

# the IVY LEAGUE CHRISTIAN OBSERVER



## A DECADE OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT Christian Union Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary

*Special section, Pages 20–23*

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Brown ■ Columbia ■ Cornell ■ Dartmouth  
Harvard ■ Penn ■ Princeton ■ Yale



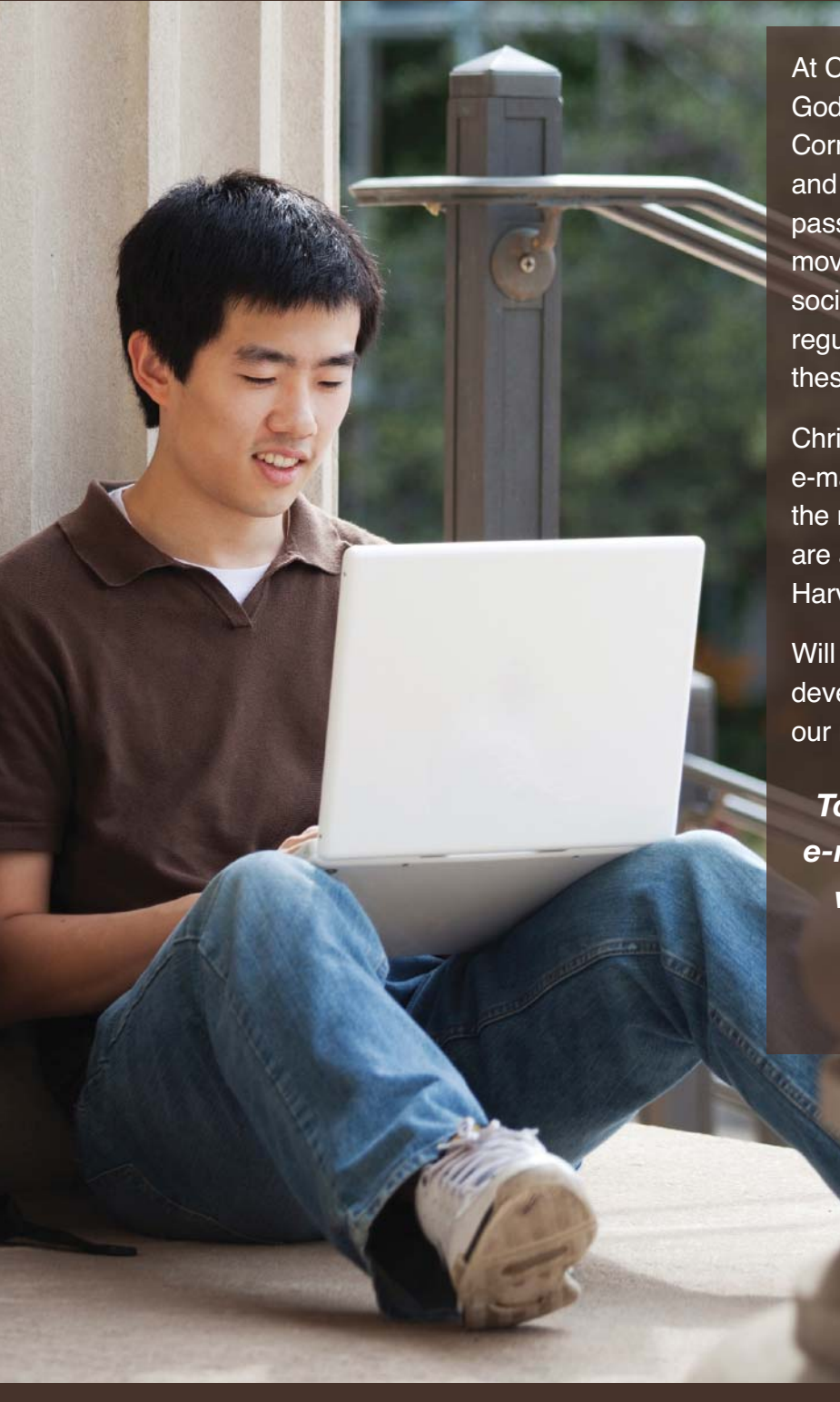
Developing  
Christian Leaders to  
Transform Culture

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



# 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 recently launched a monthly e-mail that describes the key prayer needs of the ministry. Campus-specific prayer e-mails are also available for Columbia, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale.

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

***To receive Christian Union's prayer e-mail each month, sign up online at [www.Christian-Union.org/prayer](http://www.Christian-Union.org/prayer) or send an e-mail to: [prayer@Christian-Union.org](mailto:prayer@Christian-Union.org).***



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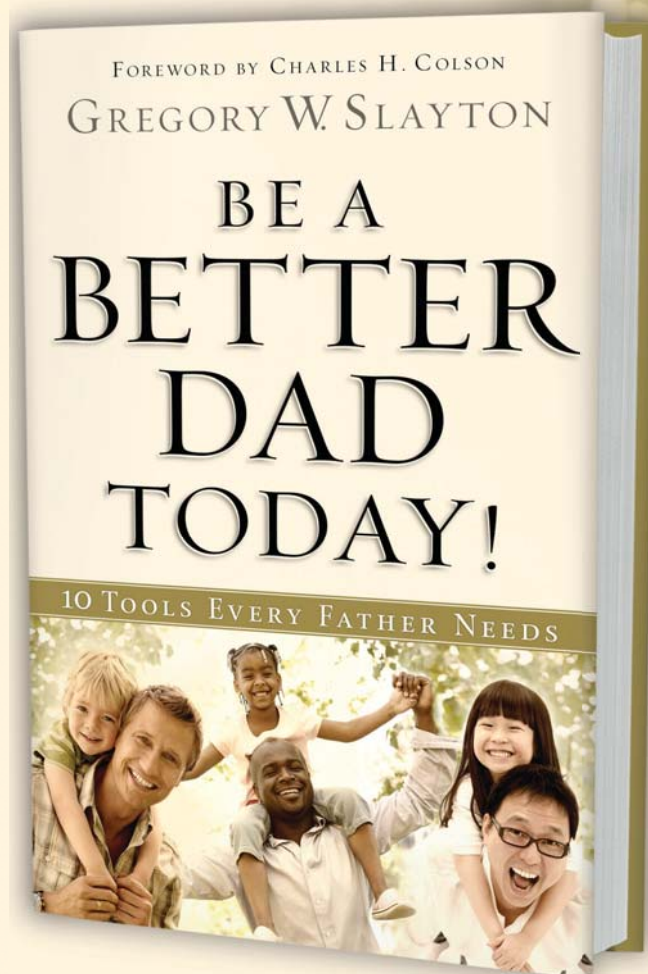
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### Gregory W. Slayton

The Honorable **Gregory W. Slayton** is an American author, businessman, diplomat, philanthropist and professor, but, more importantly, a father of four great kids. Born in Ohio, he grew up without a real father and then travelled the world studying fathers and fatherhood on five continents. Gregory now resides in Hanover, New Hampshire, with his wife and four children. He is the managing director of Slayton Capital, teaches on occasion at Dartmouth, Harvard and Stanford, and is also a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Leadership at UIBE Business School in Beijing, China.



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Please help us get this magazine into the hands of those who want it. E-mail or write us in order to:

- pass along the names of fellow Christian alumni, parents, staff, faculty, or friends who would enjoy this quarterly update from the Ivy League universities.
- update us on any address change you have.
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#### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Matt Bennett, Cornell BS '88, MBA '89

#### MANAGING EDITOR

Tom Campisi, College of New Jersey '89

#### SENIOR WRITER

Eileen Scott, Mount St. Mary '87

#### FIELD REPORTERS

Grace Chen, Cornell '10

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](http://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: Ivy League students and Christian Union faculty members at Christian Union's Faith and Action Conference in April.

#### A WORD FROM THE PUBLISHER

## An Awakening



She was a freshman from India. Not only was she excited about coming to Dartmouth, she was also looking forward to living in what she believed was a Christian nation. She dreamed about how great it would be to receive a world-class education among students who shared the same passion for Jesus Christ and the gospel.

After all, who could blame her? She had never been to America, but with one Google search, could have learned that Dartmouth was founded by Rev. Eleazer Wheelock, a by-product of New England's Great Awakening. The minister started the college to educate and reach the young Native Americans in New Hampshire.

Her first visit to a fraternity party on campus shocked her into realizing that whatever America may have been in the past, it certainly could not be considered a "Christian nation" anymore. She was only at the party a few minutes, but the sexually explicit antics disturbed her so profoundly that she retreated back to her room and literally wept all night.

When I heard this story from Christian Union's ministry fellows at Dartmouth, I also wept. How could we allow our campus culture, especially in light of God's many blessings and kindnesses, deteriorate to such a place that it would cause a Christian from another nation to weep all night? I thought of righteous Lot as recorded in 2 Peter 2:7 and 8. He was "was greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard)."

It's a small consolation, but we are thankful that this young woman found a Christian community, Bible course, and one-on-one mentoring through Christian Union faculty at Dartmouth, but her experience illustrates how much we need to see these schools impacted by Jesus Christ. As Christian Union celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year (see pages 20-23), I am thankful for what God has done and remain resolute in trusting Him to see even greater things in the next decade. In this issue, you can also read about some of the work fellow campus ministries are doing on some of our nation's most influential universities.

The goal of Christian Union is to see 20 percent of the students at Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale engaged in a Christian ministry by the year 2020. By God's grace, this can happen if, together, we seek Him diligently and strategically develop Christian leaders who can make a difference in our world.

Yours 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, the Christian Union is not an umbrella organization.

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## GOOD WITHOUT GOD?

*Harvard College Faith and Action Debates Humanists, Atheists, Agnostics*

**H** “If we’re going to have a discussion on ethics, let’s be ethical in giving up our seats and moving forward so that others can sit,” exhorted moderator Jordan Monge in Harvard’s Science Center Auditorium C. Typically used for large science lecture courses and having a seat capacity of 350, Harvard students of all faith backgrounds (and no faith backgrounds) crowded into the auditorium, leaving it completely filled—including the entirety of the floor space and standing room in the back. It is estimated that 430 people were present at the fall semester debate hosted by Harvard College Faith and Action (HCFA) and Harvard Community Humanists, Atheists, and Agnostics (HCHAA).

In the summer of 2011, the organizations formed a reading project where students read and discussed *The God Delusion* by Richard Dawkins and *Atheist Delusions* by David Bentley Hart through a googlegroup.

This fall, recognizing the importance of engaging with people who think differently and the campus as a whole, HCFA and HCHAA (formerly called the Harvard Secular Society) hosted a debate entitled “Good without God?” on September 2 in Harvard’s Science Center. Harvard College Faith and Action is a leadership de-

velopments ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

‘14. “However, we are always interested in an opportunity to share the gospel. If there is any opportunity to present the gospel on a public platform, let’s take it.”

At the event, each organization had two

representatives debate the Dostoevsky quote: “If there is no God, all is permitted.” The discussion began with a witty opening by Eliot Wilson, president of HCHAA, and was followed by a passionate introduction by Su.

live as moral and/or “good” beings. They cited several works in human psychology, which asserted that humans are biologically wired to be moral beings.



**Members of Harvard Association of Humanists, Atheists, and Agnostics debated members of Harvard College Faith and Action.**



**Jordan Monge '12 served as the debate moderator.**

***“At the debate, members of Harvard College Faith and Action showed that they are willing to engage with people who disagree with them on the same academic playing field.”***

***—Jordan Monge, Harvard '12***

velopment ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

“In approaching this, we wanted to be true to the purpose of a debate. That is, we didn’t see this as a platform to preach,” said HCFA President Alastair Su

philosophical and logical coherence, but also personal testimonies pointing to concrete examples of the necessity of God and His goodness in the world. Tu and Otey espoused an argument based on the prerequisite of purpose to determine that

Following the event, moderator Jordan Monge '12 stated, “There’s a widespread impression that Christians are not intellectually minded and don’t have good answers to tough questions. At the debate, HCFA showed that they are willing to engage with people who disagree with them on the same academic playing field.”

A former atheist and a member of HCFA before graduating in the spring, Monge was able to hold the middle ground as an impartial moderator and facilitated the serious discussion with humorous, clarifying remarks.

Su values the rare cooperation that HCFA and HCHAA share and looks forward to fostering more fruitful dialogue on the Harvard campus.

Reflecting on the event, Tu emphasized God’s provision in the midst of her fears. “For two weeks I tried to mold myself to be a philosopher and a debater. But God led me to realize that convincing people is not dependent on eloquent words and persuasive speech. Even so, God allowed for both persuasion and eloquence, which I see as added grace.” ■

# PRAYING FOR REVIVAL AT THE QUAD

*Cornell Students Hold Event in Conjunction with International Movement*



About 40 students, staff, and ministers at Cornell University prayed for revival on their campus during CU at the Quad on the morning of September 26. Their intercession coincided with See You at the Pole, an international, student-led prayer movement.

Campus on a Hill organized the event, which took place at 8 a.m. in the Arts Quad. For about 90 minutes, participants prayed for their campus, as well as the nation, from the heart of one of Cornell's best-known landmarks and meeting spots.

"It encouraged students to recognize that they weren't alone on this campus and that we need to be united through prayer," said William Poon '13. The biology and society major runs Campus on a Hill ([campusonahill.org](http://campusonahill.org)) and participates in Cru Cornell ([www.crucornell.com](http://www.crucornell.com)).

Students and ministers alike heralded the outdoor gathering as a touching show of unity and spiritual fervor on campus. Representatives from at least seven campus ministries or church outreaches participated.

"Events like these show us just how powerful prayer is, and they encourage and compel us to pray more vigorously," said Karsten Mikkelsen '14.

Much of the gathering, which included small-group prayer sessions, focused on interceding for revival at Cornell.

"Prayer changes everything. When people who love Jesus gather together and pray, the fire spreads. Two flames burn brighter than one," said Kimberly Campos '14. "When there are more than two, we have a fire that cannot be tamed."

Campos also described the crowd as spiritually hungry. "God is stirring up hearts for revival at Cornell," she said. "It is a time for believers to rise up and reflect the splendor of our King."

Along those lines, students involved with the event noted it took place in the heart of one of the busiest crossroads of

campus. The Arts Quad serves as home to the College of Arts and Sciences, the university's largest undergraduate college, and the College of Architecture, Art, and Planning. About 21,000 undergraduate

by showing the concerns we share for the university and the wider community beyond Cornell."

Hobday, who graduated from Wheaton College in 2011, said he is burdened for the Cornell campus.

"In the short time I've been at Cornell, I've seen so many students in bondage to addictions, alcohol, and the hook-up culture. There has also been a troubling wave of sexual assaults in the past month," he said.

"Cornell can be a very dark place, but I also see a bright light coming out from the Christian community. The believers I know are passionate about sharing the gospel and seeking out God's will for their lives."

Campos echoed those comments.

"We cried out to God for our campus: for those who do not know Him yet, for His love to be encountered, for repentance of sin, for freedom, for truth, for life," Campos said. "It was a beautiful time of declaring and taking hold of God's promises for

our lives and for this campus. I believe that it did something. Prayer always does something."

Jim Thomforde, Christian Union's director of ministry at Cornell, said he was encouraged during the session. "I saw it



**About 40 students, faculty, and ministers at Cornell University gathered on campus to pray during an event dubbed CU at the Quad. It coincided with See You at the Pole, a national prayer event for schools.**

and graduate students are enrolled on the Ithaca campus.

"I was excited to see students come together from various backgrounds for prayer and worship in a very public space. It takes courage to gather in the middle of

***"We cried out to God for our campus: for those who do not know Him yet, for His love to be encountered, for repentance of sin, for freedom, for truth, for life."***

***—Kimberly Campos, Cornell '14***

a quad at a secular university," said Jeff Hobday, a first-year law student. "Events like this promote unity among believers

as an opportunity to come together as one in Christ to pray for God's blessing and movement on campus," he said.

See You at the Pole began in 1990 as a grassroots movement with 10 students praying at their high school in Texas. Today, an estimated 3 million students pray on their campuses in 20-plus countries on the fourth Wednesday in September.

During the youth-led event primarily targeting secondary institutions, students

meet at flagpoles and pray for their friends, families, teachers, schools, and government.

At Cornell, Campus on a Hill organized the event, which included worship and prayer. The student-run organization facilitates networking and collaboration between campus ministries and local

churches in the Ithaca community.

As for Poon, the native of Queens, New York, said he helped organize CU at the Quad because of his involvement in See You at the Pole as a high school student.

“It was a great reason to meet together under the knowledge that students all over the world are praying with us,” he said. ■

By Eileen Scott, Senior Writer

## CHALKING IT UP TO FAITH

### Students Use Sidewalk Art to Communicate the Gospel

**C**ORNELL In a digital campus environment where most communication happens through texting, Facebook, and YouTube videos, some Cornell students are employing a decidedly “old school” medium to grab pedestrians’ attention and stop them in their tracks in the middle of their walks across campus.



**Christians at Cornell are reaching out to the campus community through chalk art.**

Chalk art, simply put, incorporates images and words on a variety of surfaces. At Cornell, the artistry typically happens on the sidewalks around campus. (Similar to the drawings in the park by Dick Van Dyke’s chimney sweep character in *Mary Poppins*.)

But rather than bringing carousels to life, Cornell students are striving to bring

the Bible to life for those who behold these multi-colored images and words of inspiration and truth.

“Cornell is known by many as a place with a very spiritually dry atmosphere,” said John Hui ’15, a member of Campus on a Hill at Cornell ([www.campusonahill.org](http://www.campusonahill.org)). Hui and other Christians are aiming to make known the love of Jesus Christ on campus, and Campus on a Hill (COAH) members are using chalking to shift students’ attention to Him. COAH is an umbrella ministry that seeks to promote and coordinate inter-ministry and inter-church events on campus.

movements,” said Hui.

Like the weather at the New York campus, chalking comes in seasons. Hui explained that when the weather is good, chalking for Jesus can be as frequent as a few times a week, but once the snow begins to fall, chalking generally becomes less frequent.

Still, when the weather is dry, chalk artists can be found watering the seeds of hope planted through the ministry’s evangelistic efforts. Sometimes that nurturing comes by way of students stopping to ask why artists are working so hard on their chalking—in the middle of the night.

**“By laying down the Word in chalk and giving students a glimpse of His love through our art, we hope that we can spark interest and curiosity.”**

**—John Hui, Cornell ’15**

“By laying down the Word in chalk and giving students a glimpse of His love through our art, we hope that we can spark interest and curiosity,” Hui said.

Chalk artists have been using the medium to evangelize for decades, and according to Hui, the artistic meet-ups at Cornell have been going on for years, too, as Christian students have felt compelled to share the love of Christ. In fact, he said, students have dubbed the activity Sporadic Jesus Chalking.

