

THE CROWN

REDEEMER'S STUDENT VOICE SINCE 1983

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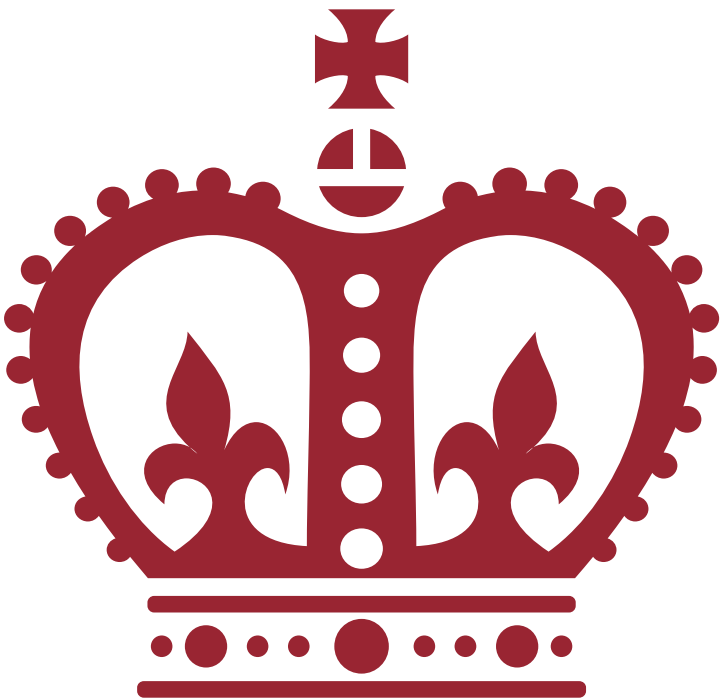
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Letter from the Editor



There has been so much excitement over the past few weeks with the Olympics, reading break, the gold medal hockey games (yes these were exciting enough to have a category outside of the Olympics), Valentine’s Day, Groundhog Day, the list could go on. After all of the excitement there looking doesn’t seem to be many milestones to look forward to (besides the next few Crown issues of course) and it can be tempting to look at the rest of the semester as

being a grind and quite dry. Personally, I know this can be the temptation for myself.

At The Crown we want to encourage you to push forward and make the most of each week. As students, during this time of the year, we can quickly forget how much we will miss this place we call home for 8 months of the year once the semester ends. It can be tempting to desire the summer more than finishing the semester well. Finishing well doesn’t only mean striving to do well academically but it also means being intentional in all other aspects of your life. If you still need dates to look forward to, check out our “Save the date” section.

While we at The Crown are also beginning to feel the effects of a long winter, we are pushing forward for you, the reader. This week we will unveil our new web-

site that has a much better design and the ability for greater interaction with readers. We hope to unroll new article ideas and also involve the students and staff in even greater ways; we don’t want to lose the momentum we’ve built over this past year. We also hope to engage our readers greater over social media so please take a look at where you can find us on the inside cover of this issue.

We encourage you to push forward with us over these next 8 weeks. The summer will be here before we know it and we will be wishing for the time back that we sometimes currently wish away. Let us know ways that we can serve you better over these next couple of months and if you feel inclined send in an article or too and continue to engage with us as you have been all year. Until next time, God bless!



Letter to the Editor

Dear editor:

Thank you for publishing Cameron Phillips’ article, “Depression,” in the January issue. I am pleased that Redeemer University College as an institution is taking steps to address mental health issues amongst our students. What students may not be aware of, however, is that members of the faculty too experience bouts with anxiety and depression, phenomena by no means peculiar to youth. The life in Christ is not one in which everything is perfect and everyone happy. We know from the witness of the saints who have gone before us that living for God’s kingdom under his grace may well entail great suffering, including the experience of emotional pain.

The following advice has helped me to cope:

1. Change dietary habits. If you drink caffeinated beverages, consider switching to something else. Avoid junk food. After a bout with depression two decades ago, changing my diet helped consid-

erably. Lentils and rice (Cypriots call it moujendra), accompanied by a green salad, does wonders for the mood. Lentils contain tryptophan, which boosts serotonin levels in the brain.

2. Exercise. I find that heavy work in the garden can lift my spirits considerably.

3. Visit the family doctor. Some people need medication for depression. There is no shame in this, any more than there would be for taking insulin for diabetes. Don’t think you’re being heroic by avoiding the medical route. Your doctor should be able to determine whether you will be helped by medication.

4. Pray through the Psalms on a regular basis. This is not just a spiritual add-on. The authors of the Psalms were not happy-clappy people with the “joy, joy, joy, joy” down in their hearts. They freely vented their frustration with God (e.g., Psalms 6 and 13), and had no qualms about lamenting the sometimes horrific situations

in which they found themselves (e.g., Psalm 88) or even calling down his wrath on their enemies (e.g., Psalm 83). Praying the Psalms helps to keep us grounded and prevents us from assuming that God’s “wonderful plan for our lives” (to quote a 1970s-era evangelistic tract) means a cheerful, trouble-free existence.

5. Finally, pray for and with each other. There are two reasons for this. First, it greatly helps the sufferers to know that others care for them and are sharing their burdens. But the second reason is the more fundamental: God really does answer prayers! “Give ear to my words, O LORD; give heed to my groaning” (Psalm 5:1).

I hope and pray that Phillips’ article will help to raise awareness of mental health issues at Redeemer.

Yours,

David T. Koyzis

Save the Date



WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25 - 7:00PM MANDELA: LONG WALK TO FREEDOM

Celebrate the life of Nelson Mandela with the Art Gallery of Hamilton. Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom is based on South African Nelson Mandela’s autobiography of the same name and chronicles his early life, coming of age, education and 27 years in prison before becoming President and working to rebuild the country’s once segregated society. General Admission: \$10. At: Landmark Cinemas 6 Jackson Square, 2 King St, W.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27 - 4:00PM DO CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS WORSHIP THE SAME GOD?

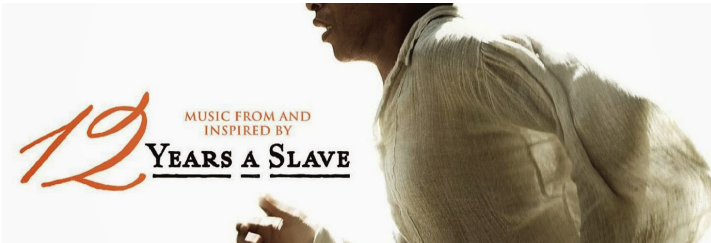
Dr. Echeverria will be delivering this presentation that you do not want to miss. Dr. Echeverria is Professor of Philosophy and Systematic Theology in the Graduate School of Theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Michigan. If the title of the presentation or Dr. Echeverria’s qualifications don’t grab your attention you’ll be happy know that there will be FREE REFRESHMENTS.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27 - 10:00PM COFFEE HOUSE

Attend this Thursday’s Coffee House, you’re bound to be impressed with your colleagues’ talents. If you aren’t impressed then you may just be inspired and if you’re not inspired then just enjoy the coffee.

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 2 SPRING AND HOME GARDEN SHOW

Most of you will be working landscaping in the summer so why not go and pick up on some ideas that could impress your boss? If your boss isn’t impressed at least you will have some knowledge to put to work once you own your own place!



FRIDAY FEBRUARY 28 - 6:45PM 12 YEARS A SLAVE (2013) MOVIE AND DISCUSSION

In short, you don’t want to miss this.

SATURDAY MARCH 1 - 2:00PM TABLE TENNIS AND EUCHRE TOURNAMENT (REC CENTRE)

Prove your skills this Saturday in these two games that are enough to make a champ out of anyone. Get to the Rec Centre for a day you won’t soon forget.

SATURDAY MARCH 8 - 9:30 AM MEN’S BREAKFAST

You read that correctly, we will be having a Men’s breakfast on March 8. Just like the ones you used to attend with your dad, minus your dad, unless you want to invite your dad. There will be food, there will be acoustic worship and there will be a great message from O a guest speaker. The cost is only \$2 for a buffet breakfast, WHAT??. Get your ticket! And don’t complain about the time, after all this is a MENS breakfast.



SUNDAY MARCH 9 - MARCH 16 - MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL

Discover one of Canada’s most time-honoured and tasty traditions. Explore the making of maple syrup from the tree to the table in three different time periods: the methods of Canada’s First Nations, 19th century pioneers and modern times. Families can purchase and enjoy a delicious, reasonably-priced pancake breakfast.

