



Mark Mitchell speaking during this year's Faith and Reason. Photographer: Christine McDonald

Responses to "Illiberal Liberalism"

| by Becca Samelson and PHC Students |

The Lockean framework in which our political institutions are built may not be as stable as we imagine, Dr. Mark Mitchell argued on Tuesday. During his Faith and Reason lecture, entitled "Illiberal Liberalism and the Future of the American Experiment," Mitchell linked a cultural emphasis of political correctness to the rise of "second wave" liberalism. The lecture included analyses of Rousseau and Locke as well as an incorporation of biblical themes and principles. Mitchell argued that Americans should reject the cosmopolitan agenda and focus instead on local communities. Last week, we asked for your responses to Dr. Mitchell's Faith and Reason lecture. Here are some opinions from a few students and alumni who listened to the presentation. **Mikael Good, Sophomore, Political Philosophy/Biblical Studies**

As Dr. Mitchell explained, liberalism holds that we are autonomous and have the right to

choose whatever we want. Yet we are not detached individuals starting from scratch, having only our will to power to guide us. Matthew Anderson says that the world does not "lie inert before us, waiting for us to make our own meaning by asserting our wills over it." As Chesterton points out, we are born into the world first, and therefore our loyalty to it precedes all else; man "has fought for the flag ... before he has even enlisted." We don't get to decide what's real and important. There is a way things are that is much bigger than ourselves. If this is true - if the world is outside and before us - liberalism is a wrong account of reality.

Furthermore, for us, rejecting liberalism doesn't need to be an abstract philosophical exercise. In the person of Christ we live, move, and have our being. As I have absorbed this as a concrete reality, it has changed the

continued on page 3



Photo courtesy of Ross

A Swede at Heart

| by Vienna Jacobson |

The train came to a halt. Unbeknownst to Samuel Ross, the train had just crossed the border from Denmark to Sweden. Police boarded the train and pulled Ross off, asking him questions, patting him down, and searching him. His arrest in the fall of 2016 seemed like a rough start for what Ross's parents had hoped would be the start of spiritual renewal.

While Ross's parents were not Christians when they adopted him and his two sisters they wanted something to pass on to their children. When Ross's mother started considering different religions, Christianity was the only thing that made sense to her, and for Ross, this was all he can remember. "For as long as I can remember we had a Chris-

continued on page 4

informing

this week's stories

gardens	page 5
china	page 6
college republican gala	page 8
third thursday	page 9
bp tournaments	page 10
freshman dance	page 11

engaging

reader participation

Interested in submitting an editorial?
Notice an error?
Have an event we should know about?
If so, contact Becca Samelson at:
theherald@phc.edu

preparing

the ink-stained wretches

Editor Becca Samelson
Copy Editor Vienna Jacobson
Backpage Editor Marjorie Pratt
Social Media Editor Carrie Durning

celebrating

shared successes

We've got more stories for you online!
Here's a sneak peek of this week's
#HeraldOnline

- **Humans of the Freshman Dance**

From Star Wars to Star Trek, PHC freshmen and upperclassmen donned on point costumes for the first dance of the semester. See some of the best shots and a spoof of Humans of New York on our Facebook page!

- **Four 4H Photos**

Did you like our Q&A with freshman Emma Lucas last week? See photos of Emma with her prize-winning chickens and horses on our Twitter feed.

- **A Musical Serenade**

Mikey Pozo shared the lyrics to his original song, "Time Flies Past," for our backpage's Creative Corner. Be on the look out for a video of him performing the song on our Instagram page!

Find the full stories online!
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Twitter: @phcheraldmedia



Students listen to Dr. Mark Mitchell's Faith and Reason lecture last Tuesday. Photographer: Christine McDonald

Students' Response to Illiberal Liberalism

continued from cover

way I live. It's never worth it to try to be autonomous. We are finite and dependent because we are created beings. We are simply not our own. And autonomy (which is detachment from reality) is not the glowing ideal that liberalism would have us believe it is. In Him, our ineffably good creator and redeemer and Lord, all things hold together. Reality demands that we worship Him. And when we do, He will satisfy us.