“It’s the new and unofficial title given to random and unscheduled get-togethers of chalking for various Christian events and

“The other students’ curiosity is definitely a sign that their minds are working, making way for the Holy Spirit to do His thing,” said Hui, who noted that despite the many intellectual barriers and negative stigmas associated with Christianity across campus, “God is clearly at work.”

And as COAH students continue to chalk on God’s behalf, they remain inspired by the love and truth of God’s Word to proclaim the joy of the gospel through images and words that speak life into the hearts and minds of those with eyes to see (and eventually ears to hear) the eternal truth. ■



# 'THE GOSPEL CHANGES EVERYTHING'

*New Director of Manna Christian Fellowship Excited to Work with Future Leaders*

**P** A veteran campus minister recently took over the helm of Manna Christian Fellowship ([princeton.edu/~manna](http://princeton.edu/~manna)) from long-time leader Rev. David Kim.

In August, Samuel Chez, a former vice president with the Coalition for Christian Outreach ([ccojubilee.org](http://ccojubilee.org)), assumed the leadership of the Princeton University campus ministry from Kim, who is concentrating on his role as director with Redeemer Presbyterian Church's Gotham Initiative.

"The Ivy League student is not your average student," Chez said. "They have the potential to be leaders wherever they go and the idealism to want to change the world."

Chez, who has served in campus ministry for nearly two decades, wants to concentrate on introducing undergraduates to the gospel and its transformative power in all areas of their personal, academic, and professional lives.

"The gospel changes everything," Chez said. "The potential of these students is significant. It's not something I take lightly."

In his most recent position, Chez served as vice president of strategic partnerships for the coalition, which partners with churches, colleges, and ministries to

a master of arts from Geneva College.

For now, he will commute from Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, where he lives with his wife and three children. He also serves as an elder at New Life Presbyterian in nearby Dresher.

As for Kim (Penn '94), the former molecular genetics researcher became passionate about campus ministry after helping Manna on a part-time basis during its infancy in the 1996 academic year. In 2007, he joined the team with Redeemer in Manhattan, but continued on a part-time basis as executive director of Manna.

At the Gotham Initiative, Kim helped develop an intensive education program for young professionals in Manhattan. Kim holds a master of divinity from Westminster Theological Seminary and a master of theology from Princeton Theological Seminary. His wife Jane (Princeton '04, Cornell Law '07) wrapped up staffer duties with Manna in fall 2011 and now works with a non-profit organization in Manhattan.

Along related lines, Joel Ristuccia is entering his second year with Manna after taking over the position vacated by Rev. Blake Altman, campus director. The native of Princeton, New Jersey most recently served as a pastoral intern with



**Samuel Chez, a veteran campus minister, took over as executive director of Manna Christian Fellowship in August.**

***"The Ivy League student is not your average student. They have the potential to be leaders wherever they go and the idealism to want to change the world."***

***— Samuel Chez***

develop men and women to live out their Christian faith. The organization serves about 18,000 students in the mid-Atlantic region.

Chez previously led a team of directors serving campus ministers across Eastern Pennsylvania, Central New York, New York City, and Washington, D.C. Chez, who joined the coalition in 1994, holds a bachelor of arts from Messiah College and

The Moody Church in the Chicago area, where he also earned a master of divinity from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

"This was the ministry I felt called to, and I was willing to go anywhere," said Ristuccia.

Being near his family and familiar places was a bonus for Ristuccia, who left New Jersey to study economics at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri,

before relocating to Chicago for a consulting job in the healthcare industry. His wife Janet, an architect and mother of a toddler, also is assisting with discipling female staffers and student leaders.

Ristuccia is the son of Rev. Matt Ristuccia, senior pastor of Westerly Road Church and a Princeton alumnus of 1975, and Karen Ristuccia, academic dean of The Wilberforce School and a Princeton alumna of 1975.

"Doing college ministry at Princeton offers a lot of potential to work with future leaders," Joel Ristuccia said. "I'm asking myself how I can impact future generations. The gospel isn't just something that saves you from hell. It's a worldview that applies to every decision you make."

For now, Ristuccia and Chez say they are focused on moving Manna forward in the 2013 academic year.

"At the core, what we do is engaging and incorporating the gospel as a worldview," Ristuccia said. "We really challenge them to get specific and really flesh it out. We want them to apply the gospel better." ■

# HOMECOMING

*College Hill for Christ at Brown Welcomes New Staff, Interns*

**B** College Hill for Christ began the new academic year at Brown University with the help of some passionate, vibrant alumnae.

birthed in recent academic years, a group of campus ministries are taking turns facilitating weekday prayer gatherings from 8:15 to 8:45 a.m.

“We’re seeing students commit to prayer. We’re excited about that.”

This year, Ellis is receiving assistance from Kim, an anthropology major who participated in Cru as an undergraduate, and Yang, who’s taking a year off from Brown’s Warren Alpert Medical School.

Yang pursued the internship with Cru because “she wanted to develop the spiritual aspect of her training in healing,” Ellis said. “She felt she could supplement her training. Physical healing is one aspect of healing.”

As for Ellis, the Idaho native says she simply loves ministry.

“I feel very, very blessed to have work that I am passionate about and causes me to draw close to God on a moment-by-moment basis,” she said. “You cannot be very effective in ministry without having a very close relationship with Jesus. It’s just really neat to be able to say we know our purpose, to know God, and to make Him known.”

Ellis recently served on staff with Cru’s summer project in Wildwood, New Jersey. There she trained and oversaw Cru students who shared their faith on the seaside community’s bustling boardwalks and beaches.

Among other developments, longtime Brown staffer Brodie Herb married Greg Friesen in Maine in August, and the couple is assigned to Cru’s Rhode Island



**Cru’s ministry at Brown University began the new academic year with the help of a team of alumnae.**

Lorenna Ellis ’09 now heads the ministry staff at Brown, where she’s assisted by interns Julia Kim ’12 and Angela Yang ’09.

“We really believe God is at work here at Brown,” said Ellis, who served as an intern with Cru for three years after earning a degree in commerce, organizations, and entrepreneurship. “We are in an expectant place and looking for God to move. We are definitely encouraging students to get plugged in with us and get plugged in at Brown.”

Along those lines, College Hill ([cru-brown.org](http://cru-brown.org)) is helping to lead inter-ministry prayer sessions on Wednesday mornings at Manning Chapel. As part of a student initiative

In particular, Ellis wants to assure anxious freshmen that Brown offers a committed Christian community and that rides are available to attend church services.

***“I feel very, very blessed to have work that I am passionate about and causes me to draw close to God on a moment-by-moment basis. You cannot be very effective in ministry without having a very close relationship with Jesus. It’s just really neat to be able to say we know our purpose, to know God, and to make Him known.”***

**—Lorenna Ellis, Brown ’09**

“I’m really encouraged about the way the different [ministries] are working together and coming together,” Ellis said.

team, but is spending the academic year raising support. Former staffer Katelyn Thanos wed Tyler Pickett in July and is

now assigned to Cru's Boston office. Former staff member Jarrod Lynn (Brown '05, '07 MS) now serves as the director of Cru's Rhode Island team and oversees Athletes in Action at Brown.

College Hill for Christ began this academic year studying Philippians. Ellis noted a major commitment from Cru's

team at Brown to develop student leaders, especially through one-on-one interaction.

"One aspect of ministry that really inspires me is sending Ivy League leaders who are passionately in love with Jesus," Ellis said. "Brown grads have amazing opportunities upon graduation. We want their trajectory to be about glorifying God."

Ultimately, Ellis wants Brown students to know College Hill offers a "community that is caring and passionate about pointing people to Jesus Christ. We're a community of spiritual seekers. You're welcome and invited to be part of a discussion about Jesus." ■

By Eileen Scott, Senior Writer

## A FRESH START

### *New Students Get Lift from On-Campus Catholic Retreat*

**P** Freshmen make a lot of crucial decisions during their early days on campus. Which is a big reason why more than a dozen Catholic students at Penn fed their souls before the academic year fully commenced.

Thirteen first-year students participated in the Novus Freshmen Retreat, hosted by the Penn Newman Center prior to the start of classes.

"I believe it was extremely important to begin my time at Penn in a faith-based retreat in order to both center God in this new chapter of my life and surround myself with others who shared a common interest," said Allison Lufti '16.

The retreat helped students forge friendships and learn about the campus from a spiritual and practical perspective before the pressure of classes began.

"I had the opportunity to meet people who had enthusiasm to live out their faith and it inspired me even more to want to improve my prayer life and my relationship with God," said freshman Rosmary George, adding that talking with upperclassmen leading the retreat helped her learn more about the campus and calm her nerves about college life.

The purpose of the Novus Retreat was to help students grow in their faith. However, unlike other Newman retreats, Novus was not held away from the busyness of university life; rather, it brought students together in the midst of the campus experience.

The students camped out in the Newman Center for the three-day event. According to Newman Center Director Jeffrey Klein, hosting the retreat there is a

great way to familiarize new students with the center itself and ease the logistics of participating in on-campus activities.

While the professional staff at Newman hosted the event, student leaders spearheaded many of the activities and took a key leadership role.

For example, upperclassmen gave presentations

on topics including, Living a Successful Life, Choices, Relationships, and Spirituality.

"Going through the retreat this year as a sophomore helped me step up and take more responsibility as a leader, since there's now a younger class looking up to me for guidance," said Taylor Luiso '15.

The retreat participants also experienced an ice breaker, small group discussion, and a prayer service. "We try to follow the pattern of 'We Gather, We Learn, We Pray, We Serve,'" said Luiso.

Students also spent time serving in Philadelphia. Another activity was the Emmaus walk, named after Jesus appearing to two disciples on the road to Emmaus after his resurrection. Each freshman was paired with an upperclassman for a walk around the campus and an opportunity to talk about life, college, and any concerns.

While Novus is designed to introduce

freshmen to the Penn Newman community, it also has a long-term impact, Klein said, adding that students who attend the retreat generally remain involved in the ministry.

"This particular group of incoming



**The Catholic community at Penn welcomed freshmen with a three-day retreat at the Newman Center.**

freshmen bonded very quickly to each other," said Klein. "Judging by their attendance at subsequent Penn Newman events, it appears that they have created a close-knit social group of their own in their short time on campus."

Already, George sees the significance of the Newman Center in her life at Penn.

"I see the Newman Center as a place that I can go to when I am struggling with something, especially when it is related to my faith, or a place where I can build up a fellowship with other students who are also interested in living their Catholic

faith,” she said.

Lufti agrees: “I was able to strengthen my relationship with God while forming bonds with those around me. As I start my college career at Penn, I know that God is by my side through all of these new changes, and that He has provided me with a great new group of friends.”

The potential for lasting fruit produced by the retreat is also evident to the upperclassman who participated.

“Whenever I see one of the freshmen from retreat around campus, they’re al-

**“Going through the retreat this year as a sophomore helped me step up and take more responsibility as a leader, since there’s now a younger class looking up to me for guidance.”**

**—Taylor Luiso, Penn ’15**

most always with another freshman from the retreat,” said Luiso.

And as the academic year progresses,

Klein’s hope and prayer for the ministry is that it continues to be open to God’s call

and is able to discern the best ways for bringing others closer to Christ. ■

By Eileen Scott, Senior Writer

## ‘SEEMING OKAY RATHER THAN BEING OKAY’

**Student Suicides Spark Dialogue at the Start of Fall Semester**

**C** As the academic year began with excitement and promise, students at Columbia University in New York City were shaken by the loss of freshman Martha Corey-Ochoa, who jumped to her death from a dormitory on August 27.

“She was smart, beautiful, and kind,” her father eulogized, according to a *Newsday* article. “She was like a supernova that shines brilliantly, but briefly, and then goes out. She has gone out, and the light has gone out of my life.”

Corey-Ochoa, valedictorian at Dobbs Ferry (New York) High School, ended her life just hours after a freshman meet-and-greet.

“It’s such a sad, jolting reminder of the impossibly heavy burden that many of these students feel, even from the very day of arrival on campus,” said Jesse Peterson, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Columbia.

Less than two weeks after Coey-Ochoa’s death, Harvard junior Cote Laramie took his life at his home in Pembroke, New Hampshire.

Laramie was a member of the Harvard Glee Club and described by those who knew him as a gifted musician and poet.

Nicole Morreale, Laramie’s former girlfriend, told the *Harvard Crimson*, “He

had this unbridled joy about everything. You couldn’t help but be happy when Cote was around.”



**Columbia freshman Martha Corey-Ochoa jumped to her death in New York City shortly after arriving at Columbia to begin her freshman year.**

But appearances can be deceiving. Often those suffering hide their pain, seeing it as a failure or weakness.

“We are often seen more as seeming okay rather than being okay,” wrote Wendy Chang, Harvard ’12 in a speech

she wrote for Class Day. But she never gave the speech—Chang took her own life last April, just prior to graduation.

Chang’s classmate Jordan Monge ’12 didn’t know her, but she did know the intense emotional pain that leads to thoughts of suicide.

Following Laramie’s death, Monge wrote a blog for *The Harvard Ichthus*. In the post, she confessed her own battle with depression and admitted to contemplating suicide no less than three times prior to her senior year. She also wrote of the hope that saved her from death.

“It came down to this and this alone: I had the hope to know that God was using my suffering to effect some important change in myself and in those around me,” she wrote, “and the faith to trust that all of this temporary failure would not matter in the grand scheme of eternity.”

Additionally, she stated, “Knowing that my old suicidal habits had been transformed into hope amidst despair made it clear that my faith had made a difference in my life.”

Monge’s courage to share her experience also appears to have made a difference in the lives of others suffering with emotional issues.

More than 2,700 read the post within just a few days. According to Monge, she received dozens of encouraging messages from acquaintances and phone calls from friends who cried while sharing their own struggles.

What appears to be the prevalence of depression on college campuses isn't surprising to mental health experts. Harold Koplewicz, M.D., president of the Child Mind Institute in New York City and an Ivy League parent, said suicide is the third leading cause of death among 14- to 24-year-olds. He also noted that campus ministries can play an important role in reaching out to at-risk students.

"Faith-based ministries provide a sense of community, whether someone belongs to a church or only participates in a faith-based volunteer program," he said. "It's the fact that they have a sense of belonging to a group of people who care about them."

Two events at the beginning of the semester—planned before the suicides—offered hope at both campuses. On 9/11 at Columbia, the Veritas Forum hosted a lecture with University of Oxford Professor John Lennox, entitled, *The Loud Silence: Where Is God in the Midst of Suffering?* At Harvard, Christian Union Ministry Fellow Nick Nowalk spoke on

"Hope and Despair" at an event hosted by Harvard College Faith and Action. Faith, said Nowalk, doesn't mean putting hope in things one is passionate about; rather it means placing ultimate hope in God.

Through the outreach efforts of campus ministries and thanks to the openness of overcomers like Monge—who are willing to discuss the issues of failure, fear, and despair—those who suffer with depression can find the strength to endure.

"My prayer is that this story may help others," Monge wrote, "either by sharing with them the hope that I possess or at least by letting them know that they are not alone." ■

By Eileen Scott, Senior Writer

## AN EYE ON STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

### *Prayer, Community, and Friendship are Essential*

**I** An increasing number of college students are experiencing mental disorders such as depression and anxiety and are subsequently using more prescription drugs to treat them, according to recent studies.

However, campus ministers are in a unique position to aid in the care of these students, who can struggle with isolation and low self-esteem often associated with many mental disorders and emotional issues.

Jane Kim, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Harvard and a licensed mental health counselor, recently composed a counseling policy with guidelines for all Christian Union ministry directors and fellows.

While "prayer is the first thing that has to come," Kim said, that's not where assistance should end. "God brings in com-

munity and the body of Christ," she noted, adding that within such community comes love and support.

Christian Union ministry fellows also seek to help students find deliverance

issues.

Kim said it's important for ministers to know their own limitations and boundaries. In complex circumstances, she suggested they reach out to other ministers



**Christian Union Ministry Fellow Jane Kim, a licensed mental health counselor, says relationships are important in helping students suffering with depression and anxiety.**



**Edith Johnson, a licensed marriage and family therapist and advisor to Cornell International Christian Fellowship, is concerned about the impact of technology on student mental health.**

from demonic influences and are aware of how even high-achieving students need to receive healing from deep emotional

for guidance and refer students to mental-health professionals.

Edith Johnson, a licensed marriage and



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family therapist who's worked with students at Cornell for 19 years, agreed. Johnson is an advisor to Cornell International Christian Fellowship ([www.cornellicf.or](http://www.cornellicf.or)).

"Teaching that mental illness is a lack of faith leads to tremendous condemnation and hopelessness that is not biblical," said Johnson, who believes research on the relationship between brain health and behavior can't be ignored.

"Studying the brain is studying God's creation," Johnson said. "This should lead to a desire to care for human beings in the way that He designed."

That said, she also stressed the value of fellowship in caring for the suffering.

## *Getting students to ask for help in the high-performing Ivy League environment can be problematic.*

"Friendship is really important," said Johnson. "Listening without judgment, a good nutritious meal, and encouragement to sleep are really basic needs that many students who are away from home for the first time might miss."

However, getting students to ask for help in the high-performing Ivy League environment can be problematic, said Kim, who added that a sense of self-reliance is pervasive among students. Trends in contemporary culture also make forming relationships a challenge.

"One thing that is very concerning is the increased dependence on and use of electronics and technology to try to meet emotional needs," said Johnson. This, she explained, can lead to a loss of knowing how to have fun, and can result in addiction.

Johnson also cited the breakdown of family and lack of respect for human dignity garnered by the hook-up culture as contributing to emotional struggles.

In response, Kim and Johnson said

Scripture and Christian principles can be effective antidotes to these unhealthy cultural trends.

"I would say that a number of students have been impacted by understanding Zephaniah 3:17; that God is not only with them, but that He delights in them, wants to quiet them with His love, and rejoices over them with singing," said Johnson. "Grasping this view of God is life transforming."

Additionally, relationships fostered through campus ministries can be particularly critical at a time when the demand for mental-health services at universities is increasing.

The Ivy Jungle Network, a ministry resource for men and women who work with students, has noted that

counselors are "overburdened on campus." Additionally, the American Medical Association has called for increased mental health services on college campuses.

In a news release, American Medical Association (AMA) board member J. James Rohack said, "Among college students, depression and related mental illnesses are significant, growing problems and contribute to self-harm and suicide."

Johnson pointed out that reaction by the medical community may contribute to the increase in diagnoses and prescription drug use on campus due to "sometimes elevating normal life issues to mental-health issues."

"The biggest example would be pathologizing and trying to medicate grieving rather than walking with people through the sadness of loss," Johnson said.

Consequently, it appears that it is through such a walk of compassion that campus ministers can best serve their students and manifest the healing love of God. ■

# BRINGING ANCIENT SCRIPTURES TO THE PUBLIC SQUARE

*Yale Divinity School Professor Seeks to Engage Culture*

**Y** As an Old Testament scholar and the Holmes Professor of Old Testament at Yale Divinity School, John J. Collins spent much of his career poring over centuries-old sacred Scripture. Today, however, Collins is bringing the ancient biblical messages to the public square by reaching out to a more diverse audience and addressing the relevancy of the Bible in today's culture.