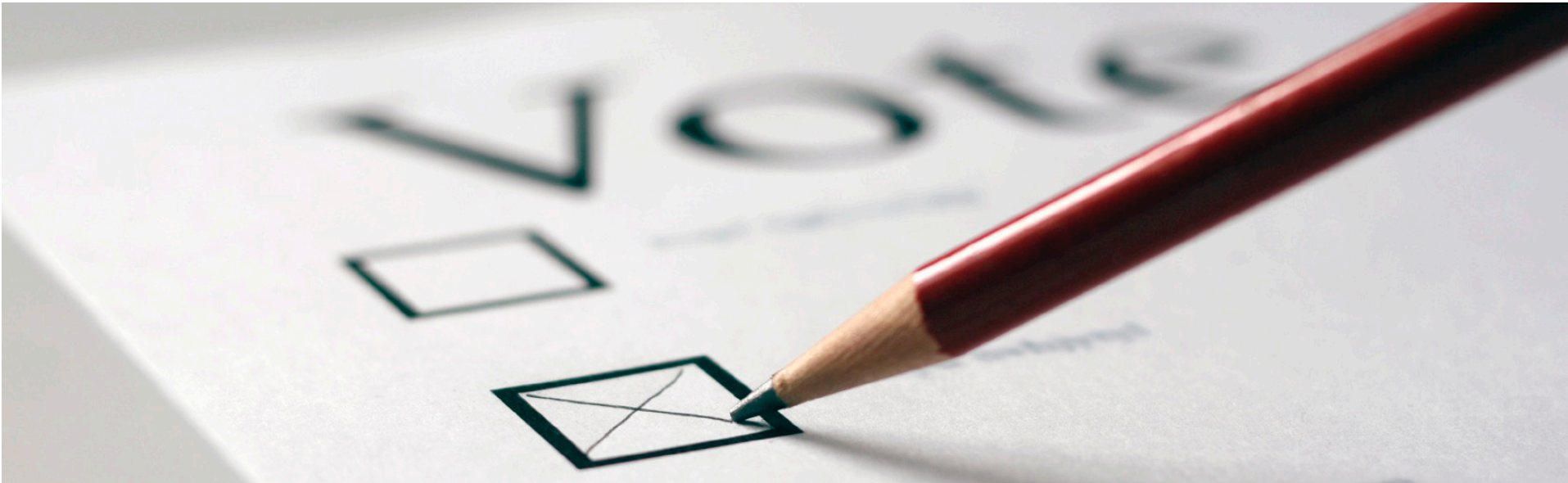
SATURDAY MARCH 15 - BANQUET

If you haven’t booked your hair appointment to get that perm for the banquet, here is your reminder. For those of you with cold feet, it’s getting a little late if you haven’t asked your sweetheart to accompany you officially.

SUNDAY MARCH 16 - 7:00PM CITB

As always, this is a night you don’t want to miss. Consider inviting some friends to this month’s service and pack the box.

THE CROWN



Why a Yes/No Vote Matters

DANICA THOMSEN

Student Senate executive elections have now come and gone once again, and for the first time in a while there was actually competition for one of the positions: Vice President of Communication. However, all of the other candidates for President, SASC Chair, and Vice President of Finance were uncontested.

I often hear students complain that checking off a Yes/No vote doesn't matter, because everyone says Yes anyway. I want to challenge this view. A Yes/No vote matters even more so than a vote between candidates. Every single person who runs has a deep care for the Redeemer community and wants to contribute to making it better. Did you know that for a position with two candidates, one

person must receive only 50% of the vote, while an uncontested candidate must receive a 2/3 "Yes" vote? People do say no; I learned that the hard way when I realized how close I was to not being voted in again. I received 138 Yes votes and 63 No votes, or 69%. I was eight votes away from not being voted back in, and I have seen other candidates be voted a near-unanimous No and not get the position they ran for. You have a

voice, and it matters and makes change happen. So, for those of you who voted Yes for me, thank you! If you voted No, thank you as well! I appreciate that students have the courage to vote according to their convictions when it seems like voting doesn't change much. That being said, I would love to hear from you as to why you said No, and what I can do to serve you better.

Another set of elections are coming up soon. Be sure to check out who the candidates are so you can make an informed vote as to who should represent you. Better yet, do something crazy and run for a position yourself! Let's see some healthy competition, or at the very least have each position filled with someone who truly cares about Redeemer's student body and the vision and mission of Student Senate.v/

Who's afraid of Open-mindedness

MATTHEW BOKMA

Can a Christian have an open-mind and still be faithful to the fundamental principles of Christianity, such as those recorded in the creeds? On a superficial level it is clear how some might conclude that an "open-minded Christian" is an oxymoron. What if there are powerful arguments against, say, the Trinity or the Incarnation?

Christians should have no problem accepting the fact that a majority of our beliefs are due to our upbringings in a particular time and culture. If one explores the Old Testament narrative, it becomes clear that the distinctive features of Judaism, such as the Law of Moses, are passed down from generation to generation, resulting in the formation of a unique culture. Radical doctrinal accommodation occurred, however, through the teachings of Jesus Christ and the apostle Paul. Christians argue, however, that the Law of Moses along with other Jewish traditions have not been abolished but transformed into something arguably greater. A unique cultural identity, with its corresponding beliefs and practices, offers hu-

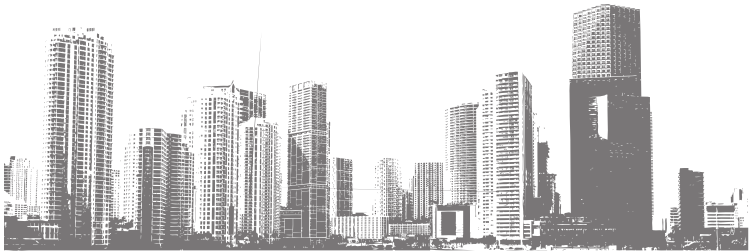
manity as a whole a different way of approaching life. A culture only becomes esoteric and irrelevant when accommodation and transformation do not occur.

Furthermore, one of the remarkable features of the Christian belief-system is its astounding history of Christianizing pagan and secular thought. For good and for ill, this history led to radical diversity. Understood in a positive light, Christians are able to engage life from a variety of perspectives while remaining faithful to the fundamental principles of Christianity. If we are all committed to a particular brand of Christianity we will become irrelevant. Diversity allows finite beings to engage life that stems from an infinite God. Given the wide diversity of Christian thought and the sheer number of interpretive possibilities, it seems highly unlikely that so-called "logical defeaters"—which only operate one's theoretical attitude—will compromise the concreteness of their encounter with Christ in the Gospel message.

Ultimately, individuals should develop a system of thought that

best grasps their own condition. That is, there should be a radical interplay between one's system of beliefs and their way of life. And one's theoretical beliefs are grounded in their own personal life—not in the theory of any other person. Therefore, the arbitrary intrusion of the dogmatics of Richard Dawkins or Christopher Hitchens should not be considered a serious threat.

Open-mindedness stimulates intellectual progress not only personally, but also on a social level. If each member of a given society is able to accept their presuppositions or personal belief-system, engage in the process of accommodation, and share their beliefs with others, the society will foster mutual respect for each other, and together they will appreciate the mysteries of existence and perhaps gain some insights into the nature of reality. As students who attend a Christian institution, open-mindedness should be among the virtues that are cultivated. Christ is sovereign over all of creation and He works through us to redeem the many facets of life that are illuminated by other world-views.



Music Notes

NEW ALBUM RELEASES

- The Fray, Hellos, February 25
- Imogen Heap, Sparks, March 4
- Lea Michelle, Louder, March 4
- Wake Owl, The Private World of Paradise, March 4
- Foster the People, Supermodel, March 18
- Johnny Cash, Out Among the Stars, March 25
- Tokyo Police Club, Forcefield, March 25

CONCERTS TO ATTEND

- Folly and the Hunter @ The Casbah, February 25
- Hedley @ Copps Coliseum, February 26
- Jacob Moon @ The Casbah, February 26
- Jeremy Fisher @ This Ain't Hollywood, February 28
- Basia Balut @ The Casbah, March 8
- Phillip Phillips @ Hamilton Place Theatre, March 16



The Hidden Joys of Mentorship

MELISSA PAYNE

What is mentorship and what does it actually look like? Is it really that important and if so, how do we go about making it a part of our lives? This is a question I have asked myself over the past few years as I have often felt this overwhelming desire to participate in such a relationship, and to implement and experience what Paul says in Titus 2:

“But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. 2 Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. 3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, 4 and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. 6 Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. 7 Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, 8 and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.”

I am afraid that the idea of seeking out a mentor or even being a mentor to someone younger than us has become just that, an idea, rather than a way of life. When you read Proverbs there are multiple verses advising us to seek out godly counsel, to gain wisdom from those who are older and probably wiser. But as Paul states in Titus we too can play a vital role in others lives as well, perhaps being a mentor to someone younger.

I mean we are all most likely aware by now that we are undoubtedly made for relationship; relationship with our God and with other human beings. And though, in a place like Redeemer we are constantly trying to maintain our friendships and relationships, (most of which are with those within the same age range) we can so easily overlook a relationship opportunity that God not only advises, but reminds us will grant us greater wisdom, sanctification and joy. The fact that we have the opportunity to be spoken into, challenged and counseled, while doing that for someone else is one of the greatest privileges within the Christian community, and something we ought not to take for granted.

