the internal, and the material.

The external and the internal are things that we do not have control over. There is nothing I can do (in good conscience) to make that girl in that cubicle stop humming. Another external example would be the distracting aroma of coffee or the crazy hairdo of a fellow classmate that you really want to

talk to. You can't do anything to change these things; and if you try, you waste a good portion of your study time.

The internal is also something that we don't have much control over. Of course, we are free beings and are not enslaved to act compulsively; but there are times when there is truly nothing I can do to change my racing squirrel brain. It doesn't help to try and force your brain to focus when you are unable to sit still. Whether internal or external, there are factors beyond our control. Let them become the background noise of your environment. They may color the canvas, but they don't determine the content of your work. If we can be aware of these factors and accept them, we might be able to change the things that are in our control.

The material is the most important focus for creating a good

environment. What I mean by the material is that which you have control over, whether it be your posture, your shoes, or the chair that you decided to sit on. If you're getting tired, get up and do some jumping jacks. If you're getting a headache, maybe you need to go to a room with better lighting. You are solely responsible for yourself and your relationship with the world. Learning to create a motivating and inspiring environment makes causes that responsibility to seem less intimidating, and it allows the individual to create an environment that naturally works for them. Small adjustments can add color to a world where you are constantly looking at black and white text. This may seem a bit simplistic or unimportant, but I feel that I have witnessed the personal impact of paying attention to the ways I can create a good environment for

myself and accepting the things that might always be distracting.

Lastly, I want to encourage the creative aspect of studying. This may be in the form of a cozy study corner in your dorm room, or a playlist of all your favorite study songs. It could mean that you arrange your books into a little fort on the table, just to stimulate your playful side. Let it be unique to you, and allow yourself some trial and error with the art of studying. This is a practice that will truly follow you into the working world. Being a student is stressful, and it is a beautiful journey. A student's environment is the setting to his or her story, and our story takes place on top of a mountain! How has the majesty of the mountaintop played a role in the narrative of your college career?

Supporting Local Theatre

BY CATHERINE LANDERS

Last month, the Chattanooga Theatre Centre Roald Dahl's *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. The CTC is a local theater house located on the North Shore near Coolidge Park. The play was a children's play with a cast of extremely talented young actors and a renowned director, Lizzie Chazen. The audience, was largely composed of parents and children, lacking in college students. Though this is not terribly surprising for a children's performance, it still made me question the college student's role in community theater.

Unless you are a part of Covenant's Drama Club, or are a drama major, it is unlikely you go to your community theater on a regular basis. Why is this? As a fellow BCS (broke college student) I know that funding for the arts is limited. At Covenant we are surrounded by a plethora of ways to support the arts on campus, yet I believe it is equally important to contribute support in the Chattanooga area as well.

The American Association of Community Theatre states, "Com-

munity theatre enriches the lives of those who take an active part in it, as well as those in the community who benefit from live theatre productions. On either side of the footlights, those involved represent a diversity of age, culture, life experience, and a strong appreciation of the importance of the arts." To learn more, I interviewed Lizzie Chazen, Youth Theatre and Education Associate at the Chattanooga Theatre Centre. Chazen has been freelancing with the CTC since 2009 and became full time in 2013.

Why do you think it is so important to be involved and support local theater and the arts?

To ensure success for a city it is vital/critical to support the arts. Organizations such as Art's Build and The Tennessee Arts Commission are a few supporters that understand the impact local artists have on a city. Art creates awareness, energy, builds compassion and empathy, and is directly responsible for making our world turn.

If you could summarize the value of theater in one sentence what would it be?

"..it washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life"-Pablo Picasso

Do you have any advice for college students on ways to support and get involved?

Volunteer at local theatres and go see plays. Never stop working on your craft and stay involved in any way you can. The more you work in theatre (in any capacity), the more likely you will be hired in the future. I worked for free for a long time before I started making money in my field. You have to be driven in the Arts.

Still not convinced? Here is a list of 5 motivations to spur your involvement.

1. Community theater and the arts are fundamental to our humanity. They foster inspiration, creativity, and beauty. They help us to express ideas and values, build bridges between cultures, and unite us

regardless of ethnicity, gender, or age.

2. Arts improve academic performance. It's true. Students with an education and involvement in the arts have a higher GPAs and lower dropout rates, regardless of socioeconomic status. Students with 4 years of arts or music in high school average 100 points better on their SAT scores than students with just one-half year of arts or music.