"I am frustrated that academic biblical scholarship has so little effect on the way the Bible is used in public discourse," said Collins, who noted that academic scholars often "do not sufficiently address the broader public."

Thus Collins, Harvard Ph.D. '72, has sought public engagement through his books such as *Does the Bible Justify Violence?* (published after 9/11) and his soon-to-be-released work, *The Dead Sea Scrolls: A Biography*. Collins was also a contributing editor of the *Catholic Study Bible* and recently taught a new course at Yale entitled, "What Are Biblical Values?"

Historical-critical interpretation, says Collins, "is an exercise in realism" that recognizes that all meaning is contextual and tries to find contexts that help explain the text. These in turn provide the basis for analogies with modern situations."

***"The message of the prophets is that it is not what we do in church or temple that matters, but what we do in the marketplace."***

For example, as conservatives and liberals debate the issues of the day such as the economy, health care, and immigration, Collins says the unifying message can be found in Scripture.

And it all comes down to social justice, he said.

"The first thing is to recognize the priority of social justice in the Bible," said Collins. "There will still be room for argument as to what social justice entails, but there should be no disagreement about the priority. It should be possible to see how the Bible provides a basis for different, even contradictory positions on many things."

However, one thing has remained constant from Biblical times until today, Collins believes: "Human nature has not changed very much in a few thousand years. The strong still try to exploit the weak." Thus, he said, the need for social justice remains.

Further, Collins stated that in the Bible, religion is not distinct from politics and society: "The message of the prophets is that it is not what we do in church or temple that matters, but what we do in the marketplace."

Collins, a Catholic and native of Ireland, credited his background in the clas-

And for his passion and academic work Collins was recognized by his alma mater, University College of Dublin, with an honorary doctorate.

"In honoring J.J. Collins, University College of Dublin (UCD) is sounding a note of hope, one which both affirms the intrinsic value of excellent scholarship and asserts the possibility of a future more characterized by that peace among nations which will be grounded on better mutual understanding of our origins," said Dr. Padraic Conway, UCD's vice president for university relations.

Conway, who wrote the citation for the honorary degree, stated that Collins "has worked a lifetime in a discipline where various shades of misinterpretation have given us the vulgarities of *The Da Vinci Code*

or, much more seriously, the centuries of vilifying-the-other-to-define-the-self which has been all too prominent in the history of those religions emanating from the Ancient Near East."

And so, in educating students and the broader public about the Old Testament and its relationship to the Gospels and to contemporary culture, Collins continues to highlight the common ground upon which more of us can attain greater biblical understanding and see triumphs in social justice.

"The New Testament cannot be understood in isolation from the Old," said Collins. "The God of the Hebrew Bible is the God of Jesus Christ." And it is through God's message of caring for the poor and the oppressed that all Christians are called to serve, he said, regardless of the theological or ideological differences. ■



**Yale Divinity School Professor John Collins, Harvard Ph.D. '72, is bringing to light the relevance of sacred Scripture in the public square.**

# ANSWERING THE GREAT QUESTIONS

## Yale Law School Student Aims To Be a Fixed Point in a Universe of Spiritual Skeptics

**Y** For Yale Law School student Michael Taunton, practicing law isn't just a profession, it's a vocation that comes alive at the crossroads of faith and action. It's a place where the practical implications of philosophy and religious worldviews are worked out.

"Philosophers and theologians discuss human nature, sexual ethics, the meaning of life, et cetera," he said. "Then on the other end, the 'boots on the ground' people actually live out these ideas through their businesses and personal lives. In this sense, you could think of philosophy and theology as having a trickle-down effect, and law is one of those key bridges between theory and practice."

Pondering the intersection of faith and worldview is not new to Taunton. His father, Larry Alex Taunton, is the founder and executive director of the Fixed Point Foundation, a Christian non-profit "dedicated to exploring those ideas that shape culture." In 2009, Fixed Point and Christian Union co-sponsored a debate at Princeton with bioethics professor and atheist Peter Singer and writer Dinesh D'Souza, Dartmouth '83. The debate, one of many hosted by Fixed Point, was entitled, "Can There Be Morality Without God?"

Due to his father's work with Fixed Point—and as a history instructor at a private prep school—Taunton was exposed to the broader issues of life at a young age. Students often came to his family's home to discuss what the elder Taunton called the "Great Questions."

"Listening to and observing [my father's] interactions with students, friends, and world-renowned speakers such as John Lennox, Christopher Hitchens, Richard Dawkins, and Dinesh D'Souza, all provided me with the kind of training I needed to engage the world on

a serious level," said Taunton.

A particular discussion regarding a quote from *The Brothers Karamazov*—"if there is no immortality, there can be no virtue, and all things are permissible"—had a profound impact on the young Taunton.

"Somewhere in the course of eavesdropping, the meaning of that sentence hit home and, in turn, opened my eyes to the very tangible consequences of these questions," he said. "From that point for-



**To Michael Taunton, a student at Yale Law School, practicing law is not just a profession, but a vocation.**

ward, I would say that my father's work, which became what Fixed Point is today, made sense to me." So much so that he's worked with the foundation since his youth, helping with Web and technology initiatives.

However, Taunton says his early exposure to the consequences of those Great Questions is what makes law seem like a natural fit for him. "There is no question that those experiences have influenced

the way I filter my career choices and the way I think about work in law," he said.

Additionally, studying law at Yale further challenges Taunton's Christian worldview and has opened his eyes to what he calls a "profound theological illiteracy" among some of the nation's top law students.

"Saying that you're a Christian generally leads to blank stares—people just don't know how to filter it. The most common response is a puzzled look and something like, 'well, I go to church on Easter,'" said Taunton, a co-leader of the Yale Law Christian Fellowship ([www.law.yale.edu/stuorgs/yalelawchristianfellowship.htm](http://www.law.yale.edu/stuorgs/yalelawchristianfellowship.htm)). "I've found that YLS students—as informed as they are in so many fields—are woefully uneducated on religious issues or any type of substantive theology."

While Taunton notes that YLS is a spiritually dark place, he says that within that darkness are opportunities for Christians to proclaim the gospel: "Students are more open to hearing this message than most realize," he said.

While Taunton has strived to be a fixed point in a turbulent culture and at a secular university, his own faith journey has been hit by waves, of sorts. While he hasn't experienced a tsunami of doubt or similar crisis, there have been ripples of questioning that, after exploration, have ultimately led to a calm of conviction.

"I don't know any Christian who *hasn't* struggled in their faith," he said. "We always struggle—that's part and parcel of sanctification, I think."

"Certainly, I've never doubted the existence of God or anything like that, though I've worked with a great many people who have," he said. "Sometimes people find it difficult to believe that there is a God who cares for them when they can't seem to find love or goodness anywhere else in their lives."

Although Taunton has compassion for those who doubt God's love, he is puzzled by those who have intellectual doubts about the existence of God. "I have to wonder," he said, "What else are you going to believe?" ■



# SEX AND GOD AT YALE

*Alumnus' Book Skewers College for Straying Far from Original Values*

**Y** In his new book, Nathan Harden, Yale '09, unabashedly exposes the underbelly of his Ivy League alma mater.

*Sex and God at Yale: Porn, Political Correctness, and a Good Education Gone Bad* gives readers a disturbing glimpse into Sex Week—Yale's much-ballyhooed "educational" event. The details of the biennial, shameful display make for a salacious and sometimes shocking read.

Harden describes porn stars and sex-toy marketers standing at the same podiums where the world's greatest minds have taught and the works of literary greats have been discussed. In the shadows of Jonathan Edwards and Nathan Hale, for example, a middle-aged woman showed two teenagers how to increase their sexual satisfaction.

The title of the book is a nod toward fellow Yale alumnus William F. Buckley, '50, who penned *God and Man at Yale* in 1951. Buckley's son Christopher writes the foreword for Harden's book and seems to share the same ambivalence for his alma mater.

"My capacity to be appalled by Yale has long since gone numb, just as my affection for Yale increases with every passing year," writes Christopher Buckley '75.

*Sex and God at Yale* is a dark book. References to violent perversion against men and women (as well as babies) are showcased as mere visual aids of self-gratification, among other disturbing elements.

***"This is a story of a great institution in decline—an institution of tremendous power and influence that is no longer aware of why it exists or for what purpose."***

Harden is quick to point out that Sex Week is *not* the exception; rather it is emblematic of the moral fall of an educational giant.

"This is a story of a great institution in decline—an institution of tremendous power and influence that is no longer aware of why it exists or for what pur-

pose," he writes.

Throughout the book, Harden unlocks the academy code of political correctness often hidden in pseudo-intellectual word play. For example, when he questioned the head of the language department as to why it was necessary to watch films featuring lesbian acts (as well as a priest forcing a young girl into an abortion), Harden notes that the professor replied that the films in question deal with themes of immigration and racism and the law and individual liberty.

"I interpreted these as code words for the debate over legalized abortion," writes Harden. "In other words, these films were chosen, not because they would help students learn the language or understand Hispanic culture, but because they advanced a particular political agenda."

The book goes on to describe a university tripping over itself in an attempt to be

count shows the university's propensity to sensationalize women who have chosen to degrade themselves in the porn industry.

The author also brings to light the irony of a university that touts "For God, For Country, and For Yale," and yet for years has banned ROTC from its campus and discounts faith in Christ in its classrooms.

"I've observed the following paradox in the Religious Studies Department: Professors who teach about Christianity get hired only if they don't believe in it," Harden writes.

Harden himself is a Yale contradiction. A former lounge-singing, homeschool dropout with a GED, the author is far from the typical poster boy for Yalies. Harden admits to naiveté toward Yale, along with a desire to attend the university from the age of 10. He then describes

the journey that took him from a job slinging bags of manure at Wal-Mart to studying Shakespeare on the storied Ivy campus in New Haven, Connecticut.

A financial-aid recipient, Harden doesn't so much bite the hand that fed him an Ivy education as much as he slaps the hand of an institution that ought to know better. And the author does reminisce about his Yale days with some fondness.

"Given all I've written about, it may seem surprising that I harbor so many fond feelings for Yale," Harden writes. "I suppose the good times tend to stand out in one's memory as time passes, and other memories fade."

In the end, however, it's clear that the residue of Sex Week and the seeming encroachment of pornography into classrooms have left a stain upon Harden's Yale narrative—one he's not ashamed to show the world. ■



**In his recent book, Nathan Harden, Yale '09, addresses issues of perversity at Yale and claims it sullies the academic mission and core moral values of the university's roots.**

# PORNOGRAPHY, RESPECT, AND RESPONSIBILITY

*Princeton Professor Pens Powerful Letter to Hotel Chain Execs*

**I** Princeton Professor Robert George has once again co-authored an important document that calls for a more civil society. This time, he's appealing to the consciences of hotel executives who allow the pornography industry to pollute their establishments.

Along with Muslim intellectual Shaykh Hamza Yusuf, George, Harvard Law '81, recently composed *Pornography, Respect, and Responsibility: A Letter to the Hotel Industry*. In the letter, they openly ask executives to stop offering pornographic movies for purchase on their hotel televisions.

In 2009, George co-authored the Manhattan Declaration with the late Chuck Colson, Brown '53, and Timothy George, Harvard Ph.D. '79 and M.Div. '75. The Manhattan Declaration affirms the sanctity of human life, marriage as the exclusive union of one man and one woman, and religious liberty and freedom of conscience.

George's letter to the hotel industry points out that pornography is not merely a business matter, but a matter of conscience that impacts all of society: "We are, respectively, a Christian and a Muslim, but we appeal to you not on the basis of truths revealed in our scriptures, but on the basis of a commitment that should be shared by all people of reason and goodwill: a commitment to human dignity and the common good."

Some have cited the letter as naïve, but George doesn't mind the criticism; in fact, he said he's received hate mail and threats because of his public stance in the past and realizes it will be hard to make a dent in the pornography epidemic. But, "you've got to start somewhere," he said.

"The first step in rolling back the pornography plague is to remind respectable people that this is a degrading business. Porn shouldn't be respected."

The human person and the intimate acts between men and women ought to be respected, says George; in the letter, he and Yusuf appeal to the need for basic human dignity.

"We beg you to consider the young woman who is depicted as a sexual object in these movies, as nothing but a bundle of raw animal appetites..." the letter states. "Surely we should regard that young woman as we would regard a sister,



**Princeton Professor Robert George, Harvard Law '81, is calling on hotel executives to lead with their consciences and remove pornography from their rooms.**

daughter, or mother. She is a precious member of the human family."

The writers go on to acknowledge that to some, pornography is a matter of personal choice. However, they contend, a legal right

***"The first step in rolling back the pornography plague is to remind respectable people that this is a degrading business. Porn shouldn't be respected."***

doesn't necessarily equal righteousness. Additionally, they stress that while women participating in pornography also possess the right to do so, dignified business persons ought not take advantage of those choices to increase their profit margins.

"You may say that she freely chooses to compromise her dignity in this way, and

in some cases that would be true, but that gives you no right to avail yourself of her self-degradation for the sake of financial gain," write George and Yusuf.

Additionally, the two call out executives who justify their actions with legal arguments: "Shame on you if you hide behind legality to peddle immorality in the pursuit of money."

"There must be some things that, for the sake of human dignity and the common good, we must refuse to sell—even if it means forgoing profit."

George said he has yet to hear back from the hotel executives. But in the meantime, he's heard from others who've experienced first-hand the detriment of pornography in their own lives.

He's been congratulated by porn addicts commending him and Yusuf for their efforts, as well as women whose marriages have been destroyed by the social ill. He's even heard encouragement from people who once had been in the pornography business and are now strongly fighting against it.


And so George—who has been recognized by various organizations for his courage in taking to the public square his faith and the fight for human dignity and the sanctity of marriage—has once again practiced what he preached in the Manhattan Declaration and voiced his commitment to the dignity of life, despite societal objections.

Additionally, George and Yusuf together demonstrated that human dignity is a concern born by all humanity, not merely particular religions.

"It was a great lesson that Muslims and Christians don't have to be hostile," said George. "We want the same things for our children." ■

## FAITH-FRIENDLY FILMS

### Columbia Alumnus Is CEO of New Production Company

 Gen Fukunaga, Columbia MBA '89, is seeking to impact culture with powerful themes like forgiveness, redemption, and perseverance as the CEO of EchoLight Studios, a newly formed film company that produces and distributes high-quality faith and family entertainment.



**Gen Fukunaga, Columbia MBA '89, is the CEO of EchoLight Studios, a producer and distributor of faith and family-friendly films.**

The recently released film, *Heaven's Rain*, is a perfect example. *Heaven's Rain*, written and produced by Brooks Douglass (Harvard Kennedy School '02), is an account of the horrific home invasion that devastated the Douglass family in 1979. Brook Douglass' parents, former missionaries to Brazil, were brutally murdered in the tragedy, but he and his sister survived the attack. Douglass went on to become the youngest Oklahoma state senator and an advocate for crime victims. Through his faith in Christ, he forgave the murderers during a prison visit.

Douglass wrote the story and stars in the film as his father. *Heaven's Rain* also stars Mike Vogel (*Pan Am, The Help*) and Erin Chambers (*General Hospital*). Reliving the crime scene through the eyes of his father was particularly unsettling for Douglass, as he revealed in an interview on *The Today Show*.

"*Heaven's Rain* is one of the best-produced and most powerful movies in a long time," said film critic Ted Baehr (Dartmouth '69), the founder of *Movieguide*. "It is extremely well directed and beautifully filmed; with terrific acting and music...*Heaven's Rain* is intense and asks a very deep question, "How do we forgive the unforgivable?"

In addition to *Heaven's Rain*, EchoLight Studios has also released a bevy of films that range from true stories to original creations. According to Fukunaga, his company is a "one-stop platform for quality filmmaking and faith and family content."

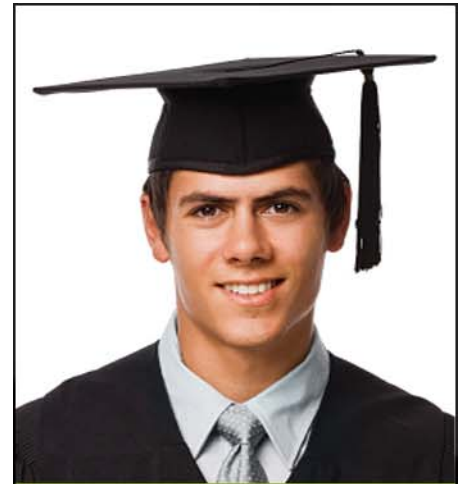
Fukunaga, a long-time businessman, is also founder and president of Funimation Entertainment, which distributes anime (Japanese animation) in the United States. But it is his work with EchoLight that's opening spiritual eyes—and in a way that's gaining positive attention.

Bobby Downes, the president of EchoLight, produced *Like Dandelion Dust* (2009), which starred Mira Sorvino, Harvard '89. The gritty, multiple award-winning film deals with an adopted child whose birth parents want him back.

This summer, EchoLight released *25 Hill*, which tells the story of a young boy and an old man – both affected by tragedy – who find faith to go on as they ready a car for the All-American Soap Box Derby. The movie stars Corbin Bernsen, who may best be remembered for his role as Arnie Becker in *LA Law* and his present role as Henry Spenser in USA Network's *Psych*.

"At a time when we're intent on rebuilding our country," Bernsen said in a statement about *25 Hill*, "it's great to celebrate a community event that starts at the family level, showcases our competitive spirit, and speaks directly to children about the importance of our family traditions and history."

As for *Heaven's Rain*, Douglass hopes its timeless message of grace reaches many moviegoers. "Part of telling the story was to pay tribute to my parents," he said in an interview with Tim Smith of the 700 Club, "but beyond all that is ultimately the story of forgiveness." ■



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# EXPLICIT CONTENT EQUALS EXPLICIT BEHAVIOR IN TEENS

*Dartmouth Study Examines Adolescents, Films, and Sexuality*

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

Exposure to sexual content in movies leads teenagers to have sex earlier and to participate in riskier sexual behavior, a Dartmouth College study has confirmed.

The study, published in the journal *Psychological Science*, said roughly 85 percent of movies released from 1950 to 2006 contained sexual content, and only 9 percent of sexual content in movies contained messages promoting sexual health. Sexual explicitness of PG-13-rated and R-rated movies has increased over the past decade, researchers also said. Evidence suggests that adolescents' sexual attitudes and behavior are influenced more by movies than by other forms of media.

"Adolescents who are exposed to more sexual content in movies start having sex at younger ages, have more sexual partners, and are less likely to use condoms with casual sexual partners," said Ross O'Hara (Dartmouth Ph.D. '11), who conducted the research with other psychological scientists at Dartmouth College.

