

the Herald

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Christopher Doyle with his wife, Sherry Doyle. Photo courtesy of Christopher Doyle

PHC Hires New Counselor

| by Becca Samelson |

Christopher Doyle is PHC's newest counselor. After seeing much suffering and brokenness in his own life, he hopes to bring Christ's healing into the lives of PHC students. Below is a transcript from an interview with The Herald; questions and answers have been edited for length and clarity.

BS: Tell me about yourself!

CD: I'm married to Sherry, the voice teacher here at PHC, and am a father. I'm also a licensed counselor. I worked in the White House in the 2008 Bush Administration, and came down here after getting my degree at Grove City College in Pennsylvania. I bounced around the political sphere but I didn't feel like that's where God wanted me. While I was working in behavioral health research, I felt like God was calling me to become a counselor. That was kind of scary because I didn't think I was the professional counselor type. But the impetus for going into counseling was God's healing

in my life by bringing me out of homosexuality and healing me from sexual abuse and helping me understand the roots of trauma I experienced in my own life. God can heal us and make us whole; counseling was a really good avenue for me to help other people. That obedience led me to go to graduate school at Liberty University. After that, I immediately started working with men who experience sexual brokenness or relationship problems. I am a director of a nonprofit called the Institute for Healthy Families. A couple years ago I started a new counseling practice called Northern Virginia Christian Counseling in Manassas.

BS: How'd you come to PHC?

CD: This was an interesting opportunity. My wife Sherry had been talking to President Hays this spring and she told him that I was a counselor. A few months later when, [PHC's] counselor left, they shot me

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Jared in wheelbarrow, with sister

Female Student Joins the Brotherhood

| by Marjorie Pratt |

Sophomore Jae Jared took her first trip to the grounds crew sheds Friday morning. She learned the basics: where to store the weed whackers and how to operate the mowers. No other female PHC student has ever been initiated into these mysteries; she's the first woman to work on the grounds crew.

Applying to work on the grounds crew was just like applying to any other campus job. "I went to the student portal, and I sent in the application," Jared said.

In the interview, John Terryberry, the director of Facilities, made sure

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the **H**erald: *informing, engaging, preparing, and celebrating*

informing

this week's stories

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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

• Soccer Team Shout Out

We loved hearing Coach Derrick Max's thoughts on the PHC men's soccer team. If you head to our Instagram page, you can read more about why Max loves coaching PHC soccer.

• Labor Day Shenanigans

PHC students enjoyed their three day weekend in many different ways. Check out @phcheraldmedia's Twitter page to see how ShellbyJo Thomas, Mark Van Matre, Spencer Milligan, Danielle Ford, Olivia Cockley, Sam Lisanti, Clare Downing, and Brenna Bakke spent their breaks.

• A Glimpse of Israel

Did you enjoy Sarah Roberts' photo in the Creative Corner? If so, you can check out more photos from her trip on our Facebook page.

Find the full stories online!

Facebook: Herald Media

Instagram: @heraldmedia

Twitter: @phcheraldmedia

First Female Student to Work Grounds at PHC

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Jared understood the physical labor she would be doing. At the end of the interview, he asked her to lift a weed eater just to make sure she was physically prepared.

Though Jared had experience working on her grandparent's farm and doing yard work for her father, she was surprised to get the job. While she initially worried that joining would make the guys on the grounds crew team uncomfortable, this does not seem to be the case. Both she and Terryberry checked with the team before taking the next step. "From what I can tell, everyone is okay with it," said fellow crew member Pierre du Plessis.

Last year, Jared worked in the admissions office, first for the call center and then at the front desk. Over the summer, she worked in a room without windows. "I would walk by a window and see that it was a beautiful day and I was inside," Jared said. She explained that she has always craved physical exertion through running and team sports. Joining the grounds crew provided another outlet for physical activity.

Du Plessis felt that training with Jared was just like training any other new team member. She spent time with many of the crew members over the summer, getting to know them. "It's just like hanging out with them, but in a different venue," Jared said.

"She's part of the group," du Plessis said.

