

The Donut Monster is a Kind One

A Crummy Weekend meets a Compassionate Response



Pictures provided by Donut Monster

JOSHUA VOTH
MANAGING EDITOR

On the evening of Saturday, March 3rd, a mob dressed in black walks down Locke Street. They vandalize vehicles lining the street and businesses too, throwing rocks at storefront windows. A woman driving down Locke Street is so fearful she has to stop driving.

This group of anarchist mobsters, walking incognito and wreaking havoc down Hamilton’s Locke Street and Aberdeen Avenue, calls themselves “The Ungovernables.”

One of the storefronts to receive a rock through its window was Donut Monster, a gourmet donut shop which opened its doors earlier this year. The business experienced setbacks regarding the launch date of its new store, but with hard work and dedication they had finally made it — only to have their business trashed just two months after opening. The owners of the small business, Reuben and Heidi Vanderkwaak, had just returned from a much-deserved vacation, and we can only assume this is not what they expected or wanted to come back to.

Many Hamiltonians are upset and angry at such an act of terror and violence. Small business owners work hard to make their livings, and the cost of damage for this destructive violence has been estimated at around \$100,000, a steep price.

Although Saturday night had Locke Street full of fear and panic, Sunday was quite a different story. Many residents of Locke Street as well as those living in the Hamilton region came out to show love and support. Pedestrians walking the streets left notes of love and support on the sheets of plywood put up in the broken windows of Donut Monster.

The damage done Saturday night did not keep the public away, and customers were greeted with a very shocking move made by Donut Monster. Serving a variety of different donuts every single day to its customers, Donut Monster had taken the famous “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade” aphorism to heart, creating a beautiful, delicious, and humorous new donut as a response to the angry and violent acts of the night before.

An official tweet from Donut Monster reads, “When life

gives you lemons, try our ‘Make Lemonade’ donut! This donut has a lemonade glaze and glass-like shards of lemon candy by @sweetandsimpleco AND all of the proceeds will be donated to @IndwellCA in support of affordable housing initiatives!” Without batting a single eyelash, Donut Monster had turned this evil into good.

When Reuben Vanderkwaak, owner of Donut Monster, was asked about this message of positivity and love, he responded saying, “We wanted to stay positive with our reaction, and I think that helped other people stay positive with their reaction.”

It’s responses like these that show Christ’s love and His gospel of care and compassion. Opportunities to practice this love are always just around the corner, as demonstrated by the owners and staff of Donut Monster in response to the ugly events of vandalism of which they were a target.

From its humble beginnings at The Kitchen Collective, a non-profit shared, commercial kitchen cooperative, Donut Monster quickly began to outgrow its production space and needed a larger place from which to make and sell its wonderful donuts. With plans to upscale, the Donut Monster team took to the world wide web, raising money through a crowd-funding campaign website called Kickstarter. They aimed at raising \$25,000 in order to get the funding to acquire their own building. The Kickstarter page read, “We’ve grown too big for our current britches and we want to make our donuts a little easier to find — and it is now time to do just that!”

Donut Monster eventually raised an astounding \$32,086 through their Kickstarter campaign, backed by more than seven hundred people. Although some setbacks were encountered as the team renovated their newly acquired space, pushing back the originally intended opening date, the day finally came when they could open their doors and flood Locke Street with the delicious scent of fresh donuts. With a space of their own, Donut Monster is now open seven days a week and is able to provide donuts to all of their customers. Donut Monster makes it a priority to source local ingredients, use fresh fruits when in season, and have vegan-friendly products available.

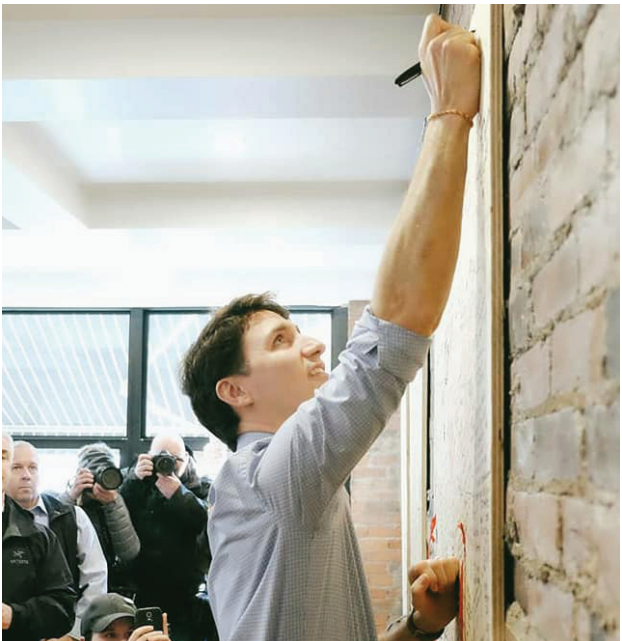


Donut Monster

@DonutMonster

Follow

🍋🍋 When life gives you lemons, try our 'Make Lemonade' donut! 🍋🍋 This donut has a lemonade glaze and glass-like shards of lemon candy by @sweetandsimpleco AND all of the proceeds will be donated to @IndwellCA in support of affordable housing initiatives! [indwell.ca](#)





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Letter from the Editor

Welcome to the beginning of springtime—and crunch-time!

This part of the semester is tricky, isn’t it? We’re eyeing the last few bullets on our syllabi, and the first few bullets of our summer job applications.

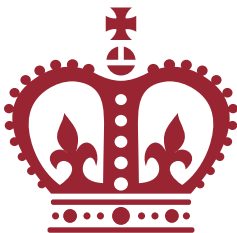
We’re trying to be present and expectant at the same time. God can help us through this; He’s eager to.

Included is a visual reminder we encourage you to cut out and stick where you can see and remember it.