The effect of media on sexual behavior, the study said, is driven by the acquisition and activation of "sexual scripts." In behavioral psychology, a script is a sequence of expected behavior for a given situation. A higher degree of sexual media exposure, researchers said, has been found to predict more permissive sexual attitudes.

Adolescents sometimes seek out sexual media, possibly to learn scripts, the study said, noting that 57 percent of U.S. adolescents ages 14 to 16 reported using me-

dia as a primary source of sexual information.

This particular study examined why movies impact adolescent behavior, looking closely at the role of a personality trait known as sensation seeking, a tendency to seek novel and intense stimulation. Adolescents, experts said, have a predisposition for sensation seeking behavior, which peaks between the ages of 10 and 15.



**Ross O'Hara, Dartmouth Ph.D. '11, helped direct a study that examined how adolescents are affected by sexual content in films.**

affect the development of this trait," the study said.

The study, which was funded by the National Institutes of Health, suggests that exposure to sex in movies may accelerate the normal rise in sensation seeking during adolescence, thereby promoting risky behavior generally, and that it has a lasting influence on risky sexual behaviors in adulthood.

"Given the prevalence of [movie sexual exposure] among adolescents, we believe that even small effects of [movie sexual exposure] have important implications for adolescents' sexual health," the study authors said. "Our results suggest that restricting adolescents' [movie sexual exposure] would delay their sexual debut and also reduce their engagement in risky sexual behaviors later in life."

"One promising approach would in-

volve incorporating media-literacy training into sexual education," the authors said. "A recent intervention showed that a peer-led sexual-media-literacy curriculum increased ninth-grade students' self-efficacy in resisting peer pressure with regard to sexual behavior, reduced their perception of the normative prevalence of sexual activity during adolescence, and improved their attitudes toward abstinence."

Identifying risk factors for early sexual

***"Adolescents who are exposed to more sexual content in movies start having sex at younger ages..."***

"It is important to note that sensation seeking arises from both biological and socialization factors, which suggests that environmental influences, such as [movie sexual exposure], could

debut and sexual risk taking is an important public health concern, the study said, and delaying adolescents' sexual debut could curb U.S. rates of sexually transmitted infections and instances of unplanned pregnancy.

The study, initially published online July 18, recruited more than 1,200 participants who were from 12 to 14 years old and asked them to report which movies they had seen from several different collections of 50 that were randomly selected.

Participants reported how often they attended church or engaged in religious activities, how many hours of television they watched each day, whether they had a television in their bedroom, and with whom they lived (to determine family structure as intact or divided).

Six years later, the participants were surveyed to find out how old they were when they became sexually active and how risky their sexual behavior was.

"This study, and its confluence with other work, strongly suggests that parents need to restrict their children from seeing sexual content in movies at young ages," O'Hara said. ■



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# TO GOD BE THE GLORY

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

## *Christian Union Celebrates a Decade of Christian Leadership Development*

**I**n the fall of 2002, Matt Bennett started Christian Union's first Bible course with three students who met weekly to study the Scriptures at a Princeton University eating club.

A decade later, some 800 students on six of the most influential campuses in the United States—Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale—now participate in Christian Union's Bible courses, leadership development lecture series, and proprietary leadership curriculum.

"I'm really grateful to God, thrilled to be along on this journey," said Bennett (Cornell '88, MBA '89), the founder and president of Christian Union. "It's incredible to see what God is doing."

This fall, Christian Union officially will celebrate its tenth anniversary with two benefit events. The first is slated for October 15 at the Westin Galleria in Dallas, and the other is planned for November 14 at the Yale Club in Manhattan.

Since Christian Union's inception, thousands of students have been transformed by the power of God.

"We are molding a new generation of Christian leaders for this country," said Bennett. "It's rewarding to see students seeking God wholeheartedly and exercising godly influence in dramatic ways at their universities."

Bennett, a Texas native, looks forward to watching students assume strategic leadership positions throughout the United States and beyond in the decades to come.

That anticipation is rooted in the reach and influence of alumni from the pinnacle of the nation's universities. Graduates from Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Pennsylvania, Princeton, and Yale occupy an astonishing percentage of the most strategic positions in the country. Incredibly, these eight schools—out of the country's nearly 2,500 four-year colleges—produce nearly 50 percent of its top leaders.



As for Bennett, the former director of Campus Crusade for Christ's ministry at Princeton said God began impressing upon him in the late 1990s both the importance of teaching young people about fasting and prayer and the critical nature of reaching them while students at top-tier universities.

As such, after a decade of service with Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ), Bennett attended Trinity Evangelical Divinity School near Chicago from January 2000 to January 2002 in anticipation of his plans to birth Christian Union. He then returned to Princeton to prepare for the launch of a ministry dedicated to advancing Christ's kingdom at strategic universities.

Today, Christian Union continues to experience explosive growth, especially since expanding to additional campuses beyond Princeton in fall 2008. The ministry finished 2011-12 with 58 Bible courses across five campuses and expects that figure to reach to 80 for its six campuses during the present academic year.

Additionally, through its ministry centers at Cornell, Brown, and Princeton, Christian Union provides free meeting and office space for campus ministries; each year Judson Center (Brown), Mott Center (Cornell), and Wilson Center (Princeton) are used for hundreds of Bible studies and ministry events.

In the last 10 years, Christian Union has also impacted students outside of the leadership development ministries it sponsors by hosting the triennial Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action. The most recent conference, in April of 2011, drew 380 passionate students to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where they worshipped, prayed and were challenged to serve God wholeheartedly in college and in their future vocations.

"Can we really change the world? Is it just a pious phrase or do you seriously expect there can be real change?" asked renowned author Os Guinness. "Are you committed to winning back the West again for our Lord?"

In a 2005 *New York Times* article, Bennett articulated the vision of the then-fledgling organization when he said, "If we are going to change the world, we have got, by God's power, to see these campuses radically changed."

And that vision is certainly being celebrated in 2012.

"After ten years of fruitful ministry, it's important to take time to celebrate God's goodness," said Lorri Bentsch, the Christian Union's vice president of operations. The Princeton alumna of 1991 and longtime ministry fellow recalled that just 25 students participated in the first winter conference she attended with Princeton Faith and Action ([www.pfanda.com](http://www.pfanda.com)) in 2007. Some 132 Princeton students attended the most recent one from last winter in Upstate New York.

As for the future, Christian Union plans to launch undergraduate ministries at Brown and Penn universities, and hopes to expand their outreach to graduate students, faculty, and university administration members.

Beyond impacting its targeted campuses, Christian Union also directs DOXA (the Greek word for *glory*), a movement that encourages people all over the United States to seek God wholeheartedly.

Along those lines, Dr. Chuck Hetzler recently began serving as the director of New York City Christian Union. Hetzler, who joined the Christian Union as its first teaching fellow in 2008, will also coordinate DOXA conferences and events.

"It's exciting to see these Christian networks begin to take

***"It's rewarding to see students seeking God wholeheartedly and exercising godly influence in dramatic ways..."***

***—Christian Union Founder and President Matt Bennett***

shape in key cities, like New York," Bennett said. "God is blessing these efforts and we are eager to see what He has in store for the future."

Dan Knapke, the Christian Union's chief operating officer and former ministry director at Princeton, echoed those comments.

"It's nothing short of incredible to see what God has done in these last ten years. It's awe-inspiring to watch the kernel of the vision that God gave Matt blossom and flourish into a full-orbed ministry," Knapke said. "And, God willing, this is just the beginning." ■

## A FIRM FOUNDATION

### Princeton Alumni Say Christian Union Made a Lasting Impact



As Christian Union celebrates its 10-year anniversary, various alumni from Princeton University expressed appreciation for the ministry and noted how lessons learned continue to impact their lives and careers.

Marshall Everett '11 is a former president of Princeton Faith and Action, a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

"So much of what Princeton Faith and Action (PFA) gave me is still with me today," said Everett, an analyst in the Real Estate Private Equity Group at Goldman Sachs in New York City. "From leadership skills to an understanding of what it means to seek God, I see repercussions of PFA in both my work life and my spiritual life all the time."

Everett said that serving as president of PFA, which had approximately 300 members at that time, helped him communicate tangible evidence of his leadership abilities during job interviews.

"It is what I talked about in interviews and wrote about in admissions essays. And although I am nowhere near leading a 300-person company in my personal career, I know

the skills I learned at PFA will be with me as I move up and get more responsibility in the workplace," he said.

Additionally, Everett met his wife Cally through the ministry. He credits PFA with helping the couple keep the right perspective while they dated, and as a married couple.

"It was such a blessing to start and grow our relationship among a group of people that understand and advocate for a biblical, godly stance towards dating and marriage. And it helped us maintain our focus on Christ throughout our relationship," said Everett.

Mark Paski '10 is another PFA alumnus who is serving the Lord amidst the volatility and uncertainty of Wall Street.

"The strong Christian foundation that PFA offered me has been invaluable in maintaining a strong moral compass in an ethically distressed environment like Wall Street," said Paski. Further, he said, PFA instilled in him the desire to maintain his faith and stay active in a church post-college. It also influences his desire to lead as Christ led.

"Without question, the style of Christ's leadership is something that impacts my everyday life," he said. "The concepts of leading by



**Mark Paski, Princeton '10, is thankful for the seeking God culture he encountered at Princeton Faith and Action.**

## CHRISTIAN UNION: THE FIRST DECADE



Leadership development ministry launched at Princeton

2004



Hosts second Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action in New Haven, Connecticut

2008

2002  
Christian Union founded



2005  
Hosts first Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action in Princeton, New Jersey

2008  
Leadership development ministry launched at Harvard





example, lifting up those around you, and placing others first help guide how I strive to act in my life.”

That strong foundation was bolstered by Bible courses and one-on-one mentoring sessions with Dan Knapke, who served as Christian Union’s director of ministry at Princeton before assuming the role of chief operating officer.

“The impact that Christian Union has had on the Princeton campus is absolutely incredible,” said Paski, “The [seeking God culture] and the breadth of strong leaders in the group have benefitted the student body as a whole in finding and creating Christian leaders from the incredibly talented student population at Princeton.”

Following graduation in June, Cristina Martinez ’12 was awarded a one-year grant from the alumni organization ReachOut 56-81-06 to help launch a mentor program with Bethany Christian Services, an international adoption agency. The former vice president of PFA will tackle some of the tough issues experienced by older youths as they exit the foster care system in the greater Philadelphia area.

Martinez credits Christian Union with giving her the skills and inspiration to take on such a challenging arena of public service. She recalled how participation in Bible courses and input from ministry fellows taught her to integrate God into all aspects of her life and provided unmatched leadership training.

“That is an indescribable gift that I will take with me for the rest of my life,” she said. ■



Alumni such as Cristina Martinez ’12 are impacting culture by applying the leadership lessons they learned from Princeton Faith and Action.



Hosts third Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action in Cambridge, Mass.

Leadership development ministry launched at Cornell



2011

2012

2010

Leadership development ministry launched at Yale



2011

Leadership development ministries launched at Columbia and Dartmouth



GOING FORWARD

Christian Union has plans to launch leadership development ministries at Brown and Penn in the near future

## EMBRACING A NEW DIRECTION

**Princeton Alumna Shares How Life's Circumstances Changed Her Career Path (and Why That's Been a Good Thing)**

**P** For Catherine Pharris Anderson, one of the ultimate measures of success is the influence she leaves upon others, especially her children.

The attorney and 1997 Princeton alumna wants young believers from leading universities to recognize that the value of their service extends far beyond the heft of their paychecks or the prestige of their titles.

In fact, during an appearance at Princeton University's Reunions 2012, Anderson told students involved with Princeton Faith and Action ([www.pfanda.com](http://www.pfanda.com)) to trust God to direct their career and family choices. Princeton Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

"The path will not look like what you think it will look like," said Anderson. "Go where you have the calling, and have confidence the choices you make are right for you."

Equally as important, the Newport Beach, California resident said students should consider ways to use their education to care for the concerns and necessities of others—and to avoid societal obsessions with the monetary might of degrees from top-tier universities.

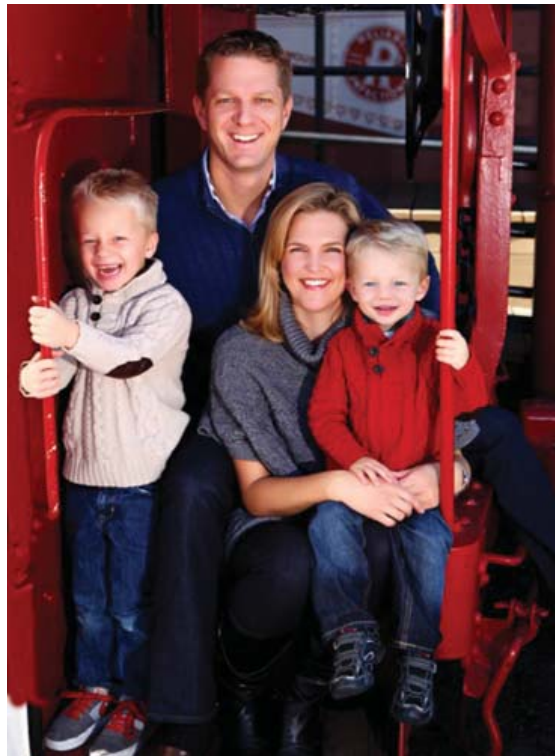
"There are ways to use your degree really effectively," she said. "Society at large tends to monetize the degree."

For Anderson, much of her ministry centers on the needs of her sons, Tyler, 4, and Sean, 3, as well as her involvement with Mothers of Preschoolers International. Anderson's priorities especially evolved after Tyler was diagnosed with high-functioning autism at age two, and she scaled back her legal duties to part-time.

"It has really expanded my faith a lot," said Anderson. "I'm grateful for the little

stuff, and I don't take anything for granted."

Through intense therapy and heavy parent involvement, Anderson and her husband Matt have seen dramatic im-



**Catherine Pharris Anderson, Princeton '97, wants students to trust God to direct their career, family, and ministry choices. The attorney uses her gifts to serve her children and young families in her community.**

provement in Tyler, who has Asperger's Syndrome. Early intervention is critical for children with autism as the brain is

"He sees things about the world that I don't see. I'm a very logical, linear thinker. It's so insightful," Anderson said. "All of us need to see the whole picture and different problem-solving techniques."

Anderson also focuses on meeting the concerns of young families in her community as a discussion group coordinator with the Mothers of Preschoolers International (MOPS) chapter at Mariners Church in Irvine. Anderson frequently invites friends and associates with babies and small children to participate in MOPS activities, where speakers often share their faith in Christ. Other topics include ways to strengthen marriages, handle in-law matters, and related concerns.

"A lot of our speakers talk about discipline, child development, and offer some powerful testimonies," Anderson said. "Those stories always are mind-blowing. People let their guards down."

Many new mothers especially are open to embracing the gospel.

"Young women having children become interested in faith and want to model it for their children," said Anderson, who accepted Christ as a child. "Mothers of young children are ripe. I've seen how transformative it's been."

Theresa Rivas, a MOPS coordinator with Mariners, commended Anderson for serving the needs of young mothers and creating "a welcoming, nurturing, and safe place to allow other moms time for fellowship, rest, connection, growth, and encouragement."

After graduating from law school in

***"God has Catherine in a unique spot, where she can pour into our family, her friends and our community in a very powerful way."***

***—Matt Anderson***

capable of significant programming, especially before youngsters reach school-age.

2001, Anderson joined the Los Angeles office of a prestigious international firm. At Latham & Watkins LLP, Anderson worked

in the Environment, Land, & Resources department, where her accomplishments included efforts to preserve a seven-mile stretch of California's coastline.

From 2005 to 2008, Anderson also served as a partner with Pharris Properties, her family's private-equity firm specializing in residential, office, and industrial space in California, Arizona, and Nevada.

The move to working for her family's enterprises allowed Anderson to work from home and eventually to transition to a part-time status to attend to the needs of her children.

Her husband Matt is a vice president with Windjammer Capital Investors, a national private-equity firm that specializes in middle-market businesses. He praised his wife for her tireless dedication to her young sons, extended family, and a network of moms in Southern California.

"God has Catherine in a unique spot, where she can pour into our family, her friends, and our community in a very powerful way. Lives are changing for the better all around her, including mine," he said. "We are quite thankful for that."

Ultimately, Anderson likes quoting Jere-

miah 29:11, which highlights God's pledge of a hope and future. Stepping away from a turbo-charged legal career to concentrate on the needs of her autistic son and his toddler brother involved some soul-searching, but has proven worthwhile.

"Your career may look very differently than you expected it to appear," she said. "I work part-time, mostly from home. It's the best thing for me and the best thing for my kids. They are so challenging, but so fun. I just feel God's hand on my life. When I trust in Him and lean on Him, He makes a way." ■

By Eileen Scott, Senior Writer

## FABLES OF FORTUNE

Advisor to Super Rich Reveals the Dangers that Come with Wealth

**H** In his new book, Richard Watts, Harvard MBA '02, says the pursuit of wealth can sometimes leave the rich bankrupt of what they most desire.

*Fables of Fortune: What the Rich Have That You Don't Want* is based on Watts' experiences as a self-described "general counsel to the super-rich." His clients represent an elite segment of society with a net worth of \$100 million or more, and it's Watts' job to serve as the gatekeeper between them and those who want access to them and (especially) their money.

From his vantage point, Watts witnesses first-hand the lessons taught by Jesus Christ about the insidiousness of the pursuit of money.

"You see patterns where the wealth creeps up on these families and does things to them," says Watts. "If you read James and Ecclesiastes, it's almost scary how God speaks of the rich. He recognizes that the rich will replace Him with an earthly existence."

It's a trend Watts sees among the wealthy and poor alike. On one hand, some believe if they had enough money, they would invest it, live off the interest, and relax. On the other hand, is the reality of the demands of managing large sums of money.

Millions of dollars require constant attention, says Watts. Even when wealth is

inherited or married into, it often leaves little time for relaxation or focusing on family and friends. Soon the money determines the lifestyle; and all too often, he says, marriages fail and children become estranged.

Those who worked their whole lives to build empires can become, in essence, emperors without clothes—and no one wants to speak the truth to them, says Watts. But while few people want to tell the rich that their priorities are off, that's exactly what he calls Christians to do.

It's important to remind people who focus on their material wants and possessions that the "stuff" in their lives is not what's important, Watts says. And he practices what he preaches.

Watts once told a client who wanted to purchase a \$30-million boat that he shouldn't do it. "I'm your general counsel, and the best thing for you and your faith is not to have it," he told his client.

Watt credits his own practice of self-restraint with helping him stay grounded in

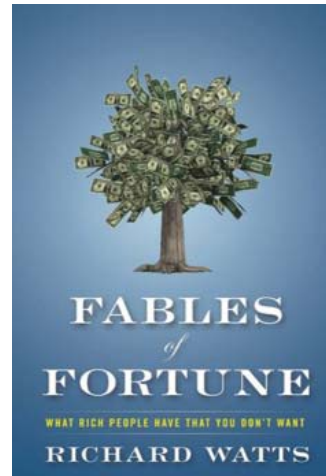
a world filled with gilded coattails upon which he could ride.