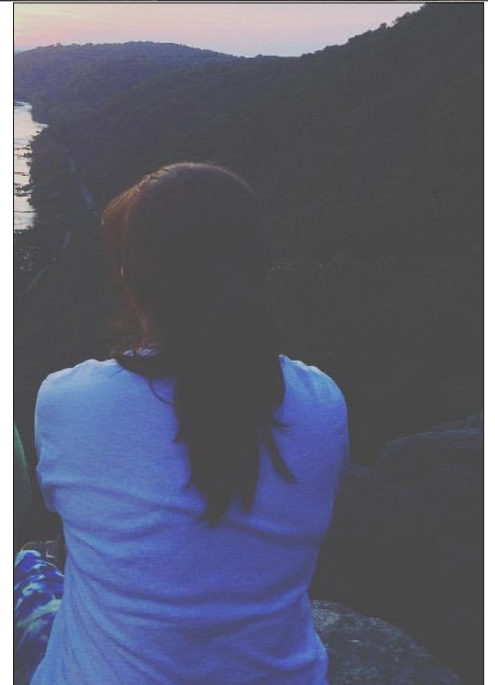
Throughout the years, the grounds crew has developed a reputation as

an exclusive fraternity, given to deep philosophical discussions while weeding the tulips. Jared explains that the close bond comes from participating in physical labor to achieve a shared goal, like a sports team works together to win a game.

As long as Jared is willing to work hard, du Plessis said, she will be accepted into the brotherhood.

Many members of the team, tired of the rumors of misogyny and sexism, welcomed the idea of a female crew member. Du Plessis believes that Jared's acceptance will start an upsurge of female applicants, but the qualifications will remain strict. Members of the grounds crew need to be willing to work long hours in heat or cold, be able to follow orders, and have a passion for the campus and the work they are doing. "They can't whine," du Plessis said.

Terryberry explained that he doesn't necessarily look for past experience in applicants, but more at the conversation he has with the applicants during



Top: Jared in a Kaboda with her father and sister.

Bottom: Jared on a hike

All photos courtesy of Jared

the interview.

In Jared's application, she explained how she enjoys being outside, adding that she enjoys yard work because she can immediately see the results and feel good about them.

While Jared is not the first female applicant to receive a job offer from grounds, she is the first to accept the position. ■

Correction

Our Sept. 1 story, "Harvey Slams the Texas Coast," incorrectly named Bill White as the mayor of Houston. Although White was mayor from 2004-2010, Sylvester Turner currently serves as Mayor.



Sentinels join in prayer with Christendom's Crusaders. Photographer: Vienna Jacobson

Fourth Time's the Charm

Sentinels return from away game with a victory against a North Carolina college

| by Vienna Jacobson |

The Sentinels returned to campus at midnight tired but victorious with a 10-0 win against Mid Atlantic Christian University under their belts. The Sept. 6 win felt good after starting their season with three losses.

Seniors William Bock and Keith Zimmerman captain the Sentinels. Both have played for the team since their freshman years. Derrick Max, the team's coach, will be entering his fifth year working with the Sentinels. Max, a military brat, grew up playing soccer but quit in college and ended up coaching instead. For the past ten years he has coached teams in Loudoun County.

"I don't coach PHC soccer to build soccer players or athletes or even to get wins, I coach because I believe competitive sports are a great metaphor for life, especially the Christian life," Max said.

The Sentinels currently boast the largest number of players they have had in several seasons. "With so many new freshmen added to the team as well as talented sophomores, juniors, and seniors, the potential for a winning season has increased significantly," Bock said.

With the large number of freshman players, the team views this year as a

rebuilding season. "We lost four solid seniors last year who had all played four years in our system. We also lost Ian Schmidt, probably one of the best players I have ever coached, to injury and we lost Matt Hoke to Student Government. That being said, we have a solid base of very good players," Max said.

While the team has already lost a few games, they are looking forward to a good season. "We just had a good win this week, and there are definitely a few teams that we are playing in the next few weeks that we can compete against," Zimmerman said.

While the team wants a winning season, their goal goes beyond the field. "Our focus is just to get better and better day by day and do the best we can, leaving the rest to God. Our focus is not just to win games, though, but also to develop discipline and diligence in whatever we apply ourselves to," Bock said.

"I expect we will win a few games and challenge in some of the tougher ones as we begin to gel as a team," Zimmerman said.

While Bock sees growth in the Sentinels, he believes that the consistency of their fans is part of what makes home games winnable. "What

hasn't changed is the consistent support from PHC students. Their attendance at games motivates us to succeed more than you know," Bock said. While many students come to games with books, it still means a lot to the team.