It’s from the great commission of Matthew 28, after Jesus is risen from the dead and standing before his disciples again on a mountain in Galilee:

“And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. **And surely, I am with you always, to the end of the age.**”

(Matthew 28:17-20)

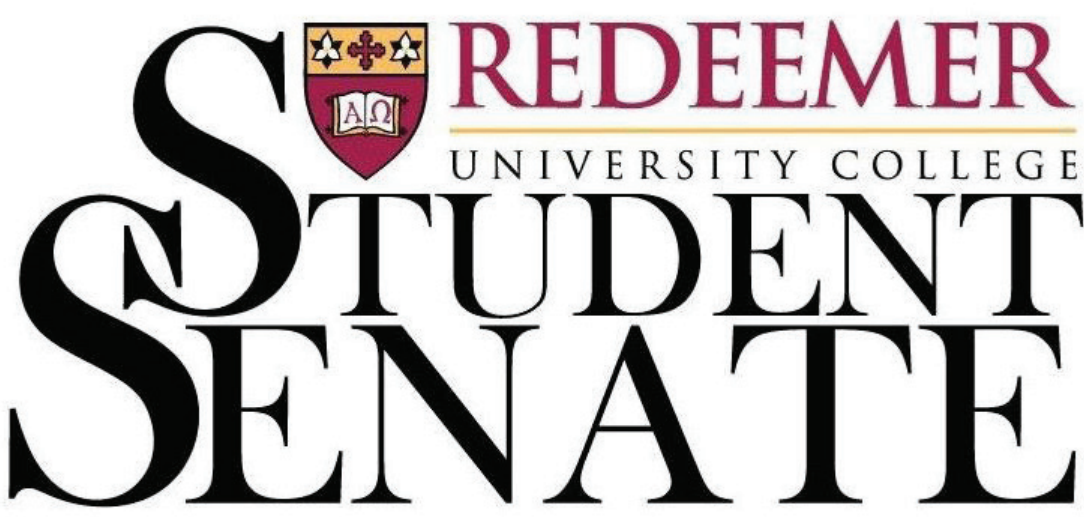


The Crown is Redeemer University’s campus newspaper, published monthly. As a platform for the student voice, it provides space for questions, insight, challenges and discoveries concerning our school, city, and world – all in relation to our real and growing faith in Jesus.

The opinions expressed in the *Crown* are not necessarily those of Redeemer University College’s student body, faculty, or administration. The *Crown* is published by students seven times per academic year and is funded by the students of Redeemer University College as well as by advertising, but is dedicated to the broader college community.

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We're Hiring!



JOSH HAUTALA
CLUBS COORDINATOR

Hello everyone! While I'm afraid my writing style is neither as flamboyant nor as exiting as that of our illustrious Vice President of Student Affairs, I believe you will be interested with what I have to say about Student Senate's available staff positions. After all, who doesn't want to make money with the added benefit of gaining life-long skills and real-world work experience in fields that interest you? Further, these positions will better allow you to integrate yourself in the Redeemer community, expanding one's social life and gaining not only colleagues, but friends. Working with Senate will allow you to leave an impact on our shared community in a way that reflects Christ's calling.

Many of these open staff positions and/or overarching teams have recently seen existing and new changes made to them. In some cases, we have seen fit to create entirely new positions to better fulfill and compliment the changing requirements of our Student Senate Clubs. For example, I encourage you all to look at the new Digital Manager position for the Crown: an exciting (and well paid) position dedicated to expanding the Crown's reach and influence into the broader community outside of Redeemer. A wonderful addition to your resume, no? Next, who can apply? The rules state that you need to be a full-time student of Redeemer for the 2018-2019 school year with a GPA of 6.0 or above. However, exceptions can be made on a case by case basis upon the discretion of the Clubs Coordinator (for example, Senate could work around a student holding a part-time course load for medical reasons). Further, each job application will provide a detailed list of all the position's duties and recommended/mandatory experience.

Now then, let's also talk about money. As you may be aware, Student Senate has approved a raise of three dollars per course for Redeemer's Student Fee. This increase in funding will be used to not only better fund student clubs and activities (say an electric bull at

next year's Harvest Hoedown), but will also allow for an increase in Student Senate staff honorariums. This will not only better reflect the time commitment and dedication these positions require, but will take into account the provincial increase to minimum wage (and the reality that most wages for Senate positions have not been touched since their inception). As of the writing of this article, I cannot say just how large these raises will be, but I can confidently say that they will be respectful of each position.

Okay, let's get to the whole point of this article, eh? How do you apply to work for Student Senate? Just how complicated is it? Well, I'm happy you asked! Over the course of this semester, I have worked to streamline and digitize the hiring process. Simply go to the link listed in Timeout, or use the QR codes on the Senate Hiring posters and fill in the Google surveys of the desired position(s). After this, in conjunction with the relevant club head, I will review all applications and proceed to interview the top two candidates for each position. Note that the official hiring window closes March 28th; however, any unfilled staff positions will remain open after this date. At this time, an updated Timeout message listing the remaining positions will be sent out. Finally, thank you all for reading. I would like to end by also thanking the editors of the Crown, Yearbook, and Quest, as well as the Photography Team and First Year Senator Tyler Kuepfer for all the assistance they have provided me throughout the creation of the new hiring process, positions, and updated job descriptions.

Sincerely,

Joshua Hautala,
Clubs Coordinator
(A.K.A. Student Senate Overlord)

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Seeing Things *As it is in Heaven* The Show is On!

EMMA ROORDA
REPORTER

As It Is in Heaven, the winter semester mainstage play, is now in full swing. Its unique storyline covers deep religious and cultural community insight into a historical Shaker Village. Actors Corrine Bloomfield, Jenna De Boer, Diana Bronsema agreed to share their thoughts regarding the nuances of the play, as well as their personal experiences representing their individual characters.

What is unique about *As it is in Heaven*?

Corrine: I think the uniqueness of the play is that it focuses on women and their community, how they function as a group.

Jenna: I think one of the main things that’s unique about *As It Is In Heaven* is not only the subject matter, but the people it uses to tell the story. It focuses on a group of nine women who live in a very close knit religious community which makes for some interesting relationships on stage.

Diana: *As It Is In Heaven* is a unique show, really drawing on personal struggles and giving a peek into something that not only Shakers experienced: religious turmoil, excitement, awakening, and struggles that we tend not to show the outside world very readily.

What excites you about the role you play?

Corrine: I’m excited to bring to the play a youthful love and

innocence as my character is the youngest in the play. She’s amazingly fun and hard to play at the same time; she brings some happiness and laughs as well as tears, so she’s a very well-rounded character.

Jenna: Fanny is such an interesting character because she’s one of the younger girls who’s new to the community, and she starts to see angels, which undoubtedly throws off the entire community. It’s fun to work with such a spiritual character and to challenge myself spiritually by playing her. It’s definitely got me thinking about my own faith walk.

Diana: I’m excited to play the role of Sister Betsy because she has so many different facets of personality. It really requires me to explore a range of emotions and temperaments. She is also an older woman, so it requires of me to embody different movements and ways of walking that a character my age wouldn’t make me do. She also can be the bit of “comedy relief,” for lack of better wording, because she’s the peacemaker and really just wants everyone to be content with their life and their relationships with the others.

What should viewers expect? And what do you hope they experience?

Corrine: I think audience members are going to go through the faith experience that the characters go through. They will hopefully look deeper at their faith and see this experience as a way of remembering that sometimes we see and experience things we can’t explain, we just have to continue having faith.

