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Push For Turkey Drive Funds Continues

MICAH CRONIN

Fundraising for the Student Government Association (SGA) Annual Turkey Drive will continue through the next week, according to Sergio Mata '19, Executive Officer of Student Life.

The Turkey Drive is a campus wide effort to provide Thanksgiving turkeys and trimmings to families in need living in Allegany county. Security guard Ray Parlett has participated in the Turkey Drive for the last nine years. He said, "[I] distribute turkeys each year through local food pantries and other organizations. You might say

See **TURKEY** page 3

SGA Rejects Covenant Revisions



LILY BRUNNER

SGA president Joanna Friesen '17 moderated the final public discussion on proposed Community Covenant revisions

MATT YOUNG

On Monday evening the Student Government As-

sociation (SGA) held its second public forum about the proposed changes to the Community Covenant. The

meeting was held in the Paine Science Building's Schaller Lecture Hall, which was filled to capacity. Before

discussion began, Jiwan Dhaliwal '17 provided a devotion and prayer. She admonished the crowd to "allow the Christian story and ethic of love to supercede your personal theological beliefs," and added further that "we will lose our Christian community if we don't value love above all else." This call for unity in love was echoed by several community members throughout the evening.

Following the devotion, Vice President for Student Life, Robert Pool, spoke about the intent behind the proposed changes to the Community Covenant. The new language is meant to "clarify" the current use of the phrase "homosexual behavior."

The proposed revised language reads:

"We believe, consistent with scripture and Wesleyan Church doctrine, that certain acts are clearly prohibited including: drinking alcohol to excess, stealing, speaking or writing profanely or slanderously,

See **SGA** page 2

Cross Country Competes In NCAA Regionals

KASEY CANNISTER

On Saturday, November 12th the Men's and Women's Cross Country teams wrapped up their season at the NCAA Atlantic Cross Country Regional Championship in Glassboro, NJ.

These races, hosted by Rowan University, marked the first time any Houghton team or individual has competed in an NCAA Championship event.

Head coach, Patrick Hager said, "The opportunity to compete in the NCAA Regional means a chance to run with the best in NCAA Division III. This meet is the only way to qualify for the NCAA National Championship race."

Last year, both cross country teams finished out their season at the NCAA National Championship. "While the NCCAA is a great organization to be a part of, the NCAA is bigger and more competitive," said



HOUGHTON.EDU

The men's and women's cross country teams appeared in NCAA postseason competition for the first time in Houghton Highlander history.

Hager.

Reflecting on the races, Hager said, "The women ran the best race since I've been

coach here. They went out a little fast, but finished well. Every single one of them set a personal record (PR) in the

6k race and they were able to beat a conference opponent,

See **NCAA** page 3

Eco Reps Hosts Climate And Politics Debate

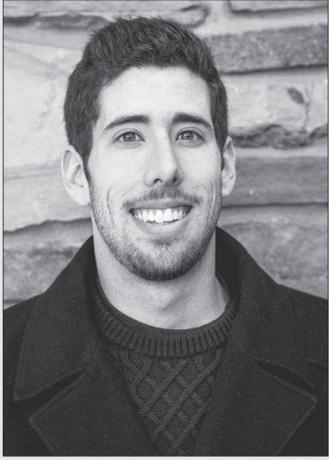
ALYSSA ROGAN

Professor Ron Oakerson moderated the Environment and Politics Debate that took place in Schaller Hall last Thursday. Sponsored by the Eco Reps Club, the purpose of this debate was to discuss issues concerning climate change, fracking, and pipelines. Sarah Duttweiler '17, Claire Brower '18, and Bekah Potts '17, represented the progressive view, while Alex Conklin '17 and Jonathan Libby '20 represented the conservatives.

Before launching into

See **ECO** page 3

National // Donald Trump Wins Presidency



ANTHONY BURDO

JACKSON WHEELER

In spite of poll predictions, Donald J. Trump was elected as the 45th President of the United States, a shock most jarringly felt by the Hillary Clinton campaign, who at times led by double digit polls during the campaign season, according to CNN.

States like Florida, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and North Carolina, states that had been expected to fall decisively blue, fell in Trump's favor, carrying him fairly easily to the necessary 270 votes in the Electoral College, the New York Times reported. Protesters gathered in response to Trump's election, with crowds in Los Angeles stretching for several miles according to CNN. Sanders backed the protests in an interview with USA Today, and stated, "We have a First Amendment. People are angry. People are upset. And they want to express their point of view that they are very frightened, in very, very strong disagreement with Mr. Trump, who has made bigotry the cornerstone of his campaign."

