

the COLLEGLIAN

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Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC 29614



Photo: Derek Eckenroth/BJU Marketing

CHRISTINA LAIRD
Staff Writer

Today is a day many of us have been looking forward to—the kickoff of BJU's Christmas celebration.

Dr. Dan Turner, director of the symphonic wind band, said the Christmas celebration started at the request of Dr. Bob Jones III.

"Dr. Jones III wanted to have something on the campus that would really bring a large number of community people to the campus," Turner said. "The idea was posed to do a lighting ceremony and have a carol singing, and we wanted to have the university band anchor that entire event."

In 2004, BJU's goal was to

beat the Guinness World record for the largest Christmas caroling celebration.

BJU held the world record until 2014 when someone beat them.

Since the first big celebration in 2004, this day has grown into a full day of exciting events for the students, faculty, staff and surrounding community.

Pam Cushman, director of events management, said she is excited for the Christmas spirit around campus.

"You can just feel the snap, crackle, pop in the air as everybody's excited," she said.

Cushman said many events focus on appreciating the students at BJU.

This morning, free cook-

ies and hot chocolate were given to students as they walked to class.

These stations were set up by the parking garage, Student Center Mall, Cuppa Jones plaza, Alumni, Science Building and Fine Arts plaza.

Don't forget to keep warm in this chilly Christmas weather by wearing your ugliest sweater.

Faculty and students can enter the ugly sweater contest by posting a picture on Instagram or Twitter and tagging #bjuuglyswear before noon.

The prize is a \$50 Amazon gift card.

Students can also wear jeans to class with their ugly Christmas sweaters.

See **CHRISTMAS** p. 4 >>

December artist series to feature choirs, orchestra, solos

TABITHA LEAMAN
Staff Writer

BJU will be hosting its next Concert, Opera and Drama series program, "A Very Merry Christmas," in the Founder's Memorial Amphitheater Thursday at 8 p.m.

"A Very Merry Christmas" is a Christmas music celebration concert featuring a 300-voice choir accompanied by the BJU symphony orchestra.

The program will consist of two parts.

The first half will feature sacred Christmas music with songs such as "Carol of the Bells," "Go Tell it on the Mountain," "Christ Is Born" and more.

Dr. Warren Cook, director of choral activities, said Christ is the primary focus of this program.

"We as believers will celebrate the coming of Christ as the Savior of the world," he said.

The second half of the concert will be devoted to secular and traditional Christmas songs such as "Winter Wonderland," "Sleigh Ride" and "Jingle Bells."

Dr. Michael Moore, chair of the Division of Music, said, "It will be snowflakes and sleigh rides. It's going to be an evening of fun Christmas music and storytelling."

Five BJU student vocal choirs will be singing together in the concert.

These participating choirs are University Singers, Collegiate Choir, Concert Choir, Chorale and the Chamber Singers.

Gabriella Yat, a senior voice performance major and

vice president of Chorale, said the concert includes a couple of unique features that attendees, especially students, will enjoy.

"One, it's Christmas! Everybody loves Christmas," she said. "Two, it's about our peers up there. It's about all the camaraderie in the student body and seeing our friends perform in an artist series."

Caleb Whiteley, a freshman mechanical engineering major who plays violin in the orchestra, said the music being played will enhance many of the storytelling aspects of the concert, especially in the performance of "The Night Before Christmas."

Whiteley said his favorite pieces are "Sleigh Ride" and "Walking in the Air."

He said he is excited to be

playing fun Christmas music.

Nathan Gardner, a sophomore music education major who is first trombone in the

orchestra, said the concert will remind people of home at Christmastime.

"It will be nice and relax-

ing," he said. "Christmas is always a crazy time of year, especially at school."

See **MERRY** p. 3 >>



The Christmas artist series will comprise 300 voices from university choirs. Photo: Rebecca Snyder

COLUMN



DANIEL QUIGLEY
Staff Writer

Dr. Thomas Scheff, sociology professor at the University of California-Santa Barbara, said in a Psychology Today article that culture considers public displays of emotions a faux pas.