Jenna: I think viewers should expect to walk out at the end of the show thinking a little more carefully about religion and these religious experiences. And to appreciate who the Shakers were and what religion meant to them. I sincerely hope they are challenged, moved, and inspired by what they see on stage.

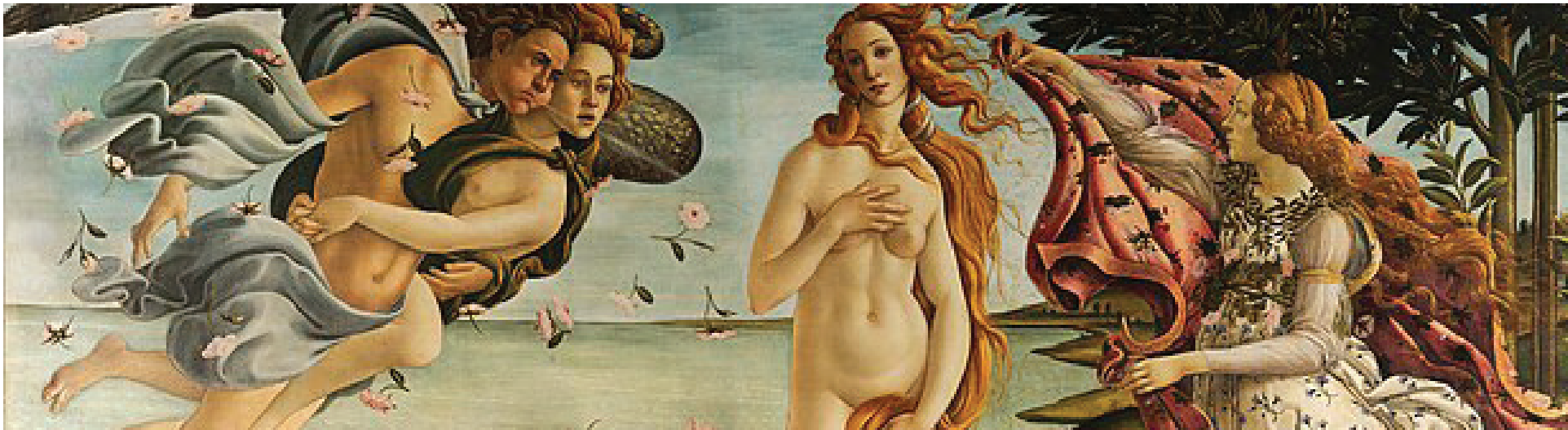
Diana: Viewers should expect a feeling of being drawn in — even though we are presenting this as a play on a stage, this does not mean we always have a “fourth wall” up. We want audience members to feel like they are experiencing this world — the ups and downs, the excitement and tension — while these characters are experiencing it. I really hope that audiences will feel the characters and what they are going through. I also hope that they may see their own faith life reflected in one or multiple characters and walk away thinking more deeply about their relationship with God, their church, and their community.

Don’t miss out on the chance to see this show at one of the following remaining showtimes (shows take place in Redeemer’s own auditorium):

Thursday, March 22, 2018 — 11:30 AM
Friday, March 23, 2018 — 7:30 PM
Saturday, March 24, 2018 — 7:30 PM

Tickets can be purchased online at tickets.redeemer.ca or in person at Redeemer’s box office. Tickets are \$14.50 regular admission, \$12.50 for students and seniors, or \$5 for Redeemer students when a student card is shown.

Get Ready for More Nudes Senior Art Exhibition 2018



BETHANY BOVILLE

Birth of Venus by Botticelli

The past year has seen the arrival of several controversial art pieces hung in the hallways of Redeemer, and it’s about to see eight more. Maggie DeBruyn’s senior exhibition, opening April 7th, will feature eight life-sized female nudes. Inspiration for her show came from Botticelli’s *Birth of Venus*, a famous painting featuring Venus, the goddess of love, emerging from the sea foam on an oyster with her golden hair draped around her.

DeBruyn first came up with the idea in her second year at Redeemer. She got the approval from her professor, but admitted that she was a little bit reluctant to go through with it, especially after a painting was censored in the fall semester.

“After what happened with Andrea’s painting, do I even bother? Are they going to make me take it down?” DeBruyn questioned. “So I was a bit reluctant to actually go through with doing this, but I am,” she added. “I think that Redeemer kinda needs it.”

In an interview, DeBruyn talked about how Venus has been depicted differently throughout history and in ways that would not match today’s conventional standards of beauty. When asked why she decided to draw nudes specifically for her show, DeBruyn said, “Venus is typically portrayed nude, and I think there is something kind of special about, like, this is my naked body and I’m okay with it.

“It’s a hard thing to do, but it’s also kind of a cool point to get to. And I think that we need to talk about healthy ways to appreciate our bodies and actually have those discussions, instead of just being like, ‘Oh no, she’s naked, can’t look at that.’ I feel like there needs to be a bit more conversation surrounding it.”

As a fourth-year art student, DeBruyn is no stranger to the controversy of nudes being displayed at Redeemer. In January 2018, she published an article in the Crown titled “Send Nudes... Or Just Take a Walk Through the Art Rooms” following the censorship of an artwork the previous semester.

In her article she addresses some common arguments about why nudity is inappropriate for Redeemer and makes an argument for why artworks depicting nudes are important. One part in particular discusses how nude female figures, specifically, portray a positive image of the female body which goes against the hyper-sexualized images of women in different media. This is something that DeBruyn’s work also accomplishes by empowering women in their own bodies, rather than endorsing the airbrushed ideal depicted in women’s magazines.

Redeemer has seen nudes before, but never on this scale. DeBruyn’s drawings are life-size and done in charcoal. I have had the privilege to see her drawings in progress over

the past two months, and they are not artworks that can be dismissed. They demand to be looked at and for the viewer to engage with them — not in an aggressive way, but a human way.

When asked what her goals were for the show and what she wanted people to take away from her artwork, DeBruyn said, “I think it’s inevitable that people will come away with questions, and not everyone will appreciate it which is fine. “I think it’s more so for women to start that conversation and just...have a new appreciation for their own bodies and to have people coming away thinking about that more so than ‘they’re nudes on the walls of Redeemer’ — to just actually think about how that applies to them. And if they’re uncomfortable with it, to think about why they are uncomfortable with it or what makes them uncomfortable, rather than just not dealing with it.”

This opens an important series of questions about being an active viewer and not simply allowing first impressions or biases to cloud the interpretation of the work.

The Senior Exhibition will open on April 7th, and DeBruyn’s drawings will be on display alongside the other senior students. In the evening, the artists will be present to give a short statement about their work. May it be the start of further conversation.