I am a firm believer that God’s commands to us are not just for the sake of following “rules”, but that His Word and counsel are given to us so that we may flourish as a people, as a community and to bring His Kingdom to this earth. I believe that the relationship that forms between an older individual and younger individual is a beautiful form of discipleship that benefits all parties involved, allowing for His Spirit to work in each heart while forming the bonds of trust, vulnerability and spiritual formation. Knowing that I am not alone in this journey, and

that there are people who have tread similar waters, wrestled through similar questions and faced similar storms brings an immense amount of hope and comfort to me; and I believe will do the same for all of us if we are willing to embrace such a relationship. So I would suggest two simple things:

• First, seek Out A Mentor: Perhaps there is someone in your church community, or even at Redeemer whom you see qualities in that you desire to grow in and implement in your own life. It’s as simple as approaching them and asking them to grab a coffee and share a bit of life together. However, I would say that in order to enjoy the blessings of such a relationship there needs to be a willingness to open ourselves up to those whom we feel we can trust. We need to be willing to share our deepest struggles and our greatest victories, our deep desires and our paralyzing fears. We need courage. But allowing another person, who has probably experienced many of the same things you are experiencing into these areas of your life is extremely liberating, encouraging and will lead you to a deeper well of joy and understanding than you thought possible.

• Second, be willing to be a Mentor: I think this is probably the harder one of the two for many of us to walk out. It is great to receive the blessings from being mentored, but what about being a mentor to someone else? Even though many of us are in our twenties, some older or younger, it may be hard to imagine yourself mentoring someone at this stage of life. But, it is one of the greatest joys and privileges we can have. Perhaps someone younger may approach you, or maybe there is someone you can think of that you would like to get to know more, either way, I would say prayerfully consider playing a role and having a positive influence in someone’s life who is younger. It will humble you, teach you, challenge you and remind you that life and God’s purposes go far beyond yourself. It will stretch you and call you to a greater dependence on God, and hey, it may even push you to seek advice from someone older! See the pattern here?

I know this may not be something that comes natural to some as it does moreso for others, but imagine a community where this relationship of being mentored and mentoring is not just another idea we toss around, but a way of life. Imagine a community where the blessings, lessons and wisdom that we receive while being mentored by those in our lives would trickle down into our other relationships, especially with those younger than us. Joy is not complete until it is shared, so let us share life with those of all generations and experience another facet of flourishing and full life that Christ promises us.



Dear Deer

WHAT IS THE CURE FOR LAZINESS?

Making personal deadlines is very helpful. When everything is blurred together it becomes overwhelming and that is when you sink into laziness. Surround yourself with positive people who have a good work ethic. Reward yourself with a nice latte after a couple hours in the library. It’s always good to set goals- study for an hour, take a half hour break. The deer of the forest often get a bit lazy- then we take a quick dip! But it’s too cold for you to do that.

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO STAY FOCUSED DURING TESTING SEASON? I NEED SOME TIPS, AFTER ALL... PROCRASTINATION IS MY MIDDLE NAME!

Don’t get overwhelmed; take it one thing at a time. Put your all into everything you’re doing and don’t put too much pressure on yourself to be perfect. There are a lot of resources on campus including the study smart sessions, tutoring and the writing centre. Take advantage of the resources that Redeemer so graciously provides for you humans. Put your best hoof forward... I mean, foot.

HOW CAN STUDENTS CHOOSE AND FIND THE BEST SUMMER JOBS?

Take a deep breath and remember to keep an open mind. Temp agencies find areas where employment in needed, and fill the spots with hardworking employees. They can set you up with something you are interested in. Also, contact some agencies that are involved in the major you are in, so that they see you are interested, and you have the possibility for long-term work. Don’t be too picky; it is just a summer job, not the rest of your life.

HOW DO WE DEAL WITH THE STRESS OF FINDING OFF CAMPUS HOUSING?

There are many houses out there to choose from it is just a matter of finding it. If you are currently looking and haven’t found anything yet, don’t be discouraged, there is still time. Try looking on Kijiji or on the Redeemer website under off-campus housing. Talk to older students that are currently renting houses for advice and possible connections. Find people that you know you will live well with rather than your friends that you may not mesh well with in a living situation.

WHAT THINGS CAN STUDENTS DO ON CAMPUS ON A COLD WINTER’S NIGHT?

Round up your neighbours and play some good old board games- ticket to ride or dutch blitz are a few of my favourites. Throw a tame dance party. Cook a meal or have a baking party. Invite a friend over and catch up over coffee or tea. Create a new catchy music video with your dorm mates. Go surfing down your stairs on a mattress. Have an indoor jam session. Make a fort. Use your imagination, get creative, The winter will be over soon.

MY ROOMMATE TALKS IN HER SLEEP. I SLEEP LIGHTLY, AND IT USUALLY WAKES ME UP-THIS IS REALLY FRUSTRATING WHEN I HAVE EARLY CLASSES. ANY SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT TO DO?

Take advantage of the humour of it. Record it on your phone, keep a journal and give it to her/him as a gift at the end of the year. Buy some earplugs, download a white noise app or get a fan. The forest gets pretty loud sometimes with all the hunters and curious squirrels scurrying around, we learn to embrace it





Living, Learning, Loving

Hamilton community organizations host Redeemer students for Reading Break

TIM WOLFERT

While most Redeemer students spent their mid-term Reading Break heading home, or perhaps off to warmer climes, thirteen students – from across Ontario, Quebec and BC – stayed in Hamilton, learning more about the city and its diverse populations.

“Hamilton is an incredibly diverse city,” says Jordan Reinders, a third year health science and music major from Barrie, who went on the trip. “As a student who is spending four years here, I think it’s important to expand my world to include those that I wouldn’t otherwise meet or even associate with. During the trip, I hoped to see some of the intrinsic beauty that God has instilled in the people who work and live in Hamilton, as well as meet some of the people make the Hamilton core the place that it is.”

To do that, several Hamilton organizations hosted the students during the break. The students visited places such as Living Rock Ministries, Homestead Christian Care, MoveIn, and the Greater Ontario House of Prayer, and they met with representatives of several other organizations. The students learned about the work each group is doing in Hamilton through information sessions, tours and in some cases by participating in service projects or even just sharing meals with the people these groups serve. The team lived downtown that whole time, staying at Barton and Sherman.

Hamilton native and third-year political science major John Schuurman was a student leader of the

trip. “Redeemer is all about facilitating learning for students. In my time here, I have learned so much about flourishing as a member of God’s kingdom, but only a limited amount of that comes from the classroom, or even the campus. This trip was about allowing Redeemer students to learn what the classroom cannot really teach us about who God is, the world we live in and where we find His calling for us in it.”

For these students, Hamilton is a living lab, a place where they can learn not just about the city, but how God is working there, and how He can use them. “I wanted to get to know Hamilton and some of its ministries more,” says Kayla Templeman, a second-year student from Burlington, “and I would like to build relationships with people in Hamilton. My hope and prayer is that I would get more of a heart for God and His work and to love His people even more.”

“The team experienced, through the organizations and individuals who hosted us, that God is indeed already making things new,” says Schuurman. “In all of these things, students learned that living out the Christian faith in ways that change the world requires us to intentionally follow the commands of Jesus and live in love of those around us, wherever we have been planted.”

The Hamilton trip is one of three Reading Week trips organized by Redeemer’s Community Service Learning Office. Other trips this year are to Philadelphia, PA and Nashville, TN.

Students Speak

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF THIS PAST READING BREAK?

- Going to Philadelphia! Yeaaaaa - Helena Schuurman
- My favourite part about this coming reading break will probably be hanging out with friends I haven’t seen in a long time – Allyson Reichelt
- Relaxing on the beach! Always great to have some time to read for leisure and be with family. Especially when you can do that in Cuba. – Emma Richardson
- I really enjoyed spending time with family and friends and watching the Olympics – Nick Vahrmyer

FROM THE CROWN STAFF

- Skating on the canal with Laura Heming, fun timez! – Bryn Johnston
- Working my butt off so I can pay for the new year book tax - Matthew Bokma
- It was a good break from the all of the Student Senate emails – Andrew Tosland
- I did archery in a forest in honour of Katiness Everdeen! - Laura Heming
- Beating the Americans in two amazing Olympic games, Cuba was alright too - Brandon Richardson
- Preparing myself both mentally and emotionally for the extreme changes to the Zimbira accounts - Justin Olthof



p-ROFL

- “So if there are any single ladies here today, just hang out at a well for a while, because clearly it’s like an ancient-Biblical bar.” - Prof. Beldman
- “All I do is teach and deliver babies” - Prof. Vahagna Asatryan
- “This sounds so Calvinist that it almost makes me want to throw up.” ~Syd
- I don’t really care for beer. I find that it tastes the same way it looks - Prof. Van Weelden

Random Fun Facts

1. Strawberries are not berries—they are aggregate fruits. Bananas are more like berries than strawberries.

2. Indian housewives hold 11% of the world’s gold. That is more than the reserves of USA, IMF, Switzerland, and Germany put together.

4. A “stock exchange” exists within the Somali pirates. Locals can “invest” in a pirate group, and after a successful heist, reward would be given to the investors. In one instance, a woman gave an RPG-7 pirate group and ended up
- receiving \$75, 000.

5. Walt Disney is actually not frozen.

6. Sochi Olympics costed about \$51 billion.

7. A human being farts about 14 times a day.

8. Toilet paper is a relatively recent invention, but the ancients still had to wipe. Roman philosopher Seneca, who lived from 4 B.C. to A.D. 65, recorded the use of a sponge
- attached to a stick that did the job. Between uses, the tool (called a tersorium) sat in a bucket of salt water or vinegar water.