"Expressing one's emotions is impolite if not rude, and certainly unnecessary [according to the public]," Scheff said.

However, sometimes we can't help ourselves.

I was in that position a couple of weeks back in church: I left my church's praise service crying.

When I was a child, I used to get a phone call once a year on my birthday from a man in my church in Vermont.

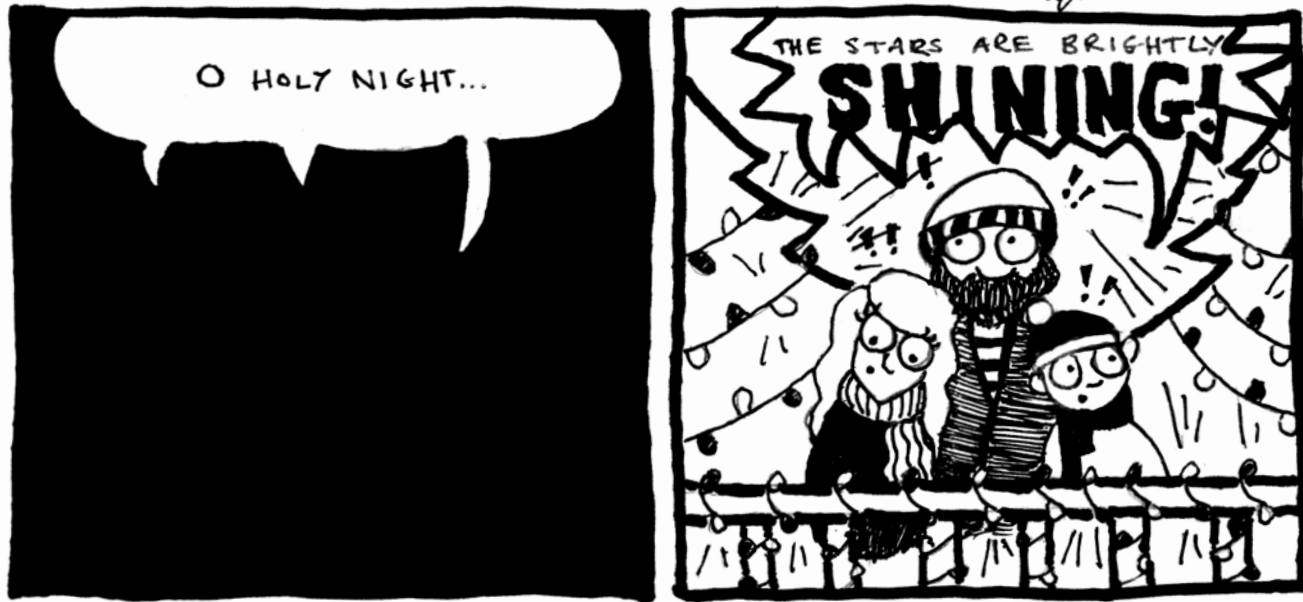
His name was Bob Edwards, and he would give his congratulations and pray with me.

This wasn't something he did just for me.

He would call my brother, others in my church and around 500 others for their

See **COLUMN** p. 3 »

BTU LIGHTING CEREMONY 2018 *max*



COMIC: MAX BURAK

The Collegian Editorial

Different but the same: finding unity in diversity as Christians

Take a look around campus and you will see many diverse personalities, ethnicities, body types, and economic backgrounds. Modern culture teaches us to appreciate and celebrate these individual differences.

The Bible agrees with this appreciation of uniqueness. The vast array of unique qualities are a factor of God's beautiful creation and an expression of His character.

It is easy for us to see these differences and separate ourselves from people who are unlike us, whether consciously or unconsciously.

As Christians, we should recognize these differences and the uniqueness they bring us all as God's creations. However, our brotherhood in

Christ brings us together no matter what physical differences separate us. Galatians 3:28 reminds us "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

God created us as a diverse people and He wants us to unite in Him. He gave us different abilities and skills so that we would recognise our need for one another and appreciate our individuality.