Nick Barden, Class of 2014, CLA: Philosophy

Dr. Mitchell's and Dr. Grewell's lectures ought to be put in conversation with each other. Dr. Mitchell ends his lecture by calling for a renewed political theology, grounded in the conception of a Trinitarian God that gives rise to a social, community-oriented conception of human nature, not one of the discrete, autonomous self. This political theology, Dr. Mitchell suggests, should run counter to the closed-off systems

of theology we often encounter today, and have as its hallmarks the ongoing creative action of God, the suffusion of the world with the power of Christ (and the Spirit, one might add), and the nature of man as contingent participants in creation—in short, the very conceptual framework that underpinned Dr. Grewell's concept of "participating being."

Sebastian Lopez, Senior, Political Theory

I think the lecture provided a very good analysis of the continued political tradition of liberalism that has dominated the West for three centuries. All too often we may try to react against later stages of liberalism by invoking earlier forms of liberalism without realizing the latter's role in producing the former, and Dr. Mitchell did a good job of explaining the basic connections within the stream of late Western ideology in terms that most PHC students could

probably understand, without getting tangled in further details about the role of the labor theory of value in ending mercantilism or the implicit positive rights required to justify state defense of negative rights. I also really loved the conclusion during which he elaborated on the doctrine of the Trinity and showed how the Imago Dei must thus contain both individuality and community. I had long wondered the reason for the suspicious connection between many of the architects of classical liberalism (Locke, Jefferson, etc.) and belief in anti-Trinitarian heresies. I've been a Theory student long enough to get used to this, but the unorthodox and secularist origins of the entire modern political spectrum really is a very daunting topic to confront for the first time, and I'm glad Dr. Mitchell introduced the student body to it. ■

PHC Freshman Describes Bible School in Sweden

continued from cover

tian family,” Ross said.

While Ross considers his parents strong believers, their faith did not translate to him or his sisters in their growing up years. “My junior year of high school I started going my separate way from having a relationship with God,” Ross said. With more freedom, as he began to drive, there came a wider gap between him and God.

After moving to Colorado from Texas his sophomore year of high school, Ross went from being homeschooled to enrolling in public high school. His junior year, however, was when things started to change. His sister Melinda, who was in the same grade, dropped out to be homeschooled again and with her decision came the loss of almost all of their mutual friends.

While Ross still attended church Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings, he wasn’t really interested in Christianity. “It was part of a front that I had up to make my parents and Christian friends believe I was a good kid,” Ross said. While Ross never explicitly told his mother he was not a Christian, “She knew I wasn’t really a Christian,” Ross said. Entering his senior year of high school his mother and sister put their heads together to come up with a plan to get Ross back to his roots.

They insisted that if he wanted them to pay for the college he was already accepted to and planned on attending, he would have to attend a year at a Bible school. Torchbearers International had a school an hour away from his house, and after a tour there they found out about TI’s school in Sweden where Ross chose to attend.

After applying for a visa in May of 2016, Ross found himself among the many North American students who hadn’t received their visas by the time the start of the school year rolled around. The school told the students to come anyway. In September of that



Ross behind sign that says, “This is Bosnia.” Both photos courtesy of Ross

same year, Ross boarded his first flight to Sweden.

While the other students had no problem getting to the school Ross wasn’t quite so lucky. “I was the only one who got caught and arrested,” Ross said. Crossing the border between Denmark and Sweden, Ross’s train was stopped and he was pulled off, arrested, and brought to the police station.

After Ross was patted down and his luggage thoroughly searched the police called the school and confirmed that he was, in fact, attending Bible school.

This was not the end to Ross’s bad luck. “I was there for two weeks, and then I got an email from the Swedish government saying I had two days to leave the country,” Ross said. Returning to Denmark he was housed by friends of the Bible school and registered himself at the Swedish embassy, proving he was no longer in Sweden. After a week in Denmark Ross finally received his visa and was able to return to the school.