9. If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days, you would have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.

10. The ant can lift 50 times its own weight, can pull 30 times its own weight and always falls over on its right side when intoxicated.



Seatbelts, Everyone!

Garnering Support 2014

LAURA HEMING

You may have found yourself signing a petition outside the Senate office before reading break- the one with over 300 signature spots. You may have heard that it's for the bus system, and in hearing that you may think, that's great but I never use the bus so why should I care?

The truth is that when you signed, you became a part of something bigger than just yourself, bigger than just the community of Redeemer. You became a part of a voice of students making a noise in their community.

So, what is this Garnering Support business? It is a campaign advocating for improved transit on Hamilton mountain, specifically for increased service for the Rymal Road bus (the 44). If you ever take the bus home, downtown, or even to Talize, you will know that the service for the bus at the end of the Redeemer driveway ends at 9, and stops on weekends- a very convenient time to stop running, when students actually are available to leave campus. What this means is that it changes your 2-minute walk across the road on a cold winter's night, to a 40-minute trek to Meadowlands to catch the bus.

I got the first hand story from front-runner and campaign enthusiast, Justin Eisinga on how it all started.

"It is illogical that a bus would go past a university that doesn't run after 9 or on weekends. You're missing a key part when people who use the bus the most (students) can't even take the bus when they need to take the bus."

This frustration powered Justin, as well as a group of other students, to brainstorm ideas of how they would make the change happen. To do so, they decided to start a petition and collect signatures, and getting all over social media with this campaign cleverly called "Garnering Support".

Within merely a month, the petition had already held over 700 signatures.

So, maybe the city will add this to the pile of other petitions they have to look through and get to one day, right? Wrong. In fact, the campaign has attracted so much attention that today (February 25), the group will be appearing as a delegation in front of city counsel to deliver the signatures and to plead on behalf of those who signed for city counsel to approve the changes. After that, the counsel will meet on Thursday for a more formal discussion on the matter. It is not yet confirmed when it will approve.

According to the Transit Service Enhancement Proposal, "Proposed improved service span to include Saturday and Sunday service and increased frequencies for weekdays.

Currently the bus route operates on 30 minute headways on weekday peak periods with 60 minute service midday and during the evening. If this proposal is adopted the route would see peak frequency increased to 20 minutes with frequency doubled from 60 minute to 30 minutes. The route will also see weekend service for the first time with 30 minute frequency all day Saturday as well as 30 minutes during the day on Sundays with 60 minute frequency on Sunday evenings".

In short, even the cheapest option includes improvements for just as a university, if cost is the issue.

Needless to say, the benefits of the changes affect more than just us. It will positively affect 3 high schools, a senior's residence, the YMCA, the Wal-Mart Plaza, Eramosa Karst Conservation Area, Ancaster and Red Hill employment centres and more. Think of all the people who will have enhanced opportunities if this is approved. The benefits reach further than just our Redeemer community, but rather, a whole city. That was the goal of Justin and the other students involved from the start. To make changes as students for the community, and a certain empowerment that is involved in having a say in the city that we live in.

We have a voice, so why not use it?



A Message to Student Senate

ANDREW TOSLAND

On January 29th, Student Senate posted a Facebook Poll concerning whether or not the students should be forced to cough up an extra \$25 for the yearbook. Although they did not officially disclose the results of the poll, one of the members—who wishes to remain anonymous—admitted that they will be implementing the new charge despite the majority of the students against it.

Despite the student's effort to pay off not only a costly tuition, but also the salary of 15 student senators, student senate is now asking for more money. The students are supposed to be represented by Student senate but here we have to question how well they are representing the students' desires. The students are not responsible for the yearbook surplus that has accumulated over the past few

years. Perhaps the finances should be addressed from the standpoint of economics where supply alleviates demand – the question however is whether or not the demand is present? — we should not be supporting communist economic theory.

Also in question is the memorability of the yearbook. This is no longer the same as those issued in High School and Elementary school because the same portrait is used annually. Puberty is long past and there is no longer any significant physical changes in one's appearance for every subsequent year at college. If there is, it is merely those few extra pounds that were gained because of the chicken fingers and spaghetti that makes up the diet of Redeemer students.

In addition, even the very idea of a yearbook is becoming antiquated—we have Facebook and other Internet social networking outlets that they did not have back in the 70s,

80s, or 90s. No longer do students need to rely on expensive books when they can save their social profiles for many years to come. These comments are only made to say that some students hold these opinions and do not want to have to pay a mandatory fee for the yearbook because of them.

About a year ago student senate had a surplus of \$80000, instead of planning for the future they blew the entire excess on the Rec Centre and now we will likely be paying for their mistakes. If Student Senate is running into financial problems, perhaps they should consider cutting their own salary, removing some of their 15 positions, or withdraw funding from clubs that seem to misuse their funding.

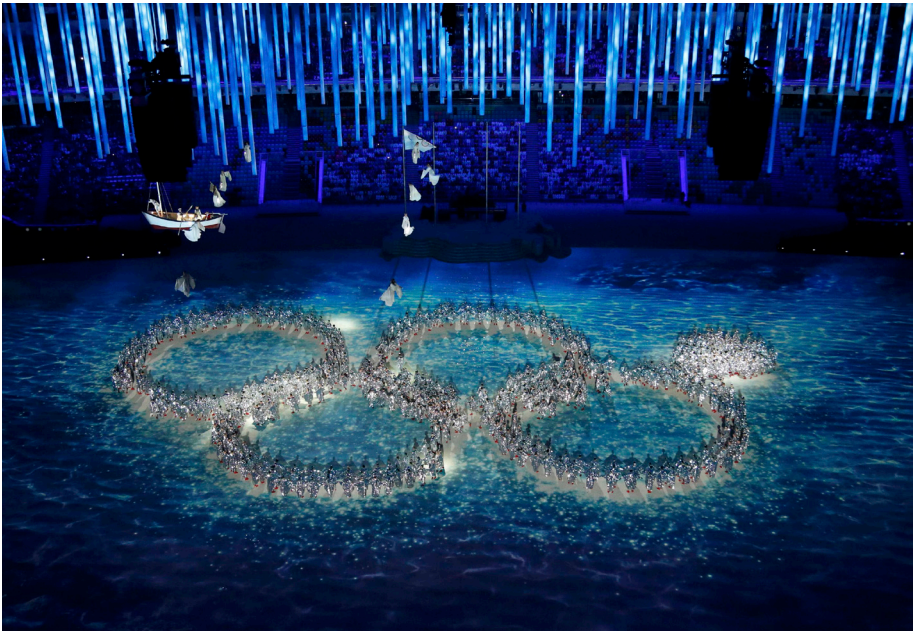
(Views expressed are not necessarily those of The Crown Newspaper)

CAMPUS



8 Olympic Moments.

1. 



THE INTENTIONAL RING MALFUNCTION (CLOSING CEREMONIES):

Although the Olympic opening ceremonies have a track record of malfunctions the whole world held their breath for quite some time while waiting for the fifth Olympic ring to open up during this year's opening ceremonies. Anyone who held their breath until it actually opened up is no longer living as if it never happened. In good fun, during the closing ceremonies, the Russian Olympic committee poked fun at the incident. A group of dancers were supposed to form the five Olympic rings and as the fifth ring was supposed to open the dancers hesitated drawing laughs from spectators all over the world. Good on you Russia!

2. 



PHIL KESSEL MEMES:

After losing to Canada in the semi-final game, Phil Kessel a forward for the American hockey team was quite dejected. Canadian fans wasted no time in kicking the dog while it was down and produced some funny mimes based on Kessel's team photo. Regardless of what you may think of Kessel's photo, he really is an athlete. Background: Phil Kessel's sister, Amanda, won a silver medal with the American Women's Hockey team.

3. 



CANADIAN COACH HELPS RUSSIAN SKIER:

Justin Wadsworth immediately became a hero after helping a Russian skier finish his race after a bad crash. Anton Gafarov, the Russian skier who received the help took a bad spill during the cross country sprint semi-final. Gafarov collected himself and pushed on to try and finish the race although his ski was badly damaged. After falling down another hill, Gafarov's ski snapped in half and looked unable to finish the race. Wadsworth, the Canadian coach, then came to Gafarov's aid replacing his ski in order that he could finish the race. While Wadsworth didn't say a word as he helped the Russian skier, he was quoted afterwards saying, "I wanted him to have dignity as he crossed the finish line." Gafarov finished last in the semi-final but did so to the cheering of fans from around the world, certainly with dignity.

4. 



CANADIAN WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM AND THEIR GOLD MEDAL FINISH:

With 3 minutes and 27 seconds left in the third period of the gold medal game, the Canadian Women's Hockey team was losing 2-0 to the rival Americans. For the first time in 4 Olympics it looked like the Canadian women would not win gold. The rivalry between the Canadians and the Americans had deepened over the past few years as line brawls had occurred in their last few matches; you could almost see the smiles creeping onto the Americans faces. The clock only had to move one more second and the fate of the game would change. With the remaining time in the game the Canadians were able to tie up the game with a nearly impossible string of events; goals coming from Jenner and Poulin. It only took ten minutes of overtime for the Canadians to steal the dream from the Americans and win 3-2 as Poulin netted the puck past Jessie Vetter. The Canadians improved to 4 straight Olympic victories.

