

The Verity Good Report

Newsletter of the Verity Institute

November 07, 2008 • Vol. 2, No. 8

The Culinary Society

“Here at the Verity Campus there is a ‘Kitchen Society’ of students who step into the culinary world and try something new—that is what makes my job fun.”

— Melissa Farmer, Head Cook

When Melissa Farmer volunteered for a single weekend in Kim Cahill’s kitchen at the Riverfront Character Inn in Flint, Michigan, little did she know she would stay there for the next three years. After Verity moved away from the RCI to Indianapolis, Melissa decided to venture out into the world of medicine.

For the next year-and-a-half she worked as a Nurse’s Aid—only to find God leading her back to the culinary arts. Coming back was “a leap of faith,” as she admits. “Since working here God has taught me f-l-e-x-i-b-i-l-i-t-y and total dependence on Him for strength and ability. I view my work here in the kitchen as a ministry. Interacting with students is encouraging, and teaching them how to cook large scale is a way to invest in their lives. But food service is often a blessing people do not think about, an ‘unsung’ ministry—so make sure to show gratefulness to the people who cook your meals no matter where you are!”

On behalf of the staff and students of Verity Institute, we want to publicly thank Melissa for all the ways she has blessed us from cookies to broccoli, to creating the unique atmosphere we call “The Kitchen.”



Melissa and her assistant, Janet Brookman, enjoy making delicious meals together in the South Campus kitchen.



The Mission

Shortly after Verity Institute relocated to Indianapolis, students began looking for a local ministry to help out with and discovered the Good News Mission. The Good News Mission was founded for the purpose of giving kids from downtown Indianapolis a place to work



on homework after school, be tutored in various subjects, and find Jesus. Volunteers help keep



things under control as well as actively seek out ways to minister to the kids. Adam Anders says of his experiences at the mission: “*The Good News Mission Children’s Center is a huge blessing to local children. The kids who come have a safe place to play after school. They are also encouraged in scripture memory and extra academic programs. I go because it is a great mission opportunity God has given me.*”

Keep up the good work!

The ministry mindset of the present classes at Verity has taken root in creative and very hands on ways this semester. Almost every night of the week there are groups of students heading out to do their part to encourage, support, or defend the work of the Lord. **Mondays** – students head out in their sneakers and sweatshirts to go to the downtown Good News Mission. **Tuesdays** – beginning next semester we will be visiting local nursing homes with music and choral pieces. **On Wednesdays** – Our ensemble warms up their vocal

chords for a musical presentations at a local church. **Saturdays** – students join Dr. & Mrs. Castelino and drive down to the Indianapolis Training Center for an English tutorial ministry targeted towards Spanish-speaking people. **Sundays** – students help out with Sunday school classes, church nurseries, and after-church opportunities. On the off days, any number of opportunities may fill the spot including but not limited to: AWANA, teen discipleship, prayer groups, voting attendants, as well as all the little ministries found around the campus helping the Shipleys, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Ross, or in the greenhouse.

The Fire Hydrant of History

I believe everyone who has heard William J. Federer speak must agree that they learned something new during his presentations. Mr. Federer joined Verity Institute for Reformation Day. Over the course of his visit he succeeded in regaling the staff and student body with fast paced facts and interlocking stories that composed a brief history of Christendom. He challenged us in our faith and made heroes of men such as Martin Luther and the Founding Fathers.



Not only did Mr. Federer bring us history in action,

but he also brought several of his own publications defending the faith in the realm of government. His visit was fast and furious—fitting right in with Verity life—and we all hope he made join us again soon.

The Harvest Fest

On October 25th, we at Verity Institute celebrated one of our favorite traditions—the annual Harvest Festival. After a day filled with volleyball tournaments, relay



games, and seasonal activities, everyone quickly dressed up for dinner and headed out to the Farmhouse. Anyone within a hundred yards

of the barn would have caught a scent of the wonderful feast that was presented. Turkey, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, and apple sauce were the starters, finished off with apple pie, pumpkin bread, and hot chocolate. Following dinner, over fifteen student-led groups presented their talents from the lower loft to the audience below. Everything from standup comedy to blazing fast fiddle tunes to funny skits based on history to high-spirited



vocal songs kept the entire audience laughing the entire evening! The night was unforgettable—an enthusiastic thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Harvest Festival a resounding success!