

THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN

AN INTERVIEW WITH WILL DEYO

By Laura Lynch

WILL, A UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA STUDENT, IS A BARISTA AT PASCAL'S COFFEEHOUSE and a junior who believes when he looks back on his college years that the CSC and Pascal's will be what he treasures most. He is double-majoring in finance and English.

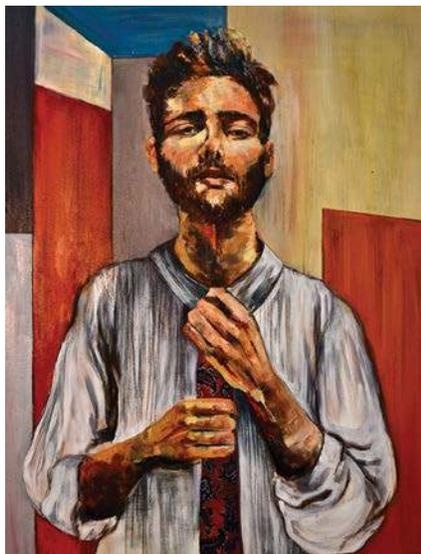
How did you find out about the Christian Study Center?

My roommate, Scott, and I went to the church, Creekside, which my college pastor had recommended and I think that Sunday Dr. Horner spoke about the Center. Then, the first time I went to the building was when Cru hosted an ice cream social.

That's a nice benefit of our building. We can be a meeting place and resource to ministry groups, churches and others.

I really got more involved with the Christian Study Center spring semester of my freshman year, when I was taking the required freshmen class, "What Is The Good Life?"* My instructor Joel Parker mentioned to me I might be interested in the director's class.

I loved it there. It was everything that I wanted in terms of exploring religion and art and culture and all



*painting of Will Devo by Jenna Horner,
a fellow barista and new graduate*

of that. Fall semester came and I saw that Pascal's was hiring. After I became a barista I started going to even more classes and lectures. I've never had a job where I worked so few hours but stayed in the building so much!

The Center is focusing on all aspects of Faith and Vocation this year. How does your faith shape your work here at Pascal's?

By serving people coffee I come into contact with all kinds of people every day. It all comes back to treating people well, as Jesus would treat them. There are times when I may not mesh with some customers, or even some baristas, but because of my faith I am able to treat people the way Jesus treated people. Of course sometimes things get really rushed, but inside I can be more at peace.

All of you at the bar work very hard to serve people well. We appreciate you. Tell me a little bit about some of the programs you've taken?

Dr. Horner did a Nietzsche reading group. I learned how to spell his name and a whole lot more! There was a Flannery O'Connor reading group too. I loved everything that I was doing at the Christian Study Center in the reading group. Last fall I made the decision to become a double major in English and finance. I know that's not a typical combination! I was able to take a class at UF called "The Bible As Literature." I loved my professor and I received a perspective that I never had heard before. The class required a lot of Bible reading. Of course I should always be reading the Bible, but it was nice to get graded for it! Even if studying English at the University is pretty different from studying at the Christian Study Center, it's something that I feel called to do. It sounds kind of corny, but I want to persevere and try to do everything to the best of my ability as working for God, not for man.

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With your love of literature do you have any recommendations for our readers?

Will: Interestingly some works by people who are not Christians have really shaped my faith. *The Fall* by Camus, and *The Name of the Rose* by Umberto Eco, who is an Italian professor of semiotics. We explored *The Fall* in Dr. Horner's class on *The Narrative of the Fall in Life and Literature*. *The Name of the Rose* was a bit of a slog at first. It's a murder mystery set in a 14th century Italian abbey. It's the most beautiful prose I have ever read; there are so many descriptions of religious icons in it. As a professor of semiotics, that makes sense. I've been thinking about that book so much, the way that the author communicates the fervor of these monks.

Another book, which I just finished last week is called *The Life You Save May Be Your Own* by Paul Elie. That's the name of a Flannery O'Connor short story. The book is a biography of four Catholic writers: Flannery O'Connor, Thomas Merton, Dorothy Day and Walker Percy. If you don't read the book you can listen to the author interview on Krista Tippett's *On Being* (<http://www.onbeing.org/program/paul-elie-faith-fired-by-literature/99>). I thought Tippett's subtitle, "Faith Fired by Literature" made more sense than the book's subtitle, "An American Pilgrimage." That book was great for me for a number of reasons. It made me feel that maybe someday I can write something about books that I love, a book about books. And then, I don't know if I can talk very well about it in a couple of sentences, but the conviction that all of these writers were living courageously just to write as Catholics, at a time where the country was not pro-Catholic. Their commitment to Jesus and their ideas about liturgy is part of what has inspired me to go out and look for more of that and see what it's all about.