..A Canadian Edition



5.   

	Country				Total
1	 Russia	13	11	9	33
2	 Norway	11	5	10	26
3	 Canada	10	10	5	25
4	 United States	9	7	12	28
5	 Netherlands	8	7	9	24
6	 Germany	8	6	5	19
7	 Switzerland	6	3	2	11
8	 Belarus	5	0	1	6
9	 Austria	4	8	5	17
10	 France	4	4	7	15
11	 Poland	4	1	1	6
12	 China	3	4	2	9
13	 South Korea	3	3	2	8

CANADA’S FINAL MEDAL COUNT:

Canada made a good name for themselves at this winter Olympics. Not only have the Canadians solidified their previous reputation for having incredible sportsmanship but they also dominated on the slopes, track, ice and air. Canada’s total medal count was 10 Gold, 10 Silver and 5 Bronze placing us third overall in the medal count, right behind Russia (1st) and Norway (2nd). 25 Medals total is the second highest in Canada’s winter Olympic history; only on Canadian soil in 2010 did Canada win more medals (26). Canadian fans should be proud.

7.   



QUESTIONABLE LODGINGS:

From stray dogs to broken doors, Sochi provided plenty for the media to poke fun at. Clearly, the good people of Sochi are not fans of the old Price is Right, otherwise they would have heeded Bob Barker’s advice to help control the pet population and ‘have your pet spayed or neutered’, because Sochi is apparently overrun with stray dogs. Whether it was the urine colored water, a nationwide shortage of pillows, defective locks on bathroom doors, or the unsanitary conditions of the bathrooms themselves, the squalor of Sochi will always be remembered (and laughed at by those who rightly think the media complains too much) fondly.

6.   



SOCHI BEAR:

Another memorable feature of Sochi 2014 was the Sochi bear. You can judge a lot about an event by the mascot that represents it. What looked like Yogi bear after an appointment with a cheap plastic surgeon, Sochi Bear represented the protagonist from my childhood nightmares. Sochi Bear’s best moments at the Olympics? Probably creeping on (practically trolling) the United States men’s hockey team during the bronze medal game, and then shedding one single tear to symbolize the end of the games at the closing ceremony. The Sochi bear (regretably) will not be forgotten, and here’s to hoping his candle will stay extinguished for a good while.

8.   



CANADIAN SACRIFICE:

One of the most unselfish moves in athletic history came when Canadian speed skater Gilmore Junio gave up his spot in the 1000 meter speed skating event to a teammate after qualifying for the event over the same teammate. Junio gave his spot in the Olympic race to Denny Morrison who did not qualify for the event. Looking out for the countries success, Junio said of his move, “How Denny is skating now, I believe it’s in the best interest of the team if he races.” He followed this statement with the following, “To represent Canada at the Olympics is a huge honour and privilege but I believe that as Canadians, we’re not just here to compete; we are here to win. Denny has proven to be a consistent medal threat in the distance.” Junio is a team player and a good example of selflessness. Morrison went on to win silver in the event.



Using the Excuse of Grace

LAURA HEMING

“If your best life is here on earth, then you are going to hell,” he said to a packed auditorium- his voice genuine and soft, his eyes inviting a well of tears.

He was the man known to have thousands of YouTube hits for his video, “Shocking Message to Youth”.

Going into last Friday night’s event with world-renowned Gospel Coalition pastor Paul Washer, I found myself expecting to hear the same message of God’s grace that seems to populate modern Christianity. I expected this big, famous pastor to stand before a packed auditorium and talk about how we are a broken people, but we need not be afraid because Jesus has forgiven us. Although this is absolutely critical to understand, it is also something that I had recently been thinking is possibly too emphasized in the Christian culture.

After a few traditional hymns and a hefty introduction, walked up Mr. Washer, who first and foremost addressed the previous introduction by a local pastor.

“Thank you for the introduction,” started Washer, “...but I think it is dangerous to be a preacher who many people look up to. I am just a man, a dirty, worn out rag. We all are.”

Here was this popular preacher who had packed a whole auditorium, every last seat, who had right away humbled himself, and off the bat directed the attention right to Jesus.

To my surprise, his message had me on the edge on my seat in the front row of the balcony, looking down to soak in every last word. It was a message that I think will stick with me for a very long time. One that was very much needed, especially among a culture that is used to being cheered on rather than rebuked.

His message centred on how to know you are saved- something that we often assume, especially given our choice of university. But salvation is not defined by that one time you asked Jesus into your heart at a youth conference and that’s it, or what you type in your Facebook ‘About Me’ section. It is being completely flipped 180, hating the things of darkness that you used to love, and loving the things of light that you used to hate.

He talked about the Christian culture today, something that stirred me massively- about how our culture’s theology has been reduced virtually down to nothing. How it is often based upon one verse taken out of context for example. His concern for our culture swallowed his face, explaining how Jesus has become the only religious lord that doesn’t have rules. We are taught we can do whatever we want, cause he forgives.

This is a dangerous fire to fall into. This selfish, self-gaining faith that somehow centres around us, our needs, what we want, and our convenience. Our culture wants so badly to remain relevant, that it waters down truth to make everyone happy.

This is not the God of Zion. This is not the God of justice. He is a God who requires obedience, not a God to be taken advantage of. We often forget or intentionally bury the fact that we need to keep the laws of God; that they are indeed not abolished. Washer talks about how young people often just label commandments or respond to them by saying it is just legalism. He responds to this by asking, “Young person, which one of these laws do you hate?”

What a question. What one of God’s commands makes us cringe so much that we pass it off just old laws that are no longer relevant-makes us think we are a progressing society that no longer has room for God’s laws. Which one bothers us so much that we respond by making excuses?

Is it drunkenness? Do we say, it’s a good way to socialize, I don’t really care?

Is it lust? Do we say, it’s okay, we’re going to get married anyway?

Is it laziness? Do we say, I’m a student, I don’t have time to add the bible to my book list?

Is it our tongue? Do we find ourselves using profanity, sounding just like everyone else?

The question to answer these questions lies in a simple observation. If someone were to watch your life, for a week, for a month, for a year... would they know you serve God?

Our theology has become too based upon grace. The idea that we can mess up, go out and do what ever we want to because we belong to a God who forgives. My question is, to what degree are we taking advantage of God when we can live however we want? To what degree is this even a real relationship, a real faith? And to what degree can we say we love him when we can use him as a doormat, wiping our dusty feet on him as we walk on into our comfortable home.

So, what is true, biblical grace? The root word of grace is chanon, which translates to favour or goodwill. The favour found carries with it the delivery of favours or blessings. This means that grace is not an abstract quality, but is an active, working principle, manifesting itself in beneficent acts. Grace is found when we realize that something is hindering us from being like Jesus, so we do everything in our power not to repeat the same mistakes. It is changing our mindset rather than caging ourselves from doing what we love but know is wrong.

This is not to say we need to earn grace by acts, but the question is, if we truly fathomed that our lives have been saved from eternal damnation; if someone were to save us from our very death, if we fully and truly fathomed that-how could we not want to give our lives in return?

Olympic Ceremonies Gone Wrong

KRISTIN POSTHUMUS

Whenever the Olympic season comes around, the world seems to stop and people become consumed with the hype. This time around it’s been no different for 2014’s Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Twitter has become a hub of #sochiproblems, claiming that the city was unprepared for one of the world’s biggest events. However, luckily for them (or maybe not), this hasn’t been the first time where things at the Olympics have gone awry.

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA 1988: The lighting of the Olympic flame is one of the highlights of the opening ceremonies. Since 1920, the releasing of white doves as a symbol of peace has been an officially part of the Summer Games. Unfortunately after a small mishap in 1988 the tradition has been put to the wayside. Although releasing a flock of birds into a stadium may seem like a good idea there’s one important thing to remember – flame first, birds second. Apparently Seoul didn’t get the memo.

After lighting the cauldron, some of the doves got stuck in the cross-fire and burnt to a crisp. Roasted dove anyone?

BEIJING, CHINA 2008: The blue screen of death. Every student’s worst nightmare- and apparently IT guys as well! Beijing’s National Stadium aka the Bird’s Nest was specifically designed to host the 2008 Summer Olympics. As gymnast Li Ning flew around the stadium on wires to light the Olympic torch the all too familiar error message made a brief ap-

pearance.

VANCOUVER, CANADA 2010: Oh Canada! The initial plan was to have four torchbearers light the Olympic torch via four mechanical pillars. But of course, technology never ceases to ensue in chaos. Instead, only three of the pillars rose, leaving speed skater Catriona LeMay Doan to stand awkwardly like the Statute of Liberty until the cauldron was lit.

SOCHI, RUSSIA 2014: The Olympic rings are one of the most

iconic symbols of the Olympic Games. Alas, this year the Winter Games hit a slight problem as what was supposed to be a pyro’s dream come true malfunctioned. Five snowflakes hung from the top of the stadium to represent the five rings. They were supposed to all transform and interconnect with one another; but the fifth decided to be stubborn and never expanded, resulting in the Russian broadcaster’s panicked attempt to cut to rehearsal footage to hide the mishap.