A year later, Ross doesn’t look back on his time at school changing him at one specific moment. Instead, it was a gradual process. At first he walked around with earbuds in, but soon he began to make friends with his classmates, and



Torchbearers International’s Bible College

their demeanors were what changed him. “I saw what living the Christian life really should be and how happy everyone else was,” Ross said. “And I wanted to be happy like everyone else was.”

“He’s a Swede at heart, having spent a year abroad and loving every minute of it” said Ross’s roommate freshman Calvin Heilpe.

After further prodding from his mother and sister, Ross applied to PHC and was accepted where he is now pursuing a degree in journalism. While he isn’t sure where this will take him he knows he wants to be in some ministry. “I really want to work overseas.” Ross said, “I have a really deep passion for working in South East Europe.” ■



| by Becca Samelson |

They sat on my living room table; bright yellow hues intermixed with the soft pinks and oranges of a sunset stood amongst a green forest in a pink vase.

Someone had bought my house mate flowers.

On the one hand, a vase of flowers doesn't seem so significant. Any picture of a room in *Southern Living* or Olivia Pope's apartment in *Scandal* would be incomplete without several snipped plants arranged perfectly. But flowers don't appear in a room magically. They don't belong there. Someone somewhere has a garden they've tended to for months. They planted a seed, fertilized the soil, watered the plant, and cut the stems when the flowers were about to bloom. Someone else put the flowers together into a small bouquet, combining contrasting colors with green garnishes. Whether perusing the floral section at Harris Teeter or browsing through various bouquets from online florists, the flower hunter finds the perfect bunch. Then, the flowers find their destination.

My house mate, Beth Bergstrom, was surprised with a bouquet by one of her best friends, Rebekah Jorgensen. Rebekah had picked flowers to make Beth smile. With the yellow blooms came a small note, reminding Beth of their friendship and God's plan for her life. The small act made Beth's bad day

more bearable.

Random acts of kindness can lift someone's spirits when they're feeling down. It's a way of showing friends and families that you care and that you want them to feel better, be happy, or even just have a good day. And there's a reason that a floral arrangement is a go-to for someone who's struggling. It's a simple gift that's still personal whether by arrangement, color, blooms, or size. Buying someone flowers is an easy yet thoughtful way of showing that you care.

These random acts of kindness, of course, don't have to be limited to flowers. Bringing your roommate his favorite energy drink the night before his hardest midterm exam can bring encouragement and a feeling of solidarity. Writing a quick note of Doctor Who puns to your Whovian best friend can make her smile at the end of a rough day. A grande PSL to your basic white girl, a game of League with your roommate, a fancy bar of chocolate for a heartbroken friend, or even tagging your friend in a funny photo on Facebook can go a long way to encouraging someone who's upset.

This is how we can "carry each other's burdens;" "encourage one another and build one another up;" "love one another;" "be knit together in love;" "exhort one another every day;" and "stir up one



Photo courtesy of Beth Bergstrom

another to love and good works." Not only are random acts of kindness simply good to do, but I would argue they're commanded in Scripture. Whether you see a brother or sister struggling in their faith, suffering through pain, or lacking sleep from school, we are called to encourage one another. To show love. To be kind. And to help out however we can. Even if your friend isn't struggling, you can still go out of your way to thank them for their friendship, praise them for their example, and encourage them for their walk.

Yesterday I walked in and saw a vase of flowers for Beth. Today, I arrived home to see three bars of chocolate and a handwritten note. As amazing as it feels to be on the giving side of random acts of kindness, being the recipient felt pretty good too. Make someone smile. Why don't you buy some flowers? 🌸

A Love Without Borders

Students Share Their Experiences in China

| by Marjorie Pratt |

Three students and two alumni lives were changed in China this summer. Students Mary Katharine Collins, Rodney Dowty, and Shannon O'Brien traveled to the other side of the world to volunteer at an English as a Second Language (ESL) camp, while alumni Abby and Daniel Osborne moved to become teachers at a Chinese international school.

Abby Osborne visited central China to teach English her senior year of high school. She loved the culture and the food so much that she would not stop talking about it once she got back. Three years later, a friend sent her information on recruiters looking for people to volunteer overseas. Through them, she

found the ESL camp who had just had a teaching position open up.