Trump managed to tap into the heart of the white, working class, a demographic that proved substantial enough to secure him the presidency. Hillary Clinton, however, struggled to recap-

ture levels of voter turnout that President Obama relied so heavily upon in the two previous elections, according to NPR. Perhaps most surprising of all, was the amount of minority support the Republican candidate was able to secure. PBS reported that after weighted consideration of building "The Wall," after the soundbites denouncing illegal immigrants as "criminals and rapists," Trump still managed to secure 29% of the Hispanic Vote. In 2012, Mitt Romney mustered 27%, by comparison, according to PBS.

The results of this election could be a definitive end to the influence of the Clintons in left-wing politics according to the Wall Street Journal, with the general public deciding twice that they do not want Hillary Clinton as Commander-in-Chief, having also lost the democratic nomination to Barack Obama in 2008. Her struggles to build trust with Americans, dismayed

by her use of a private email server during her tenure as the Secretary of State and acceptance of six and seven figure paychecks for corporate speaking engagements failed to galvanize independent voters to her cause, the Wall Street Journal stated.

An America that just eight years ago had pioneered the arrival of its first African-American President fell just short of rallying to elect its first female to the office, instead electing a man whose derogatory remarks toward women have been widely recorded and scrutinized. Many felt that such talk would disqualify a presidential candidate from taking office.

Healthcare, immigration, abortion, the economy, ISIS, relations with America's allies and economic partners were only some of the most pressing matters for voters, according to Politico. Both the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal reported that Trump said he was reconsidering his stance on

the repeal of the Affordable Care Act after his meeting with President Obama. Trump's stance on immigration has continued to develop as well. He told CBS on "60 Minutes" he plans to deport or incarcerate up to 3 million undocumented immigrants. He also said his promised wall may include "some fencing." "For certain areas I would [build fencing], but certain areas, a wall is more appropriate," he said. "I'm very good at this, it's called construction."★

Jackson is a senior political science major.



LILY BRUNNER

Eli French '20 shared his perspective in the Community Covenant discussion on Monday. SGA voted to reject the proposed revisions.

SGA from page 1

acting dishonestly, cheating, and engaging in occult practice. We also believe that sexual expression should be confined to marriage between one man and one woman as legally assigned at birth. Therefore, we expect members of the Houghton College community to refrain from engaging in premarital sex, adultery, and same-sex sexual behavior or dating relationships. We also expect all community members to use discretion and modesty when displaying affection, especially such displays deemed inappropriate for public or commons spaces."

The floor was then opened for general discussion, moderated by student body president, Joanna Friesen '17. Community members on both sides of the issue shared their views. One

of the opening statements by a student was an insinuation that LGBTQ people and their supporters are not "real Christians." But this was tempered by another student who reminded everyone that one's view on what the Bible says about sexual ethics "is a matter of interpretation," and should not be seen as a litmus test for membership in the Church or the Houghton College community.

The final voice heard in the open discussion was that of Ron McEntire, a current graduate student in Organ Performance. He told the story of his life, admitting that he was a gay Christian who first attended Houghton in the 1960s. Though he was always aware that his identity as a gay man stood in tension with Wesleyan Church doctrine, his commitment to the Christian faith transcended differences about sexual ethics, regardless of how painful they could be. On the topic

of the proposed revision he said, "When I look at this language I don't feel safe here." This sentiment was shared by other members of the LGBTQ community on campus.

After open discussion ended the SGA voted on whether or not to reject and edit the proposed language. They chose to reject and edit, and will create an editing committee comprised of the Executive Council and class presidents. The purpose of this committee will be to find language that addresses the vagueness within the current covenant, while remaining sensitive to the needs of the entire community. As Pool said, "The intent is that the entire community agrees on the language. If not, then it's not a community covenant." Any questions, comments, or proposals for the Covenant language can be sent to the SGA at their email, sga@houghton.edu ★

Skyzone Outing Replaces NYC Bus Trip

CARINA MARTIN

This semester, Campus Activities Board (CAB) will not be sponsoring a bus trip to New York City. Instead, CAB will be hosting a trip to Skyzone, a trampoline park in Buffalo.

As part of its campus social programming, CAB has traditionally organized a bus trip to New York City each year during the month

of November. According to Barbara Spaulding '17, CAB student director, arrangements with local bus services did not work out as anticipated. "A couple weeks ago, we decided to make the call to cancel the NYC trip and substitute it with something else," she said.

Instead of cancelling the event entirely, CAB opted to relocate the outing to Skyzone in Buffalo. According to its website, Skyzone is a trampoline park that features

a free jump zone, a foam pit, and ultimate dodgeball, along with a variety of other activity areas. The park has become a popular weekend destination in the Buffalo area and provides a great opportunity to enjoy a unique physical activity. As a result of Skyzone's group pricing incentives, CAB was also able to secure tickets to the park at a significant discount.