Call of Duty: The Gospel

JACOB DAY

Video games are one of the primary sources of entertainment of our day, and are their prominence has grown exponentially over the past two decades. The Call of Duty franchise is undoubtedly one of the largest video game franchises in the world, with COD Black Ops II taking the #1 in worldwide sales in 2012 and COD Ghosts #2 in 2013.

In a pro-video game TED:talk Jane McGonigal reported that “the average young person today in a country with a strong gamer culture will have spent 10000 hours playing online games by the age on 21.” It is clear, whether you are pro-video game or anti-video game that our demographic spends A LOT of time behind the screen and thus I feel it is an important issue to address from a Christian perspective.

The Bible seems to mention sports and games very little if at all (I would hazard a guess that this is because most people were too busy trying to get by from one day to the next) and so such leisurely activities are not forbidden or intrinsically sinful. However there are ideas from Scripture we must take into consideration to live an obedient and Christian lifestyle. I’d like to acknowledge one of our school’s popular verses, in which Paul commands Christians, “whatever you do, whether word or deed, do it all in the name of Jesus” (Col. 3:17). A fantastic verse, but often I have seen it become a justification to do anything and call it worship. Well, in some sense everything we do is worship, but the question is rather: who or what are we worshipping? And according to the specifics of this article, can we worship God through playing video games? I will address this major question with four more specific questions on issues facing video games and common everyday activities.

Most popular video games are multi-player and so interaction is an essential feature. This raises the question: is it godly interaction? Well many gamers would pipe up that gaming builds community and relationships as does any competitive activity. There is much to be said on relational conduct in Scripture, “You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love” (Gal. 5:13). Not all relationships are godly in nature and not all interaction is that of love and service, rather much interaction sets out to serve the desires of the flesh. So again, Christian gamers should humbly ask themselves: “is my interaction in videogames, holy and pleasing to God and am I building healthy relationships?” Building relationships can be one way we worship God, but if we are only fostering tension, arrogance and malice then we ought to abandon such activities.

The second issue I’d like to address is the temptation of worldly things. Most popular video games these days are

riddled with unjust violence, swearing and sex. On top of this is the promotion of secular ideologies of selfish gain and arrogance which could be said to be even more destructive to the mind of the Christian. Each person is influenced by those around them, even the strongest and most steadfast of Christians are influenced by their environment and this is why the Bible promotes fellowship of believers. Scripture also commands us to “not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will” (Rom. 12:2). The second question gamers should ask themselves is ‘am I being negatively influenced through video game content?’ Some may point out that we are bound to be influenced



by the world to some extent wherever we go. This is true, yet there are ways we can avoid the maximization of such temptation, and so we must guard ourselves the best that we can and go into the world equipped in the full armour of God.

The third point I will preface by quoting from the end of John’s first epistle, “Dear children, keep yourselves from idols”. Marketing strategies these days make things that will addict us so that we will continue buy the product. Video games, too, are made to be addictive – and they are. This can be obviously shown through the sheer amount of time people spend playing them. Addiction is idolatry; it is centering your life around something that isn’t Jesus. This point could be expanded on immensely but rather than doing so it would be wise for a Christian to humbly ask those they live with if they are addicted to video games (or anything else for that matter). Too often we become blind to our own addictions and live in denial of them.

My last point goes along closely with the prior one. Video

games are a waste of time. Shown in the statistics in my introduction, too much time is being spent in something with no value at all. There may be few exceptions where one is neither influenced by worldly things, nor addicted and truly uses gaming as a means of building relationships, but those situations are few and far between. What reason is there to do something so useless with your time when you could be praying, reading the Word, building healthy relationships, working or spreading the Gospel. What a tragedy it would be to come to the end of one’s life and have prestiged 10 times in each COD and yet not seen anyone come to know Jesus, having your children wander from the faith, a poor relationship with your spouse and worst of all a shallow relationship with your Lord and Saviour.

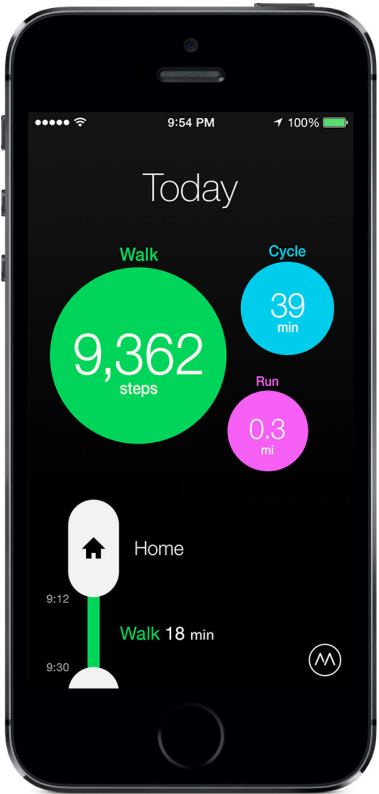
Putting time into things of little importance automatically means we are taking time away from things of greater importance. Our priorities have to be straight, not just in our head but in our actions shown through the organization of our time. Jesus must come first and thus should our spiritual life. If we are seeking first the Kingdom we should be in prayer for it, reading Word regularly so that we can bring all of our life under it and preaching the Good News so those who don’t yet know would be accepted into it.

It would not be difficult to make a hypocrite out of me in view of this article. All through middle school, high school and college I was addicted to video games. Whether it was Runescape when I was young or Halo or COD in high school and college, I spent way too much time playing video games and I can testify that these 4 points described me. I didn’t build healthy relationships but rather gave way to arrogance, bitterness and malice; I was influenced poorly by the content; I treated it as my functional saviour in times of sin and in strife, idolizing it rather than Jesus; and I wasted a lot of time. I was in denial for a long time, but my Father in heaven broke through and disciplined me as a good father does. Jesus saved me from the bondage of this sin and I trust he can do the same for all others who struggle with such sin and addiction.

It isn’t just video games that are the problem. In each aspect of our lives we must test ourselves and ask the questions: am I being Christ-like in my interactions, am I unnecessarily putting myself in places of negative influence or temptation, am I addicted to this and am I wasting my time. Jesus has given us our Call of Duty, our Great Commission, to bring the Good News to all people. “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith” (Heb. 12:1-2).



Moves



AOTM: Moves

JORDON BOKMA

Following New Year’s resolutions and a reading break, shunning a good workout or a healthy lifestyle weighs in the minds of us all. This month’s app focuses on tracking your activity in a fun and exciting way. Moves is a GPS- based app that tracks locations and strings them together with the various ways you got there. It is available for both iPhone and Android devices. Moves keeps a running tally of miles, step taken, and duration of your travel, whether it be walking, running, biking, etc. This timeline introduces a daily summary of your life and even has a records section that logs your best days.

If you aren’t sold on Moves as your primary fitness app, you can connect it to a multitude of other apps to share the data collected through Moves. This data is used to keep track of calories burned (iPhone feature only; Android feature coming soon). The only downside is the battery usage. Make sure that your phone is charged at the beginning of the day and, according to the website, you should be fine.

In the end, Moves will provide an automatic diary of your life. Even if you do not use it for the fitness aspect, it helps put your day into a timeline perspective. That’s pretty cool when all you have to do is put your phone in your backpack or pocket for the day. Take the first step and you won’t regret it because you’ll also be tracking it.

Redeemer Royals Volleyball Picks

PETER REID

back OCAA Volleyball Coach of the Year awards for the Redeemer Royals as Women's Volleyball Head Coach Doug Veldman was named the top College Coach in Ontario this morning.

The award was presented Thursday morning at the OCAA Women's Volleyball Championship Awards Banquet being held in Oshawa, ON by Durham College.

Last year, former Head Coach Wayne Harris picked up the OCAA Coach of the Year award for Redeemer's Men's Volleyball team. Coach Harris went on to win the CCAA Coach of the Year award as the top College Coach in Canada.

With the Award, Veldman will be nominated for the CCAA Coach of the Year Award as well for Women's Volleyball.

It is back to -

Earlier in the week, Redeemer's Badminton Head Coach Benno Kurvits was named the OCAA Coach of the Year and CCAA Coach of the Year nominee.

Coach Veldman led the Royals to its best season in its history in 2013-2014. The team finished the regular season with 13 wins and just 5 losses. The Royals picked up their 14th win in an OCAA crossover match that resulted in the team qualifying for this weekend's Provincial Championship.

The Royals will be looking for their first OCAA Provincial Medal in Division I Women's Volleyball this weekend.

Redeemer improved their league record substantially in 2013-2014 after the Royals finished 2012-2013 with a 9-9 record.

Coach Veldman and his team will look to advance to the Gold Medal Semi Final with a win on Thursday night against Trent University. Game time is at 6pm.

Redeemer also picked up a number of other volleyball awards on Thursday morning.

Redeemer's Curtiss Straatsma and Charlene DeVries were named OCAA Women's Volleyball All-Stars.

The duo received their awards this morning at the OCAA Women's Volleyball Championship Awards Banquet. The Banquet was held in Oshawa, ON as Durham College hosts this years Provincial Championships.

Charlene DeVries received her first OCAA All-Star award being named to the 2nd Team of All-Stars.