As this is the last season for Bock and Zimmerman, they both want to leave the program better than they found it. "I hope to make sure that we have a consistent group of twen-

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Sentinels after a game. Photographer: Jacobson

ty dedicated guys playing every year after I graduate, slowly improving the PHC sports program as a whole,” Zimmerman said.

“I hope to one day come back as an alum and watch a group of strong Christian men crush Christendom; and if I can play some small part in laying

the groundwork for making that happen by helping build a stronger team I’ll consider my time well spent,” Bock said.

As the season moves forward, the Sentinels are looking at soccer as more than a game and as a part of practicing for life. “Battles will be won, and battles

will be lost, but how we have fought will be the measure of us as men. God is at work in our men through soccer, and it is a blessing to be able to witness that, and I pray it carries over into their vocations, marriages, and ministry,” Max said. ■

ISC Hosts Volleyball Tournament

| by Carrie Durning |

Put away your books, dust off your gym shorts, and get ready to mix it up with your classmates on the court. The Intramural Sports Commission is lining up tournaments in volleyball, racquetball, and other sports.

“The mission of the Intramural Sports Commission is to run bi-weekly sporting events that will promote community in the student body, offer organized competition, and to complete the liberal arts education,” said senior William Bock, head of the ISC.

Other members of the commission include sophomores Micah Bock, Kyle Ziemnick, and Jae Jared.

The ISC has successfully organized two events this semester- the student vs. faculty and staff basketball game and the intramural volleyball tournament. Other events this fall include a racquetball tournament, a dodgeball tournament, and a basketball league.

Both of the ISC’s first events proved to be successful, boasting an unexpectedly large student turnout and involvement. The student vs. faculty basketball game raised \$500 for the PHC athletic program, nine teams registered for the volleyball tournament, and a fair number of students withstood the Labor Day heat to watch the matches.

“I’m very grateful for the Intramural



Final two teams with referee Nathan Jacob, photo courtesy of Micah Bock

Sports Commission for putting on the tournament,” said Coleman Raush, a freshman member of The Spike Squad, the winning volleyball team. Before coming to PHC, Raush played volleyball all throughout middle and high school and the volleyball tournament gave him the opportunity to get to know his classmates while continuing to play the sport he loves.

“Volleyball is great because it’s a sport that depends on the entire team to pull their weight and work together,” said Raush, “A volleyball team can’t just have one good player, but needs

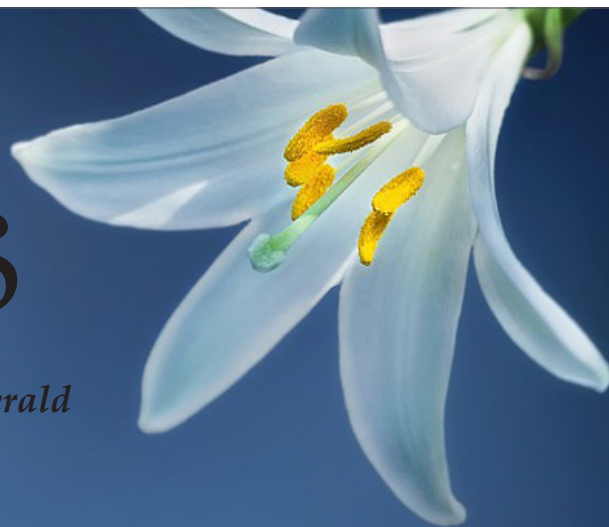
a team that works well together. One weak link will break the chain.” Micah Bock, Emil Meintjes, and David Slaughter also played for the winning team.

“Overall, the volleyball tournament was a great success,” said Bock who is also a member of the ISC. “Every team seemed to be having a great time just playing together, and the student’s commitment and effort showed how much they care about friendly competition. I’m confident that there will be even more involvement in the next ISC event.” ■

Gardens

an introduction to a new series for *The Herald*

| by Becca Samelson |



All photos courtesy of Becca Samelson

At the end of last semester, I felt dead.

Every student says that. We feel emotionally, mentally, intellectually, and physically drained after four months of papers, homework, quizzes, and presentations, ending with the dreaded finals week. I had also participated in mock trial, acted in an Eden Troupe musical, and tried to maintain a social life. Just the average PHC student, right?