After her first visit, the camp welcomed her back the next summer along with her then-boyfriend Daniel Osborne. The two traveled to Dongguan, located near Hong Kong, to teach English once again. The camp recruiters, Tom and Selva Kweder, then sought out PHC students for the next summer, recruiting Collins, Dowty, and O'Brien right from the BHC coffee shop, and recommended the Osbornes to the Trinity Learning Center (TLC).

Both Osbornes wanted to teach after they graduated, but without professional experience or teaching certificates, they could find no opportunities in the U.S. TLC, an international school

who heard of the Osbornes through camp, offered them the very opportunities they had hoped for, English for Abby Osborne and social studies for Daniel Osborne.

The pair trekked to Dongguan, China a month and a half ago to start their two-year contract. The day they arrived, they met with fellow PHC students who had just finished their five weeks interning at camp.

Dowty helped 7th graders practice their conversation skills, while O'Brien taught 6th grade and Collins taught 5th grade. "It's a life-changing opportunity, and everyone should look for those," Dowty said, encouraging students to apply for the internship.

The love Dowty experienced for and





All photos courtesy of Rodney Dowty

from these children moved him. To this day, he keeps a flower cutout that one of his students gave to him. He mentioned how his experience in China is one of the first times he was not cynical.

Dowty was one of the few teachers on the team able to make the more rambunctious children cooperate. He knew how to give misbehaving children an outlet, sometimes throwing paper balls at them to get their attention. He explained that one student was held back from the 8th grade class to split him up from his friends who had caused trouble the first day. He tended to be bored in class and distract the others, so Dowty let him play with basketballs as long as he kept from disrupting the other children and continued to learn.

“I never thought that being the problem kid would help me connect with other kids in that way,” he said

He also explained how he loudly heard God speak to him on the trip. One of the last days of their trip, while they were touring the TLC building, he heard God tell him, “This is a community that you can invest in and can invest in you.”

His last night in China, Dowty did not know if or how he would be able to visit China again. He did not even know what he would do this semester, which was just weeks away at the time. He was lost in his worries until two little boys caught his attention. They would stand near Dowty, and whisper to each other. Then they would race back to talk to their mother only to return to stand

next to Dowty again. Finally, one of the boys mustered up the courage to say, “Hi.” In that moment, Dowty forgot all his fears.

“Hello. What’s your name?” Dowty replied, bringing back the teacher persona he had lived in for the previous five weeks.

Dowty hopes to go back to China and eventually work there long term like the Osbornes. “There’s something about being overseas that makes you dependent on ... not yourself,” Dowty said.

The Kweders are recruiting PHC students today, Friday, September 22 in the coffee shop. Students who wish to apply can also email the Kweders: TSKweder@aol.com. ☑





PHC College Republicans with Barbara Comstock

It's a Black-Tie Affair

PHC College Republicans attend Gala in Dulles

| by Carrie Durning |

When most think of college events, they think of frat parties, football games, and sorority gatherings. For PHC, however, it means attending a black-tie gala in Dulles. Juniors, Ian Frith, Alan Ilyama, and Cooper Millhouse, sophomore Abi Carter, and freshman Jake Settle attended the 10th Congressional District Republican Committee's Gala on Sept. 15.

Members of the College Republicans regularly get invited to events and fundraisers put on by the Republican Party. These events provide PHC students the opportunity to network within their

political party.

"Republican Party events give me the opportunity to practice networking through politics," Carter said. "Attending these types of events is cool because as college students, we're the minority. We stand out because of how young we are, so most of the politicians are curious, asking us questions about what we support and what PHC is like. It's also a good opportunity to spread the word about PHC."

Members of the College Republicans were able to meet many influential politicians, such as Sen. Jill Vogel, Sen. Dick Black, and delegates Minchew and LaRock

"We were able to interact with so

many elected officials and candidates," Frith said, president of the College Republicans. "That was the most beneficial part of the Gala, because networking is so critical in politics. It was probably the first major networking event that I felt like I actually knew a lot of people."