Kasey Cannister '17 helped to organize the Skyzone trip and is excited to

provide an opportunity for students to connect off-campus without needing to worry about transportation or high costs. "With popular activities like this typically far from campus, we have been wanted to provide transportation for a fun outing like this one," she shared. "We are really looking forward to taking students off campus for a fun event as well as providing a space for a large group of Houghton students to hang out with one another in a

popular facility where they would typically only know a few people there."

The bus to Skyzone will leave from the Campus Center at 12:30 p.m. and return around 5:00 p.m. Tickets to the event are \$10 and can be purchased at the Welcome Desk. Participation is limited to 47 students, and CAB anticipates that tickets will sell out quickly, so Cannister recommended that students come and get tickets while they are still available. ★

Former Art Students Return for Ceramics Alumni Invitational in CFA

BETHANY KUIKEN

Each year Houghton graduates art students who use a variety of mediums, clay being one of them. On Monday, November 18, the Houghton Art Department will host some of these former students and their artwork in a Ceramics Alumni Invitational in the Ortlip Gallery. This event will feature various pieces of ceramic art from seventeen Houghton graduates in the Center for Fine Arts from 6-8 p.m.

Alicia Taylor-Austin, director of exhibitions for the Ortlip Gallery and assistant professor of art, said she looks forward to this unique opportunity. "Houghton hosts exhibitions of both established and emerging artists every year," she said. "This is a unique Alumni Invitational Exhibition specifically focused on artists working in clay who have graduated from Houghton with a degree in art and are actively making ceramic work."

Gary Baxter, professor of art, serves as the curator of the show. Last year, when he announced his plans for retirement after 35 years of teaching ceramics, sculpture,



NATE MOORE

The exhibit, curated by Baxter, features ceramics work from alumni who were his students.

3D Design, furniture design, and ancient art history in the department, Baxter and his colleagues planned for a show to exhibit the work of his students who came through Houghton's program under his teaching and are currently active in the field. He had the privilege of inviting seventeen artists to participate in the gallery. "I was impressed when I saw the work," he said. "What they've done in the gallery in this exhibit will be quite different than what they did while they were students here. They've progressed quite a bit over the years." After receiving work from artists living and working across the United States,

Indonesia, and Tanzania, Baxter and Taylor-Austin worked together to design the show.

As a current student, Jill Magara '17, a studio art major with a concentration in ceramics and photography, is also excited to observe the artistic progress that alumni have made. "It's exciting for me to see how Professor Baxter's students' styles have developed after undergrad. It's always a really great opportunity to talk with Houghton alumni about how they've gotten to the place in the career that they're at."

This invitational will provide current Houghton students with the opportunity to not only

enjoy the art, but also to learn from alumni. "I think this opening is important because it's filled with Houghton alumni. These are students that have been in our place years before us and we get to see their successes and talk with them one-on-one about their experiences, successes, and failures," Magara said. "This doesn't happen often as an undergrad studying art."

This invitational is a special opportunity for both professors and students alike to observe professional ceramic art. "There will be a variety of ceramics in the show. Some will be sculptures, some will be low-fire pottery.

There is a wide variety of different ways of working as well as the different material they've used," Baxter said. "I was impressed with the students' work. In fact, it occurred to me that many of them have surpassed me. That was very gratifying to see that."

Not only that, but this exhibit will be a celebration of Baxter's loyalty to the art department. "One of the most exciting elements of this show is that you can see the result of Gary's dedication to teaching," Taylor-Austin said. "He has instilled very lasting impressions of technique and skill along with a thoughtful approach to working in this medium, conveying ideas, and creating both functional and sculptural work."

The Ceramics Alumni Invitational Exhibition will feature works by Aaron Harrison, Alic Drew, Arryn Vogan, Barb Arensen, Betsy Addison, Elizabeth Addison, Eric Holbein, Jason Herring, Jennifer Depaolo, Lisa York, Lydia Ferwerda, Marc LeMaire, Nancy Petrillo, Naomi Woolsey, Patricia Ocock, Paul Christensen.

This will be Houghton's first time hosting a Ceramics Alumni Invitational, making it a rare privilege for the Houghton community to come together and celebrate the ceramic artwork done by Houghton alumni. The work will remain in the Ortlip Gallery from November 14 to January 13.★

Philosopher and Author Speaks at Houghton

IAN DEHAAS

This year's Woolsey lecturer is James K. A. Smith, professor of philosophy at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, as well as the author of a number of books. Among the most notable of his works are *Desiring the Kingdom* and *Imagining the Kingdom*, the first two books in an unfinished trilogy entitled "Cultural Liturgies." His newest book and title of this year's lecture series, *You Are What You Love*, came out this summer, and is in some ways an introduction to Smith's philosophy and work in the trilogy.

