Day of Prayer to focus on ‘drawing near’

By CHLOE ROLAND
Staff Writer

Each semester at BJU, the University family sets one day aside for students, faculty and staff to gather together in prayer. This semester’s Day of Prayer will take place this Tuesday and will focus on the theme “Let us draw near.”

This theme is based on Hebrews 10:22: “Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.”

The day’s activities will begin at 8:15 a.m. with a sermon from Vice President for Ministerial Advancement Dr. Sam Horn.

Students will then divide into groups for 9 and 10 a.m. prayer sessions.

For the 9 a.m. session, students will divide by regions and will focus on world missions. For the 10 a.m. session, students will divide by society and the chaplains will decide on the session’s focus.

The day’s events will conclude with an 11 a.m. praise service that will include music and testimonies.

Kyle Wilcox, special assistant to BJU President Dr. Steve Pettit, understands that Day of Prayer can become habitual, but encourages students to take full advantage of the opportunity to present their requests before God.

“It’s a half day each semester that we get to corporately devote our time to the privilege of prayer,” Wilcox said. “We get to draw near to the Lord together.”

One Voice performance to bring black history to life

By JESSICA PEREZ
Staff Writer

What would it have been like to hear Martin Luther King Jr. speak in person? Or Muhammad Ali? Or President Barack Obama? Though you may never be able to travel through time and space to hear them speak in person, you can still catch a glimpse of some of the most prominent figures in African-American history by coming to the One Voice performance, which includes two plays in Rodeheaver Auditorium and four in Performance Hall. Currently, Dew is the “Director of Fun” and emcee for on-field baseball events for the Greenville Drive, the local minor league baseball team, as well as the emcee for Clemson University men’s basketball.

Dew said the One Voice performance offers the chance to see history in a new way, presenting a story of America, not just black history.

“It’s a story about America through these people. And they happen to be black, so they’re going to tell you their version.”

The show first debuted at the Warehouse Theatre in 2011 under the direction of Ron Pyle, head of BJU’s department of theatre arts. Now, four years later, Dew is excited to bring the show back to BJU, where Dew said his involvement in the radio department, society and student body helped to prepare him for his current career as an entrepreneur.

“I’m excited to be back on campus in front of some of the people and teachers who helped give me the ideas that I use today in business and for this show specifically,” Dew said. Dew said a lot of his jobs have stemmed from the experiences he had with the Classic Players, which included two plays in Rodeheaver Auditorium and four in Performance Hall. Currently, Dew is the “Director of Fun” and emcee for on-field baseball events for the Greenville Drive, the local minor league baseball team, as well as the emcee for Clemson University men’s basketball.

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A nice blend of history, humor and honor, One Voice will bring historical figures to life. Tickets can be purchased at bjufuniversitytickets.com for $5.

What? One Voice

Who? Jeremiah Dew (“Dew”), 2007 BJU graduate, emcee for the Greenville Drive and Clemson University men’s basketball

When? Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Where? Stratton Hall

Dew will present his black history narrative One Voice at BJU. Photo: Submitted
Atheists hold exit door open for God

The Collegian Editorial

Last week a Florida high school student was reprimanded by a national atheist organization for the phrase he spontaneously added in after reading the morning announcements: “God bless America.”

His “crime” was reported by two fellow students to the American Humanist Association (AHA), whose legal association—the Appignani Humanist Legal Center—quickly responded with a condemning letter that said the student violated the Constitution and broke the law by appealing to God over the intercom.

“The daily validation of the religious views of God believers resists atheists to second-class citizens,” the AHA wrote. “Because attendance is mandatory, the students have no way of avoiding this daily message even.”

In response, a school representative said, “It wasn’t part of the scripted morning announcements. The principal took the appropriate steps in speaking with the student and disciplining the student.”

Like a few years ago when atheists and other organizations worked tirelessly to remove the phrase from the Pledge of Allegiance, the few remaining strands of Christianity in our public sphere are beginning to unravel.

But when did it become illegal to utter the simple phrase “God bless America” at your high school? What happened to freedom of speech and religion, two of the five freedoms listed in the First Amendment because atheists and other organizations worked tirelessly to remove that phrase from the Pledge of Allegiance, the few remaining strands of Christianity in our public sphere are beginning to unravel.

The following phrase:

“Thank you, God bless you, and God bless this country.”

Whether atheists admit it or not, our country has continually reached out to God in times of need, including Sept. 11, 2001, when then President George W. Bush implored Americans to pray, and a memorial service that included George W. Bush implored Americans to pray, and a memorial service that included...
Something that I’ve been learning throughout college and especially in the last couple of months is that everything — absolutely everything in this life — is about relationships. Whether that’s relationships to family, to friends, to God or to ourselves. When God tells us to ‘Go and make disciples’ or ‘Do unto others as you would have them do unto you,’ it’s about making a relationship with that person. The whole purpose of relationships is to make us more like Christ, and the easiest way to do that is to love someone else who is imperfect just like you.