I'd been exhausted at the end of other semesters. But this time, something felt different, like branches, dead and dry from a winter's frost, on a barren plot of earth.

Things felt different that whole year, actually. It didn't matter how well or badly my life was going: I wasn't happy. And I hated that about myself. I hated that no matter how grateful or content I should be, I didn't feel it. I couldn't. Nothing seemed right.

I chose to ignore the dried twigs in my heart. Everything was fine. I lived like I was carefree – until last semester. After months (and if I'm being honest, years) of trying to pretend like I was okay, I couldn't act anymore. I faced the "truth": I didn't deserve love. I hated everything about myself. And if everyone else really knew me, they would hate me too.

I stopped eating at that point. I didn't deserve proper nutrition since I was worth less than others. I only

started to eat when I discovered that my actions worried and disturbed my friends. So I rekindled my faith, read my Bible, attended church, and did all the right things. But it wasn't enough. I still hated every piece of myself.

As I submitted my last assignment, I breathed a sigh of relief. The semester was over. School had caused me to feel this way. Summer had arrived. I'd feel better soon.

But then I couldn't get out of bed. I don't mean that I slept past noon to recover from finals. No, I had lost all motivation to do anything. I could only get coffee, climb in bed, watch Netflix, catch up on YouTube, go back to Netflix, eat a snack, climb back in bed, go to sleep, only to wake up and repeat the cycle again. And I had things to do, blogs to write, books to read, emails to send, people to meet, etc. But I couldn't even try.

After five years of hating myself, I finally broke down in tears, realizing what I had refused to admit: I needed help. I couldn't keep living this way.

A week later I was diagnosed with ADHD, social anxiety, and depression. I wasn't really surprised. I'd shown symptoms of all three since I was young: constantly squirming and being hyper, wondering if everyone hated me, and feeling like others would be better off without me. While these diagnoses comforted me by giving me a reason for my feelings, they also ter-



rified me; God didn't want me to be happy. He didn't want me to be loved. Maybe He didn't even love me.

Suddenly, my summer vacation was over; my job as one of PHC's Teen Camp counselors was about to begin. Last year, pouring myself into dozens of teenagers filled me with so much joy and love. Now, I was terrified. How on earth was I going to be able to get out of bed and give good advice for five weeks? Why did God pick me— a hopeless, doubting, terrified girl – for this seemingly impossible position?

I only saw and felt the cruel remains of winter: cold, barren, dead, and hopeless. All signs of living happiness or joy had vanished; only the carcasses of pleasant experiences remained.

But somehow, each day of training week, I managed to get out of bed. I made some coffee, uttered a prayer, and climbed in my car. As I drove past beautiful mountains on my way to Blue Ridge, I played "The Garden" by Kari Jobe. The first verse aptly described me: hopeless and lost. But I continued to pray God would bring me to a place of healing. A place of hope. Of love. Of new starts. A beginning.

And He did.

Oh, it wasn't easy. I'd be lying if I didn't mention the nights I sobbed uncontrollably, almost drove myself off the road, or wished I didn't exist. But those nights don't define my summer. They fade away as I remember count-

less hugs from counselors and campers; the love, prayers, and advice I received from my coworkers; the changes seen in campers' lives over just a few days; Bible passages that seemed to be written just for me; conversations when campers told me something they had "never told anyone before." Those five weeks, I sensed God's hand on me, reassuring me that this was where I was supposed to be.

I didn't feel better. I didn't feel loved. I definitely didn't feel happy. But I chose to live as though I was loved, as though I mattered, and as though God could use me in whatever way He had planned.

The last week of camp, I gave a chapel message on how Christ's freedom means that I don't have to feel guilty, but can instead embrace the person He has created me to be. Interwoven between dozens of Scripture references, I revealed different parts of my own battle of living freely: how I wanted to commit suicide as a teenager, felt ashamed about my bubbly personality, and thought I wasn't good enough to be loved.

As I refuted each of my problematic mindsets while speaking in front of all those campers, I realized I wasn't just reading words off a script I believed every word. I wasn't just teaching the campers; I was teaching myself. And sure, I didn't feel better. But I knew
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Gardens: Finding Hope in the Winter Seasons

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that even when I felt hopeless, there was hope.

A week later, the campers had left and the counselors disbanded. The moment I had dreaded for six weeks was here: I was alone again.