Smith's works are concerned with convincing the reader that the church focuses on the rational side of humanity far too much. One of the ideas expressed in *You Are What You Love* is that the Reformation boiled the mystery out of religion. Smith writes that religion became something that treated humanity as "brains-on-a-stick." That is to say people were treated

as if they were only rational, and that thinking was the best way to change people's actions. He writes, "Your love or desire – aimed at a vision of the good life that shapes how you see the world while also moving and motivating you – is operative on a largely non-conscious level. Your love is a kind of automaticity."

For Smith, the way to the head is through the desires of the heart. This interplay between head and heart is fundamental to him. He is most certainly not making an argument against the importance of the head, but rather attempting to bring the heart into better focus. Much of his work reflects this emphasis and encourages the reader to become aware of the falsehood claiming that reason is everything. According to Smith, desire plays one of, if not the biggest role, in human decision-making.

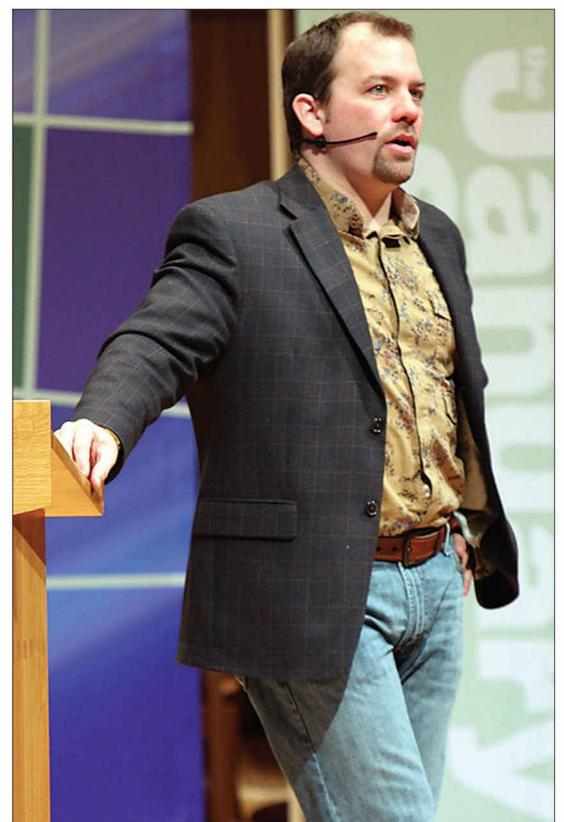
When asked about his work, Smith stated, "My argument, my passion, is to help evangelical Protestants remember they are catholic." He continued, "That is, I think the future of the faith looks ancient, and that worship renewal comes from remembering what we have forgotten, constructively retrieving the rhythms and rituals of historic Christian worship as a

reservoir of the Spirit's formative power." Smith wishes to invite the Protestant church back into an ancient conversation, which will require churches to become intentional. Smith said Christian education "needs to be holistic, not just providing contents for the mind but inscribing habits of the heart, what ancient thought described in terms of virtue."

According to self-described "fanboy" of Smith, dean of the chapel, Michael Jordan, Smith's message will be fresh for Houghton students. "I don't know if people have really heard what he has to say yet," said Jordan. He added that what Smith has to say, especially how the head and the heart are connected, is vital. "People of my parents' generation who have worked at Houghton grew up in holiness churches who devalued the head and relied on the heart," Jordan said.

Houghton, as a place that values the growth and shaping of the mind so heavily, can easily displace the importance of shaping the heart as well. Jordan believes what Smith has to say might flesh out what campus ministry can be for people and how it can be most effective.

Smith will give two talks open to Houghton students



FACEBOOK.COM/JAMESKSMITH

Author and speaker James K. A. Smith is also a professor of philosophy at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

while he is here, as well as several closed sessions for a ministry conference. The first will be Thursday, November 17 at 7 p.m. in the Center for Fine Arts

(CFA) recital hall, and the other will be Friday, November 18 in the Wesley Chapel during the regularly scheduled chapel time.★

Feeling the #BuffaLove

Recent Alumni Make Buffalo, NY Home



COURTESY OF MORGAN LOGHRY

Many former Houghton students now call Buffalo, New York home, where they are launching their careers.

SOPHIA ROSS

As one of two major cities that are driving distance from Houghton College, Buffalo, New York is a favorite spot for students to go on weekends, whether they are shopping, jumping the stress away at SkyZone, or volunteering with Journey's End Tutoring (JET). But the second largest city in New York State is not only home to the Walden Galleria mall and the eclectic shops of Elmwood village, it is also the home of many former Houghton students. Sarah Hutchinson '14, Alexandra Hood '15, Liana Wool '16, and Morgan Loghry '16 all moved to Buffalo shortly after graduating from Houghton, and have since settled in the city.