For me, the answer is simple. Every day. I have a confession to make: I’m too busy. I’ve always been too busy. I volunteer for more than I can handle. And I know I’m not alone. I can see you all—grabbing a bagel in the 10 minutes you have to eat between the time class gets out and society officer meeting starts. Skipping class to finish a paper you should have written but couldn’t because you had to lead a study group while simultaneously counseling a friend after a breakup.

But the answer to our busyness is not in saying “no.” The answer lies in saying “yes” to what’s important. While your “yes” list will look different from my “yes” list, we probably all overlap in a few areas. For example, say yes to spending quality time with friends. Say yes to calling your parents. Say yes to doing your homework. And, most important, say yes to spending time in God’s Word and on your knees in prayer.

Busyness replaces the vibrant colors of life with fast-paced black and white until we no longer know what we’re missing. If you say “yes” to the good rather than the best, you risk living your life always thinking about what’s next, and never reaching your full potential in any one area.

Former first lady Nancy Reagan summed it up this way: “Life can be great, but not when you can’t see it. So, open your eyes to life: to see it in the vivid colors that God gave us as a precious gift to His children, to enjoy life to the fullest, and to make it count. Say yes to your life.”
Homemade doughnut business finds recipe for success in Greenville

By: SHERLYN LUCE

BJU grad Shannon Mercado started her homemade doughnut business just last year, but Circa Doughnut has already built up a loyal following of Greenville foodies who appreciate good old-fashioned cake doughnuts.

The idea for this new artisan doughnut business began when Mercado, a 2012 BJU organizational communication graduate, and some friends got together to make homemade doughnuts, and someone suggested that she try selling the doughnuts. Mercado then began to sell her creations at local markets as a creative outlet, thinking it would be a "Fun Saturday thing to do."

But in June 2014, Circa became a transportable ‘pop-up’ doughnut shop that Mercado sets up at businesses and events around Greenville. Because Mercado doesn’t have a permanent store, she partners with local businesses that allow her to sell her doughnuts inside their shop in exchange for the foot traffic the store receives from Mercado’s customers.

Mercado calls this method “customer sharing.” Because of the following Mercado has on social media sites like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, her customers come and purchase her doughnuts wherever she is set up. At the Indie Craft Parade in September 2014, Mercado sold over 800 doughnuts in two days. Customers can also place a private order for fresh doughnuts and can book Circa for private events such as wedding receptions or “anything you can imagine,” Mercado said.

Mercado chose the name Circa, the Latin word for “around,” because the word is associated with unknown historical dates, and the origin of the doughnut is unknown. Mercado said that Circa accurately describes “the mystery of the doughnut.”

Mercado begins her handiwork by preparing homemade dough and forming each doughnut by hand, without a press or a doughnut cutter. The doughnuts are then fried in small batches of three at a time. The result is a doughnut that is hearty and dense, not light and fluffy like those purchased at many chain doughnut shops. The doughnuts are priced at $3 each and $30 a dozen.

The 10 flavors that Circa offers are unique. While the old-fashioned variety is the best-seller, creative flavors like cornbread with jalapeno infused brown butter honey glaze, lemon lavender and peach rosemary are also popular. This week’s new doughnut is called “the pink one,” which is a hibiscus-and-berry flavored doughnut. “I’m trying to reinvent flavors and do the unexpected,” Mercado said.

As a small-business owner, Mercado said she now uses many of the communication principles she learned from her classes at BJU. Mercado said her communications degree has helped her to understand and read people and know how people are going to react to her marketing and new products.

Mercado also said graduating from BJU gave her a kick-start in the networking process in Greenville, as being connected with BJU opened a lot of doors for her in the Greenville community.

Mercado said she will be looking for interns for Circa in the near future. Interns would learn the doughnut-making process, gain the experience of working in a commercial kitchen and learn about marketing strategies and business tactics. In addition, Mercado said she is looking to hire hard-working people interested in entrepreneurship and small businesses in order to expand her business.

Check out Circa’s Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts for more information about Circa Doughnut and where these handcrafted treats can be purchased.

BJU class of 1990 to celebrate 25th year class reunion

By: EMI BRADLEY

Members of BJU’s Class of 1990 will reunite for their 25-year class reunion Friday and Saturday for a weekend full of fun, fellowship and nostalgia.

Jonathan Pait, manager of events and services for the Alumni Association, said the class reunions are a way for the University to help alumni reunite and maintain the friendships and connections they made at BJU.