I thought I'd be back in that desolate plot of dirt, with winter's harsh cold keeping any signs of life at bay. But that's not what I saw. After weeks of planting seeds in others, I'd apparently planted, plowed, and watered my bare soul; a lily emerged from the

ground.

It wasn't anything I had done, for "God brings the growth." And that little plot was nowhere near filled with life. But, for the first time, I had hope. And I still do.

When I was trying to decide on a series topic for The Herald, Dr. Sillars asked me, "Becca, what do you want to write about?" And I knew I wanted to write this, sharing my struggle with depression and my desire to find hope. I wanted to write about topics

that bring us joy or metaphors that resonate in us. That's when it hit me. Gardens.

The Bible makes countless references to gardens, flowers, and plants. But besides its obvious religious connotations, a garden conjures ideas of fresh food, beautiful sights, hard work, art, and the list goes on. So this semester, let's explore gardens. Grab a spade, pick some weeds, water the plants, and stop to smell the roses. Let's get to work. ■

New Plans for PHC's College Republicans

| by Leonardo Briceno |

With new resources at his disposal, Ian Frith, newly appointed chairman of College Republicans, hopes to breathe new life into the program at PHC. Frith, a junior, plans to resume monthly meetings, increase the number of events, and offer incentives for working on club projects.

Club leaders have been frustrated with the lack of commitment. Frith says that while many students, often freshmen, sign up with legitimate interest they rarely continue with club activities.

"We are trying to energize the campus, the student body," said sophomore Kyle Ziemnick, the club secretary, "because the last few years there has kind of been a downturn in the number of people that actually want to help out in Republican politics."

Thanks to the generosity of Delegate Randy Minchew and other Loudoun County Republican leaders, the monetary resources of the College Republicans have more money to work with, Frith said. He hopes to use gift cards and dinners to reward students for participating in campaigns and

other activities.

Frith hopes monthly meetings will keep students coming back and his connections will give students a chance to begin building their own networks.

"It's a really great way to put yourself out there on the political radar it's a great thing to put on your résumé," Frith said.

After returning from a fundraiser for an Attorney General candidate on Tuesday, Frith noted that opportunities to help with door-knocking, making phone calls, and helping with staff-



PHC College Republicans after door knocking. Photographer: Bobby McCurdy

ing events are plentiful. A number of local figures look to PHC for help with their field programs.

Although Frith jokingly suggested that one of the greatest benefits of the College Republicans was free food, he firmly believes in the relevance, opportunities, and experience the College Republicans can provide to its participants. ■

EDEN TROUPE

PRESENTS

Photo courtesy of Eden Troupe

| by Jane White |

Eden Troupe invites you to audition for Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*! Auditions will be held tonight and tomorrow in Town Hall. Come anytime between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. tonight or 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. tomorrow to read scenes from the play! Are you worried about not having enough time to participate in a play? No problem. *The Winter's Tale* has a role for every schedule, from the characters who have just a few scenes to the show-stealing royalty! Want to play a furious king? A silly clown? A sophisticated queen? An aged shepherd? A roguish thief? A daring heroine? A prince in disguise? A shepherdess named Mopsa? Random castle guard #3? An unfortunate man who gets chased off stage by a bear? *The Winter's Tale* has all these and more!

Here's an example of what you might read during an audition:

"[King Leontes is on his throne, attended by Lord Antigonus and several guards. Paulina, Antigonus' wife, advocates for Queen Hermione, who is unjustly imprisoned.]"

Paulina: I say, I come from your good Queen.

Leontes: Good Queen?

Paulina: Good Queen, my lord. I say good Queen, and would by combat make her good, so were I a man, the worst about you.

Leontes: *[to Guards]* Force her hence!

Paulina: *[to Guards]* Let him that makes but trifles of his eyes first hand me. On mine own accord, I'll off; but first, I'll do my errand.

Leontes: *[to Antigonus]* Lozel, thou art worthy to be hanged, that will not stay

her tongue!

Antigonus: Hang all the husbands that cannot do that feat, you'll leave yourself hardly one subject.

Leontes: Once more, take her hence.

Paulina: A most unworthy and unnatural lord can do no more.

Leontes: I'll ha' thee burnt.