It was Curtiss' 3rd consecutive year winning an All-Star award as she was named to the OCAA 1st Team. Straatsma has been named to the OCAA All-Star team in each year that she has competed in OCAA Women's Volleyball.

On the Men's side, Jake Klassen, David Klomps, and Eric Heidbuurt were named OCAA Men's Volleyball 2nd Team All-Stars.

The trio of Royals received their awards this morning at the OCAA Men's Volleyball Championship Awards Banquet. The Banquet was held Thursday morning in Barrie, ON as Georgian College plays host to the 2013-2014 Provincial Championship.

This is Heidbuurt's and Klassen's 2nd consecutive season being named OCAA All-Stars while this is Klomps' 3rd season in a row.

The Men's Volleyball team will not compete at this years OCAA Men's Volleyball Championships after being eliminated by George Brown in an qualifying crossover match.



Hockey: Redeemer’s Forgotten Sport

PJ BUYS

I am not sure if anyone at Redeemer noticed but Canada just dominated the international stage by winning gold medals in both the men and women’s hockey. Hockey is Canada’s game, and we are the best in the world.

The whole country is ecstatic at the fact that Canada won the gold medal. But why does it matter to Canadians that we are the best at hockey? It is extremely important to most Canadians that Canada is the best at hockey because hockey is arguably a sport that reflects the heart and unity of our nation at a deep cultural root. Hockey is Canadian culture, and to be the best country at hockey in the world is Canada’s pride.

Now, you probably didn’t know this, but Redeemer also has a hockey team. Not only do we have a team, but we are very good team too. Based on statistics, we might be Redeemer’s best athletic team. In the last four years, the Redeemer men’s hockey has won the Hamilton Christian hockey league two years in a row, won over five OCAA tournaments, won the most sportsmanlike team four times, defeated innumerable university and college teams including Fanshawe, McMaster, Laurier, Bishop’s, and Humber, and defeated American Division 3 hockey programs like Aquinas University and Calvin College.

Furthermore, this year might be Redeemer’s best team we have ever had. We are the champions and are undefeated, winning five straight in the Conestoga Challenge Tournament. We defeated Fanshawe 3-0 earlier in the year, handing them over their first loss in two years. We have several

talented hockey players on the team.

So, what’s the point? The point is that for some reason Redeemer doesn’t seem to “buy in” to hockey in the way the rest of Canada does. Redeemer sees volleyball as a big deal, basketball gets good funding, soccer gets some recognition, badminton gets some scraps, whereas the Redeemer hockey team goes largely unnoticed—despite the talent we consistently put on the ice. I just want to ask why? Why is the school so willing to get behind and support/fund sports like volleyball and basketball over and above hockey? These sports are good, but arguably do not come close to the cultural value and overall “betterness” that hockey provides.

Disagree? Well, go ask any Canadian across the country which sport is better and more important, hockey or volleyball, and you will get your answer. They might like volleyball more in Holland, but this is Canada and not Holland! Who cares? I am intentionally ripping on the other sports teams. I have great friends and family on most of the teams, and I enjoy watching. But it has always seemed strange to me as a proud Canadian that these sports are so well funded and enjoyed in comparison to our national sport. Volleyball and basketball are not Canadian sports in the same way that hockey is.

Our school’s dismissal of hockey has always given me a sense of disappointment and confusion right from the beginning. In my opinion, hockey was the most important, not to mention the best, sport by default just because of hockey’s cultural and historical significance. I grew up playing road hockey every day after school, playing mini-sticks at recess, playing NHL on the Xbox, and watching Don Cherry’s Rock’em videos hour after hour. Everybody

I knew did the same because hockey is Canada’s game and source of pride. I know Redeemer is a school that has a lot of Dutch pride, and maybe that is why we seem to like volleyball and basketball more than hockey. But I am more proud to be a Canadian than I am to be Dutch, therefore I am a hockey fan over and above anything else. Volleyball is a good sport, and so is basketball, but I think if you’re a true Canadian and proud to be Canadian you are obligated to love and support hockey over and above these other games. It is frustrating that our school doesn’t seem to support hockey because our team is very good this year, maybe the best hockey team Redeemer has ever seen, but no one even knows because there is little to no opportunity for the Redeemer community to come watch.

Thankfully, some Redeemer students—and many faculty members—actually like hockey and wish they could come watch more often. But they won’t be able to because we play during school hours, and we cannot afford games against very willing teams like McMaster and Mohawk because the Redeemer men’s volleyball team needs to fly to Seattle. The men’s team used to play every Friday night and it was sweet. It was the thing to do Friday night. But then the school dropped the team out of the league because of funding.

I just wanted to ask the Redeemer community the following questions: where has the passion for hockey gone? Why is there no support for arguably Redeemer’s best team? Why no funding and few chances for the students to come and watch? Why do we love non-Canadian sports more than Canada’s game? Aren’t we Canadian? Come out to watch the men’s hockey team play and you’ll see how much the school has been missing out for too long.



Kurvits Captures First Gold Medal in Royals Badminton History

PETER REID

It was a day to remember at the 2013-2014 OCAA Provincial Championships hosted by Humber College. Redeemer University College had a historic day capturing their first OCAA Provincial Gold medal in varsity badminton.

Men’s Singles player Owen Kurvits (Hamilton, ON) defeated Humber’s Ryan Chow 2-1 in the final to secure Redeemer’s 4th Gold medal in school history.

Kurvits cruised through the round robin with a 5-0 record, finishing in 1st place in his pool. After defeating Yu (Centennial) 2-0 in the semi finals, Kurvits matched up

against the OCAA Player of the Year, Ryan Chow.

Owen Kurvits had defeated Chow once earlier in the season at the Fanshawe Invitational but Chow came out on top at the recent OCAA Regional Championships.

It was Redeemer’s time to shine however as Kurvits played with control the entire match, defeating Chow 2-1 (15-21, 21-15, 21-12).

With the trip to the Gold medal match Kurvits now will have the opportunity to represent Redeemer at the CCAA National Badminton Championships taking place in two weeks in Alberta. This is the first time

that Redeemer has qualified for the National Championships in Badminton.

The Royals added to their medal total with a bronze in mixed doubles as well. The pairing of Robyn Bennett and Dan Vanden Boogaard defeated Centennial in the bronze medal match to claim Redeemer first ever Mixed Doubles medal.

Bennett and Vanden Boogaard finished the round robin with a 3-2 record and in 3rd place. They faced off against Georgian College in the semi finals but failed to advance to the finals.

In the bronze medal match, Redeemer defeated Centennial 21-18 and 21-19.

Earlier in the day, Redeemer’s Head Coach Benno Kurvits was named the OCAA Coach of the Year, another first for Redeemer in Badminton. Coach Kurvits will also be nominated for the CCAA National Coach of the Year award as well.

Kurvits led Redeemer to it’s best season ever in varsity badminton, qualifying 4 individuals for the Provincial Championships and grabbing a #7 National Ranking. With 2 OCAA Provincial medals and a National Championship qualification, Kurvits has proven his team can compete with the best in Canada.

SPIRITUALITY

Whose Final Lap?



SYD HIELEMA

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth (Isaiah 42: 1-4a).

In my high school days I ran a few 400 meter races. I remember our coach telling us that it was one of the weirdest track events because it combined elements of sprinting and of long distance into one race.

I find the school year can be somewhat like that: an 8 month long-distance sprint. And just like the 400 meters requires circling the track four times, today – Feb. 24 – we are beginning the fourth lap of the SEPT-APRIL school year, with half a semester to go.

Living life as if it is a 400 meter race does not

work very well. When we live this way:

- We always feel rushed.
- We do not feel as if we can take unplanned “side-trips” but must only stay within the boundaries of the track.
- We are so focused on the finish line, that the people that we are on the track with are not so much “flesh-and-blood human beings to get to know” as they are fellow-racers.
- The scenery around the track can’t be given the time to be what it is: a combination of the beauty of God’s world and the brokenness of sin in the midst of which we find our calling.

Running life like a 400 meter race diminishes us, others, God and his world. There’s another way to look at this final fourth of the academic year. Almost all of this quarter is filled with the season of Lent, the 40 days from Ash Wednesday (March 5) to the glorious climax on Easter Sunday (April 20). Lent navigates the final lap of Jesus’ ministry on the way to the cross and the open tomb. In the verses above, Isaiah describes what this final lap looks like:

- This race is driven by the Holy Spirit, not the finish line.
- It does not call attention to itself; it quietly and gently follows the Spirit’s leading.
- The racer is able to go slowly enough to notice the bruised reeds and smoldering wicks – the ones who are struggling and lost – and is able to STOP and care for them.
- The racers are fully aware of how broken life is, but do not become discouraged or burned out; they persevere, pursuing justice and mercy in all they do.

Do you experience the tension between these two types of final laps inside your own heart? Every morning I need to pray, “Lord, grant me the grace and courage to run YOUR race and not mine. Guide my feet on the LENTEN path.” The chaplains’ office will be providing our community with many encouragements to live out this prayer for the remainder of the school year. Stay tuned....



The Last Days According to Christ

MICHAEL EMMANUEL

Last month I wrote an article on the importance and relevance of eschatology, promoting specifically the postmillennial view of God’s plan for victory. Now I want to begin flushing out some of the reasons why I believe postmillennialism is the biblical view, hopefully answering some of the most common objections along the way.