3. Community theater strengthens the economy. The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector represents 3.25 percent of the nation's GDP--a larger share of the economy than tourism and agriculture. The nonprofit arts industry alone generates \$135 billion in economic activity annually (spending by organizations and their audiences) that supports 4.1 million jobs and generates \$22.3 billion in government revenue.

4. Arts spark creativity and innovation. The Conference Board reports that creativity is among the top 5 applied skills sought by business leaders--with 72 percent saying creativity is of high importance when hiring. The biggest creativity indicator? A college arts degree. Their Ready to Innovate report concludes, "The arts--music, creative writing, drawing, dance--provide skills sought by employers of the 3rd millennium." Nobel laureates in the sciences are 17 times more likely to be actively engaged in the arts than average scientists.

5. Local theater has a social impact. University of Pennsylvania researchers have demonstrated that a high concentration of the arts and local theater leads to higher civic engagement, more social cohesion, higher child welfare, and lower poverty rates. A vibrant arts community ensures that young people are not left to be raised solely in a pop culture and tabloid marketplace.

KID EP Release Party

BY JAMISON SHIMMEL

On Saturday December 6th, local music venue Track 29 hosted an EP release party for Covenant College alum band Rigoletto. Celebrating the release of their new EP, KID, Rigoletto was preceded by two other bands, Swoon and Behold the Brave. For only \$7, audience members enjoyed three fantastic sets, culminating in Rigoletto's powerful, emotionally charged performance.

Rigoletto, comprised of Corey Snipes, Dave Griffis, Chris Williams, and Kirk Ellis, performed an hour-long set of 15 songs from both KID and their previously released LP, *Delusions of Grandeur*. The band opened with "Lamp Posts" which, interestingly enough, is

the first song they ever wrote and closed with "Burlington" a slow, haunting song that builds to a driving finish.

The audience were treated with an encore performance of Rigoletto's "Vandals" a personal favorite of mine, which may be considered one of the band's most cohesive sounding songs. Snipes was in full form throughout the entire show, capturing the audience from the first chord and giving a performance that left the audience engaged from start to finish. The band celebrated their accomplishments and bid a bittersweet farewell to their bassist Chris Williams, who is leaving Rigoletto to pursue his own musical career.

Described by Snipes as, "an emotionally violent coming of age record that needed to be written so I could get over parts of my past" KID is a vulnerable record in which Snipes is very open about his past and his emotions. As a whole, KID has a more mature sound than any of their previous releases. Snipe's vocals are elevated by the steady yet strong beat of the drum and bass as well as the smooth guitar tones throughout each of the five songs, including my personal favorite, the title track "Kid."

If you're looking for an inexpensive new album to jam to over Christmas break, make it Rigoletto's KID and enjoy supporting a Covenant alum band, for only

\$5, that knows how to make incredible music. You do not want to miss this album, so head over to iTunes and pick up a copy today.



Thoughts on Ferguson

BY EVAN MARBURY

Evan Marbury is the Resident Director of Carter Hall. He and his wife, Katrina, recently moved from Evan's home city of St. Louis after he graduated from Covenant Seminary in May.

Reflecting on the recent events of Michael Brown and the Ferguson grand jury has been difficult for me. I feel overwhelmed by the various angles that I have on the topic.

As a member of the United States Armed Forces, I live by an oath to protect and defend this government and its due process. It is beautiful that we live in a land that is ruled by law and democracy, and I feel proud to be a part of it.

However, as a young, black man, I am painfully aware of the shortcomings of justice and truth in this country. I cannot help but be confronted with the reality that for over 400 years (the majority of this country's existence), black people were institutionally oppressed, mistreated, and indoctrinated to believe that their lives meant less than white livespeople. White supremacy was in the very DNA of this nation.

Every person sees the Ferguson case through the lens of their

own experiences. As a young, black man, who has his own list of encounters with racism from authority figures, I cannot help but feel grieved.

I also view this situation as an Evangelical Christian. Every person that has been involved in these events, from Darren Wilson to the protesters, is made in the image of God. Not only that, but God is concerned about the events in Ferguson. Many of my white brothers and sisters have asked me how they should feel about these events. My greatest encouragement to them is to feel. . . something.

A mother and father have lost their son before he has lived his life. A man trying to uphold the law will never be able to live as just a police officer ever again.

Does that affect you at all? A woman was the sole business owner of a boutique that was in existence for almost 30 years. In an instant, it was burned down and she was left with nothing. A pastor who has given his life to spreading the Gospel and bettering his community lost everything when his church was burned down.

There are many lives that have been negatively impacted by the riots and looting. Does that affect

you as a member of the body of Christ? It can be easy to view these events as "over there." We are safe and secure here on the mountain, so it can be tempting to feel nothing. Likewise, it can be tempting to feel nothing if you have never personally experienced injustice.