"I don't allow myself to have the things that I want," he said. "When you really want to go out and get something, ask yourself, 'How could my life be changed if I didn't get it?' I'm not saying deny everything, but deny some things." A reminder Watts once wrote to himself has remained on his desk for 20 years: *I want to have less than others...and be more without it.*

But that's not the message some wealthy people teach their children. As a result, Watts writes in *Fables of Fortune*, even those who worked and saved to grow businesses and make "better" lives for their heirs often rear children of entitlement who possess little respect for their wealth or those

who've earned it for them.

Consequently, he says it's okay and even necessary for parents to let their kids go without. "A healthy adult will not mature without exposure to difficulty and pain," writes Watts, who made his own



Richard Watts, Harvard MBA '02, tells the story of the underside of wealth in his new book, *Fables of Fortune: What the Rich Have That You Don't Want*.

son work his way out of more than \$40,000 in credit card debt.

more. In that vein, it's a wake-up call for those spending their lives dreaming of

***Those who worked their whole lives to build empires can become, in essence, emperors without clothes—and no one wants to speak the truth to them.***

While *Fables of Fortune* is written about the wealthy, it's also addressed to those who have much less, but long for

more cash and more stuff.

"How much of your life are you wasting wishing you had money?" Watts asks.

"How much are you feeling bad about yourself because of your circumstance?"

The reality, says Watts, is that while those with lower incomes may feel deprived of the things they desire, the rich are often deprived of much more—intangibles such as authentic relationships. When he shared his book with his clients, he said some cried. They saw themselves in the pages, and they realized how sorrowful their lives really were, he said.

In the end, as Watts writes in the book's conclusion, "The richest person is not the one with the most...but the one who needs the least." ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

## GENTLE GIANT

***Princeton Football Star Anchors Defensive Line, Worship Band***

**P** Senior Caraun Reid, a defensive lineman for Princeton's football team, generated headlines this summer as one of only two Ivy League gridiron stars named to the Pre-season All-America Team by The Sports Network.

"It was a great honor," said Reid.

The Bronx native also serves as the president and worship leader of Legacy, a leadership development ministry for African Americans and students of African descent. Legacy is supported and resourced by Christian Union.

Reid, who hopes to play pro football, earned preseason All-America honors after a stellar campaign in 2011, when he topped Ivy League linemen with 68 tackles, including 29 solo stops.

The sociology major also led Princeton in tackles for loss, sacks, pass breakups, quarterback hurries, and blocked kicks. In turn, The Sports Network named Reid to its 2011 All-Ivy League team.

This season, Reid joins senior co-captain Mike Catapano to form one of the league's top lineman pairings.

Despite his personal acclaims on the field, Reid said his deepest focus is pointing his teammates to "realize the importance of Christ." Along those lines, he participates in prayer sessions before games with faith-minded teammates, and he regularly joins in noon prayer sessions on campus with students involved with Legacy and other ministries.

"There is a good amount of spiritual leadership we are building on my football team," Reid said.

At the urging of Dan Knapke—the Christian Union's chief operating officer and former director of undergraduate ministries at Princeton—Reid regularly combs through his team's roster to pray for teammates. "A lot of them are going through stuff," Reid said.

While Reid acknowledges football is an inherently aggressive game, he's quick to assert his intentions are "not to hurt someone." For Reid, the game is about glorifying God—"I want to give my best to everything I do."

At a practical level, that means juggling athletics along with academics and extracurricular activities.

"I have really good time management," Reid said. "I've always been heavily involved in athletics. It's not really that new to me. I'm always doing something."

Ultimately, the key to tackling a formidable load (academically, as well as athletically) is prayer. "You have to have a strong prayer life," Reid said.

Reid devotes his spare extracurricular time to musical interests. In addition to leading worship with Legacy, the bass vocalist harmonizes with the Princeton University Gospel Ensemble—a student-directed choir that performs songs with ties to the black church—and Old Nas-Soul, Princeton's only all-male a cappella group devoted to soul music.

Reid also plays guitar and drums with



**Caraun Reid, Princeton '13, is a worship leader and a standout defensive lineman on the Princeton football team.**

Legacy. “Being a pastor’s son,” he quipped, “you have to play at least one instrument.”

Reid’s father, Courton Reid, is a bishop with City of Faith Church of God in the Bronx, New York. As such, Reid grew up in a faith-filled home and committed his life to Christ at age 10.

Since arriving in New Jersey, much of Reid’s spiritual nourishment has derived from attending First Baptist Church of Princeton and participating in Bible Courses with Christian Union Ministry Fellows Quincy Watkins, Penn MBA ’95, and Wesley Bolden. He especially credits former Christian Union intern Edward Appeadu, Princeton ’10, for serving as his spiritual and academic mentor and comrade.

“Eddie went through Princeton,” Reid said. “Eddie had the best interests of my heart.”

Likewise, Reid also is thrilled with the sizeable growth of Legacy, which reflects the robust outreach efforts of the Christian Union’s team of ministry fellows. “The exhortation is great,” Reid said. “The younger students are really excited.”

Along those lines, Reid is quick to point out Princeton’s expanding populations of African-American and African students “deserve to have something catered to them.” But “if Legacy wasn’t there, some students wouldn’t do anything,” he said.

In turn, Christian Union Ministry Fellows Wesley and Kimberly Bolden described Reid as well-rounded and faith-grounded. “Caraun’s heart is wor-

ship,” said Kimberly Bolden. “He loves leading worship. He loves music. He is a gentle giant.”

Watkins echoed those comments, calling Reid a “natural-born leader” and “extremely gifted.” Reid also is “extremely charismatic in his ability to galvanize people,” Watkins said. “He has the skills, heart, and discipline to play professional football.”

As for this season, Reid’s major goal is for Princeton to win an Ivy League championship. After that, he’s both open and humble about his desire to play pro football.

“What I do this season will determine what happens to me in the future,” he said. “Wherever I am, I will be happy.” ■

By Hannah Taplin

## TWINS CONTINUE THE CALL TO DO HARD THINGS

*Alex Harris Now Attending Harvard Law School*

**H** *Editor’s note: The following story was reprinted with permission from [www.WorldonCampus.com](http://www.WorldonCampus.com).*

When they were just 19, twins Alex and Brett Harris released their bestselling book, *Do Hard Things*. They encouraged teens to rebel against the low expectations of today’s culture by stepping out of their comfort zones and taking on such challenges as fighting against abortion, learning an activity like public speaking, refusing to watch bad movies, or simply performing unassigned household chores—all for the glory of God.

The Harris twins, recent alumni of Patrick Henry College in Purcellville, Virginia, are ready to carry that message into adulthood.

As he reflects on his time in school, Alex Harris has one main piece of advice for next year’s freshmen – beware of the freedom that college offers and embrace the new responsibilities as challenges and opportunities to shine. Alex is now attending Harvard Law School.

When *Do Hard Things* came out in 2008, the twins became mini-celebrities in the nationwide Christian homeschool

community. But before that, they were just normal teenagers – with a passion for great things. They first got the idea behind the book in 2005 when their dad set a huge stack of books on the kitchen counter and announced that he was putting them on an intense reading program for the summer.

With topics spanning history, philosophy, theology, science, business, and journalism, the pile looked a bit intimidating. But as they read, they become more and more concerned about their generation and the misconceptions about the challenges teens were capable of taking on. In an effort to share their thoughts, the brothers started a blog, founded The Rebelution, a movement to encourage teens to disprove the world’s low expectations for them, and later wrote *Do Hard Things*.



**Harvard Law School student Alex Harris and his twin brother Brett are challenging peers to rise above low cultural expectations.**

The book’s publication brought opportunities for speaking engagements, traveling, and more writing. And after all the attention the Harris brothers got while still teenagers, one of the best parts about college was being able to be a normal student, Alex Harris said. The twins came to

Patrick Henry College with a desire to build relationships and earn respect based on their actual interaction with other students, and not on things others had heard or read about them.

“Thankfully, we were able to come in with a terrific group of classmates who embraced us as ‘Alex and Brett, normal guys’ and not ‘Alex and Brett, authors and speakers’ ... so that was really good and healthy and what we wanted,” Alex Harris said.

Frank Guliuzza, a government professor at the college and pre-law adviser for Harris, said the brothers conducted themselves in a way that would never lead anyone to believe they once rode on private jets, spoke on tours with Chuck Norris, or were involved in presidential politics.

“I think everyone was pretty amazed by how genuine they were in their willingness to blend in with other students,” Guliuzza said.

Although Alex Harris was an impressive student – seemingly successful at anything he put his mind to – he impressed Guliuzza most by the way he handled defeat. Guliuzza recalled one basketball game in which Harris and his

team started ahead, but ended up losing by a huge margin. Harris didn’t let it discourage him, but continued to play with enthusiasm and energy, Guliuzza said, noting, “I got to see this guy when he was supremely successful [and] I also got to see him when he and his team were anything but, and he seemed to carry himself the same way.”

While his plans are far from settled, Harris said he believes God is calling him to use his law degree to make a difference in the arenas of public policy and government. “That could include arguing cases in court as an appellate lawyer, ruling on cases as a judge, influencing the public policy conversation at a think tank, or running for political office—or more than one of those!” He still urges his generation, now young adults, to realize the importance of becoming involved politically by being engaged and informed.

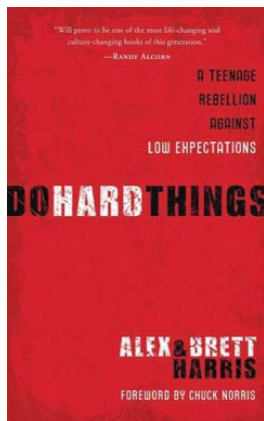
“Law intersects with numerous fields, including government,” said Harris. “Legislation, regulation and judicial decisions are all about making and interpreting the law – so there’s a very strong connection.”

Although the dismal job market and the rising cost of higher education has caused some to question the value of a college de-

gree, Harris believes the investment was worth it, even for someone who already had accomplished more than the average teenager by the time he started submitting his college applications: “[It was an] opportunity to grow, not just in knowledge, but in maturity and responsibility.” College also gave Harris the opportunity to pursue his passion for politics. Unlike many students, who change their major multiple times, Harris planned to major in government from the beginning and stuck with it all the way through.

Harris encourages students considering college to embrace their responsibility, as well as their freedom. Freshmen will discover they have a lot more freedom than they’ve ever had before, as well as a lot more responsibility, Harris said. Those who focus on the freedom will self-destruct, while those who focus on the responsibility will not only excel, but thrive, he said.

Even though Harris values the time he spent in college, he cautions others to think through their reasons for going before sending in their applications. Many teens feel pressured to go to college because it’s the next step, Harris said. Even though a college degree can be important, going to college aimlessly just wastes time and money, he said: “If you decide to go to college, have a sense of direction, because that will really ground you and make your time more productive.” ■



## WALKING THE WALK

**Cornell Graduate Student is on a Coast-to-Coast Mission**



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

Barrett Keene is walking from coast to coast to raise awareness about the plight of orphans – a journey “that’s crazy enough that people pause and say, ‘What is going on? Why is he doing this?’”

Keene, a Cornell University graduate student, traces the roots of his 3,500-mile journey to a trip to Central America when

he taught English and agriculture to children of poor farmers.

“It just kind of hit me then, that with

University of Florida. “They don’t have any more responsibility for the ridiculous challenges of their lives than I do for the

***After a visit to the GO Project in Haiti, Keene knew he wanted to help their ministry in some way.***

children, when they’re having a tough time, it’s not their fault,” Keene said of the experience as an undergraduate at the

blessings of mine.”

Coupled with working at Southern Baptist churches in children’s ministry,

Keene felt God developing his heart to serve orphans. That brought him into contact with the Global Orphan Project (also known as the GO Project), a Christian ministry that supports local church-owned orphanages around the world.

After a visit to the GO Project in Haiti, Keene knew he wanted to help their ministry in some way. Since his graduate school thesis involves interviewing students and teachers, he reasoned he could do that while walking across the country and sharing about orphans.

As of early October, he had logged more than 2,297 miles on the journey that began in Miami on January 28 en route to San Francisco, speaking with an estimated 25,000 people in schools, churches, and residences.

“When I speak to groups and when I preach to churches, I don’t really talk too much about the walk,” Keene said. “It’s not about the walk, and it’s not about me... It’s about the fact that God desires to use us, despite the fact that we’re sinful and selfish and vile. He desires to use us

to serve His children and to transform our hearts through that.”

Along the way, the Lord has provided for his needs. Company sponsorships took care of his food and equipment, and his friends bought him a support van they take turns driving. Families, including non-Christian ones, continue to open their homes to him, sparking opportunities to share why he’s on this journey.

“[God] adopts us as His sons and daughters. How beautiful it is for us to be able to serve children here on earth and really to be able to bring glory to God in that,” Keene said.

Keene looks forward to returning to Haiti and seeing the orphans who are so close to his heart, knowing they will have no idea what he’s done, which “doesn’t matter.”

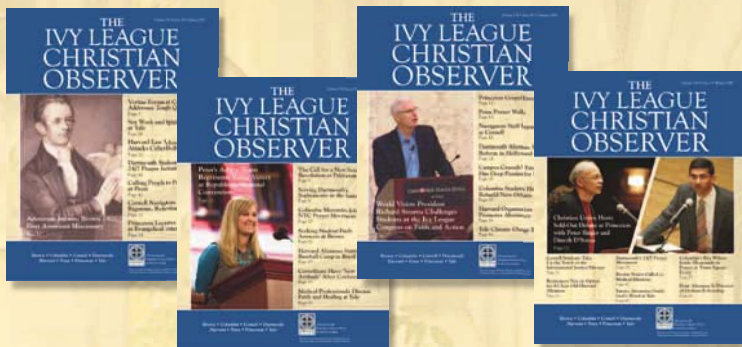


**Barrett Keene, a graduate student at Cornell, is walking across the United States to raise awareness for the Global Orphan Project.**

“It’s not about me,” he said. “It’s not about someone walking across the country. It’s not even about the GO Project. It’s about them having what they need to sleep and to eat and to be cared for.”

To find about more about the GO Project or to track the progress of Barrett Keene, visit [www.gowalkamerica.org](http://www.gowalkamerica.org). ■

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# MEDICINE AND FAITH

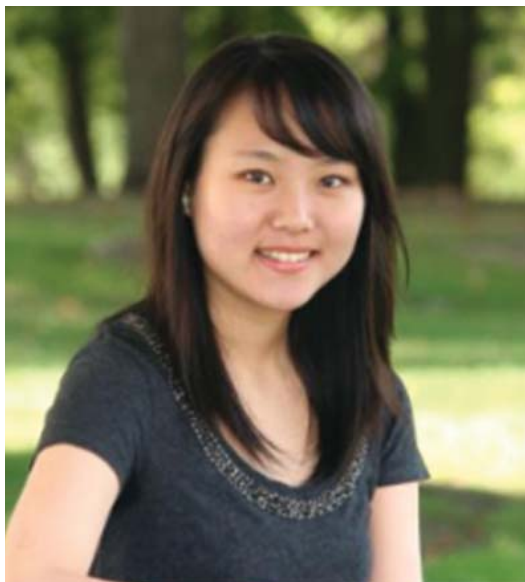
## *An Intern's Summer Journey to Seattle*

**D** I arrived in Seattle past eleven that July night, after barely withstanding the fourteen-hour flight and bad airplane food. I came to find out how medicine and faith are related, in a hospital setting where there is no religious context. Not everyone believes in God, but everyone gets sick and ultimately dies. That there are no atheists in foxholes became my premise. I was to spend the next seven weeks of my summer in one of the most un-churched cities in the country, where Starbucks stands on every corner. When I told this plan to my family friends who were visiting from Korea, a kind of suspended silence fell over the dinner table, that awkward pause when everyone seems to stop chewing, and you ask yourself, “Did I say something wrong?”

Through the internship from the Waterman Institute at Dartmouth College, I had the incredible opportunity to work at the Swedish Medical Center with a Christian thoracic surgeon and alumnus, Dr. Ralph Aye D’72. In addition to shadowing him in the clinic, observing surgeries in the operating room, and attending oncology conferences, radiology rounds, and research meetings, I worked on an independent study—this self-designed project which received such a bizarre reaction at dinner.

During the first weeks of my internship, I dug through empirical data about the relationship between health and religion/spirituality. That 78 percent of American adults identified themselves as Christians in a Gallup Poll struck an ironic clash against the secular humanist foundationalism prevalent in today’s society. Additionally, a recent study published in the Archives of Internal Medicine reported that 85% of American physicians believe religion/spirituality

has a positive influence on health, and 54% say that God or a supernatural being intervenes in patients’ health. The sociology, science, religion, and medical journals I pored over pointed out that the limitations of their studies were twofold: theoretical in conceptualizing religion and spirituality and methodological in relying on survey data.



**Hannah Jung, Dartmouth '15, spent several weeks of the summer interning with a Christian thoracic surgeon.**

There were enough numbers already analyzed, and only so much can be extrapolated from statistics. What I needed was qualitative data and anecdotal evidence. And as a writer, I wanted stories. I began to have what sociologists call “focused conversations” with physicians and patients—especially those who deal with the prospect of dying—on how faith or lack of faith affects them.

In a 2006 study in the *Journal of Religion and Health*, religion is defined as an external, objective, institutional set of

principles or practices for a group setting, while spirituality is labeled as personal, subjective, a divine revelation, or direct relationship with God.

In conversations with Christian physicians, I asked them to define religion and spirituality in their own words. I also directed conversation on the topic of prayer and handling faith issues in patient interactions. While a medical oncologist commented that she has seen her patients and patient families become blinded by their faith over scientific reason, a family medicine doctor stated that some of his atheist or agnostic patients search for faith when end-of-life issues hit. Conversations with patients, on the other hand, were difficult to find and even more challenging to have. I was a perfect stranger interested in their edge of life. Those with a strong Christian faith coped differently than those without.

A spontaneous chylothorax patient placed her hope in being able to eat again: “I need that little hope, that one day I’ll be able to have coffeecake. Blueberry muffin with butter. Strawberry rhubarb pie.” She pronounced each food word with zest—with an intensity only deprivation can produce. She had put her faith in doctors only to be surprised that “they can’t always fix you.” Her records showed that the patient was a nominal Catholic. I asked her whether she prays; she recalled the time she was still home, before the surgeries. She was in bed but couldn’t sleep because of the pressure in her chest. She remembered rocking back and forth saying, “please fix me, please fix me,” as if asking for a mechanical repair. Just the day before, I had talked with a thyroid cancer survivor whose hope and faith were not in food or doctors but in Christ, whose prayer was for being healed instead of being fixed. Medicine is an imperfect science, and I saw that faith offers what medicine cannot provide. ■



# ON EAGLES' WINGS

## Ike Muzikowski Serves as Soccer Missionary in Brazil, Midwest

**C**olumbia University student combined his love for soccer and passion for Christ this summer when he served with a sports ministry that deployed to Brazil and held camps in the Midwestern United States.