Dr. R.C. Sproul, the acclaimed American theologian, often jokes that the most important job of the theologian is to make distinctions. Nothing could be truer when it comes to eschatology. Often people throw around the terms “the last days” and “the end times” as if they were speaking about the same thing. However, there is an importance biblical difference. Strictly speaking, eschatology is the study of the end times, not “the last days”. But, because our understanding of the former is so important for the latter, they are invariably tied together.

Are we are living in the last days? From my own experience, most people seem to believe that we are. Although the New Testament speaks of the last days occurring shortly after the books were written (Mk.13:30, Lk.21:31,32, Rev. 22:7,20), many Christians spiritualize the timeframe references to make sense of them today. Obviously, goes the argument, Jesus did not return right away, and so as a day is to the Lord as a thousand years, so “coming quickly” is to Christ. But is this correct? Is it sound Biblical exposition?

The only way to properly understand the New Testament is to understand the Old. I know that’s a radical idea today, but Christ informs us that the Law and the Prophets are enough (Lk. 16:29), and Paul argues from the Old to show Jesus is the Christ before the New was written (Acts 17:1-4). Turning to the book of Deuteronomy, we

find Israel hearing Moses’ final instructions before they enter the Promised Land. There God warns Israel saying, “If you by any means forget the Lord your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroys before you, so you shall perish, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the Lord your God.”(Deut. 8:19,20)

Nevertheless, unrepentant Israel chooses not to remember the Lord, and suffers the consequences. God sends judgment on Israel in the form of Assyria, Babylon, Chaldea, and Persia, ending with the Babylonian captivity – or so the usual narrative is told. Even though God did follow through on his promise to punish disobedient Israel, God’s final judgment hadn’t come with the captivity. In fact it is during the captivity that God sends Daniel a prophecy of that final judgment Israel would receive. You’ve probably heard of the Abomination of Desolation.

Daniel 12: 1 reads. “And there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation”. “Nation” here refers to Israel, otherwise the word becomes near impossible to decipher. Then in verse 7 we find, “And when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.” Again, “the holy people” obviously refers to God’s holy nation, Israel. We can conclude that Daniel is prophesying a judgment upon the people of Israel unlike any before that would only end when their power had been extinguished.

Jumping to Matthew 24, Jesus references this passage while explaining to the disciples the signs of the end of the age. So it’s clear that the end of the age and the abomination of desolation are simultaneous events. So when would the end of the age occur? Well from the textual evidence in Matthew 24, Jesus is explaining the “signs of the time” in response to the disciples question, “Tell us, when will these

things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” (Matt 24:3) Thus, Christ’s coming, the end of the age, and the abomination of desolation all occur together. The obvious question: what were “these things” that the disciples asked Christ about?

“Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, ‘Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.’”(Matt 24:1,2) So the destruction of the temple, which was the greatest judgment Israel ever received, ending with them losing their power (i.e. God’s presence in Jerusalem) coincided with Christ’s coming, the end of the age, and the abomination of desolation? Sounds odd, doesn’t it? If only some textual timeframe reference could help verify this.

Luckily there’s verse 34. “Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.” The temple was destroyed in 70AD, Jesus’ ministry was in 30AD, and a biblical generation lasts 40 years. What a coincidence!

Still, how do we understand Jesus’ coming in this light? And how does this relate to “the last days”? Again, I’m running out of room and can’t conclusively make the connections. However, I’ll note how often the Lord’s coming in the OT refers to him coming in judgment like Israel received in 70AD – think “Day of the Lord”. And when we see the judgment being the “End of the Age” it’s not hard to see how the 40 years leading up to it could be called “the Last Days”, in other words, the last days leading up to the end of the age. So what age ended? I’ll end with this thought. The age of the Old covenant was over; the age of the New had begun.



What Caused the Cosmological Argument?

MICHAEL EMMANUEL

One of the most common arguments used by Christian apologists in defense of the existence of God is the cosmological argument. Plainly put, the argument attempts to show how the origin of the universe can only be found in God. A simplified version of the argument, as formulated by apologist William Lane Craig is as follows:

- Everything that begins to exist has a cause
 - The universe began to exist
 - Therefore, the universe has a cause, and that cause was God
- The obvious question is what caused God? The answer: God didn't begin to exist.

The argument assumes the existence of two different types of beings, contingent beings and necessary beings (sometimes called a sufficient being). A contingent being is anything which was caused to exist and depends on something else for its existence. Essentially, everything in the known universe is contingent – rocks, mountains, lakes, grass, buildings, cars, sidewalks, Tim Horton's, and the list could go on – since it was all caused to exist and depends on external sources for its existence. A necessary being is a being which was uncaused and is independent of anything else for its existence. The only known necessary being is God.

The universe requires a necessary being to exist since without it there would only be an infinite regress of contingent causes. In other words, the universe would be beginningless. A beginningless universe doesn't make logical sense, apologists usually argue, nor does it answer the question of the universe's origin. Why can't the universe be beginningless? William Lane Craig points out that if it was, that is, if there was an infinite regress of contingent causes,

that would mean an actual infinite existed. But, according to Craig, an actual infinite is impossible. This is because if an actual infinite amount of things existed, we would run into paradoxes. For example, if there was a hotel with an infinite amount of rooms, filled with an infinite amount of guests, what would happen if another guest arrived? Simultaneously, this new guest would be fit into one of the infinite number of rooms while this guest would be turned down since an infinite number of guests already filled up the hotel.

For the sake of simplicity, that is the cosmological argument and its defense. But does the argument hold up? Many atheists, agnostics, skeptics, and even some Christians say it doesn't.

The argument falls prey to the fallacy of composition. This is where the properties of something's parts are assumed to reflect the properties of the whole. For example, though an individual brick can easily be lifted it would be erroneous to conclude a brick house could easily be lifted. Similarly, just because the universe is made up of contingent things, it is unjustifiable to assume the universe itself is contingent. Perhaps the universe itself is a necessary being. How would one go about proving the universe is contingent - that it began to exist - anyways? For that matter, how would one prove that everything in the universe is contingent? Simply because we've only experienced contingent things in this universe is no reason to conclude that therefore only contingent things must exist in this universe. Only philosophical prejudice would argue such. There is always the chance that somewhere in the universe, at some time, when we weren't looking, something necessary existed that wasn't God or the cause of the universe. The likelihood is irrelevant. The point is, you cannot know only contingent things exist in the universe from experience.

This leads us to the crux of the issue for the Christian apologist attempting to use the cosmological argument. If the argument is based on experience of a temporal universe, where only contingent things exist, how can the argument point to things beyond the temporal universe? For the naturalistic atheist, it cannot, because they've assumed only the material world exists. For the atheist who accepts the argument, it can only prove the existence of a primary being within the temporal world, not God. Thus, in terms of convincing the atheist, the argument is useless. Meanwhile, the Christian who uses the argument has already assumed that a non-temporal world exists which can be reached. Thus, they had already assumed what they set out to prove. This is begging the question.

Christians should stop using the cosmological argument to defend the faith. Its philosophical weakness makes a mockery of the certainty Christianity provides (Prov.22:21, Lk.1:4). Contrary to Scripture's demands to silence the fool (Ps.31:18, 1 Pet.2:15) it makes Christianity a laughingstock because it is intellectually unfeasible. Furthermore, it will not convince the committed secularist, even if they accept the argument. Finally, even if we do manage to convince someone using the argument, we are morally liable for using a fallacious argument to reason for God's existence, just as we would be liable for using false reasoning to sentence a guilty criminal. We have to use right reasons, sound arguments, and Biblical methods to bring people to Christ. Christians must search for alternative methods to defend the faith. I suggest the Bible. For, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God," (Romans 10) not cosmological argumentation. Whatever caused the cosmological argument in the first place?

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The healing continues.**

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What are Personal Credits? Personal Credits may be used for a wide range of educational programs and services, including those provided by universities, colleges, trade or training schools, Indigenous Institutions of Higher Learning, or which relate to literacy or trades, as well as programs and services related to Aboriginal identities, histories, cultures or languages.

How much are Personal Credits? Adequate funds are available for each CEP recipient to receive up to \$3,000 in Personal Credits, depending on your approved educational expenses.

Which educational entities and groups are included? A list of approved educational entities and groups has been jointly developed by Canada, the Assembly of First Nations and Inuit representatives. If an educational entity or group is not on the list, please consult the website for more information.

Will I receive a cheque? No. Cheques will be issued directly to the educational entity or group providing the service.

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How can I get Personal Credits? Each CEP recipient will be mailed an Acknowledgement Form. If you do not receive an Acknowledgement Form by the end of January 2014, please call 1-866-343-1858. Completed Acknowledgement Forms should be returned as soon as possible and must be postmarked no later than **October 31, 2014**.

How do I redeem my Personal Credits? Once approved, you will be sent a personalized Redemption Form for each individual using Personal Credits at each educational entity or group. Once the Form is received,

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For more information, including how Personal Credits can be redeemed by certain family members of CEP recipients that are deceased, visit www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca or call 1-866-343-1858.

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- Spouses
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- Siblings