Do You Have a Love Story — About Books?

An Interactive Library Display

TRICIA KOK
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Librarians have stories to tell about how they developed their love for books. We also regularly hear love stories from library users. Whether their love began in a library, school, or at home — and whether they began reading for escape, comfort, delight, or from pure boredom — the stories are fun to hear.

In literature, one of my favourite quotes comes from Holden Caulfield in *Catcher in the Rye*: “What really knocks me out is a book that, when you’re all done reading it, you wish the author that wrote it was a terrific friend of yours and you could call him up on the phone whenever you felt like it.” During our lives, we all encounter authors and books that we not only enjoy, but that have formative influences on our lives by what they have said, suggested, or helped us imagine. For example, Philip Yancey writes in the *Washington Post*, “Books help define who I am. They have ushered me on a journey of faith, have introduced me to the wonders of science and the natural world, have informed me about issues such as justice and race. More importantly, they have been a source of delight and adventure and beauty, opening windows to a reality I would not otherwise know.”

During my high school years, this defining book was *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis. My family made a life-changing

move from Japan to New Jersey during this time. As an introvert and third-culture kid trying to figure out western high school culture, I frequently felt like I had landed on another planet. During this time, *Mere Christianity* was required reading for my catechism class, and one paragraph in particular stood out for me: “The real problem of the Christian life comes where people do not usually look for it. All your wishes and hopes for the day rush at you like wild animals. And the first job each morning consists simply in shoving them all back...letting that other larger, stronger, quieter life come flowing in.” C.S. Lewis’ words helped me during a difficult time, and have stayed with me all my life.

In an age when the dangerously strong pull of the internet may keep us from picking up a book, we want to remind everyone about the importance of reading. The Peter Turkstra Library has created a display, and we are eager to hear your stories. What books (besides the Bible) have been formative in your life? Whether it’s *Green Eggs and Ham*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Frankenstein*, or *Augustine’s Confessions*, we would love to hear from you. Please take a few minutes, stop by the library, and fill out a slip of paper with your favourite book titles. Adding a few sentences about how the book impacted your life would be even better!



Recognizing Religions

Debriefing our Journey Through Other Faiths

EMMA ROORDA
REPORTER

If you have kept up with the “Recognizing Religions” column in the *Crown* each month, you may be familiar with the following four excerpts published over the course of this last school year:

“The seven main Baha’i temples act as beautifully designed gathering places for Baha’i worshippers, although people who live in accordance to the Baha’i religion will also often meet for worship and communal prayer in a member’s home.” (Bahaism)

“Much of Jewish faith is centred on the idea of peace. Jews believe that they are God’s chosen people; therefore, they are ordered to strictly uphold the Jewish law and to promote both peace and restoration across the earth.” (Judaism)

“Confucianism seems to intrigue Asians and non-Asians alike because it speaks highly of living a life of good morals, as well as learning to value others and oneself — all concepts most human beings are intrinsically drawn to.” (Confucianism)

“The holy texts such as the Quran are Allah’s guidelines for humanity. Most of these divine rules are centred on respect for family and relationships, as well as strict instructions regarding the prohibition of bad habits such as intoxication.” (Islam)

Bahaism, Judaism, Confucianism, and Islam. All contain religious truths by which people live their lives. But why do we, as Christians, set ourselves apart from those religions? What is it about the Christian religion that separates us from the other belief systems that I have included in this column over the course of this academic school year?

At the beginning of each article, I’ve specified that it is crucial for those who label themselves as Christians to understand and learn about other religious faiths in our world. You might have noticed that I chose not to write a reflective Christian response following each submission.

Consequently, you may be anticipating that this final “Recognizing Religions” piece is a way for me to attempt to give you all the direct answers to the question of why we, as followers of Christ, try not to be tempted by other forms of religious worship. Yet, my aim in bringing this column to a close is actually not to tell you exactly why the Christian faith is the only particular and true religion. Many people have already done this, including C.S. Lewis. They’re called apologists, and you can read them for yourself if you’d like. Instead, what I thought might be best is to speak about the confidence of knowing: assurance.

Certainty in God (as Christians know Him) and the confidence to allow Him to have total control of your life while not worshipping any other idol is a journey travelled over a long stretch of one’s life. Although loving Jesus means living in community with other Christians, your relationship with Christ is something so personal and so intensely deep that no other human being can fully

rationalize you toward giving your life to Christ. That is the work of the Spirit of God who chose you even before you were conceived, and your personal journey alongside your Creator has been shaping you ever since.

God brought us into the family of Christ, and therefore we can study other worldviews while being personally comfortable in knowing that our God reigns. Recognition of our own love for our Almighty Father, as well as the recognition that He loved us first, causes each of us to understand more and more confidently as we mature that we are a chosen people — chosen to confidently belong and chosen to confidently serve. Assurance!

Finally, an important aspect of each of our journeys in the Christian faith needs to include helping others discover that they too can have a personal relationship with Christ. Like I said, no human person can force true Christianity upon someone else. However, recognizing the religion of another person creates a greater possibility to help them recognize truth in Christ. I encourage all of you to read over a few of the “Recognizing Religions” articles published in earlier issues and think deeply about world religions such as Islam and Bahaism. This will not only help you recognize your own identity in God — the God who lovingly adopted you into His family — but by thinking about other faiths, you will hopefully also be led to reflection on the importance of sharing the work that God has done in your life alongside people from all religious faiths.



Colour Your WORD

A Peek into the Synesthetic Brain



EMMA ROORDA
REPORTER

Most worship music enthusiasts will recall the title Synesthesia from an instrumental 2015 Bethel album, but I would venture to guess that not many know the beautiful weight that the word “synesthesia” actually carries. Neither did third-year student Johanna Wolfert — that is until she curiously researched its definition and realized that her unique mind has rare synesthetic colour graphing capabilities.

Synesthesia literally means a mixing of the senses. Some might mistakenly call it a sixth sense, but in actuality, it’s an added dimension to the abilities of a certain human sense. Colour Synesthesia involves the brain having the power to associate music, letters, numbers, or words with certain shades of colour. Estimates show that around 1 in every 2000 humans share the synesthetic condition.

“I realized I had Synesthesia when I was reading a book about a character who had it,” Wolfert quotes. “The character kept saying that 3 was yellow, and I thought, ‘3 is NOT yellow, 3 is definitely green!’” This caused Wolfert to dive into further research on the subject, and she soon discovered that she is among the population of brilliant people who possess a synesthetic mind.

Wolfert’s type of Synesthesia, colour-graphing, means that every letter of the alphabet, every numeric digit, some days of the week, and a few months of the year have an involuntary psychological association with a specific colour. She has no trouble explaining that “the letter A is white, the number 2 is red, 3 is green, and 4 is blue.”