Well it sounds like the Center has broadened horizons in your life and you are broadening ours. Do you see that happening with others you encounter? There is such a variety of people who come in every day. They are in a building that has a really positive environment. We can talk to the people about things that are going on. Classes provide points of reference for people whether they are Christians or not. It's that way in everything in the Center. The Christian Study Center description of purpose says the Center seeks to explore the intersection of Christian thought and academic discourse. People come from all directions. We're learning from each other and there is a lot of synergy. People meet here and talk about things that matter.

**The Good Life class was discussed in the last issue of Under Consideration during the interview with John Sommerville. In a small way through this class the university is stepping into space that was vacated in postmodernity in order to explore more universal human questions of meaning.*

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Are there things you've waited a long time for, and then when you've gotten them, it's been disappointing? Not so here! We waited a long time to redo our website. Multitudes of people and revisions later we have a beautiful new website. Kendra Skeene,* alumna, graphic designer and webmaster, performed her magic. Please explore our new site.

Some of you may be waiting for just the right time to join a study center class. May I suggest a podcast? This year our focus will be our undergraduate seminar groups of faith and vocation, but we still have a lot to offer you. Our new website has years of audio podcasts, conveniently listed by programs (director's class, special events, etc) and most recent offerings. You may also subscribe via iTunes.

** Kendra, and husband Chris were interviewed for Under Consideration, Vol. 1, No. 2, in Feb. 2010.*

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Christian Study Center • Fall 2014 • Semester at a Glance

THINKING ABOUT WORK: UNDERGRADUATE SEMINARS ON FAITH AND VOCATION

This new initiative offers five seminar tracks exclusively for undergraduate students. Applications are no longer being accepted for the 2014-15 year. We will be expanding the program over the next three years. See page 5 for details.

BUILDING A ROBUST THEOLOGY OF VOCATION

This will be a working/reading group for clergy, campus ministers, lay leaders, and others who are interested in understanding work in a Trinitarian framework. It will meet over a brown bag lunch four times during the fall semester.

Leader: Richard V. Horner, M.Div., Ph.D., Executive Director, CSC
September 30, October 14, November 4, and an additional session TBD. 1:00 - 2:00

FAITH AND VOCATION IN THE ACADEMY – a reading group exclusively for graduate students

This group is open to graduate students considering careers connected to academic work. Readings will be aimed at questions surrounding what it means to be a Christian scholar within one's chosen discipline. The group will meet three times a semester for dinner and discussion.

Leader: Brent Henderson, Associate Professor of Linguistics, UF
Contact the CSC for details.

READING THE GOSPELS, PART ONE – exclusively for students and recent graduates

Rooted in a careful reading of the biblical text, this class will keep all four Gospels in view in order to highlight both the challenges and the rewards that follow from setting the accounts alongside each other. Whether you are reading the Gospels from a perspective of conviction or skepticism, this class will enrich your reading of this fascinating literature and of the figure that stands at the heart of the story it tells.

Teacher: Richard V. Horner, M.Div., Ph.D., Executive Director, CSC
Wednesdays, period five (11:45 – 12:35), September 3 through November 19 (lunch provided)

PASCAL'S COFFEEHOUSE - Open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted Study Center programs are held in our classroom at
112 NW 16th Street (one block north of University Avenue across from the UF campus) • 352-379-7375
for additional information: www.christianstudycenter.org

DONATIONS

How does all the good here happen? We trust God to provide through YOU! Small gifts or large, they ALL matter. We appreciate you praying about any support you can provide. We accept gifts on the web through PayPal, checks in the mail, stock donations, bequests, and donations through Amazon smile. You may select us as your charity of choice at smile.amazon.com.

For more information about donation options visit christianstudycenter.org/donate.



NEWS & NOTES

VOLUNTEER CORNER THANK YOUS

- Thank you **Mary Lou Schubert** for your many years serving as our librarian.
- Thank you **Jason Rogers** for the many years you have devoted to our ongoing technology needs. We thank you, too, **Eric Olson** for your help and advice.
- Thank you **Rebekah Kurdziel** for the multitude of ways you have served the Center.
- **Anne Lorie**, we miss you and your landscaping skills. Enjoy Colorado!