The gala, hosted as a fundraiser for the Republican Party, held a silent auction and catered a full meal for attendees.

"You don't have to be a political major to join College Republicans," Carter said. "Being part of College Republicans has its perks; galas, yacht parties, nights in fancy hotels, networking with politicians, and all of it is paid for by the College Republicans. Get involved." 📧



Millhouse, Carter, Settle, Frith, and Ilyama at the Gala. Photo Courtesy of Carter

Third Thursdays with Virginia Senator

| by Susanna Hoffman |

PHC College Republicans' monthly meeting on Thursday nights featured Senator Dick Black as their key speaker on Sept. 21. The club also announced an exclusive White House tour for PHC students.

The meeting began with general campaign announcements from the club's chairman, Ian Frith. Frith then introduced Executive Director of Loudoun County Republican Committee, Anthony DeFazio. DeFazio delivered the anticipated announcement that had drawn the large crowd of students.

DeFazio recently asked a friend in the White House for eight tour tickets for PHC students. "How about 100?" was the response. DeFazio is working with the Secret Service to set a date and all tickets are free and on a first-come-first-serve basis.

"The White House is the peoples' house no matter which party you belong to," DeFazio said.

DeFazio is thrilled that PHC students get to tour one of the most important symbols of freedom in the world. "We take the opportunity for granted," he



Senator Dick Black addresses students. Photographer: Evie Fordman

said.

Black hopes to mobilize members of College Republicans in door-to-door campaigning as Virginia elections are almost 40 days away. "The earth is going to be led by people in college," Black said.

During his talk, Black emphasized the recent controversy over Confederate monuments and left-extremist group known as "Antifa". Black noted

the resemblance Antifa bears with the Brownshirts of the Nazi Regime. The group was known to viciously attack political opponents on the street, and activists flexed their violent intimidation during elections.

The Charlottesville incident involving white supremacist groups and Antifa prompted Black to remark on the reasons men fought in the Civil War.

In Pickett's Charge, Black claimed, men were not charging because they were defending slavery. Black said men fought mainly because they were drafted, because their friends were drafted, or emotional incentive.

Black served as a Marine Combat Pilot in Vietnam, flying 269 helicopter missions with the 1st Marine Regiment. "I had a fellow shot this close to me," Black said with his arm motioning a few feet away from him. Sen. Black experiences help him understand why people go to war, "People tend not to fight for theoretical and philosophical reasons."

Black wants to see America united, and views this election as a rare opportunity for college students to work alongside the GOP for Virginia. 🇺🇸



From left to right, DeFazio, Sen. Black, and Ian Frith. Photographer: Evie Fordman

Debate Team Begins Season With A Win

| by Morgan Conliffe |

PHC kicked off its British Parliament season with a win at Wheaton College and a good showing at Rochester.

Junior Christopher Baldacci and senior Spencer Kolssak defeated seniors Sebastian Lopez and Christian McGuire in the final round this weekend. "It was a small tournament but we had a fantastic showing," Baldacci said. "Not only did we represent the school well but several coaches from newer Midwestern programs came up to our teams and thanked us for showing their novices what BP could be at a high level."

Eight students competed at a tournament in upstate New York. Although no one placed, the team did well for eight novice competitors.

Sophomore Blake Toman and Coach Robert Snow have high hopes and a new vision for this semester's British Parliament debate team. Although two thirds of the team's members are freshmen or new to BP, the team's enthusiasm for BP has encouraged Toman and Snow.

PHC's past BP teams have had a successful history. However, with many veteran BP debaters recently graduated, this year's team is "building from the ground up," according to Toman. "Every team has a rebuilding year, and this will be ours," stated Toman. "My hope for the team is not necessarily... winning [this] season. Seeing them become more open minded, and...[having] better communicators emerge; that's really our goal."

Kara Brown, a member of the team, says that BP is one of the more relaxed and conversational forms of debate. "It doesn't have the same social pressure as PHC's other debates," she said. "There isn't the same social pressures to be number one as there is in Moot Court or Mock Trial." BP is the type of debate where anyone can "jump in and do well," according to Brown.