Wolfert went on to explain some everyday implications of her condition: “Sometimes, I’ll be struck by a number and think, wow, that’s a really ugly number! I hate the colour five. Or sometimes, I’ll meet someone and say, ‘You have a very red name!’”

Every numeric and alphabetic colour is intrinsically stored in Johanna’s amazing mind. Her self-created synesthetic colour scheme comes so naturally to her that, prior to discovering what it meant to have Synesthesia,

she simply assumed that every human being also matched their letters and numbers with colours. Upon realizing the rarity of her psychological tendencies, she created an alphabet showing the hues which she automatically associates with each letter.

Johanna doesn’t equate her Synesthesia to her success in academia, yet she admits that her association of colours sometimes causes her to better remember facts and information.

In terms of minor drawbacks to having Synesthesia, Wolfert admits that she often finds it annoying to play card games. In her head, most of the cards in the deck are displayed as the wrong colour. Wolfert comments, “Dutch Blitz is the worst!”

Wolfert’s intricate mind reads with an intense sunset of interlocking colours. Although her painted world is invisible to those around her, each colour carries meaning, codes, and symbols that shape the way she views life around her. Johanna’s Synesthesia holds vibrant intellectual and emotional beauty. It is a sea of shades that is too strangely colourful for the majority of mortal humanity to even comprehend. Maybe Bethel Music was onto something.

Did you know the following celebrities also have/had various forms of Synesthesia?

Lorde (musician), Billy Joel (musician), Marilyn Monroe (actress), Kanye West (musician), Pharrell (musician, dancer) Mary J Blige (musician), Dev Hynes (musician), Jimi Hendrix (musician), Stevie Wonder (musician), Vincent Van Gogh (post-impressionist painter), Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (classical composer), Eddie Van Halen (musician), Tori Amos (musician), Geoffrey Rush (actor), Arthur Rimbaud (poet), and Franz Liszt (composer, pianist).



Take this online test to see if you have Synesthesia!



Below:
J. Wolfert’s Self-Created Alpha-Numeric Colour Code



My Jordinian Journey A Semester Spent in the Middle East



JESSICA BANINGA

Greetings Redeemerites! I've had the amazing opportunity to study abroad in Jordan for the semester on the Middle East Studies Program through Best Semester. Being immersed in a different culture, language, and religion has been a fantastic experience. We have been taking courses on conflict and change in Israel/Palestine, Islamic thought and practice, and people and cultures, as well as learning Arabic (shoutout to Khaled!). We've visited the old Roman citadel and amphitheatre in Amman, as well as the old Roman city in Jerash. We visited Madaba and saw many ancient mosaics, explored Mt. Nebo (the place from which Moses saw the Holy Land), and dipped our toes in the Jordan River at the baptism site of Jesus. This past Saturday we visited Petra, one of the seven wonders of the world (featured in Indiana Jones)!

On February 14, we left for our two week trip to Israel/Palestine. We listened to no less than thirty speakers and visited historical sites such as The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, The Garden Tomb, The Mount of Olives, The Garden of Gethsemane, The Old City of Jerusalem, The Wailing Wall, The Dome of the Rock, The Church of the Nativity, and The Mount of Beatitudes in Galilee. We were also able to stay with both Jewish and Palestinian families. The trip was an amazing opportunity to see so many biblical sites, as well as hear a wide variety of perspectives on the area's ongoing conflict.

I came away from this experience with a heavy heart for the people of the land, and a deep sadness at seeing the conflict being played out daily in the lives of everyone we met. I want to urge everyone back home to learn more about the history of the Israel/Palestine situation and to try and understand the multiple narratives of the issue while not picking sides. Both communities have suffered terrible mistreatment and, as a result, have deep pain and trauma. It is our job as Christians to promote peace and justice, working towards healing and reconciliation in this troubled land.

Another aspect of this semester that has deeply impacted me is our experience of Arab culture. Arab hospitality is like no other. As soon as you visit someone, they will serve you tea and treat and greet you like family. Just the other day, our group was invited to our travel agent's family home, where we were treated to Mansef, a traditional Jordanian dish which consists of rice, lamb, yogurt sauce, and nuts. The twist is, you can only eat it with your hands, sitting on the floor. Needless to say, things got a little messy!

After dinner, we were invited out to the patio for a campfire, tea, coffee, and traditional Arab music, consisting of a pipe-like instrument that looked somewhat like a clarinet. At the end of the night, they declared that we were adopted into their tribe! In the Middle East, tribes and family are

everything. Being a part of a tribe offers protection and connections, as well as honour and value.

Diving deep into the religion of Islam has been fascinating. There were so many misunderstandings and misconceptions that I had before coming here that have been completely shattered. We have listened to so many great speakers that have given me a deeper understanding of Islam, as well as raising more questions! Reading the Quran with biblical references has been so interesting to see similarities between our two faiths. I would encourage you all to seek out opportunities to meet and talk with Muslims — I bet you will come away with a new understanding of who they are and what they believe.

In less than a week, we will once again be travelling, this time to Morocco and Egypt, Inshallah (God willing)! On this trip, we will learn about and compare Arab culture in North Africa to that of the Levant — traditionally the geographical area of Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Jordan. I'm looking forward to seeing the pyramids in Egypt and practicing some French in Morocco! In closing, all I can say is that if you're thinking about studying abroad, DO IT. It is a life changing experience you should refuse to deny!



Humans of Redeemer

EMMA ROORDA
REPORTER

In 2010, a man by the name of Brandon Stanton began a photographic project in New York City that would grow to become a #1 New York Times bestseller and photo blog boasting over 15 million followers worldwide. Initially, Stanton set out to create what he calls “an exhaustive catalogue of New York City’s inhabitants,” comprised of 10,000 photos plotted across a city map.

The concept took on a different form, however, as he began collecting pieces of conversation had with those he photographed. Photo captions would soon become as vital as the shots themselves, and, together, make for a captivating stream of stories, he entitled, ‘Humans of New York.’

Highlighting eight Redeemer Students and Faculty each month, the *Crown* seeks to mimic Stanton’s idea on campus by asking a thoughtful or fun question, followed by taking a candid photo of the student, staff or faculty member included in each issue. We know that stories are powerful, so the goal here is to further uncover our own.

Scripture tells us to rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn, share the word of our testimony, and give glory to God in every season. This column is simply another means to do so and remind ourselves that our King, Jesus, is the ultimate author and finisher of our faith.

Tell me about a time God answered prayer.