The body of Christ is made to be diverse so that we can serve different purposes. 1 Corinthians 12: 12 makes this clear: "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ."

God loves variety. His vast creation, not just in human beings and specifically Christians, but also the immense variety in all aspects of His creation. Look at the many species in any ecosystem all living in synchrony, or the changing seasons, each allowing for growth and harvest.

Acts describes the early Christians were incredibly diverse culturally. In Antioch,

these diverse believers were labeled for the first time the name "Christian" because they no longer fit the simple designation of Jew or Gentile. Their unity in Christ transcended their differences. 1 Peter 3: 8 reminds us of that we should have a unity of spirit as Christians: "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous."

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BJU – The Collegian

U-TALK BACK

WHAT IS THE EARLIEST YOU LISTEN TO CHRISTMAS MUSIC?



sophomore
STEVEN PLATT
"Anytime!"



freshman
JOHN SCHWARTZ
"October 1st."



sophomore
KATIE BLACK
"Black Friday."



freshman
TESSA WOOD
"November 1st."



junior
KATIE TAYLOR
"September 29th."

PHOTOS: ROBBY JORGENSEN

the COLLEGIAN

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»COLUMN p. 2

birthdays and anniversaries.

But when my family moved to Greenville, I stopped getting the calls.

I forgot about the man who would religiously recognize my birthday; in fact, I forgot what he looked like.

Then one day, during my freshman year of college, Bob entered my church in Simpsonville, and I had a face to associate with the phone calls I'd received so many years ago.

He attended my church regularly for a while, and he would always stop people he knew in the lobby so he could pray with them right where they stood.

I also received a call on my birthday my freshman year. It was strange but comforting to hear Bob on the phone again, wishing me a happy birthday.

I was glad it would continue for the foreseeable future.

But God had other plans.

Although Bob kept a

healthy lifestyle, cancer struck his body. Since he had no family in the area, my dad and some others from church helped care for him.

During the summer before junior year, I asked my dad to let me know when he died.

That day came on that Sunday morning. Bob had died the night before as his caretaker read to him from his personal Bible.

I struggled to keep it together as the service began, but when the third verse of "10,000 Reasons" came on our projector screen and I tried to sing along, I couldn't hold it back anymore.

After I calmed down some, one of my pastors approached me and prayed with me in the lobby—the same lobby where I had prayed with Bob multiple times.

My pastor reminded me of a truth I knew but had trouble finding comfort in at the time: Bob was with the Lord.

Bob's death reminds me that my life is short; my current goals and projects aren't the end game.

As a college student with my future ahead of me, I easily become shortsighted and focus on the immediate.

But Bob focused on the eternal. His prayers and his phone call ministry are challenges to love others more than I do now.

Bob impacted others by simply being a part of their lives.

To keep eternity in my mind, I cannot settle with floating by at church on Sundays, not involving myself with others.

I must become a part of their lives too, even if it's only for a quick prayer or phone call.

And if I keep eternity in mind, then I will be prepared like Bob to praise Christ "ten thousand years and then forevermore."

»MERRY p. 1

Gardner said he hopes the concert will put attendees in the Christmas spirit.

The BJU handbell choir and BJUgrass, a student bluegrass group joined by Dr. Steve Pettit, will also be performing in the concert.

BJU is collaborating with the Rushingbrook Children's Choir, a community Christian singing group, directed by BJU grad David Rasbach.

Rasbach founded the choir in Indiana in 1995 with the purpose of introducing fine choral music and artful singing to Christian children and young people.

For him, singing represents a deeper purpose: the glory of our God.

Rushingbrook Children's Choir was relocated to Greenville in 2002 and they continue to perform in churches and concerts in the local area.

Benjamin Potter, a 10-year-old boy soprano in the choir, will be performing a solo in one of the songs in the program.

"The cute factor is very high with this one," Moore said.

Cook said the musical collaboration in the concert will make the program even better.