This is about more than facing facts, and it is about more than Michael Brown and Darren Wilson. If you consider yourself a follower of Jesus Christ, indifference is not an option. In his sermon "A Tough Mind and a Tender Heart," Martin Luther King Jr. challenges believers on their disposition towards situations similar to Ferguson.

He says, "The person with a hard heart does not ever truly love. Instead, he simply engages in an improper utilitarianism that values people in so far as they are useful to him. The hard-hearted person lacks compassion, is unmoved by the pains and afflictions of his brothers, and although he passes unfortunate men every day, he doesn't really see them."

As followers of Jesus Christ, we should feel moved by the pains and afflictions in Ferguson. There should be a sense of uneasiness when we consider these unfortunate events.

So, what does "feeling something" look like practically? There are many things that can be done right here at Covenant.

First, you can pray. Spend intentional time praying for Darren Wilson's family, Michael Brown's family, and the families affected in Ferguson. Pray for peace and justice in Ferguson and across the country.

Second, you can read. Do you know what really is going on in Ferguson? In a culture that does not develop a capacity to read anything past 140 characters, it can be challenging to spend diligent time learning about what's going on, especially with your rigorous academic responsibilities. But, it is important that you are aware of what is causing national (even international) attention.

Third, you can talk. The idea of bringing up race can be scary, especially if you have never done it before. Emotions can get tense just from mentioning the possibility of racism, but part of the reason the Church struggles at addressing race issues is because we are not willing to intentionally look at them and be honest.

The Bible talks repeatedly about race, so it should come up at some

point in your conversations if you are faithful to the Gospel. I would encourage you to meditate on James 1:19 which encourages us to be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger. People are so quick to try to prove racism exists or does not exist (whether in the world or in their own hearts), yet they have not taken time to closely listen and understand someone else. The conversation may be awkward, but it is necessary.

I've been reflecting a lot on two Scriptures as a result of the events in Ferguson, 2 Corinthians 5:8 and Philippians 2:5. I keep asking the Lord to help me think about all this with his mind and not my own, and I ask him to empower me to respond well to my brother or sister who is different from me. I ask this because he has given me the ministry of reconciliation.

The Lord's heart for his people is that we would be drawn together from this and not pushed apart. This can only truly happen if we embrace the fact that we are all in Christ even though we are not all the same.



Remembering Christ in Christmas

BY ELENA FOREMAN

Over Thanksgiving break, my aunt and uncle took me to a beautiful Christmas light show, and though I did enjoy it, it made me all the more thankful for Christian celebrations of Christmas. At the lights show, there were only skiing dogs, penguins, and snowflakes; Christ was ignored.

I am not trying to say that Christians should limit themselves to Christmas plays. I love Santa as much as anyone. The Nutcracker throws me into raptures. Christmas lights I adore. No doubt Jesus smiles at all these celebrations, not grudging us our pleasure in Christmas events not connected

with His birth. After all, He wants us to be joyful.

I am trying to say that we as Christians should remember our Savior's birth in the midst of our Christmas activities. When I was little, my parents took me and my siblings to both the Nutcracker and a live nativity every Christmas. We sang "Frosty, the Snowman," but we also carolled "Silent Night," and Mom always set out multiple nativity sets along with the seasonal nuts and ribbons. I think it is important that we Christians do not forget to celebrate His birth in the midst of all the seasonal hubbub.

Some of you might be thinking: "Yeah, yeah, yeah. 'The reason for the season.' What's the point? We're at a Christian college, and the decorations are already quite Christian." Well, yay for Covenant! But, one day, when you are not living in your parents' house, remember to take your kids to a live nativity now and again. Put stars and angels, as well as icicles, on your tree. Get a nativity set. Throw all the cookie parties you want; attend Christmas concerts, if you wish; and feel free to enjoy a Christmas banquet! Maybe Christian participation in such events redeems them, as good

reformed, PCA Presbyterians say, for celebration of Christ's birth. Just remember "Christmas is a birthday," and you will be doing all a Christian ought.

When I attended the lights show, I was surprised at the difference it made to have no angels, no stars, and no baby Jesus. I did enjoy the lights; it was a fantastic monument to the power of technology. But without Jesus, it all felt empty, as though this was Christmas in name only. It manifested only man's ability, not God's glory. So imagine how a non-Christian feels on entering a Christian home decorated for Christmas with nativities, stars, and

angels (plus whatever else appeals to the owners that is not necessarily Christian). Did you ever think what a powerful testimony those trinkets could become? I know I did not.