Last summer I really felt that God was telling me that I had to be patient about finding a job that was right for me and that I had to continue leaning into Him and trust that He would provide for me regardless. I kept praying and asking God to show me the right job. I was going to accept one job, but I felt God saying that He was going to give me a different job that same day. I just ignored the voice in my head. But on my way back home, I got a call from CBM, and they asked me for an interview. I ended up getting that job two weeks later. Yeah, praise God, because it was a very, very good job.



Well I’ve been trying to practice spiritual disciplines, and I’ve been praying to hear God’s voice lately. Recently, I went to a conference, and they were speaking prophetically there. They were talking about spiritual disciplines, and then when I came home, I was spending some real solitude time with God and asking Him to speak to me. Now He’s been speaking to me a lot in my dreams, and I’ve been having very clear in-depth dreams! I don’t know how to interpret them yet, but I’ve been writing them down, reflecting and praying on each of them. I think it’s so cool!



During my last HUM exam, I studied the exact answer for one of the big questions, but I just could not seem to remember the name of the author. I actually flipped all of my exam paper over like I was finished, but I kept praying to God, “Please help me to remember!” Then when I stood up, I suddenly got the answer.



God answered my prayer when I was really stressing out about MOGUL, which is a business simulation game that is worth 25% of our grade. It is really hard. Basically, our group has to run a business, and we are competing against our fellow classmates. I asked God to give me peace about it, and He has been! I’m okay with wherever our group is at.



Before coming to Redeemer I really prayed about making Christian friends. The friends that I had at my old school were not as into their faith as I was, so it was harder to be more motivated to find God. Now I have friends that feel the same way as me. Totally an answer to prayer.



This is not really an answer to prayer, but it’s more like there are just new things that come up, and it’s obvious that He is behind it all. For example, last year I was in an improv competition along with my girlfriend, and it was just so crazy fun and we did really well. At the same time, I have to remember that these moments are a gift from God. I try to always recognize His presence in what is coming up and what is happening.



Last year, I wasn’t sure if I wanted to stay here at Redeemer or go elsewhere, so I asked God to have someone say directly to me “yes” or “no.” So when I visited Bethel [Church] in California, I was walking the streets, and this random dude on a skateboard came up to me and said, “Hey man, the answer is yes. You’re thinking about going to school at Bethel, and the answer is yes.”



Perhaps the most significant thing is that last summer, my father got ill and passed away, so it was a time of great grieving within our family. The answer to prayer is that we got through it, and we felt that we were supported and loved and cared for, not only by those around us, but by God. So I think that was a wonderful answer to prayer.

“Imagine the Journey”

Creatively Reflecting Women in the Bible

It is often difficult to imagine what it would have been like to live in the biblical era. Yet students Elise Arsenault and Carly Ververs were able to place themselves in the shoes of biblical characters and artistically envision the emotion of their stories to share in recent chapel services. Let the words of these student authors lead you to imagine for yourself the journey that these Bible characters would have trekked.

“On my Shoulders” The Story of Eve (Genesis 3:6-24)

Elise Arsenault

How could I have known?

The garden was full of wonders; every day I saw something new. Adam was there before I was, walking with God and naming the creatures as they shook the dust from their awakening. When it was my turn to wake up, I met God and my husband. Adam walked with me and taught me the names of the creatures, one by one.

But I didn’t have a name.

The garden was full of wonders, so when the serpent spoke I wasn’t afraid. And when I answered him, I wasn’t afraid. But the fruit grew heavy in my hand as it left my teeth, and Adam’s too. Its juice ran down our arms, our necks, our chests, our ribs — and as we watched it on our bare skin, we felt something we’d never pointed to or named. We felt afraid, and it crawled onto us and into us.

I felt smothered by something and stripped of another. Our bodies had been as blameless as birds’ wings, as strong as mountains, as fluid as the sea. We were at home in them, and in each other’s. Here and now, I feel no safety in my body or in my husband’s gaze.

Fig leaves are big and smooth, but their stems poke at my skin. I start snapping them, one by one, until I hear God passing by. It isn’t His footsteps I hear — the grass is too long for that. I can hear His singing.

We don’t join in. Instead, we hold our breath and press our coverings against us, running. My feet have never turned

this way — away — but that’s where we run, into denser trees as if God won’t follow.

“Where are you?” He says when His song is done. Adam tells Him we’re hiding because we’re naked.

“Who told you?” He asks, His voice breaking in two. “Did you eat what I told you not to?”

God has never been the one asking the questions. I see Adam’s chest start to swell and collapse, his breaths staggering.

“She gave it to me!” My husband points to me as if he doesn’t know me.

“The serpent!” I cry in a voice that doesn’t sound like mine. I cover my face with my hands. “The serpent deceived me, so I ate it.” Tears run down my arms, my neck, my chest, my ribs — washing the stains away.

The serpent answers to his name, and the three of us face God. One by one, our Maker names our wrongs and the prices for them; the serpent’s head will be crushed by my seed; my births and desires will cause me anguish; Adam will work by the sweat of his brow; and the earth itself will cry out in thorns.

The serpent leaves, crawling on its belly, and Adam puts his hands on my shoulders. His touch is still warm, and his eyes still search and know me.

“Eve,” he says. “Mother of all the living.”

Now I have a name to wear — and soon I have garments too. God fastens warm skins around Adam and me, then rests His hands on our shoulders.

“You have to leave now,” He says, and I know it’s for our good; everything He’s ever said has turned into Good. We walk ahead of Him, following a new path burnt into the grass and leading through a narrow gate. Once on the other side, we turn around to face God, but instead see a man like the sun. We can’t look him in the face; we’re overcome with a different kind of fear.

When the gates close, cherubim guard it with swords on fire. Adam wraps his arms around me, sobbing in my hair, and I do the same in his chest. Then I pull away and meet his eyes.

“God is guarding the garden,” I tell him. “Not destroying it.”

“He’s not destroying us, either,” Adam says.

We see the light still shining past the top of the gate. We hear Elohim still singing between the trees. He has readied us for a journey, and one day we’ll be back home.

How could I have known?



“Words from the Well” The Story of Hagar (Genesis 16:1-16)

Carly Ververs

I remember the morning I knew I was pregnant — how my master had smiled with wet eyes, and I had looked upon his wife, my mistress, with contempt in her barrenness. And I remember the whip that made me flee — the sharp, cutting pain across my hands and arms, and my mistress’ dark eyes as she watched me. I remember biting my tongue so I wouldn’t cry out and the metallic taste of blood and that my mistress did not even flinch. And I remember how cold the water was from the well, how thirsty I had been, how raw my throat had felt. And I remember how deep the angel’s voice was, but I can’t remember what he looked like — when I try to think back to that moment, all I see is blinding brightness and white hands reaching out.