A political science major with minors in history, Hutchinson, who had also worked for The Star throughout her time at Houghton, did not know what she wanted to do with her degree upon graduation. She ultimately decided to pursue an AmeriCorps term in Buffalo at a nonprofit community health center that serves refugees and people trapped by poverty, Jericho Road Community Health Center, which was founded by a Houghton graduate. After her year-long term of service, Hutchinson was hired full-time by her organization.

"Initially I was attracted to Buffalo because of the high population of refugees," said Hutchinson. "Since about the early 2000s, thousands of refugees from Burma, Bhutan, Somalia, Iraq, and other countries have been resettled here. They have been instrumental for the renaissance going on in the city right

now, lots of vacant houses in the city are now occupied, new businesses are opening."

Hood, meanwhile, chose Buffalo because she was looking for an artistic community to engage with. While at Houghton, she majored in art and worked for both the Campus Activities Board and Caffeinated Creative Studio. She also directed Printed Matter Press (PMP), a small group of art and design students who printed and sold their work to attend the annual Southern Graphics Conference. She credits PMP with revealing her passion.

"I was constantly surrounded by artists who were creating," she said. "It was easy for me to feel encouraged in what I was making when there was always someone to share ideas with. I wanted this when looking for a new place to live." So far, she has found this creative community in Buffalo, where along with working as a barista, she is interning at the Western New York Book Arts Center and selling her own work, which includes stationary and handmade books. She added, "Art is meant to be experienced and I believe it is an incredible outlet for all types of people. Buffalo is certainly a place where that is possible."

Wool graduated from Houghton in December 2015 with a major in Intercultural Studies and a minor in Human Ecology. In college, she participated in several off-campus programs, including the East Meets West honors program, a semester in London, a semester in Tanzania, and the Buffalo City Semester. In her

sophomore year, she interned at a refugee-based nonprofit in Buffalo that inspired her to dedicate her life to working on behalf of individuals with less of a voice in their new culture. After some searching following her graduation, she now works as a case manager at Journey's End Refugee Services in the city.

When asked what she likes best about Buffalo, Wool replied, "I would say the ability to live in a place that pushes you to look challenges in the face that in other environments you might be able to ignore is incredible." She continued, "Living and working in a city with your eyes wide open challenges to you live and have your being in a way that truly reflects the Gospel."

Also a 2016 graduate, Loghry moved to Buffalo with the intention of working in a creative field. At Houghton, she majored in fine arts with a minor in graphic design, and worked in several creative jobs on campus, including as a graphic designer in the marketing and communication department, and as a campus photographer for events and portraits. She helped to cofound Caffeinated Creative Studio, now Gild Studio, and was a gallery assistant in the Ortlip Gallery her senior year. The summer after her junior year, she moved to Buffalo, and decided to stay there and look for work after graduating.

"Living in Buffalo has articulated what I discovered about myself when I was in Houghton," said Loghry. "I have had a variety of jobs in my time here so far. No one ever told me that find-

ing a job I loved would be this hard." She began working in a design position for a high-class fashion company, but soon realized that she did not share the same values as her bosses. "My background at Houghton taught me where to draw the line when it comes to commercial advertising and how to use tasteful tactics to appeal to your desired audience."

For now, Loghry is working part-time as a photographer for the food delivery service GrubHub, and full-time at a photography studio. She added, "I am open to trying anything in this beautiful city. My time here has taught me that is matters less what I am doing, but that I am actively living creatively around people who challenge me."

All of these alumni agree that there are many reasons to love Buffalo. And while they miss certain aspects of Houghton, like the natural scenery and the security, they also agree that Buffalo is an excellent place for graduates to take their first steps into post-graduate life.

"I would encourage Houghton students looking to work in Buffalo to really get involved with the city, to study and love its particulars, to volunteer, and to really consider it as a unique place and your place in it," said Hutchinson. When asked what she would say to students looking to move to Buffalo, Loghry echoed Hutchinson with one pithy statement:

"Come join the party!"★

First Issue of *Lanthorn* Continues Legacy

DEVEN BLOWERS

On Friday, October 28, Houghton College's poetry and prose periodical, *The Lanthorn*, put out its first issue of the academic year. Edited by Carina Martin '18 and illustrated by Natalia Sytch '18, the subject of this first edition was "On Bodies." Martin asked writers to describe, deconstruct, and transform the human perception of bodies, writing in the preface to the issue: "A body is a difficult thing to be." The editor's note concluded with the statement, "The silent threshold awaits. The place just past it coaxes us to jump--or tiptoe quietly--or leap with our breath tight inside our chests. Let's meet there."