In conclusion, notice that our job is to remember Christ in Christmas. Christ is already in Christmas, whether you act like it or not. But it is our responsibility as Christians -- not to put Him in it, not to keep Him in -- but to remember Him. Include Him in your festivities. And remember that that inclusion does not exclude other forms of Christmas entertainment.

Entitlement Part 2

BY NATHAN CLARK

Entitlement is a poison that permeates throughout life. At Covenant (gasp - yes, even here), we can become entitled. There many ways entitlement infiltrates, divides, and destroys relationships. Two places come to mind where entitlement comes to mind at Covenant: Chartwells and Parking Tickets.

I'll get the more controversial one out of the way first. Yes, parking tickets can be annoying. But when space is limited and faculty need somewhere to park, they have to keep the area clear.

Many people are frustrated with the system and the limited space and want the tickets to be cheaper and the rules for parking clearer. Some will even give theological platitudes to justify their complaints. I won't get into the details of the complaints.

But I agree with the current prices. Since when did we deserve cheaper prices anyway? The ticket is a deterrent to keep you from parking where you're not supposed to. The rules are simple; if you don't want a ticket, don't park where you're not supposed to. End of story.

The people in Chartwells work hard to bring us food every single

day. Are there things that could improve?

Absolutely.

Should we make these suggestions known to them?

You bet.

But to constantly complain about it, day after day? That's not ok.

It's not your mother's cooking, but you'll survive. When you stop and consider how bad other people have it, you will change your tune. Much of the world goes to bed hungry, not knowing where their next meal is coming from.

I could pay my tuition off for all the times I've heard, "I didn't pay 40,000 dollars to (fill in the blank)."

Let's bear in mind that we aren't the only ones making sacrifices to be up here. The professors could have gone to another college and made a lot more money, but they want to serve and love us.

The board of trustees could spend their free time doing other things, yet they choose to care about our future and the future of this school.

But all of this is not meant to make us feel guilty. Guilt will not solve our entitlement problems. Gratitude will. There are three

basic prerequisites to gratitude: know who you are, what you really deserve, and what you have gotten instead. When you have the proper answer to these three things and meditate on them, gratitude should be the natural outcome.

Who am I?

First, I am a creature. He is infinite, I am finite. He reigns over all things; I am under Him. He creates and sustains all things out of nothing, I can make nothing on my own.

Even the air I breath and the energy my body has to exert itself is from God.

Secondly I am a sinner, who has rebelled against God. I have not done what He commands and have done what He disallows. I am not just undeserving but ill-deserving of God's blessing over me.

What do I deserve? As a creature I deserve nothing. There is nothing I can bring to God that he doesn't already have.

In other words, I can do nothing to put God in my debt. As a sinner, I deserve God's wrath. His active judgement should be placed upon me. But I also deserve to have all of the blessing I receive everyday revoked.

The Valley of Vision puts it this way "Sinner that I am, why should the sun give me light, the air supply breath, the earth bear my tread, its fruits nourish me, its creatures subserve my ends?"

What do I get instead? Because of Christ, I get grace. Infinite, amazing grace. God's riches poured out on me, because God's wrath has poured out on Christ.

Most important is that I'm now in right standing with God, and I get to be in a relationship with Him. I get the many blessings of that both believers and unbelievers share.

The sun's heat, food, shelter, clothes, freedom, friendships, and family to name a few. I like how Dr. Morris put it, saying that we have an "embarrassment of riches". I imagine Billy Mays just shouting "But wait there's more!" over and over when I think of all God has blessed me with.

So here is my challenge: Gratitude.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 says "give thanks in all circumstances." Every time you have to eat Chartwells, thank God that there is food before and that He has given you "your daily bread". Every time you have park farther than you want to,

because Sanderson is full, thank Him for having a car to drive and legs to walk.

For every suffering, thank God, because "suffering produces character, and character hope and hope does not put as to shame."

I conclude by returning to Matthew 20. After Jesus tells the Parable of the Workers, he predicts His death a third time.

Why now?

Because now that they see that He alone has the right to be generous, He will show them the extent that generosity will go. He is the only human that deserved anything.

In fact, He deserved everything, yet became nothing just as Philipians 2 says. It's through His grace granted to undeserving people that we can in turn give up our entitlement and serve others.

A Lament For Fallen Follicles

BY Z ARIMA

Friends, Family, Countrymen.