"The combining of voices and orchestral instruments heightens the musical and celebratory experience," he said. "To sing words is wonderful. To hear music is wonderful. To sing words to wonderful music supported by and featuring orchestral instruments is an over-the-top experience."

Meagan Ingersoll, director of alumni relations, said her job is to tell the story of the production through staging, lighting and decorating.

She said attendees can expect to be reminded of a tra-

ditional Christmas.

"It's going to remind you of a lot of festive memories and carols that are very familiar," she said.

Ingersoll said a Christmas story will be told alongside music with children involved.

"It's going to be very cute," she said. "It's definitely going to be a show that you can come and see, and it will make you ready to go home and sit by your Christmas tree with your family."

Moore said the goal of this concert is for all who attend to have a very enjoyable experience.

"It's Christmas!" he said. "What's not to be excited about?"

Cook said the concert is a gift to the student body and to the community.

"We wish them a very merry Christmas," he said.

Tickets for "A Very Merry Christmas" are available at <http://www.bju.edu/tickets>.

University Investment Association offers practical finance experience

GERSON PETIT
Staff Writer

The University Investment Association (UIA) is a student organization that helps business-minded students get practice in the investment field as they learn more about stewardship and finances.

It's designed to give students opportunities to participate in dinners and forums with guest speakers who are actively involved in the field of investing.

Min He Conard, vice president of member development for the UIA, said association members engage in a group

project where teams propose stocks that the UIA votes on and invests actual money in.

"The purpose of the UIA is to teach biblical stewardship specifically in the area of investment," Conard said.

Her vision for the organization this year is to learn more about investment and to give the UIA members more opportunities to make new friendships they wouldn't make otherwise.

One of the guest speakers the UIA has hosted in the past is Bert Arrowood, a local investing consultant.

Conard said Arrowood is very successful in the in-

vesting industry and has provided the UIA with many resources.

This year the UIA will host a new speaker, Tim Hart, who Conard described as being another great resource who has recently started practicing in the private investing field.

Conard said the UIA provides a way for students to get experience in the finance industry while learning and applying concepts of biblical stewardship.

For those students who are interested in joining the UIA, Conard said students must first join the University Business Association (UBA) and then pay a membership fee of \$20 to join the UIA.

"You Can't Take It with You" to feature family dynamics

KATE JONES
Staff Writer

The comedic and heartfelt play, "You Can't Take It with You," will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on the evenings of Dec. 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8.

This three-act comedic play, set in New York City, was written by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman and has been a hit with audiences since its debut on Broadway in 1936.

After its Broadway premiere, "You Can't Take It with You" played for over 800 performances.

Anne Nolan, director of the play and faculty member in the theatre arts department, said the play is centered on an eccentric family and the impacts they make on each other and those outside of their family.

"I think there are so many

things you can take away from this play," Nolan said. "Things are not what they seem. Happiness has many paths, and it's never about the material possession or material gains, but it's all about the relationships."

According to Nolan, the play is about taking time to enjoy life, to enjoy one another's peculiar differences and idiosyncrasies.

In the play, most of the relationship building happens around the table, where food is a theme for bringing people together, sharing and giving.

Nolan said she prayed that her cast would fill with people who needed to be there—who were necessary for the production, and she believes she received exactly that.

Because the play has been among the top 10 most-produced high school plays since it opened, there have been many takes on the production

over the years.

However, Nolan took a different approach to directing.

First, she switched two male roles to fit her female actors.

She also asked her actors to think through their characters and their characters' relationships.

Taking a different approach with her actors, she asked them questions like "Where are you five years from now?" and "What's your most embarrassing moment for the Sycamores?" and "What's your favorite memory with the Sycamores?"

By asking these types of questions, Nolan and her actors established the family and created nuanced characters who are specific individuals.

Each actor has added meaning to the lines he or she speaks.

The cast is not just saying funny things; each character

knows why he or she is there in the first place.

Nolan said that, this season, the theatre arts department is focusing on a theme of wonder.