“Our primary focus is to help re-establish and reconfirm relationships,” Pait said.

A number of events are planned for the weekend to help facilitate that reestablishing process, including a banquet, a Symphonic Wind Band concert, a class photo and a nostalgic tour.

Class reunions have typically been just a few hours during the week of Bible Conference. But they will now take place throughout the semester, allowing alumni more time to enjoy their class reunions, rather than having to fit their time of fellowship into a short span of time. In addition, this update will allow the University to have enough staff to help with each of the related events.

Alumni can check in from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Alumni Association office located in the Student Center.

BJU Class of 1990 by the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of majors with one student:</th>
<th>18</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BjU Class of 1990 by the Numbers</td>
<td>672 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>350 female</td>
<td>322 male</td>
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<tr>
<td>Most popular majors: Marketing Management (47)</td>
<td>Accounting (44)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary Education (44)</td>
<td>Bible (41)</td>
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Members of the Class of 1990 celebrate their 20-year reunion in 2010. Photos: Photo Services
JONATHAN FRAGA
Archaeological digs

Jonathan Fraga, a sophomore voice performance major, participates in archaeological digs at Endview Plantation in Yorktown, Virginia, during his summer breaks. Volunteering since he was 14, Fraga has found everything from coins to arrowheads on this Battle of Yorktown landscape. But the most interesting thing he helped discover was a human skeleton.

"We were digging at a site, and we came across bones," Fraga said. "So we started carefully brushing down the layers [of dirt] until we discovered that it was actually a foot, and we worked our way up to the head."

DANIEL PHELPS
Collecting “crazy socks”

Sophomore Bible major Daniel Phelps collects, as he says, "crazy socks."

"I have [everything] from Mona Lisa socks to ones with sports teams on them," Phelps said.

Starting his collection in high school, Phelps began with only a few pairs but soon decided that "this [needed] to become a thing." He started asking for pairs of socks as Christmas and birthday presents, and now he has an entire drawer full of crazy socks. Not only does Phelps wear them for his own enjoyment, but he also uploads a picture of them every Friday to his Instagram account.

ABIGAIL LAWRENCE
Crocheting

Junior early childhood education major Abigail Lawrence enjoys crocheting in her spare time. Although Lawrence began crocheting as a child, she really got serious about it this past summer.

"My aunt and my cousin came along and showed me a lot of different tools for it," Lawrence said.

Her current projects are mostly hats and headbands, including her favorite finished project: a panda bear hat. Lawrence's long-term goal is to crochet blankets for her little nieces and nephews.

CHRIS CHIRA
Photography business

Sophomore health sciences major Chris Chira shoots and edits photos for friends and couples. Analyzing locations, times of day and even complementary outfit ideas, Chira seeks to handle the photo shoots in a professional manner. After he is satisfied with the shoot, Chira's tradition is to share a meal with those he's photographed.

As much fun as the shoot is itself, Chira said, "Editing is one of my favorite parts of the entire process, because then you get to sit down and look at these people and see the captured dynamics of their relationship."

Chira said the entire process of editing takes him about three or four days.
I’m your typical girly-girl — you know, nail polish and sparkles and ponies and absolutely no spiders. So people are often surprised when they find out that I’m an avid hockey fan.

Known for vicious fights and rugged guys with toothless grins, hockey isn’t exactly the kind of sport people expect people like me to enjoy. But I love it. But the truth is, I haven’t always loved hockey.

Growing up in south suburban Chicago, where there’s an outdoor ice rink on nearly every corner during the winter months, I learned to skate pretty much as soon as I could walk.

Our neighborhood park had a tennis court that the park district personnel would flood and freeze every winter, and my siblings and I would spend hours gliding around on the ice, pretending we were graceful figure skaters. That’s where it all started for me.

There was something about the chill air filling my lungs and the swishing sound of cold steel on ice that intrigued me, and I just couldn’t get enough of it.

In junior high, I salvaged all my money to pay for figure skating lessons, and my time at the rink only fueled my love of the elegant sport. For me, it was art.

I never paid much attention to the hockey games that took place on the arena’s other rink — hockey was for boys. But my dad, who had played hockey when he was younger, would always go over to the next rink to watch the hockey players while he waited for me to finish my lessons. I’d have to go search him out in the stands, and he’d say, “OK, we can leave at the end of this period.”

So I’d heave a sigh and resignation settle down to watch with him. In spite of myself, the sport began to grow on me, and before I knew it, I had become an avid fan of the game where crazy guys with knives strapped to their feet ran around on sheets of ice with sticks in their hands, chasing after a little black rock-hard rubber biscuit.