According to Martin, "*The Lanthorn* has been a Houghton literary tradition for decades. We have issues dating back as far as the early 1930s." She added, "[The

magazine] is about students who love words coming together to encourage each other creatively and ponder each other's perspectives." It is a collaborative form of expression that "exists so that we can all come together in fellowship around the written word. In a world of constant division, the goal of *The Lanthorn* is to unite and inform us rather than divide us."

While Martin is the editor of the publication, *The Lanthorn* is a collaborative effort of many students on Houghton's campus. All students are invited to submit their work via a campus-wide email, and once all of the submissions have been received, Martin sends them out to her readers. These readers are not given the names of writers, and are asked to rate the pieces they receive. Martin then compiles the top-rated pieces, lays out the issue using Adobe InDesign, and prints it through Quick Print.

The literary magazine has been a continued presence on Houghton's campus since its first issue was published in 1932.

Sophia Ross '17, whose grandfather, Wesley Nussey '40, was one of the first editors of *The Lanthorn* in 1938, and acted as one of two co-editors her junior year, recognizes the legacy of the magazine. When asked what sets it apart from other writing outlets at Houghton, Ross stated that the periodical is "an outlet where we can voice how we feel." Where other publications are more focused on current events and technology, *The Lanthorn* is "geared toward the poetic," she said.

"I think it affirms poetry's continued significance in today's society," Ross said. She believes each issue is a continuation of the larger canon of *The Lanthorn*, adding that topics explored in past issues of the publication dating back to the mid-1900s explore similar themes to the work published in today's *Lanthorn*.

According to Martin, what separates this most recent issue from previous issues is that it is rooted in diversity. Martin stated there is "a higher degree of diversity than there has been in the past." She added, "There are a



THELANTHORN.COM

The Lanthorn has been a student publication since May of 1932. Its first issue of the academic year was just released.

lot of people at Houghton who are writing, powerful, insightful, beautiful words." In publishing their work, she hopes to "shine a light on some of the voices we may not hear from very often."

Joe Miner '18, who was published for the first time in this edition, described this edition as "more confessional" than previous issues. He said, "Every piece goes deep to the core of the writer." Along with Martin and Miner, this issue's writers are comprised of students from

several different years and majors, including Theresa Patnala '19, Samuel Yuly '18, Meredith Guffey '17, Judith Marklin '17, Rachel Harrington '19, Hendrick de Smidt '19, Bethany Kuiken '18, Jonan Pilet '17, and Shannon Moore '19. Each voice views the human body and its struggles and celebrations differently, which in turn represents what Martin described as the "incredible diverse interests and passions" of Houghton students.★

You Voted For Trump: Now What?



ANTHONY BURDO

JIWAN DHALI WAL

On November 9th I woke up to find out that Donald Trump was president. I wept. I did not cry because “my candidate” did not win. I cried because Trump received 85% of the evangelical vote despite his numerous offensive comments towards women, Mexicans, immigrants, Muslims, and the disabled. This statistic became more painful when I realized that 81% of these evangelicals were white. Since I go to school with predominantly

white evangelicals, some of whom have likely voted for Trump, I have chosen to address the rest of this OpED to this demographic.

Now, I know that not everyone who voted for Trump did so for racist or misogynist intents. I get that, and I would not want to accuse you of such things. But, if you are an individual who voted for Trump, particularly if you are of Caucasian descent, I need you to hear me. I know, that most of you did not approve of either candidate and that you probably felt that Trump was the lesser of two evils. You may have had other rational decisions motivating your vote. Yet, the bitter truth remains that 85% of Evangelical Christians did not see racism as a deal breaker.

We can debate about what it means to be an “evangelical” or we can debate whether or not Trump will abandon his offensive persona in office. We can even argue over the legitimacy of one voting for Trump over Clinton,

“Be honest about Trump’s (and other individual’s) abuses and please and avoid trivializing their pain.”

but that is not the point of this piece. I am writing today to tell my white brothers and sisters that the results of this election have wounded my trust in the Church. I know this was not your intention. However, I feel uneasy knowing that majority of the American Church did not think about how their vote would directly affect the individuals who Trump had slandered. Christians cannot vote that way, particularly in this type of election. The Christian Church has a duty to its stranger (the refugee), to its vulnerable (the immigrant, the disabled), to the misrepresented (women and Muslim citizens), and to ethnic members of the Church. The fact that majority of evangelicals voted for Trump in light of these

issues makes it difficult for me to believe that racism was considered a real problem in the campaign. Indeed, for 81% of these Evangelicals, racism was not and will not be a personal issue; perhaps that is why it was not a problem.