“Hagar, servant of Sarai,” he said to me, “where have you come from and where are you going?”

I remember the fear — closing my eyes tight against the brightness, the knot in my stomach, the strangled breath caught between my lungs and mouth. My hands shook as I covered my stomach — it was just starting to swell then — and my voice shook as I answered him honestly: “I am

fleeing from my mistress Sarai.”

“Return to your mistress and submit to her,” he said, and I shook my head, my lips now trembling along with my hands.

“I’ve been disobedient. She’ll kill me — and my child,” I thought to myself, but the angel continued speaking: “I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude. Behold, you are pregnant and shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has listened to your affliction. He shall be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone and everyone’s hand against him, and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen.”

As he spoke, the knot in my stomach unraveled, and my breath evened out. Ishmael — it means God hears. And sitting at that well, my eyes still closed against the angel’s brightness but skin now warmed because of it, I knew that God both hears and sees — saw the contemptuous way I had looked at my mistress, saw me as I fled in disobedience,

saw me as I sat beside that well and wept. Although I had sinned against my mistress, God still heard me and saw me and came for me. To the angel, I said, “You are the God of seeing — the God who sees me. Truly here I have seen Him who looks after me.”

Then the brightness was gone, and when I opened my eyes, so was the angel. My skin was still warm though, from his brightness.

I thought about continuing on my way to Shur, but after this encounter — because of this encounter — I knew I couldn’t. I went back to my mistress and submitted to her, as the angel had commanded me. In time, I bore my master a son, and now whenever I look at him, my Ishmael, my wild donkey of a son, I remember all of these things — from the whip, to the water, to the words and warmth of the angel of the Lord. God sees and God hears, and at that well, at Beer-lahai-roi, as I called it — the well of the Living One who sees me — I saw Him who looks after me.

One Team, One Dream

Royals Headed to Provincials

KATRINA PALMER



Shot after shot the Redeemer men’s soccer team won it all. Due to their many goals and victories at their latest tournament, the team will be participating in this year’s OCAA Provincials, hosted in Ancaster at Redeemer’s soccer dome.

The tournament which moves teams from sectionals to provincials took place on Tuesday, March 6th at Redeemer’s soccer dome. Only two teams were able to make it through to provincials, and the Redeemer Royals men’s soccer team was one of them.

At the tournament, the men were up against three other teams: St. Clair College, St. Lawrence College, and Centennial College.

Of the whole tournament, the first game against St. Clair was evidently the highlight of the tournament, for both the team and fans and spectators. Although it was an early morning, with the game kicking off at 9:30 am, the men’s team was ready to face their potentially most challenging opponents. Diligent and supportive fans woke up to watch some good ‘ole soccer. With a forty minute game ahead, split into two halves, fans and parents were prepared with their hot teas and coffees in hand.

THE FIRST HALF

About ten minutes into the game, things seemed to be going in favour of the opposing team when the Royals had the first shot, but missed. Spectators’ eyes wandered, looking at their phones and back at the game.

But wait! Shortly after, the Royals stole possession of the ball and turned it over to bring it up to the opposing net. Jonathan Pereboom, who now had possession of the ball, ran up the right side of the field with Enzo Guerra up the middle and Daniel Grootenboer up the far left. They all sprinted up the field in a horizontal line. Trying to make the game theirs, they utilized their intimidating trio coming straight up to the goal, succeeding when Pereboom took the shot and scored. Pereboom began the count of goals for the Royals with eight-and-a-half minutes left in the first half of the game.

Eric Lewis, a former team member, said the team was “phenomenally executing” their plays.

Now that the Royals were up 1-0, the crowd began to wake up. And another goal came quickly! As the men were fighting to bring the ball down the field, John de Kat handled and controlled the ball well among the commotion happening around him and scored only about two minutes after Pereboom with 7:19 minutes to go.

At this moment, the St. Clair Saints were starting to become a little revved up as they began to see that they needed to be more defensive — today the Royals were here to win.

Working like a well-oiled machine, the men on the field continued to play well, supported by Jeremy Petrusma, who ran up the field with the ball close by. Passes were exchanged and, along with faking out the defensive opposing line, gave Redeemer Royals a huge jump in the lead as Petrusma scored at 4:56 minutes.

With only five minutes left of the first half remaining, the crowd chatted in amazement that the men were doing as well as they were against the St. Clair Saints. Previous games had not gone as well.

Daniel Grootenboer’s parents were among the spectators in the dome, waking up at 6 am and driving two hours to come support their son, his friends, and his teammates. Mr. and Mrs. Grootenboer commented that the team was “coming out strong and [had] been using full opportunistic value for the chances they’ve been given.”

They went on to say, “Rarely [does Redeemer] start off strong, so everything will depend on how [they] responds... they need to dig in deep to finish off strong.”

Ready for it? Are you pumped yet? At 3:24, Pereboom scored his second goal of the game. With about only 3 minutes left, the opposing team was quite visibly upset by the score of 4-0 for Redeemer. For the rest of the game the opposing team began to show their anger by being more aggressive on the field, yet our Redeemer Royals turned their cheeks and played what was obviously going to be their game.

The Saints had some luck towards the end of the first half as they received a free kick in front of Redeemer’s net. Within the crowd, hushed fans were wide-eyed and hopeful that Matt Schoenmaker could save the incoming shot. The fans, the coaches, and the team got what they were hoping for — a missed shot from the Saints kept the score at 4-0 as the first half of the game ended.

THE SECOND HALF

The second half of the game commenced with the Royals up 4-0 and only twenty minutes left for the Saints to catch up. The Saints were ready to take the game back for themselves and only about a minute-and-a-half into in the half, the Saint’s captain shot high at the Royal’s net — but Schoenmaker saved it as he punched the ball to the side. The crowd had become more excited and alive as they could foresee a win in the future, meaning the road to provincials

was for open for the taking.

Both teams were fighting hard for the win. Redeemer fought to shoot, and St. Clair tried to defend. However, their defence ended up failing as Zach Kingma shot and scored yet another goal for the Royals.

Mr. Grootenboer exclaimed that this was the “strongest [he has] ever seen the soccer team play, with assertive plays and deflections.”

At 4:10 minutes of play left, #11 on the St. Clair side received a blue card. This gave Redeemer the power play as the player on the opposition side had a two minute time out. The Royal’s teammates utilized their closeness and peripherals and again took a shot, but St. Clair’s goalie made a great save as he ran up and punched it out of the six yard box by the net.