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

God has always blessed abundantly with great people and great unity of mission. We are grateful. We do occasionally have some needs. Right now we welcome volunteers for key areas such as the library and the grounds. Is anyone interested in volunteering a few hours on your own time schedule?

Contact Nora@christianstudycenter.org

The C. JOHN SOMMERVILLE LIBRARY, dedicated at our Sommerville weekend and farewell in March, now includes a section on **Faith and Vocation**.



ART IN THE NATHAN JOHNSTON MEMORIAL GALLERY

We are always looking for thoughtful art. Contact us if you know of someone that could fit our needs.

MORE HELLOS AND GOODBYES

Once again we have had to bid adieu to beloved friends and fellow-workers:

- This summer we hosted a farewell party for many of our dear friends (see facebook.com/christianstudycenter for pictures).
- **Juan Alcala**, coffeehouse manager, barista and participant in all things CSC, graduated and moved to Maryland to do a 9 month fellowship with the Trinity Forum.
- Farewell to our faithful baristas **Kathleen Chitty** and **Samantha Smothers** who also graduated and they are serving in youth ministries.
- We also said goodbye to **Stephen and Anna Addcox** as well as **Nick and Alison Dunn**. Nick has been part of the Center from the beginning and was manager of Pascal's. He will continue on as a board member despite the distance. **Sarah Hamersma**, a former assistant professor at UF, relocated to Syracuse University last year, but she too remains on the board and we are so glad.

Since our last Under Consideration:

- **Betsy Clover** began in April as our Program Administrator and Alumni Coordinator. Betsy comes to us with a M.A. in theology from RTS and even more importantly, a servant heart and a thoughtful mind.
- **Allie Huggins** is our newest barista. She joins Kelly Arahill, Amy Clark, Will Deyo, Caroline Hament, Todd Lowen and Scott Trinkle.
- **Caryn Barry Ligon** became manager of Pascal's coffeehouse this summer and brings her own style and grace. She graduated from UF and married **Derrick Ligon** in August.
- We also welcome **Jeff Andre**, a former UF student and CSC alum, to our Center board.

Thinking About Work: Undergraduate Seminars On Faith and Vocation

This fall we began five undergraduate tracks on how faith informs the work that students will do now and for years to come. This competitive program was able to accept about half of the applicants. The students will receive mentoring, small group meetings and professional guidance along with a \$300 fellowship for academic and professional development. We will offer a similar program next year.

TRACKS AND LEADERS ARE:

- **Christian Ministries:** Ryan Fields, Associate Pastor at Creekside Community Church and Rachel DeLaune, Associate Pastor at Grace at Ft. Clark
- **Science, Engineering and Technology:** Dr. Scott Perry, Professor Materials Science Engineering, Associate Chair for Academics
- **Medicine and Health:** Dr. James Lynch, Professor of Medicine, Assistant Dean
- **Creating Wealth for the Community/Entrepreneurship:** Phoebe Cade Miles and Richard Miles, co-founders of the Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention
- **Help! I haven't got a clue what I'm doing with my life (aka I don't fit in the other tracks):** Dr. Richard Horner, Director of the CSC



Opening night of Faith and Vocation undergraduate tracks: CSC classroom



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Coming Up at the Christian Study Center

Reading the Gospels Part 1: Beginning of the Gospel through Turning toward Jerusalem
Director's Class for undergraduates, Wednesday, period 5

Building a Robust Theology of Vocation

Reading group for all, especially clergy, lay leaders, and campus ministers.
Explores a Trinitarian theology of work. Sept. 30, Oct. 14, Nov. 4 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Faith and Vocation Graduate Reading Group

For graduate students considering an academic career.
Led by Brent Henderson, Associate Professor of Linguistics, bhendrsn@ufl.edu

Summer Institute on Faith and Vocation: May 21-24, 2014. Mark your calendars!

Dr. James K.A. Smith, Professor of Philosophy at Calvin College, is our keynote speaker.

Check our website christianstudycenter.org for details.

This newsletter is a publication of the Christian Study Center of Gainesville which facilitates the thoughtful consideration of a Christian understanding of life and culture in the university community.



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