Paulina: I care not: It is an heretic that makes the fire, not she which burns in't. I'll not call you 'tyrant'; But this most cruel usage of your Queen (not able to produce more accusation than your weak-hinged fancy) something savours of tyranny, and will ignoble make you, yea, scandalous to the world."

Be sure to follow the hashtags #exeunt and #pursuedbyabear for more updates of Eden Troupe's production of *The Winter's Tale*. 📺

Snacks, Socialization, and *Spotlight*: The J-Party

| by Vienna Jacobson |

The fall journalism party will take place at Dr. Sillars' residence this Saturday, Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. For students interested in working in journalism or joining the program, this is a wonderful chance to meet other journalism students, including CLA or Political journalism majors and journalism minors. Come relax, eat good snacks, and watch a journalism-related movie.

This year Dr. Sillars will be showing *Spotlight*. The movie highlights how investigative journalism

can uncover scandal and find out the truth. *Spotlight* stars Mark Ruffalo, Michael Keaton, Rachel McAdams and others.

Any student who is interested in majoring or minoring in journalism is invited, even if they have not taken any journalism courses.

Dr. Sillars lives in Stephens City which is roughly 40 minutes away from campus. Those who wish to attend but don't have cars should email Dr. Sillars to find a ride and RSVP. LDSillars@phc.edu. 📺





Photo courtesy of Workandpix, goo.gl/YoQpcKcontent_copy

Doyle Seeks to Help Uncover Unhealed Trauma

continued from cover

an email saying, "Are you interested in the position?" I hadn't really thought about it, but since we're building a house in Purcellville, I felt like it was a great way to invest in the community and in Patrick Henry College.

BS: Do you exclusively counsel those dealing with sexual brokenness and relational issues?

CD: I deal with everything. My specialty is trauma. In my opinion, anxiety, depression, and sexual relational problems are rooted in major and minor trauma. Most people think of trauma as a big-time experience, such as sexual abuse. But not necessarily. Every time you leave your room every day, your brain experiences a small amount of trauma. We often encounter things that are hurtful, wounding, and aren't what God wants us to encounter. A lot of these things we experience as trauma happen because sin exists in the world. When we have unhealed trauma in our life, from minor to major trauma, that creates symptoms such as anxiety, depression, and all sorts of emotional disorders. So in my counseling, I help clients heal from trauma in multiple ways, including talk-therapy and reprocessing trauma.

BS: What's the connection between Christianity and mental health?

CD: Christians sometimes overspiritualize things. I like to say that often it's an emotional issue with spiritual implications. When we can't

understand the emotions and feelings that we have based on a variety of experiences, that has spiritual implications in our relationships with God, others, and ourselves. Christians can't reach their full maturity without reaching emotional maturity; those two go hand in hand. By dealing with our emotional issues, we can have a better relationship with God, others, and ourselves.

BS: What is your favorite part of counseling; what makes you keep doing it every day?

CD: One of my favorite things is to help people come to healing from past issues. I really enjoy helping people make connections from their trauma and their current behavior and feelings and helping them to realize that they're not bound to their past; if they heal, they can be freer in the present. Christ came to set us free; in order to realize that freedom, we have to know who we are in Christ and what happened in our past that keeps us from being our true selves in him.

BS: What is your least favorite thing about being a counselor?

CD: Dealing with resistance, or a person that is not open to trying to grow or work on themselves. We experience resistance in a personal way in ourselves each day by choosing to do the right thing or to sin. When we can understand the resistance in our own lives, it makes it easier to work



Photo courtesy of Christopher Doyle.

through it. When clients don't want to see their own resistance, sometimes it's like pulling teeth. You can't make someone grow. You can't make someone change or heal; they've got to want to do that themselves. Sometimes the resistance in clients to not want to look at themselves can be really tough. But I like the challenge; I'm pretty good at motivating clients and helping them find something that motivates them to heal.

BS: Let's say I'm a random PHC student who sees there's a new counselor; how would I know I needed counseling?

CD: My wife would say, "Chris says everyone needs counseling." And
continued on next page

while I do agree with that, if you can't talk about your problems or issues with the people around you and feel safe and/or you're having a hard time working through those issues with people, you might want to try counseling. It's not just about giving advice; we help clients find the blind spots in their lives and help them find ways to work through them. Whenever you're

having relational struggles with people or friends, we often experience blind spots that keep us from getting in the way of the relationship we want.

BS: If you could say one thing to PHC students, what would you say?