Shortly after, St. Clair got another blue card, giving the Royals a second power play. Kingma scored again with about three minutes left on the clock as the Saint’s goalie let the ball roll in. Twice in a row the veteran of the men’s soccer team had utilized his chances to bring up Redeemer’s chance of moving on to provincials. The referee soon called the game as the crowd went wild.

Monika Couperus, captain of the women’s soccer team, mentioned how the “men really capitalized on their opportunities.”

The team has accomplished their dream of going to provincials to win it all, and this first game paved their path quite strongly. The Royals ended up with a win of 6-0 against one of the hardest teams in their pool. Though this was the first game of the day, many more goals and victories were achieved which guaranteed their spot at provincials, which will be taking place Thursday, March 23 and Friday, March 24.

Gad Espinosa, coach of the men’s soccer team, commented on the game against St. Clair: “Ninety percent of performance is mental. Once the first goal went in, their confidence increased.” He went on to praise the team, saying, “The guys played a strong defensive and attacking game and defended well in a group.”

The team has been practicing diligently, growing closer in friendship and stronger in skill. Will you be attending the next winning provincial game?

For more information, visit OCAA.com to find out dates and times of the upcoming provincial soccer games.

Athlete Spotlight

Get to Know Your Royals!

KRISTEN BORGDORFF
REPORTER



MIKAYLA BLACKBURN
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Since 2011, the Redeemer Athletics Department has chosen one male and one female athlete per month that have shown exceptional skill, a sportsmanlike attitude, and have all around earned a place in the spotlight. We had the opportunity to sit down with this month's athletes a few questions to allow you to get to know our Redeemer Royals in a different light.

What does it mean to you to be a Redeemer Royal?

I love playing basketball at Redeemer. I have made so many friends through athletics, and my teammates have become like my family. It's just super cool to play at a school where people are really rooting for you. I don't think that I could be a student without also being an athlete.

How did you start playing?

I started playing basketball in grade 4 at school and thought it was pretty fun. But it wasn't until grade 8 that I decided to start playing competitively.

What's your major?

I am a Youth Ministry and Applied Social Sciences double-major.

What is your favourite animal?

Goats! They are the funniest little things!

If you could only wear one colour every day for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Definitely black. That's pretty much my entire wardrobe already!



ZACC BURKE
MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

What does it mean to you to be a Redeemer Royal?

Being a Royal is amazing! Playing on a team with the guys is more than just sport, it's family, and it's been a blast!

How did you start playing?

I started playing in elementary school because my dad was a coach, and then continued on from there (although I only played two out of five years in high school), and started at Redeemer in 2012.

What's your major?

Major in Youth Ministry with a minor in Music.

What is your favourite animal?

An eagle.

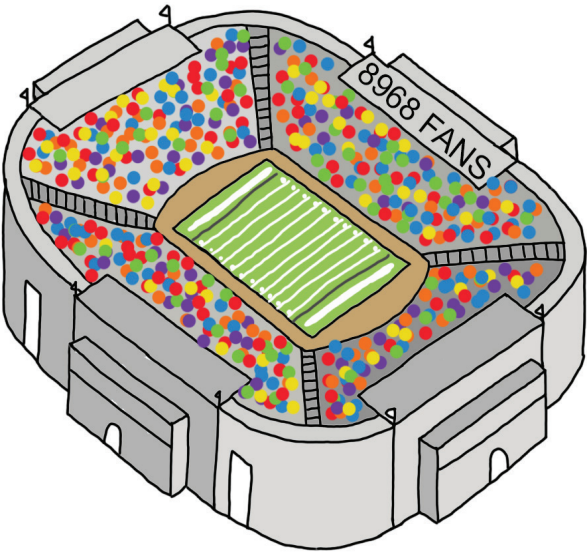
What is your hidden talent?

Hidden talent, that's tough... I'm getting real good at changing diapers!

If you could only wear one colour every day for the rest of your life, what would it be?

I'd have to go a maroon colour (maybe Redeemer's colour for next year).

10-k-Strong-
0-Metre!



This year, The Crown will be tracking Redeemer's goal of seeing 10,000 fans come to our home games. This unique graphic tracks our fans per month.

Each month, more dots (fans) will be added to the stadium, representing the goal we've reached.

Go Royals Go!



Photos by Colin Andrew Visuals

Art-Making through the Lenten Season

The Lenten season can be a very inspiring time for artists. Three Redeemer art students, Maggie Debruyn, Erica Eisses, and Jocelyn Boville, have all taken an artist’s eye to the beauty of spring and a thoughtful reflection to the Biblical narrative. Maggie, Erica, and Jocelyn have all challenged themselves to create a piece of art for each day of Lent this year. Check out some of the artwork that they have so beautifully created thus far.

Erica Eisses:

Lenten reflections are an opportunity for me to visually journal through the 40 days before Easter. By painting daily, patterns develop and I begin to form an understanding of my relation to this season in a way I was not previously aware of. Finally, it allows me to respond to the meaning of this season with my own daily experiences.

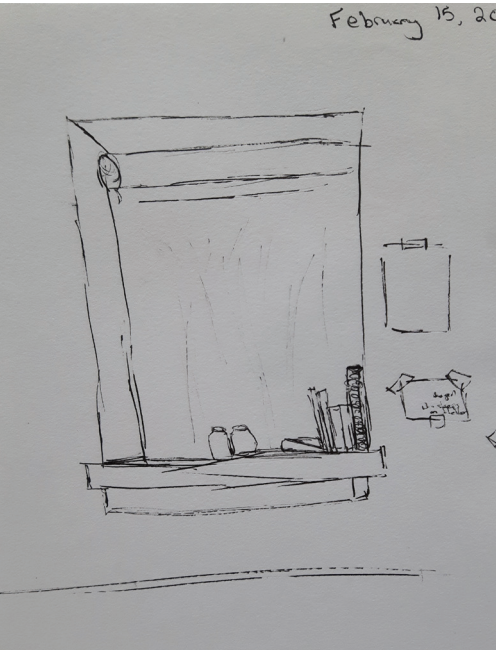
Instagram:
@ericaeisses.art



Maggie Debruyn:

I chose to observe Lent in this way with the hope that slowing down and drawing would help me to connect God with my every day. The reality of the everydayness of God is something that is easy to rush by, and the process of seeking God, slowing down, and practicing art simply is a way to connect it all.

Instagram:
@mdebruyn.art



Jocelyn Boville:

I am challenging myself this Lent season to meditate daily on what God has done for me. Each day I focus on different ways God provides for me and shows His love for me, ultimately by giving up His Son for my sake. It is a time of thanksgiving and worship as I reflect on my own unworthiness and recognize the un-ending forgiveness and mercy that God pours out on me.

Instagram:
@penofjocelynboville