One of the best parts of BP, according to Toman, is the opportunity to engage



Members of the BP team pose on the BHC steps before leaving for Rochester. Photo courtesy Conliffe



Lopez, McGuire, Baldacci, and Kolssak pose after the final round at Wheaton. Photo courtesy Baldacci

with those who disagree with conservative views by sharing a Christian perspective on current events. The vision for this year's team is to grow in these areas in order to become effective communicators. To accomplish this goal, practices have consisted of learning the format of BP debates, and how to provide relevant and impactful information in ones' arguments. Brown says that often people with debate backgrounds don't understand the relevance of the proposition. These debaters tend not to see how the motion to be discussed is

relevant to the current political climate. Hence, practices consist of discussing current political events and applying these events to the motions.

This semester's team is growing together. Regardless of the teammate's background, everyone has more learning to do. If one wishes to grow in confidence, open-mindedness, and communication skills, an invitation is open to grow with the team on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. in the South classroom. 📧



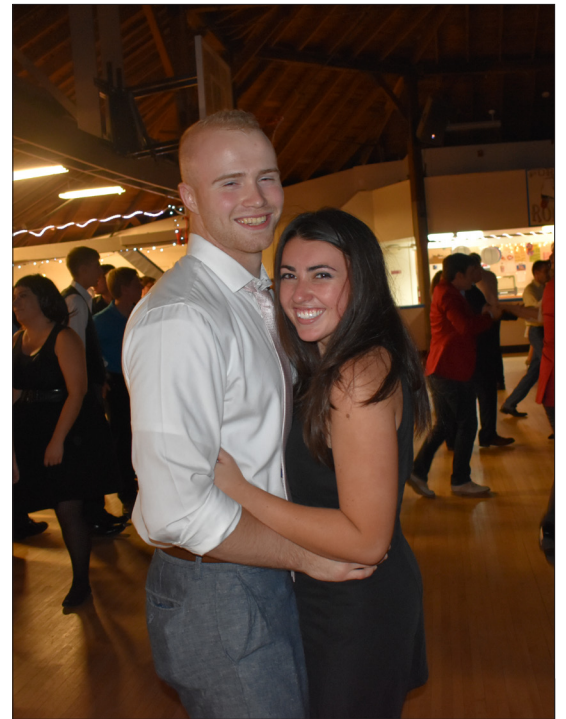
The Freshman Dance

| Photographer: Vienna Jacobson |



"I love the character of Star-Lord. He's the perfect combination of awesome, sexy, and suave. I guess that is why I choose the character. He is just so awesome, and I thought I could pull it off. I like to think I look like Star-Lord."

**Gabriel Gannage,
3rd Place**



"I dressed up as Director Orson Krennic from Star Wars Rouge One, and I did it just because I had the necessary parts of the costume. It's the best I could come up with."

**Noah Ridge,
1st Place**



Creative Corner

EVENTS

"Time Flies Past" by Mikey Pozo

I've been loving things again,
But nothing seems to satisfy in the end.
I get so caught up in the past,
That I've forgotten life it moves so fast.

I've decided not to look, look back,
Cuz I found out time flies past all the non-
sense
Nothing's constant
Cuz I found out, I'll never get it back

Last night I dreamt a thousand dreams,
Only to have a nightmare that I still felt empty
To have the world don't mean a thing
If I don't see what I have in front of me

*Keep an eye on our Facebook page for a video
of Mikey performing his song!*

D.C. Coffee Fest
Now through Sep. 24
@ Dolcezza Gelato

JJ Heller Concert
Oct. 6
@ Blue Ridge Bible
Church

Seek & Hide

This week's hiding place:

Cordial Coffee

"Cordial Coffee is located in Berryville right off the main street. My friend works there, so my house mates and I went to visit her and had amazing waffles and coffee/tea. They have seasonal or traditional waffles to pick from as well as toppings. If you are looking for a place to go, that isn't in Purcellville but isn't too far away... go to Cordial!"
- Vienna Jacobson