But it wasn’t until I began following my hometown’s original-six NHL team, the Chicago Blackhawks, that I discovered the real depth of the game. In the 2009-10 season, I watched the fresh talent of the dynamic duo Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews re-energize a Stanley Cup-starved Blackhawks and bring Lord Stanley back to Chicago.

And it wasn’t just the win that thrilled me. It was the lightning-fast puck handling, the seamless teamwork and the edge-of-your-seat shoot-outs that kept me watching.

As I watched, I began to realize something. There wasn’t as big of a difference between my figure skating and their hockey as I had once thought. Mine wasn’t beauty and theirs brawn. Both sports had their own particular artistry.

I now have two favorite sports: figure skating and hockey. And it’s not such a shock after all that even a girly-girl like me can appreciate the finesse involved in the beautiful (yes, beautiful!) sport of ice hockey.
The Phi Kappa Pi Rams defeated the Pi Gamma Delta Royals 53-44 in a highly anticipated game Feb. 13, holding on to their first-place position on the men’s intramural basketball leaderboard.

The game started out slowly, with the Rams gradually starting to pull ahead by three points at 8-5. The Rams then increased their lead to seven, 12-5, as senior Manny Rivero knocked in two points and senior Daniel Knox had a block and a transition layup off an assist from junior Micah Gold. Knox had six of the Rams’ first 12 points, giving his team the upper hand early on.

After a free throw by Royals senior David Overly, sophomore teammates Zech Heneveld and John Dahlhausen scored the rest of Pi Gamma’s first-half points. After falling down 17-10, the Royals were able to close the gap to three by halftime with the Rams leading 24-21.

The second half was faster-paced as both teams brought out renewed energy. Royals’ Heneveld and Dahlhausen placed constant pressure on the Rams, but the Rams’ Gold would not slow down, scoring 16 points in the second half. Heneveld, however, tied the game at 24-24 five minutes into the second half. The teams swapped the lead before Pi Gamma jumped up to a 41-34 lead with just over six minutes left to play.

Rams senior James Liebmann nailed a 3-point shot to close the margin to four, 41-37. After Rivero hit a shot, Gold fired in a 3-pointer that gave the Rams a one-point lead and all the momentum they needed to win the game. Now up 42-41, Phi Kappa never looked back. The Rams went on to win 53-44 to stay undefeated for the season.

The Rams’ Gold finished the night with 22 points, while the Royals’ Rivero, Heneveld and Dahlhausen recorded 13, 21 and 15, respectively.

SUDOKU
The products of a new board game company will soon line the shelves, courtesy of several BJU faculty and staff members.

BJU graduate Mr. Will Meadows, creative director at BJU's Marketing Communications, and Mr. Ryan Pilz from BJU Press's Strategic Innovation Research Office have teamed up with Mr. Chris Rawlings, an associate professor in the Division of Accounting, to create the Tantrum House board game company.

Meadows focuses on designing the games, while Pilz focuses on marketing and Rawlings focuses on financial guidance and consulting.

Meadows has had a love of board games since he was young, and one day while playing a board game, Meadows told Pilz he thought the two of them could make better games than what other companies were producing. Pilz agreed, and the idea for Tantrum House was born.

Over a casual meal, Meadows then met with Rawlings (who taught Meadows accounting in undergrad) to tell him about the company. Soon after, Rawlings joined the duo's vision, and Tantrum House's campaign was underway.

Meadows said his children inspired the name Tantrum House. "I have three crazy boys now who constantly inspire me with their tantrums," he said. Meadows also liked the unique search engine quality of the word "tantrum."

Using the global crowdfunding platform Kickstarter, the three are now promoting Tantrum House by writing quick, efficient game reviews as well as making videos to advertise the company. While their original goal was to raise $1,000 by Dec. 14, the Tantrum House team exceeded that goal by $128.

The online campaign was actually kicked off during one of Rawlings' accounting classes to show students an example of a startup.

While continuing to gain an audience, the team is developing a prototype for an original card game Meadows has played for years.

In addition to Kickstarter, Tantrum House will sponsor a campuswide game of BJU's infamous Tag to raise money for this year's Bible Conference offering and to promote the company. Students interested in participating should download the app coming soon from Information Technologies for further instructions.

When asked what the main goals were for the Tantrum House team members, Meadows said it would be great to make enough money to pay off their children's future school bills, but ultimately it's about doing something they love.

Although the three men are presently doing great work, they said Tantrum House would not have been possible without their education at BJU. Meadows, Pilz and Rawlings all agreed that the most important element their BJU education gave them was the relationships they developed.

Pilz said learning your field and developing good connections with other people with different gifts is invaluable because you never know when you might be able to help each other out.

Meadows added that being able to work with people who share a like-minded faith and hold to honesty and ethics in business is a huge blessing.