We are gathered together in order to honor those follicles that have fallen from esteemed crowns. Today we are collected in memory of beauty, beauty passed on into another dominion. A dominion of the past, where our heroes now are shampooed in celestial beauty salons alongside other legends like Michael Jackson's jheri curl, Abraham Lincoln's chinstrap, Bob Marley's dreads, and Salvador Dali's mustache. These fibers are undoubtedly walking down the streets of gold alongside the saints of the hair world.

Let us not forget the great things that Hunter Harrison's hairstyle, and Ryan Burns' facial hair brought to our campus.

These men are no doubt great men beneath their external beauty, but their exo-skeletal grandeur was magnified ten-fold

by the glory of their unique looks.

When I see Hunter Harrison on the pitch I am afeared for my very life. And when I see him bearing down upon me, with a fierce man-bun bobbing behind him, I flee.

Goodbye, you valiant mane. Your wondrous perch pines for the warmth you have provided so faithfully. Our eyes long for you, our tears wish to bring you forth from the soil they fall upon. There shan't be a day that passes where your presence is not yearned for, upon a particular scalp and in the gaze of the rest. Fare you well. Fare you well. May my soul be blessed to reencounter you in another realm, a place fairer than here. An abode that is wholly fit for a do like you.

A compatriot of the haircut from Nazareth is the scruffy face of one Ryan Burns. Ryan's euphonious prayers in Chapel were delivered through a mouth mitten, a caterpil-

lar that simultaneously warmed his upper lip, and our inner ears. The sweetness of his voice was delivered with the sweetness of each particle of sour substance left over from his pre-chapel gummy worms.

But its luminescence was snuffed out prematurely, by an over-eager boy with a hatchet for a razor. Ryan murdered his own creation. Like a potter smashing a finished tea set, Ryan set to his face with Gillette in hand.

Ryan is a renaissance man, one who strikes the heart with harmonies, and the eyes with his own baby blues. But now he is merely a renaissance boy strumming a lute, with a naked chin to boot. You shall not be forgotten you unsung scraggly champion! We, the people of this fine campus, will remember you in our hearts, and our dreams. Forever.

This campus is a darker place now. The shining light that guides us from atop Harrison tower is no longer lit. And the lamp that was upon Ryan's chin no longer Burns. Someone must now rise up and fill the shoes that have been left empty by our heros. Who shall lead our follicles forth into fashionable glory? Whose locks will flow in the wind? Whose mean mug will be masked with marvelous moustache?

A humble proclamation goes up from Lookout Mountain today. You will be missed. The both of you. We look to your memory for stylistic guidance.

Scots Spotlight: Will Carlton

BY ANNA DOVE



Name: Will Carlton

Year: Junior

Hometown: Franklin, Tenn.

Major: History

Sport: Baseball

How did you become interested in your sport?

At the age of five, my parents signed up for little league baseball, and ever since then I've grown to really enjoy the game.

What was one of the best experiences you have had being on the Scots?

Last season when we won the college's first baseball conference championship, in the USA South.

What is your favorite Scots tradition?

I like it when the whole team, right before the game starts, all embrace each other and someone on the team prays, just to bless us and bless the game, and to help us remember why we are out there.

Also, on a more personal note, I like it when we do the national anthem; it's not really a Scots tradition but one for sports. It gives you time to reflect on things, to be thankful for your country, to reflect on the game, on the Lord, and it is a moment of peace before you play.

Who has the best haircut on the team?

Z Arima, it's fresh.

Are you hopeful for the upcoming season?

Yeah, I think that we have a good core group of returners and a good group of younger guys and transfers, and I think we should have a really good season.

What position do you play?

Normally left field, but I'll play anywhere they ask me to.

Even pitcher?

(with uncertainty) If they ask me

What is your spirit animal?

A hummingbird, because the hummingbird spirit animal symbolizes the enjoyment of life and lightness of being. Those who have the hummingbird as a totem are invited to enjoy the sweetness of life, lift up negativity. Or at least that's what the online quiz told me.

If you could have a walk up song, what would it be?

Probably some techno-dubstep something, something to get people to enjoy life.

What makes you nervous in a game?

When there's a big moment in a game, you want to make the big play for the team, so you can win. What makes me nervous is the possibility that if you don't make the big play, you might let the team down.

What is your favorite Taylor Swift song?

Shake It Off, because it's catchy, and I saw the music video, and it looked like she was having a lot of fun.

What is one of the lessons you have learned being on the team?

Definitely that you can't take the game for granted; at any point in time it can be stripped away from you, though injury or tragedy or anything you can't think of. Not taking the game for granted helps you play harder for your team, because you never know...and that's what sports is all about, being part of a team.