Isaiah "Ike" Muzikowski '15 spent nine weeks with the Chicago Eagles' Summer Academy, a collegiate program that helps students develop their game and provides experience in ministry, coaching, and leadership.

Summer Academy participants toured Brazil, coached soccer camps, and participated in local ministries with international children, disabled youngsters, and at-risk youth. They also played matches in the Midwest.

Muzikowski traveled to the Eagles' headquarters in Wheaton, Illinois on May 26, where he received training before departing four days later for Atibaia, a city in Sao Paulo, Brazil. While abroad for three weeks, the Chicago native led soccer clinics and participated in street ministry, which featured him juggling, performing pushups, and sharing his testimony.

"I have some discomfort in public speaking," said Muzikowski, an outside midfielder. "For the first time, I was the one sharing my testimony, the one they had to see Christ through." As part of their work in Brazil, Muzikowski and his teammates also helped connect youngsters with area pastors for ongoing ministry.

After returning to the Midwest on June 19, the Summer Academy conducted sports camps in Illinois and Wisconsin and competed in the Illinois State Soccer Association's Under 23 League.

Muzikowski, who serves as an assistant Bible course leader with Columbia Faith and Action, raised \$3,200 to help fund his trip abroad. Columbia Faith and Ac-

tion (CFA) is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

Muzikowski enjoyed the opportunities to live in Christian community and share Christ's plan of redemption: "The Eagles Academy is about trying to develop missionaries for the future."

Combining athletics and faith is nothing new for the Muzikowski family. His parents, Bob and Tina, co-founded Chicago Hope Academy, an affordable Christian secondary school in an urban neighborhood.

Of more notoriety, Bob Muzikowski started two urban Little League teams in Chicago and one in New York City in the 1990s. His experiences led him to question educational options for the inner-city players and launch Chicago Hope Academy. The elder Muzikowski's work with youth baseball served as the inspiration for *Hardball*, a movie starring Keanu Reeves.

Bob Muzikowski, Columbia '79, MBA



**Isaiah "Ike" Muzikowski '15, put his passions for soccer and the gospel to use over the summer when he participated in a sports ministry that deployed to Brazil and held camps in the Midwest.**

Bob Muzikowski, Columbia '79, MBA

also serves as assistant Bible Course leader for CFA.

Jim Black, the Christian Union's ministry director at Columbia, said the brothers hail from a "really remarkable background in terms of spiritual heritage."

"Ike already will continue to be a significant influence [at Columbia]," Black said. "He has a very winsome and fun personality. Other students gravitate to him. The Lord is going to continue to use Ike as a leader at Columbia to connect with and display the beauty of the gospel."

Likewise, Bob Muzikowski expressed appreciation for Ike's spiritual growth since participating in CFA. "Ike has grown in faith at Columbia, a place historically hostile to Christians," said Muzikowski. "Ike takes a stand for Christ in a place where Christians are seriously not in vogue."

The elder Muzikowski also noted he was not surprised at his son's decision to serve in Brazil, as he won numerous sports accolades while at Chicago Hope Academy. *The Chicago Tribune* featured Muzikowski in its 2011 list of scholar athletes, noting numerous accomplishments in cross-country, soccer, track, basketball, and football.

Along related lines, "Ike gave up a ton of comfort by attending inner-city Chicago Hope Academy," Bob Muzikowski said.



'82, was a recipient of a 1991 Point of Light award for his philanthropic work with Little League. As well, he penned *Safe at Home*, an account of his life and his work with underserved children and their families.

As for Ike Muzikowski, he is the third of seven children. Brother Robert "Bo" '14

"He also shared his home with dozens of boys who had nowhere to go over the first 18 years of his life."

Black echoed those sentiments regarding Ike: "God has gifted him. He has a tremendous heart for people, particularly people from challenging situations. Doing missions work was right up his alley." ■

# A MISSION OF MERCY

## Medical Student Serves the Sick and Hurting

**B** A Brown University medical student devoted his summer to offering healing and hope to those ravished by sickness, poverty, and addiction.

Brendon Esquibel, MD '15, ventured to Kenya in July, where he participated in a mission through the Global Health Out-



**Brendon Esquibel '15, a Brown University medical student, served with the Global Health Outreach branch of the Christian Medical and Dental Association this summer in Kenya.**

reach branch of the Christian Medical and Dental Association. Earlier in the summer, Esquibel spent two months serving as an intern with His Mansion Ministries, a Christian counseling and residential care center that specializes in treatment for addictions and other disorders.

"We have Christ to look to as a frontrunner. He gave up a lot to spend time with hurting individuals," said Esquibel. "He offered healing as a means to help reconcile people back to God."

In Kenya, Esquibel served between temporary clinics in Nairobi, the capital, and Namanga, a town near the Tanzanian border. He was part of a team of 30 physicians, nurses, and other medical professionals from across the United States that jetted to Kenya to serve in missionary clinics.

"It's a little overwhelming. There is just so much need. There were hundreds of people waiting outside our gates," said Esquibel. "We couldn't see everybody."

Illnesses ranged from common viral infections to AIDS and other diseases common to the impoverished, including malaria and cholera. When members of the team encountered life-threatening conditions, they arranged to transport and pay for patients to receive treatment at Kenyan hospitals. Such institutions generally do not treat patients without pre-payment.

"It's very easy as a medical school student, and even as a Christian, to think and talk about doing this sort of work and even romanticize it," Esquibel said. "It was a very different thing to do. This is really hard."

Pediatrician Ann Craig, Penn MD '85, who served as the medical director on

the trip, said short-term missions provide a practical means of spreading Christ's gospel.

"Christ loved people in a very physical way," said Craig, also the medical director of the emergency call center at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. "If you meet the felt needs of people through housing or medical care or providing clean water, those kinds of things are the way of being of the hands and feet of God."

In the midst of widespread poverty, "you see the beauty of the Lord in those who are serving him," Craig said. "You have the chance to offer that to others as well."

Craig described Esquibel as an eager learner who received valuable clinical experience as a second-year medical stu-

dent. He also was allowed to see patients under the supervision of an attending physician. Esquibel, a Maine native, is considering options to focus on emergency medicine and missionary service.

As for the spiritual aspects of his venture, Esquibel said he and the other practitioners made it a point of offering prayer to patients and "a lot of them accepted," Esquibel said. "We often underestimate the power of prayer."

Earlier in the summer, Esquibel served as an intern with His Mansion Ministries, a treatment facility centered on a 360-acre working farm in New Hampshire. His Mansion helps men and women, ages 18 to 35, who struggle with substance abuse, sexual addiction, pornography, eating disorders, depression, and other mental health issues.

"It was a really amazing experience to be around individuals from very broken backgrounds. I'm just as broken and in need of Christ," said Esquibel. "It was a powerful way to experience the gospel."

At His Mansion, Esquibel served as a role model to residents, attended counseling sessions, and assisted with farm duties. Residents handle a variety of practical chores, including growing crops, tending cattle, and chopping wood to heat buildings.

"There is a very heavy emphasis on building relationships," Esquibel said.

Michael Tso, director of training for His Mansion Ministries and a family physician, described Esquibel as a thoughtful, reflective, purposeful, and intentional young man.

"Brendon came with a very humble attitude," said Tso, Brown '90, MD '94. "These men become brothers, not just sick people, traumatized people, or hurting people. I feel called by the Lord to love them. They are made in God's image and precious to God."

Esquibel remains passionate about using his professional talents to share Christ's love and gospel with sick and hurting individuals. "I would like to make myself available to be used by God," he said. "What a privilege it is to be part of things all over the world." ■

# SHARING A 'COMPASSIONATE HOPE'

*Sophomore Revisits Thailand During Summer Mission*

**D**artmouth Jay Schulte served the poor and spiritually impoverished people of Thailand last summer, helping to bridge the cultural and spiritual divide by sharing a language of love and a message of hope.

Through a mission trip he took to Southeast Asia, Schulte, Dartmouth '15, worked with the Compassionate Hope Foundation, teaching English in public schools and spreading the gospel. Compassionate Hope aids international church planting and fights poverty in underdeveloped and poor communities like Pussang Province in Northeast Thailand, where Schulte served.

But this wasn't Schulte's first time breaching the cultural divide. The native of Anchorage, Alaska trekked to Thailand during his junior year in high school as well and was eager to return when the opportunity arose to teach English and serve there once again. And it appears the community was just as eager to have him.

"The content of our teaching was the love of Jesus Christ," said Schulte, explaining that he used the words of the gospel to teach English. "Administration, faculty, and students in the public schools embraced us, grateful we were willing to come halfway around the world to care about them."

In addition to teaching English, Schulte said he and classmate Cameron

According to Schulte, many of the six- to 18-year-old girls would be on the streets at the mercy of Thailand's sex trade were it not for the homes.

"The girls in these homes broke my



**Sophomore Jay Schulte spent the summer teaching English and Bible lessons to students in Pussang Province in Northeast Thailand.**

heart," Schulte said. "More than anything, I found myself wanting them to know that Jesus thought they were beautiful inside and out and that His love for them was enough."

One 18-year-old girl in particular stood out to Schulte as she led worship for the younger children.

as if they were life to her. We sang songs together; we laughed, cried, and worshiped God together."

But such a celebration of God is not the norm in Thailand, where Schulte says only .5 percent of the population believes in Christ: "The name of Jesus is greeted with lots of uneasiness, social and sometimes economic persecution."

Additionally, Schulte said that serving in Thailand offered unique cultural and language challenges and required heightened sensitivity to its many cultural rules and "caste-like rituals and functions." Regarding the language barrier, Schulte simply said, "You have to get creative."

And yet the rewards of serving the people of Pussang Province seemed overflowing.

"The people in Thailand who follow Christ actually know what they are about. This had a huge impact on me," said Schulte, citing the people's dedication to serving relentlessly while having so little materially. In short, he explained, they know the sacrifice associated with following Christ.

"Being around these people, hearing their stories, soaking up their refined-by-fire wisdom, and experiencing the unconditional love that they had for each other and for me was like seeing the face of Christ himself," he said.

However, recognizing Christ in the faces of others also comes from having a knowledge and experience of Christ. Schulte credits Kevin Collins (Harvard '89), Christian Union's director of ministry at Dartmouth, with helping to prepare his heart for the mission.

"My involvement with Christian Union's leadership development ministry has encouraged and helped to deepen my walk with the Lord," said Schulte. "Kevin's investment in my life goes with me wherever I go, whether that's back to

***"The girls in these homes broke my heart. More than anything, I found myself wanting them to know that Jesus thought they were beautiful inside and out and that His love for them was enough."***

***—Jay Schulte, Dartmouth '15***

Price spent much of their time visiting and encouraging children at various homes of refuge in the region supported by Compassionate Hope.

"By outward standards, she has very little," he said, "yet there was so much joy in her face, and when we talked about Christ, she seemed to drink in our words

my home in Alaska or to a remote area of Northern Thailand. [He] may not have gotten on a plane this summer, but when I did, his investment in my life went with me.”

And while Schulte’s investment in the lives of the Thai people he loved and served stays with them, it has provided him an unexpected return.

“This trip reinforced my global per-

spective for the gospel and the reality that Christ works within the margins. Sometimes, [considering the busyness] at school, it is so easy not to allow margin for Christ to move,” he said. ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

## WAKING UP THE LAKE

### *Penn Student Describes Spiritual Growth after Tahoe Evangelism Project*

**P**icturesque Lake Tahoe is where California greets Nevada. The vacation destination boasts abundant outdoor recreation flanked by stunning, panoramic mountain and lake scenery.

The alpine community also served as the backdrop for a University of Pennsylvania sophomore who devoted her summer to serving with a Cru missionary project.

Thalia Stanberry was one of 70-plus students and 30 staffers from across the country who trekked to California to participate in Cru’s annual outreach to the Sierra Nevada’s quintessential summer playground.

From June 13 to August 18, Stanberry devoted her days to working at a retail store and her evenings to training and spiritual growth. She also spent her weekends evangelizing along Tahoe’s breathtaking shoreline and lively dining and entertainment scene.

Stanberry, Penn ’15, said she was inspired to explore missionary service after participating in Penn Cru’s fall retreat to Pennsylvania’s Pocono Mountains and Cru’s Big Break outreach to Panama City Beach, Florida.

As for her westward venture, Stanberry said she especially enjoyed the plentiful opportunities for rich, meaningful conversations with Tahoe vacationers.

“People were relaxed and wanted to talk. They were not rushing around,” she said. “I liked being able to connect with everyone.”

Not surprisingly, the vibrant summer mecca surrounding the largest alpine lake in North America serves as a fertile mission field for Cru’s seasonal outreach of four decades.

“People are open and willing to engage in conversation,” Stanberry said.

By one count, the crowd at Tahoe surges to 200,000 on busy summer weekends. Most visitors come to reenergize along its 72 miles of shoreline, which sport endless

about sharing her faith and expressing her adoration through worship.

Friends from Penn, including Carolyn Moneymaker, affirmed Stanberry’s devotion and commitment to service. Moneymaker, Penn ’10, said she watched Stanberry grow in her passion for evangelism during the Big Break outreach.

“She really seemed to enjoy sharing her faith with students she’d never met before,” said Moneymaker, also an intern with Penn

Cru. “She firmly believes in the power of prayer and constantly wanted to dedicate more time on the trip to praying as a group. She also took advantage of the late night evangelism time.”

Sean Massa, Penn ’15, also described Stanberry as “an inspiration because she so strongly desires for Christ to be the head of her life and those around her.”

Likewise, Stanberry was looking forward to spreading the gospel when she returned to campus, where she is involved with Penn Cru ([www.phillycru.org](http://www.phillycru.org)) and Athletes in Action ([www.athletesinaction.org](http://www.athletesinaction.org)).

Indeed, Jamie Bruce, a director for the Tahoe project, said a key goal is equipping students to transmit the gospel message on their home campuses and beyond. Students shared the plan of salvation more than 1,000 times during the summer mission to the lake community.

“I’ve learned a lot about having courage—going out there and initiating conversations,” said Stanberry. ■



Several students from Penn Cru participated in the ministry’s annual outreach to Lake Tahoe this summer.

summer activities nestled along restless, cobalt waters and soaring evergreens. The Cru team spent the summer living at the scenic altitude of 6,260 feet above sea level.

“It’s cool to see the mountains and the beach so close together,” said Stanberry, who hails from southwest Florida.

But the heavenly vistas are secondary to Stanberry, who remains passionate

# REACH THE BEACH

## *Brown Student Challenged by Summer Mission Project*

**B**ROWN The storied beachfront town of Wildwood, New Jersey served as a fertile mission field for one Brown University upperclassman.

Michael Robinson '14 served with a Cru summer project in the tourist destination famed for its carnival-style roller coasters, saltwater taffy, and bustling tram.

"It was an amazing experience, just to be able to dedicate a summer to God," said Robinson, who's double majoring in public policy and American institutions as well as economics. "It was good just to learn more about the gospel and how to apply it."

From June 1 to August 8, Robinson devoted his days to serving as an intern for the City of Wildwood and his evenings to evangelizing along the seaside community's popular boardwalks, nostalgic attractions, and broad beaches.

Robinson, who's considering a career in government service as well as full-time ministry, said his summer break experiences helped eliminate many of the natural fears and hesitations associated with incorporating the gospel into personal and professional spheres.

"God has a plan for us," said Robinson. "He really wants us to be outward with our faith and not be ashamed to share it."

Passion for Christ's gospel means "you cannot help but share it," said Robinson, who is active in College Hill for Christ ([cru-brown.org](http://cru-brown.org)). "There is a point where God is so important, you cannot help but weave Him into your conversations."

During the summer, Robinson shared a two-bedroom apartment with eight young men from across the country, including some who became close companions.

For the first half of the summer, Cru staffers assigned to the Jersey shore divided students into small groups of the same gender for discipleship and evangelism activities. When the second half of the summer began, the staffers departed and turned the project over to student leaders, including Robinson.

In addition, Cru students sponsored barbeque dinners, parties, and games—

including ultimate flying disc, volleyball, and tug-of-war — as preludes to evangelistic efforts for some team members to present their testimonies. Students also shared their faith during frequent trips to a nearby laundromat.

Altogether, the team initiated nearly 2,000 spiritual conversations with passersby, and 46 individuals prayed to accept Jesus as their personal savior.

During gospel presentations to crowds of beachgoers, Robinson shared his compelling account of his struggles as a teen growing up in a cash-strapped, single-parent home. Although Robinson was a Christian, he still cried himself to sleep after dealing with heavy academic and outside employment workloads and harsh economic hardships.

But after landing a scholarship to Brown, Robinson accepted an invitation to attend a Cru gathering. Later, as a sophomore, the Arkansas native rededicated his life to Christ during a fall retreat.

At first, Robinson found it challenging to share his testimony. "It required me to explain a lot about how I grew up," he said, "which even my close friends at school barely know anything about."

One of Robinson's summer highlights was the chance to intern with Wildwood's new beach utility fund. In the spring, the city established the fund to help maintain its beachfront operations, including rentals of storage boxes along the shoreline.

Many of Robinson's duties centered on creating advertising and contracts for the storage boxes and setting up a database to help track the use of the boxes. Brown funded Robinson's internship, which was



**Michael Robinson (l) Brown '14, spent his break serving with a Cru summer project in Wildwood, New Jersey.**

tied to Wildwood's overall goal of making its beach operations self-sufficient. Likewise, Robinson raised \$2,850 in support to help cover his living expenses during the missionary project.

Robinson's other internship duties involved monitoring a variety of beach and boardwalk events and constructing related financial reports.

Overall, Robinson said he was profoundly touched during his summer in Wildwood.

"Sharing the gospel is the greatest act of love you can show someone," Robinson said. "Thinking of all the things that God has seen me through, it is hard to imagine the hurt that others also must have in their lives."

"The scariest part is what if they don't know God? What if they are in this life alone with everything placed on their shoulders? That's why it is selfish and unloving not to share the gospel... His love is what strengthens us, but it is never ending and abundant." ■

# SUMMER IN THE CITY

## *Penn Undergrads Changed by Short-Term Ministry to Seattle's Homeless*

**P** A pair of University of Pennsylvania students travelled across the country to devote part of their summer to proclaiming Christ's gospel behind bars and on drug-fueled streets.

DeAnna Kerley '14 and Elizabeth Schopfer '13 shared their time and talents with some of Seattle's neediest individuals by participating in a Cru missionary project in Washington. From June 16 to July 14, they were among about 35 students from across the country who took part in the ministry's annual Summer in the City/Prison Project.

Highlights included a homeless simulation and internship through the Washington State Department of Corrections. The students also spent time interacting with homeless people, visiting inner-city churches, assisting urban youth, and engaging in prison ministry.