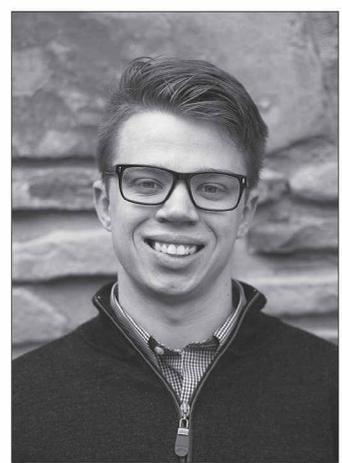
I know this is a hard thing for me to say. I know it is even harder to hear, but I need you to know how your actions have hurt minorities, whether you intended it or not. It is hard to believe there is a place in America and the American Church for me, or people like me, because too many people voted without holding Trump accountable for his abusive language and campaign. If you voted for Trump, I do love you. That is why I wrote this article; the Church cannot be the Church if it remains passive in the face of injustice, and so I ask you to act. It is likely that racial prejudice and its dynamics are new to you, therefore, listen to your non-white friends and see what they have to say about it. Be honest about Trump’s (and other individual’s) abuses and

please and avoid trivializing their pain. Rather, stand beside minorities and women who have been slandered in this campaign and hold the new president to a higher standard. You may have voted for Trump, but please make efforts to affirm that the Hispanic community, newly settled refugees, Muslim citizens and immigrants are valued people under Trump’s administration.

I have heard many people comment that we ought not to worry about Trump’s presidency because God is in control. This is true, but the statement is being used as a horribly passive approach to the issues at hand. We are the Church and in this turbulent time we do not get to hide behind sentimental ideas of providence, but we must repent to one another. For when the Church acts like the Church and works for peace, only then shall we see the reconciling spirit of God at work.★

Jiwan is a senior majoring in philosophy and theology.

Election 2016: A Babylonian Furnace



ANTHONY BURDO

JOSEPH GILLIGAN V

Flannery O’Connor (1925-1962) was a preeminent writer in the American South. O’Connor drew her stories from her rural Georgian experiences and her Roman Catholic faith. She wrote about morality and ethics in the post antebellum South. O’Connor’s Southern Gothic writing style involves deeply flawed characters engaged in sinister plots. In O’Connor’s *A Good Man is Hard to Find* comprised of a collection of short stories, she writes an interesting short

story titled *A Circle In The Fire*. The story parallels the Book of Daniel and interestingly parallels the 2016 Presidential Election.

By replacing the characters in *A Circle In the Fire* with the cast of the 2016 election candidates and pundits, we find O’Connor’s short story traces this election’s story. Focusing on the protagonist Mrs. Cope (played by Mrs. Clinton) and her plantation (the Democrat Blue Wall), O’Connor paints Mrs. Cope as a paranoid and secretive woman scared of losing control of her farm (her power) and is obsessed in

guarding her privacy (her home email server). She believes she has complete control of her plantation and the people working on it. Like the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar, Mrs. Cope demands her subordinates to idolize and worship her. Her friend and assistant, Mrs. Pinchard (played by Huma Abedin) does her best to make Mrs. Cope comfortable and shield her from the real world. While working with Mrs. Cope each day on the farm, Mrs. Pinchard shares tragic stories (of regular Americans). Mrs. Cope

is interested in these misfortunes because they have not befallen her or her farm. She has servants (played by Bernie Sanders and a few Millennials) that are picked on by Mrs. Cope for doing their work wrong because they are lazy and stupid.

One day, three teenage boys show up on the farm and trespass onto the plantation. The boys names are Garfield Smith

“Moving forward, Donald Trump has the match in his hands and has the opportunity to control burn the Washington establishment to try to save it.”

(played by Newt Gingrich), W.T. Harper (played by Rudy Giuliani), and their leader Powel Boyd (played by Donald Trump). Powel is wild and an unpredictable outsider who uses foul language, smokes cigarettes, and has little respect for the elite plantation structure. Powel is on the farm to rekindle something lost from his idyllic childhood (Making America Great Again). Mrs. Cope doesn’t want this basket full of deplorables on her farm, but she allows them to stay even when they prove too much for her to control. She

offers them sandwiches and drinks, but similar to the Book of Daniel 1:11-13, the boys refuse it because Mrs. Cope wants them to submit to her orders. Instead, the boys walk outside to the barn and steal milk. Mrs. Cope is concerned their cigarette smoking will start a fire since the farm has suffered a summer long drought. Night falls and the boys want to go to sleep in the barn, but Mrs. Cope insists they sleep in the field due to her fear that they will burn down the barn. The following day, the boys wake up and defy Mrs. Cope by riding her horses

and letting the bull loose. Later in the afternoon, Mrs. Cope sees the boys throwing rocks at her mailbox and tells them she is going to call the police. The boys disappear, but as night falls Mrs. Cope smells smoke and sees the forest on her property is on fire. As she gets her servants, she approaches the fire and hears the boys laughter dancing in the fiery furnace of her forest. As fire engulfs the property, Mrs. Cope’s biggest fears have been realized. Her fortress was more fragile than she thought and her control is gone.

