

CAMPUS CORNER

JANUARY 28, 2018 • ISSUE #50

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM RETREAT

Another year, another semester. Josh Zito and I (Tyler Ellis) hit the ground running, beginning with a retreat for the Student Leadership Team the weekend before classes began. When plans fell through to spend two days at a cabin in Townsend (due to ice and threats of snow), the Troxler's graciously opened up their home and Joyce cooked up some delicious food. It was a worthwhile time: catching up, planning, praying, and dreaming about the future! The CSC is blessed with a great group of leaders; I'm proud of them.

SOLID ROCK TALENT SHOW

For a fun night out, mark your calendars for Saturday, February 10. There will be free food, free childcare, and free entertainment - all for a good cause. Donations will benefit students from the Christian Student Center planning to spend their Spring Break on a mission trip to Houston. In Texas, we will provide disaster relief for victims of Hurricane Harvey.

After some wavering details, we've decided to stick with what's been done in the past and invite Laurel members to bring a crockpot full of chili. If you would like to help out in that way, please contact Joyce Troxler and give her a heads up. (wtrox@aol.com or 865-680-1059)

Finally, today is the deadline to sign up to perform an act in the talent show. Didn't Jesus say something about not burying your gifts? Ha! Whether you have nunchuck skills, bow-hunting skills, or computer-hacking skills (for those of you Napoleon Dynamite fans), or you can sing, paint, or do magic tricks, just call or text me (Tyler Ellis) at 302-766-3003. It will be a blast.



Pictures from Solid Rock, 2016



GULF COAST GETAWAY (GCG)

No sooner did students get back on campus than we headed out of town for an annual conference in Panama City, FL over the holiday weekend. There, our group of about twenty - including Anthony and Pat Fuller and Bill and Joyce Troxler - joined about 1,500 students at a resort on the beach. While the weather wasn't as nice as last year, it was still warmer than Knoxville; it even cleared up one afternoon long enough to get in a few games of sand volleyball.

The keynote speaker was Don McLaughlin - preaching minister of North Atlanta Church of Christ in Georgia. Incidentally, it's the same church where Bryan Shrader - CSC alumni and former Student President - served as a youth ministry intern last summer.

The theme was *Reconcile* and addressed the tension that exists between us and God, and between us and each other; with special emphasis on the racial tension in our culture and in the church. In addition to keynote sessions, there was a lot of time set aside for worship, classes, and discussion groups.

As a supporter of the Christian Relief Fund - both personally and collectively at the CSC - I was thrilled when the GCG board selected CRF as the cause to rally students behind this year. CRF President, Milton Jones, attended GCG and did well informing students about the organization and how their specific donations would go toward drilling a well in Turkana, Kenya and planting a church. Amazingly, students raised \$16,000, which was matched by another donor to amount to \$32,000.

A number of students we've seen come to Christ can trace the beginnings of their spiritual quest back to this conference. For example, Grace Ostdiek (pictured above; far right) was baptized into Christ just before Christmas break; one of her first events with the CSC was this conference. In fact, we even have alumni serving on the mission field right now as the result of connections they made at Gulf Coast Getaway.

I'd like to give a shout out to the Fuller's and Troxler's for accompanying us on the trip, and for the many members at Laurel who generously provided scholarships to help students participate.