"I've learned more about God's heart for the city," said Schopfer.

The students especially were struck by their participation in a homeless simulation, which involved an overnight stay in a parking garage. The students quickly located dirty pillow cases and towels and foraged for boxes and other supplies.

Likewise, they also participated in a downtown scavenger hunt to learn more about the typical homeless experience in Seattle. One task involved securing a free meal at a soup kitchen. When the simulation was over, the undergrads returned to their much more comfortable lodging in Seattle Pacific University apartments.

"It's so evident that what we were going through was nothing like what [homeless people] go through," said Kerley of Charleston, South Carolina.

One of the many tidbits the communications major took away was the fact that homeless people generate an average of \$8 per day, mostly through collecting cans and begging. "It was so eye-opening," said Kerley.

Despite their efforts to capture the homeless experience and blend with Seattle street dwellers, Kerley said Cru students tended to "stick out." As such, "we



**DeAnna Kerley, Penn '14, and Elizabeth Schopfer, Penn '13, served with Cru's annual Summer in the City/Prison Project in Seattle.**

didn't pretend we have all of the answers," Kerley said. Instead, students focused on sharing the gospel message and passing out brown-bag lunches, bottled water, hygiene packs, blankets, scarves, hats, gloves, and other practical items in some of the city's roughest neighbor-

munities.

"I love the city. It's gritty, and it's in your face. It makes for a great place to share the gospel," she said. "You can get into really genuine conversations with people. It's really awesome to be able to point the way to the cross."

A key portion of the project centered on an internship program Cru coordinates with Washington's Department of Corrections. So, in addition to spending a week inside correctional facilities, students participated in police ride-alongs and shadowed parole officers.

Cru ([www.cru.org](http://www.cru.org)) is the U.S. division of Campus Crusade for Christ International, based in Orlando, Florida. On the Penn campus, Kerley and Schopfer participate in Penn Cru ([www.phillycru.org](http://www.phillycru.org)).

While in Washington, Schopfer said she gained valuable insights and confidence from the Cru training she received and through criminal-justice agencies. Likewise, the psychology major from Cherry Hill, New Jersey also said she was grateful she received grace and empowerment from God to share with troubled individuals whom many suburbanites shun and fear.

***"I love the city. It's gritty, and it's in your face... You can get into really genuine conversations with people. It's really awesome to be able to point the way to the cross."***

***—DeAnna Kerley, Penn '14***

hoods. "There's a lot of hopelessness," Kerley said.

Nonetheless, Kerley—who devoted her spring break to ministering with her church in inner-city Philadelphia—said she feels called to serve in urban com-

"Overall, God's really broken my heart for those who need Him, whether they're youths, homeless, or in prison," said Schopfer. "They're just people. They're so starved for human affection, really just wanting someone to listen to them." ■

# DELIVERANCE AND DISCIPLESHIP

*Christian Union Conference Speaker Emphasizes Spiritual Healing for Those Who Hurt*



God desires that this generation of college students walk in spiritual and emotional wholeness.

That was Shay Meckenstock's message at Christian Union's summer training conference.

"The gospel of the kingdom of heaven is here," said Meckenstock, a minister and author who served as one of the keynote speakers. "We've picked up the gospel of salvation and dropped the gospel of the kingdom of heaven."

Namely, she said, Christ told his disciples in Matthew 10:8-9 to incorporate supernatural deliverance and healing into their presentation and practice of the Great Commission: "As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."

Meckenstock, a 27-year veteran of healing, deliverance, and discipleship ministry from Hays, Kansas, added that campus ministers must remain aware that some students—despite possessing top academic and even religious credentials—deal with deep, difficult issues that necessitate spiritual healing.

"We do the gospel a great injustice [when we neglect to address wholeness and healing]," she said.

Meckenstock elaborated, noting that the Hebrew and Greek words for *salvation* suggest the concepts of healing, deliverance, and soundness. In addition, salvation is not simply a means to the end of "eternal security" but also a vehicle to offer wholeness and remedies for earthy concerns. God "really does want to restore," Meckenstock emphasized.

She also told members of Christian

Union's faculty always to offer hope as they reach out to students in Bible courses and in one-on-one mentoring meetings.

More than 70 Christian Union faculty, staff, spouses, and guests attended the annual conference, held in August at Sandy Cove Ministries in North East, Maryland. Other speakers included Sean McDonough (Harvard '86), professor of New Testament at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Massachusetts, and Glen Knecht, author and pastor of Christ Reformed Evangelical Church in Annapolis, Maryland.

Meckenstock noted that students who embrace Christ often need healing from past wounds and dangerous addictions, habits, and thought patterns.

"If they are not set free from besetting sins, they will go into the world and struggle," said Mecken-

stock, a graduate of the Wagner Leadership Institute. "The devil can take them out with greed, addictions, and lust."

Addictions that threaten young people range from video games and substance

abuse to demonic influence, Meckenstock warned; she also encouraged Christian Union's ministry fellows to pray that God would reveal the roots of issues as they counsel students this academic year.

Meckenstock added that some instances of individual or generational sin—along with spiritual conditions of the heart—can play roles in physical and mental difficulties.

As well, issues tied to forgiveness eventually can manifest as emotional or physical maladies. As Christ said, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:23)

Meckenstock said that holding and nurturing grudges can foster a variety of mental disorders and even infirmities, in particular because of the principles of sowing and reaping found in Galatians.

For example, Meckenstock said she wrestled with anxiety into her adult years until she forgave her father for abandoning her as a teen.

"Everything in the kingdom is about increase. Judge not lest you be judged," said Meckenstock, referring to Christ's words in Matthew. "This is where all of the freedom came, because I cancelled a debt."

In addition, Meckenstock highlighted the need among some students to receive powerful intercession to confront serious issues. In particular, when students are battling demonic influences, spiritual mentors should seek input from seasoned min-



**Shay Meckenstock, the founder of a healing, deliverance, and discipleship ministry in the Midwest, served as one of the keynote speakers for Christian Union's summer training conference.**

***Meckenstock said that holding and nurturing grudges can foster a variety of mental disorders and even infirmities, in particular because of the principles of sowing and reaping found in Galatians.***

abuse to pornography and gambling.

Ultimately, she said, addictions are a form of idolatry and a violation of the first of God's Ten Commandments: "It's serving another god. It's a form of worship."

Likewise, some addictions can be inter-

esters trained in prophecy and deliverance.

During Meckenstock's address, Christian Union Founder and President Matt Bennett told ministry fellows that God uses some individuals who possess prophetic gifting for extraordinary circumstances.

“There’s a lot to learn in the body of Christ,” said Bennett, Cornell ’88, MBA ’89. “It’s a process of gleaning and learning.”

Meckenstock, author of *The Mystery of Christ: A Radical Truth...Lived*, is pen-

ning a second book capturing her experiences in supernatural ministry: *A Fear-some Privilege* (summer 2013).

For now, Meckenstock wants campus ministers to remember the words of the

Apostle Paul in Corinthians 2:14: “But, thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ’s triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of Him everywhere.” ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

## SUMMER STUDY

### Students Grow in the Grace and Knowledge of Jesus Christ



A large group of students involved with Christian Union’s leadership development ministries continued to embrace a seeking God lifestyle over the summer. Some were members of Bible studies on campus, while others discussed books by some of Christianity’s most intellectually engaging authors.

At Dartmouth College, about 20 students organized online to probe *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*, by Rev. Tim Keller.

“The students felt like reading and discussing a book like this would be a great way to continue encouraging each other in their walk with the Lord,” said Kevin Collins, Christian Union’s ministry director at Dartmouth. “They also wanted to continue seeking God together and developing their intellectual reasoning for their faith.”

**“We wanted students to continue to be engaged with good, thoughtful material and also be able to interact, even though they were spread out all over the globe.”**

**—Jim Black, Christian Union’s ministry director at Columbia**

Even with the success of the online study, students missed the close contact and spiritual network they developed during their freshman year at Dartmouth, said Collins, Harvard ’89.

“Some of the students found it was difficult to be at home, where they were

away from their strong Christian friends and a daily or weekly routine of Bible courses, prayer, and sharing their walk with the Lord with each other,” Collins said.

Fortunately, Collins said, the reading program and ongoing communication they had with one another helped students bridge any disconnect between home and university life, and encouraged them to persist in their Christian growth. The Christian Union began its ministry at Dartmouth in fall 2011.

“The summer reading program really helped them develop as leaders and will give the ministry at Dartmouth added momentum this fall,” said Collins.

At Columbia, students were involved in an online study of *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*, by N.T. Wright.

“We wanted students to continue to be engaged with good, thoughtful material and also be able to interact, even though they were spread out all over the globe,” said Jim Black, Christian Union’s ministry director at Columbia.

At Harvard, about a dozen students



**Ricky Lopez, Harvard ’15, helped lead a book discussion group this summer.**

met on campus weekly to study 1 Corinthians from May through July. Additionally, more than 100 students participated in an online study of *God’s Glory in Salvation through Judgment: A Biblical Theology*, by James M. Hamilton, Jr.

Ricky Lopez (Harvard ’15), the student co-leader of the reading project, appreciated the chance to dive into such weighty materials and stay in touch with friends from Harvard College Faith and Action.

“I learned a lot about the Bible that is useful in my personal study,” he said.

As for Yale Faith and Action, about a dozen probed the book of Genesis on a weekly basis with Christian Union ministry fellows.

“Genesis is the book that comes up the most in secular study of the Bible, so the study equipped them to speak meaningfully about Genesis from a Christian perspective and interact critically with other perspectives,” said Chris Matthews, ministry director at Yale University. ■



## CHRISTIAN UNION

## Students Spend Summer with Ministry in Uganda

A pair of underclassmen who participate in Princeton Faith and Action ([www.pfanda.com](http://www.pfanda.com)) spent part of their summer serving with a ministry that targets villages in the eastern region of Uganda.



**Blaire Boxom, Princeton '14, served with a humanitarian organization in Uganda this summer.**

Blaire Bloxom '14 and Amy Gonzalez '15 served with the Rural Orphans and Widows AIDS Network from July 27 to August 11. The California-based ministry seeks to empower orphans and widows infected or impacted by HIV/AIDS through economic development, educational, and medical initiatives.

"God is really working through this organization," said Gonzalez.

## Christian Union Offers Worldview Course

Christian Union recently offered a new conference in Upstate New York aimed at intertwining evangelical perspectives and scholarly investigation.

In August, the leadership development ministry debuted its Christian Worldview course to a group of undergraduates from Columbia, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale at its new retreat center near Lake George.

Jesse Peterson, a ministry fellow at Columbia University, organized the course, which was held August 12 to 21. Peterson and other Christian Union fac-



**In August, Christian Union offered an intensive Christian Worldview course at its new retreat center in Upstate New York.**

ulty tackled a series of in-depth topics tied to strengthening Christian believers as they confront intellectual issues on top, secular campuses.

## Former Princeton Faith and Action Leader Working in Rwanda

A recent Princeton University alumnus has a passion to serve in Africa.

In September, Trent Fuenmayor '12 started a position as a grant writer with the Shyira Anglican Diocese in Rwanda. The diocese oversees a Christian boarding school, 52 government-subsidized schools, and a health center. It also is home to about 300 congregations in 29 parishes.



**Trent Fuenmayor, Princeton '12, has accepted a position as a grant writer with an Anglican Diocese in Rwanda.**

In 2011, Fuenmayor led a group of students from Princeton Faith and Action ([www.pfanda.com](http://www.pfanda.com)) on a missionary trip to Uganda. In 2010, Fuenmayor, who has traveled and studied extensively in Africa, also volunteered in a home for orphaned babies in Uganda.

## ALL IVY

## Assistant Chaplain Leaves Dartmouth

The Tucker Foundation's assistant chaplain, Kurt Nelson, Yale Divinity School '07, left Dartmouth last spring to take a new position as dean of religious and spiritual life at Colby College.

**Kurt Nelson, YDS '07, has left his position as The Tucker Foundation's assistant chaplain to take on a new role as dean of religious and spiritual life at Colby College.**



Nelson served at the Tucker Foundation ([www.dartmouth.edu/~tucker](http://www.dartmouth.edu/~tucker)) for five years, where he focused on the multi-faith program.

"The students and colleagues I worked with are really terrific," Nelson said in *The Dartmouth*. "I'll be sad to leave these

relationships behind. More and more people are getting involved each year."

## Seeking God in Summer

Ivy League students were active in campus ministry Bible studies and reading groups this summer. Students with Cornell Graduate Christian Fellowship ([graduatechristianfellowship.wordpress.com](http://graduatechristianfellowship.wordpress.com)) held Bible studies that covered the Book of Acts and "The Gospel of Thomas and Gnosticism." Penn Medical Christian Fellowship hosted a Bible study that covered 2 Timothy. Additionally, the Yale Graduate Summer Christian Fellowship met on Mondays for Tim Keller's *The Gospel in Life* series and on Fridays for a discussion on a book by Yale Professor Miroslav Volf, *A Public Faith: How*



*Followers of Christ Should Serve the Common Good.* Cornell Graduate Christian Fellowship and

Yale Graduate Summer Christian Fellowship are ministries of InterVarsity ([www.ivity.org](http://www.ivity.org)).

## Ivy Professor Wins Book Award

Christopher MacEvitt (Princeton Ph.D. '02), associate professor of religion at Dartmouth, won the John Nicholas Brown Prize from the Medieval Academy.

MacEvitt's book, *The Crusades and the Christian World of the East: Rough Tolerance*, was the offspring of his travels and specialty in the history of medieval Christian communities.

"Wherever I went in Jordan, Syria, and Turkey, I found castles, cities, and churches remaining from the crusader period, and clustered nearby were still-vibrant Christian communities," MacEvitt stated in *The Dartmouth Now*.

**Christopher MacEvitt, Princeton Ph.D. '02, is the recipient of the Medieval Academy's John Nicholas Brown Prize.**



BROWN

## Researchers Study Roger Williams' Shorthand Notes

The works of Roger Williams—the noted theologian, early proponent of religious freedom, and a founder of Rhode Island—continue to attract attention.



**Brown University students attempted to decipher handwritten notes by Roger Williams, the famed theologian and founder of Rhode Island.**

During the summer, *The Providence Journal* detailed the efforts of Brown University undergraduates to decipher a rare book containing margins crammed with Williams' shorthand.

The book Williams wrote upon, known by its subtitle—*An Essay Towards the Reconciling of Differences Among Christians*—is housed in an independent research library on campus. It's said that Williams, who graduated from the University of Cambridge in 1627, may have been using the book as scrap paper.

## Library Showcases Declaration of Independence

Over the summer, Brown University spotlighted the slow, labor-intensive, and sometimes error-prone nature of the dissemination of public documents in the eighteenth century.

The John Carter Brown Library possesses two copies of the version of the *Declaration of Independence* printed in Newport, Rhode Island by Solomon Southwick, who received honorary degrees from the University of Pennsylvania (1757) and Yale University (1780).

One copy of the Declaration of Independence bears the date July 12, and one highlights the date June 13. In



**This summer, a Brown University library examined the error-prone nature of public documents in the eighteenth century.**

the excited aftermath of the document's signing, colonial printers prepared multiple copies, often for the purpose of public reading.

## A Physical (and Spiritual) Training Camp

A Brown University senior interned with Athletes in Action's Ultimate Training Camp during his summer break. A.J. Cruz '13, a defensive back with the Bears, attended the camp in 2011 before making the jump to intern this past summer. The California native is active with the AIA chapter at Brown ([www.aiaat-brown.com](http://www.aiaat-brown.com)).

Three of Cruz's schoolmates—Holleigh Bergstrom '14, Adewole Oyalowo '14, and Amber Bledsoe '14—attended the Colorado State University camp.



**Students from Brown University who participated in Athletes in Action's Ultimate Training Camp prayed together daily.**

COLUMBIA

## Columbia University Gospel Choir

This fall, the Columbia University Gospel Choir ([www.columbia.edu/cu/gospel](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/gospel)) participated in *Afropolitan*, a cultural fashion show hosted by the African Students' Association. The event included skits, dancing, fashion, food, and the powerful, praise-filled voices of the Columbia University



**Students in the Columbia Gospel Choir ministered in song at *Afropolitan*, a cultural fashion show.**

Gospel Choir. The choir, which is comprised of Columbia and Barnard students, seeks to "lift up the name of Jesus Christ through gospel music."

## Drinking Allowed in Freshmen Dorms

While students at Columbia still need to be 21 to consume alcohol, those of legal age living in first-year dorms can now drink in their rooms. Previously, first-year students were not permitted to drink in these residence facilities, according to a report in the *Columbia Daily Spectator*.

**Older students living in first-year residence halls at Columbia can now drink alcohol in their rooms as part of the administration's focus on "alcohol harm reduction."**

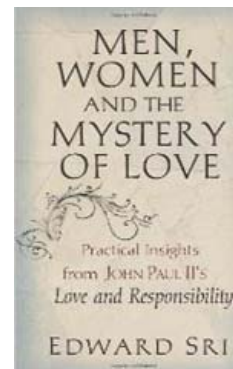


According to the *Spectator*, students 21 years of age or older, regardless of the age of his/her roommate(s), may now possess, store, or consume alcohol in corridor-style residence halls.

## Catholic Students Discuss 'Love and Responsibility'

In September, the Columbia Catholic Ministry ([www.columbia.edu/cu/earl/ccm](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/earl/ccm)) hosted a discussion group on Edward Sri's book, *Men, Women, and the Mystery of Love*. Part of the discussion also included an examination of *Love and Responsibility* by former pontiff John Paul II. *Love and Responsibility*, written before John Paul II became pope, is a defense of the Catholic tradition in the areas of family life and sexual morality and presents a holistic view of the relationship between men and women.

**Edward Sri's book, *Men, Women and The Mystery of Love*, was the topic of a fall discussion group hosted by the Columbia Catholic Ministry.**



CORNELL

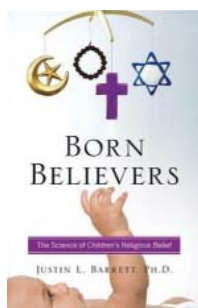
### Born to Believe?

*Born Believers*, by Dr. Justin L. Barrett (Cornell Ph.D. '97), was reviewed in the September 2012 issue of *Books and Culture*. The book explores how belief begins in the brain and whether or not religion is innate. J. Travis Cross, who wrote the review, expressed some disappointment in Barrett's attempt to address both the academic and parenting audiences. However, he went on to call the book "an excellent starting point for anyone who finds the topic interesting."

Barrett is the Thrive Professor of

Developmental Science and professor of psychology at Fuller Graduate School of Psychology.

**Dr. Justin Barrett's book *Born Believers*, explores how belief begins in the brain.**



### Campus on a Hill Freshman BBQ Outreach

Campus on a Hill at Cornell ([www.campusonahill.org](http://www.campusonahill.org)) held a Fellowship Fair Barbeque in August to introduce incoming freshmen to the Christian community. Freshmen had access to information about various ministries on campus, which helped facilitate an easier transition for students searching for fellowship.