For Mrs. Clinton, the main stream media, Wall Street, the Washington DC elites, Hollywood, academia, Democrats, and the GOP establishment; the future will no longer be the same. Many will be fired and replaced. This election, the outsider broke through the farm gates and burned the establishment down. However, there is a technique in forest management called a controlled burn which is used when a forest is lit on fire in order to save it. Moving forward, Donald Trump has the match in his hands and has the opportunity to control burn the Washington establishment to try to save it. It should be all our hope that President Trump can manage and steward the forest we call America.★

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LGBTQ Christians: *Why We Need To Do Better*



NATE MOORE

JOE MINER

anything relating to the LGBTQ+ community, we seem to exchange our fascination with unity for an obsession with dissent.

On the surface, it seems like Houghton has done an excellent job of trying to maintain unity. Dean Jordan's chapel talks and special discussions are always presented with tact and respect. SGA has also been doing a great job of facilitating discussion about the language of the Community Covenant that talks about same-sex relationships. If you have been here for a few years, you have probably seen a number of chapel speakers talking about what it looks like to be gay and Christian.

However, I'm not talking about the surface. God isn't very concerned with the surface and neither am I. I am concerned with dinner table talks in the dining hall. I am concerned about the uneasiness that many students have about talking to someone who is gay, bisexual, lesbian, or transgender. I want to shed light on the fact that students wish, and sometimes even pray for the LGBTQ+ community to leave Houghton College. It seems to me that if you even say the word "gay," there is a Houghton student somewhere cringing in agony.

I have never seen more

Houghton students instantly filled with anger about a topic than I have with this one. Why is that? Why does it anger us so much to think there are students with a different theological position than what is popular? Why does it bother us to think some people disagree? Are we afraid the Bible is being misinterpreted and that we are accepting lies, or are we actually just being swept away

may need to reconsider your motives. Hold true to your beliefs, but for the sake of the unity of the church in a time of turmoil, please do not let the Christian acceptance of homophobia get in the way of your Christ-like compassion. You have Christian brothers and sisters who are a part of the LGBTQ+ community. Shouting at them and questioning why they would even want to

opportunity to inflict pain.

I am not saying you should change your theological stance and affirm same-sex relationships. I, myself, am conservative on the topic of sexuality and I hold firm to that stance. What I am saying, though, is that we cannot look at sexual orientation as an opportunity to disrespect and disregard the LGBTQ+ community on campus or around the world. We need to do better in the area of loving our gay and lesbian neighbors. We need to try harder to walk beside our bisexual and transgender brothers and sisters. The Bible never says that if you disagree with a Christian brother or sister, you should isolate yourself immediately. We need to be loving to the LGBTQ+ community, both inside and outside the Houghton bubble. Can that be uncomfortable if you believe that their sexual desires are sinful? Yes. Does Jesus care whether or not we are comfortable? Probably not.★

Joe is a junior communication major with minors in business and Bible.

"We are one Houghton community. We are one body of Christ. You cannot pick and choose members of that family."

by our own biases? We cannot escape the fact that the church has a history of demonizing the LGBTQ+ community. I see it every time a Christian brother or sister says we should not think less of someone because of their race, gender, or economic status, but conveniently disregards sexual orientation. We all know that racism is bad. We all know that sexism is terrible. However, I question how many of us realize that homophobia is not actually something that is rooted in Christ.

If your belief in the sinfulness of homosexuality thwarts your ability to love a gay person, you

attend Houghton College has done and will continue to do nothing to strengthen the church. We are one student body. We are one Houghton community. We are one body of Christ. You cannot pick and choose members of that family. We one-hundred percent need to do better. The next time you are about to slander your LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters in Christ, ask yourself when the last time you asked to pray for them was. Ask yourself whether or not you even have a gay friend. Disagree and debate, but for the beauty of the Earth, do not use your differences as an



The mission of the Houghton Star is to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency and integrity that have characterized Houghton College since its inception. This will be done by serving as a medium for the expression of student thought and as a quality publication of significant campus news, Houghton area news, and events.



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Artist of the Week

Rachel Hummel

//junior studio art major



NATE MOORE



“The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched, they are felt with the heart.”

- Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *Le petit prince*

Titles & Media

clockwise descending

Spring might still come to Ottawa, *watercolor*

Fietspad, *watercolor*

Tots Zien, *watercolor*

He grew three hundred kale plants the first year, *watercolor*

Untitled, *watercolor*