CD: I'm so excited to be part of this community. We are blessed to serve here. I would challenge the students of PHC to look at your emotional health

and challenge yourselves to think, *Is there anything in my spiritual life that's being weighed down by my lack of emotional health in any area? Are there any emotional blind spots I need to confront or get help with?* I think people in this community are very focused on spiritual health; but emotional health is also very important, and they have to go hand in hand. ■

Table Talks with Dan and Matt

Building Relationships and Sharing the Gospel

| by Daniel Thetford |

Wednesday in chapel, I talked in depth about evangelism. Since then, I have had some amazing conversations with students about what that means and how we can serve the Lord by talking about our faith. Here are some more thoughts that I didn't get to talk about in chapel.

Building Relationships:

On Wednesday, I discussed evangelism in context of sharing our faith with strangers. It goes without saying that we should share our beliefs with those we know as well. Most of the people we live with at PHC are already disciples. We can share the hope of the gospel with people we already know while building greater relationships with those we don't.

Sharing our faith with friends and family can create challenges. When we share the Good News, we begin with the bad news: we are miserable, wretched, and depraved without any hope apart from God. How can we tell a friend that their true nature is evil? When sharing your faith with a stranger, the only risk is possible awkwardness. While it may be less awkward to talk to a friend, what if they view that friendship differently after a hard conversation? What if they are deeply offended? However, it is often easier to share our faith with people

we know because we already have a relationship based on trust. A friend may be more likely to receive a difficult message well than a total stranger. But how do you break the ice?

My Two Cents:

I often erroneously assume that I don't have any friends or acquaintances I can share my faith with. We may be at a Christian school, but we also make acquaintances at our internships, in the community, and back home. I asked Dr. Newman after Principles of Biblical Reasoning if he knew of any good places where we could start conversations with people. He gave me some ideas, but he also mentioned something I hadn't considered. "Why not have everyone get back in touch with someone they know by email, phone or Facebook?" he said. While people are not always receptive to the gospel immediately, almost everyone is willing to talk to a friend. If I offered to get coffee, talk, and pray with a friend, few people would turn that down. They might find the idea of prayer foreign at first, but the encouragement of a friend is always welcome.

I think it's vital to learn how to talk to strangers about our faith, especially during our time at PHC. However, we could catch up with an old friend on



Photo courtesy of Daniel Thetford

Facebook or email right now. It's not easy to start an intentional conversation with a friend, but God puts people in lives for a reason. Why not make the most of that opportunity?

Food for Thought:

- Do you have friends, family, or acquaintances that need the Gospel?
- What are some ways you could serve them or build a closer relationship?
- Do you have unbelieving friends who could use encouragement? How could you minister to them?
- Are there any creative ways we could build better friendships with people in the community outside PHC?
- How do we humbly communicate the gospel message to our friends? ■

Creative Corner

"This is a 300 year old copy of an Armenian Bible I saw on my trip to Israel this last summer. Traveling to Israel was one of the most impactful experiences to my faith, just to be able to stand in Jerusalem and other biblical sites mentioned in the Bible helped me recognize the reality of such places. It's one thing to read about them, and a totally different feeling to see them for yourself...It really helped broaden my perspective on life."
-Sarah Roberts.



See more pictures from Sarah's trip to Israel on our Facebook page!

EVENTS

Purcellville Farmer's Market
Sep. 9th, 9 a.m.
@ 717 E Main Street

SI Resume Workshop and Internship Fair
Sep. 9th, 10 a.m.
@ Hodel South

Men's and Women's Home Soccer Games
Sep. 9th, 1:30 p.m.
and 3:30 p.m.

College Republicans 9/11 Memorial
Sep. 10th
@ Campus Flag Pole

Seek & Hide

This week's hiding place: Cookies & Cream

"Cookies & Cream is an adorable ice cream shop in Haymarket [14650 Washington Street] It sells several delicious desserts, but it specializes in customizable ice cream sandwiches. Although it's forty minutes away from PHC's campus, the drive is beautiful, especially during sunset. I love driving there as a fun outing with friends because we get to listen to music on the drive, visit a different county, and eat delicious ice cream!"
-Brenna Bakke

Cookies & Cream is open Sunday-Thursday from 12 - 9 p.m. and Fridays



Photo courtesy of Brenna Bakke

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