Planning for the event took place during the summer break as Campus on a Hill prepared to feed 800 students. A Christian Union grant helped cover event costs.



Students with Navigators at Cornell were among the Christians who participated in the Fellowship Fair barbeque.

### Freshmen Enroll in Bible Courses

In August, Christian Union launched a leadership development ministry at Cornell with a successful outreach to incoming freshmen. Approximately 35 freshmen are currently enrolled in four



Christian Union Bible Courses.

**Ministry Director Jim Thomforde will lead Christian Union's leadership development ministry at Cornell.**

Those courses will be led by Jim Thomforde, Christian Union's director of undergraduate ministry at Cornell, and Asha Garretson, a Christian Union ministry fellow.

"We are so grateful for the students God has drawn together in these early weeks of the Cornell launch," said Thomforde. "They are spiritually hungry and gifted in so many different ways."

DARTMOUTH

### Waterman Institute Offers Fall Curriculum

The Waterman Institute at Dartmouth is offering a variety of classes this fall. A



**The Waterman Institute at Dartmouth is offering a course aimed at probing a Christian perspective on higher education.**

course geared toward freshmen (What is the Point of Education? A Christian Perspective) addresses the questions and decisions

that face new college students. Christian alumni and faculty will participate in discussions surrounding the nature of a liberal arts education and the relationship between faith, reason, and vocation. Other classes offered include: Biblical Foundations, Life Together, and Freedom and Human Flourishing.

### Religion Professor Slams GOP

Randall Balmer, chair of the religion department at Dartmouth, criticized Republican Presidential nominee Mitt Romney and his party in the *Huffington Post*. "Romney and the Republicans: Outsourcing Religion" notes that this election was the first to feature a major-party ticket without a Protestant candidate (Romney is Mormon; Paul Ryan is Catholic).



**Randall Balmer, Princeton Ph.D. '85, chairs the religion department at Dartmouth.**

"The religious right, after all, has been the core constituency of the Republican Party ever since the 1980s," writes Balmer, Princeton Ph.D. '85.

### Retreat Focuses on Reaching Freshmen

Sophomores involved with Dartmouth Faith and Action, a leadership development ministry sponsored and resourced by Christian Union, participated in a retreat prior to the fall quarter. In September, Christian Union ministry fellows and student leaders trekked to a retreat center to plan their outreach to freshmen.

**Caroline Albanese is a Christian Union ministry fellow at Dartmouth College.**



"God truly bonded the sophomores together and gave them a desire to reach out selflessly to the incoming class," said Caroline Albanese, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Dartmouth.

## HARVARD

## Medical School Lecturer: Pro-Life Measures Leave Women 'Assaulted'

Marcia Angell, M.D., senior lecturer in social medicine at Harvard Medical School and an abortion advocate, contends women's rights are being "assaulted" and calls out physicians for not responding to legislation she says, "would roll back access to abortion and contraception, mainly by intruding on the relationship between doctor and patient."



**Harvard Medical School Senior Lecturer in Social Medicine, Marcia Angell, M.D., wrote a USA Today opinion piece criticizing doctors for not responding negatively to**

**legislation that would increase awareness of the detrimental effects of abortion on women.**

Angell stated her case in a May 15 *USA Today* column, "Where Are the Doctors?" Angell opposes performing ultrasound examinations on women seeking abortions, mandated counseling (which she said dissuades women from having abortions), and the requirement that doctors tell women of a possible abortion-breast cancer link.

## Under Construction Still Going Strong

Harvard's Christian a cappella ensemble, Under Construction ([www.hcs.harvard.edu/~undercon](http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~undercon)), released its fifth studio album this summer, *Quintessential*. The album is available for purchase online at CD Baby and is expected to be released on iTunes as well.



**Harvard's Christian a cappella ensemble, Under Construction, released its fifth studio album, Quintessential.**

Under Construction has been performing at Harvard for 27 years, with the goal to "further experience God's love, trans-

formation, and forgiveness" and to share their experiences and God's message with the Harvard campus. The group's name is inspired by Philippians 1:6.

## Journey Church Reaches Out to Students

Members of Journey Church, which began meeting at Harvard Square just under two years ago, showed their hearts for students through its annual Back to School outreach on September 28.

Journey Church is described as "a Christ-centered, gospel preaching, Bible-based church intent on reaching students far from God and connecting Harvard students with a vibrant community of faith." Church members advertised in *The Harvard Crimson*, ran a Facebook ad, and distributed a variety of treats from door hangers and Cliff Bars to mini bottles of water.

A Christian Union grant helped underwrite the initiative.



**Journey Church, which meets at Harvard Square, held a back-to-school outreach to Harvard students in September.**

## PENN

## Retreat Energizes, Inspires Cru Students

Students with Penn Cru ([phillycru.org](http://phillycru.org)) participated in a retreat before the start of the new academic year. The undergraduates travelled to a Christian camp in New Jersey to plan their outreach to freshmen, as well as to new and returning upperclassmen. Also during the retreat, students learned how to share

**Students with Penn Cru visited a camp in New Jersey to plan their outreach to freshmen.**



the Good News, lead a small group, and inspire others with Cru's vision to touch the University of Pennsylvania campus. A Christian Union grant helped support the retreat.

## Sharing the Love of Yeshua

Simcha Katsnelson, Penn '13, traveled to Israel last spring with the Penn Cru Outreach Israel Project ([phillycru.org/campuses/penn](http://phillycru.org/campuses/penn)). Katsnelson, a Jewish believer in Christ, said she participated in the project to "share the love of Yeshua with Jewish Israelis" and "explain the gospel in a culturally sensitive way."

**Simcha Katsnelson, Penn '13, spent a portion of her summer reaching out to Jewish Israelis.**



The Cru team participated in several service projects. "Even though Israel collectively has rejected their Messiah," said Katsnelson, "I still saw how God was blessing the land and the people. He isn't finished with them yet." A Christian Union grant helped underwrite the trip.

## Penn Alum, a Hit Songwriter, Performs Church Concert

Award-winning singer-songwriter Laura Kaczor, Penn '04, performed over the summer at a church in Pennsylvania.

Kaczor appeared in July at New Covenant Church in Collegeville as part of her LifeThirst tour. During the concert, she performed selections from her newest album, *Love Enough*. The Nashville resident also serves as a worship leader and speaker and has had three hits on the *Billboard* charts.



**Laura Kaczor, Penn '04, is an award-winning singer and songwriter.**

PRINCETON

### Student Interns at Library of Congress

A student leader with Princeton Faith and Action ([www.pfanda.com](http://www.pfanda.com)) spent part of her summer interning with the Library of Congress. Princeton Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by

Christian Union.

Caitlin Lansing, Princeton '14, served as an intern in the Hispanic division, where her duties centered on digitizing materials tied to Latin American studies.

"I had a wonderful time at the Library and felt blessed each day that I

looked forward to going to work," said Lansing. "I rediscovered my love of learning simply for the sake of learning and could not be happier with the job."

### How Do Americans Define 'Religious Freedom'?

A religion historian at Yale Divinity School is crisscrossing the United States speaking on the meaning of religious freedom.

Digging through archives across the country, Tisa Wenger, Princeton Ph.D. '02, is piecing together the contentious story of how religious freedom was defined in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The shifting definitions reflect conflicts about national identity, values, and power.

"What I'm trying to do in my book project is a much broader cultural his-



**Historian Tisa Wenger, Princeton Ph.D. '02, is researching the meaning of religious freedom in the United States.**

tory about who is invoking religious freedom, who controls the definition in public discourse, and for what purposes," Wenger said.

### Religious Scholar Dies at 83

James M. Phillips, 83, a religious scholar, missionary, and Princeton and Yale alumnus, passed away in August. He was a resident of Hamden, Connecticut.

**James M. Phillips (Princeton '49, Ph.D. '58, Yale '55) passed away in August at 83. The Connecticut resident was a retired religious scholar and missionary.**



After completing undergraduate studies at Princeton in 1949, Phillips taught at Yonsei University in South Korea. He later graduated from Yale Divinity School in 1955 and finished doctoral studies at Princeton in 1959.

Shortly after he taught church history at Tokyo Union Theological Seminary and served as a Presbyterian pastor. Later, Phillips lectured at San Francisco Theological Seminary. From 1982 to 1997, he served as the associate director of the Overseas Ministries Study Center.

YALE

### Catholic Nun Criticized for Views

A book authored by Sister Mary Farley, Yale Ph.D. '73—a Catholic nun and emeritus professor of Christian ethics at Yale Divinity School—has come under fire from the Vatican for contradicting the church's teaching in regard to sexuality and marriage.

**Sister Mary Farley, Yale Ph.D. '73, has come under criticism from the Vatican for her book, *Just Love: A Framework for Christian Sexual Ethics*.**



The Vatican stated that Farley's book, *Just Love: A Framework for Christian Sexual Ethics*, "affirms positions that are in direct contradiction with Catholic teaching in the field of sexual morality." These issues include the recommenda-

tion that same-sex activity be respected and the recognition of same-sex "marriage." Farley retired from YDS in 2007 after 36 years teaching there.

### YDS Class of '52 Given Writing Assignment

Sixty years after their graduation from Yale Divinity School, the Class of 1952 had a final writing assignment before its October reunion. The 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion Planning Committee asked classmates each to write a statement of faith to prompt discussion during the reunion.

In a request for submissions sent by Class Secretary Richard Stazesky, alumni were asked each to write a faith statement reflecting "the driving, motivating convictions, beliefs, or forces that underlie your attitudes, actions, expectations, and hopes." There are plans to compile a "summary statement" based on the reunion's planned discussions.



**Yale Class of '52 Secretary Richard Stazesky gave an assignment to his class to write a faith statement that can be compiled during its 60th reunion this fall.**

### Yale Divinity School Features Gospel of Mark Storytelling

The Gospel of Mark will take center stage this fall during the 2012 Convocation activities for Yale Divinity School. Rev. Bert Marshall '96 will perform a "storytelling" of the gospel and recite the book, which he memorized during a three-month sabbatical in Nova Scotia.

Marshall is the former pastor of the First Congregational Church UCC in Lee, Mass. and is regional director/Northern New England for Church World Service, a disaster relief and economic development agency. He also writes and creates worship music.

**Rev. Bert Marshall, Yale Divinity School M.Div. '96, has memorized the Gospel of Mark.**



# 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.



**Xavier du Maine, Columbia '15, is a leader with Columbia Faith and Action, a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.**

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

### ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS

As of summer 2012, University Christian Union is active at Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Columbia, and Cornell, and it plans to expand to Penn and 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](http://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

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



**Christian Union hosts the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action every three years.**

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

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 weekend 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 recent 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](http://www.christian-union.org). ■



# YOU WERE MADE TO EXPERIENCE GOD

**H**ave you ever thought that prayer just isn't your gift? You know other Christians in your church who seem wired to spend lots of time with God in prayer. It seems easy to them, but that's not you. You've tried, but it doesn't click.

After trying time and again to work through it, you have settled in your mind (maybe only subconsciously) that you aren't made to connect with God in prayer. There are other areas where it's easy for you to serve: you're a good student of the Word; you're eager to help behind the scenes. But your prayer life is minimal.

I want to encourage you to rethink your assumptions on the basis of the Bible and the testimony that I have heard countless times and experienced personally.

For most of my life, prayer wasn't my primary way of relating to God. I sought God primarily through His Word. I was fixated on learning the Bible. I was captivated by the idea of knowing every page of Scripture, and in its original languages. I wanted to understand every doctrine and be able to explain difficulties with biblical support. I thank God for this pursuit! Don't misunderstand me and think that I'm denigrating this kind of quest for God's Truth. May it never be! However, I let my proclivities dictate my relationship with my God.

Prayer is not a spiritual gift (and neither is studying God's Word). Prayer is the lifeline that every believer has with our Father. Every person has the capacity to connect with God directly, personally.

One of the greatest consequences of sin is that we resist being in the presence of God. We see this in the story of the Garden of Eden. Immediately after Adam and Eve sin, we see how their rebellion affected their relationship with one another (feeling shame over their nakedness) and with God. We read of the latter in Genesis 3:8, "And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife *hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God* among the trees of the garden" (emphasis added). This verse is meant to shock us. Presumably God would regularly come to the garden and spend time directly, personally with Adam and Eve. We imagine that prior to sin's entrance, God would come to the garden and their hearts would beat a little faster; they would rush to their Father just to be with him. This is prayer. This is

how we were meant to relate to our Father.

As surprising as it is, God really wants to be with us. He has been working throughout all human history to restore His presence to humanity. He did it with Israel via the Temple. He did it by taking on flesh as Immanuel, "God with us." He has done it by giving his Spirit to be "*in us*" (John 14:16). He will do it fully at the new creation: "And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God'" (Rev 21:3).

God doesn't need our companionship but He has been on a fierce pursuit, sacrificing Himself to the fullest extent to restore what He created to begin with – an unhindered, personal relationship with you and me. Don't believe anything less.

Surely, God has made each of us unique in our gifts, passions, and inclinations. These individual distinctives will affect the way that we relate to the Father, but they won't make us more or less fit for friendship with Him. Prayer isn't the only means by which we come to know our God, but it certainly is a primary one.

I have been immensely encouraged in past months by a verse in Psalm 105. Verse 4 says, "Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!" Do you know who authored that verse? God did. He is pleading with us to seek His presence relentlessly. He isn't a God who withholds Himself or chooses to show Himself to us on rare occasions. He wants to be with you more than you know. Don't deny your Savior. He bought you for fellowship with Him and He with you. Now go and discover more of Him through prayer and may your experience of what prayer can be never be the same. ■

*Dr. Chuck Hetzler, ministry director for New York City Christian Union, earned his PhD in New Testament from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and also holds degrees from Covenant Theological Seminary (MDiv) and Samford University (BS).*



***Prayer is not a spiritual gift...  
Prayer is the lifeline that  
every believer has with our Father.***

**BROWN**

- Pray for the ministries of Cru at Brown as they strengthen believers and reach out to non-Christians this academic year.
- Please intercede for Christina Hull Paxson, who assumed leadership of Brown University as its new president on July 1. Pray that the administration will be supportive of Christian ministries on campus.
- Pray for incoming freshmen and transfers who desire to learn more about Christ. Pray that they would be open to seeking out a ministry on campus where they may grow spiritually and use their gifts to benefit others.

**COLUMBIA**

- Korea Campus Crusade for Christ held its fall retreat during the last weekend of October. Pray that the 50 students who attended will serve the Lord with passion this semester and reach out to others with the Good News.
- Pray for students who are raising their children while earning degrees. Pray that God will bless their efforts and provide for their daily needs.
- Pray for each Christian faculty and staff member, that they are bold in sharing their faith with colleagues and students who cross their paths.

**CORNELL**

- In October, Cornell students volunteered in the community as part of the Into the Streets event. Pray that a spirit of service would be evident throughout the year.
- On November 17, Campus on a Hill is sponsoring LIGHT, a night of praise, exhortation, and prayer for the campus and the world. Please pray for the impact of this event.
- Pray for the student leadership of Cornell Navigators, that their walks with the Lord will be strengthened and for good success as they disciple their peers.

**DARTMOUTH**

- On July 1, Carol L. Folt was named interim president of Dartmouth. Pray that she will be blessed with wisdom and good judgment, and be supportive of the campus ministries during this transition period.
- Pray for unity among the ministries on campus, that they will form fruitful relationships as they serve Christ at Dartmouth.
- Pray that the ministry leaders at Dartmouth would make Christ-glorifying decisions in their work on campus. Ask God to strengthen their faith, that they may fully trust Him for all of their needs.

**HARVARD**

- Pray for those involved in ECHO, a peer counseling group for those struggling with eating disorders, body image, and self-esteem.
- Pray that God would send His Holy Spirit throughout the Harvard campus, so ears will hear and hearts will be opened and many will accept the gospel message. Pray for lasting fruit as a result of prayer meetings, student-led Bible studies, and outreach events.
- Pray that the ministry and staff workers at Harvard will be used by God in profound ways and make an impact on campus and beyond.

**PENN**

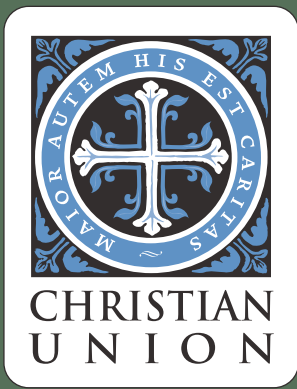
- Pray for Christian faculty members who will meet one-on-one with medical students to offer advice and encouragement in their relationships with God, school, and their lives in general.
- Pray for the campus ministry leaders, including: Andy, Michael, David, Susanne, Jeff, Anastasia, Charles, Billy, Mike, Jason, and Crystal. Pray that they will be leaders after God's own heart.
- Pray for the freshmen who attended the Campus Community Fair and as a result, became involved with one of the Christian ministries. Pray that these students will grow in their faith.

**PRINCETON**

- Pray that freshmen and transfer students will find a ministry to be a part of or that they will find friends who are godly influences in their lives.
- Continually keep in prayer the recent graduates as they seek employment. Pray they will not be discouraged, but that they would ask for God's guidance.
- As various campus ministries engage with students from different cultures and backgrounds, pray that many will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Pray that these ministries would help fulfill the Great Commission.

**YALE**

- Pray for students involved in one of the many Bible studies, prayer meetings, and discussion groups at Yale. Pray that their faith would increase and that they would love the Lord more deeply.
- Pray for the many students whom God will draw to Himself during this coming year. As they find new life in Christ, pray that they will not turn back from serving Him.
- Pray for Christian students to renew their vision to advance the kingdom of God at Yale. Pray that the entire campus will be transformed.



# From the bottom of our hearts, “Thank You!”

Through your generous giving, Christian leaders  
are being developed to change culture.



**Cristina Martinez**, Princeton '12

Hometown: Miami, Florida

Major: Anthropology

Campus Activities: Tigers for Israel; Princeton against Sex Trafficking; Princeton's  
Community House Tutor; Princeton Faith and Action

*As the outgoing vice president of Christian Union's ministry at Princeton, I can attest to how much the Christian leadership development program changes you. I've been molded by four years of challenging Bible Courses, personal mentoring, and powerful leadership coaching.*

*As a new graduate, I plan to use what I've learned with Christian Union to tackle an issue affecting young adults. Youth who age out of foster care emerge with virtually no support system to help them navigate life; it's an issue that cries out for Christian leadership. I wrote my thesis on the subject and, thanks to a fellowship grant I've been awarded, I'm moving to Philadelphia to help launch a mentorship program for these young adults.*

*So what difference has Christian Union made in my life? A world of difference – I've learned to put God at the center of my work, plans, and future goals.*

[www.Christian-Union.org/Giving](http://www.Christian-Union.org/Giving)

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