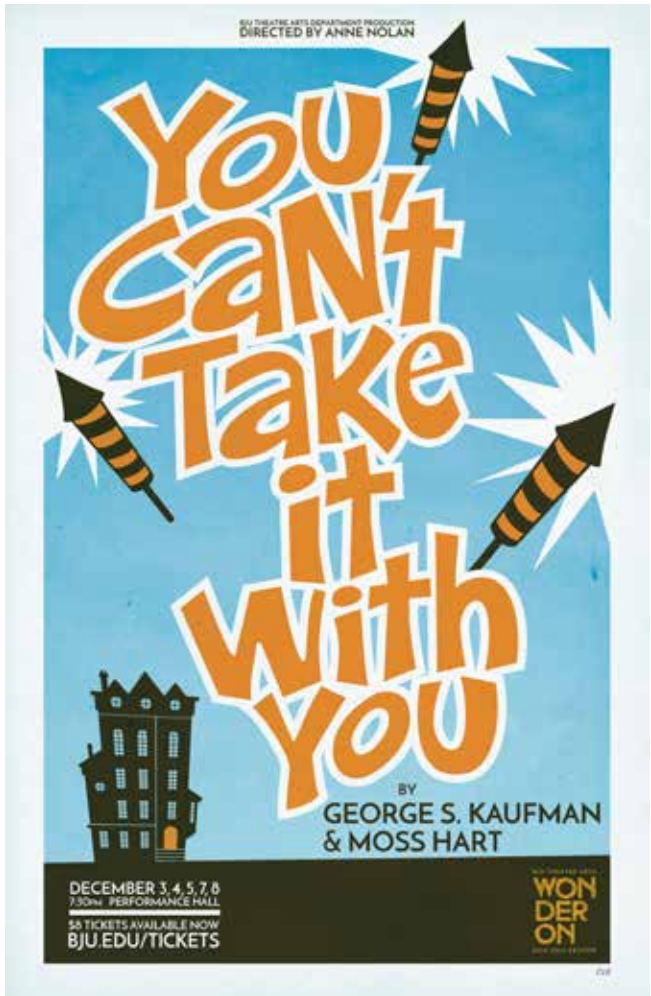
She is producing a play that, at first, may not seem relevant to the theme.

Finding wonder typically does not come from the things that are planned and scheduled.

Rather, they come from the unexpected and unusual moments of life.

"We all need a break," she said. "We all need to spend an evening with some very quirky people. You can't take those exam grades with you, but when you come to the play, you're going to walk away having learned something you can take with you."

Tickets for "You Can't Take It with You" are \$8 and can be purchased at bjuniversitytickets.com.





BJU has welcomed the community onto campus for the Christmas celebration since 2004. Photo: Derek Eckenroth/BJU Marketing

CHRISTMAS p. 1

Today's Christmas chapel will have a "reverse offering."

For this offering, ushers will use the offering plates to pass out candy canes to the students.

Students can enter a cookie-decorating contest during lunch in the dining common, and the top three winners will earn Bruins bucks to spend in The Den.

They can also win prizes by finding hidden elves around campus and turning them in to the Welcome Center.

Prizes for the elf on a shelf scavenger hunt include free parking, lunch with Dr. Pettit, fine dining tickets and a pick your own chapel seat voucher.

Students who find Chick-fil-A cows will receive a free sandwich.

The annual Christmas Radio Show hosted by the journalism and mass communications department will be broadcasted in The Den after chapel until 1 p.m. and then will continue throughout the evening before and after the lighting ceremony.

The radio show will also play Christmas favorites in the Student Mall area during the afternoon.

Cushman said a giant

snow globe will be stationed in front of the dining common after chapel until 2 p.m.

Students can climb inside through a tunnel and get their picture taken.

For the first time, food trucks will be stationed on East Drive between 4 and 6:30 p.m.

Cushman said that, because the dining common and Den get crowded with the large number of visitors on campus, BJU is hosting food trucks that will sell hot chocolate and coffee, popcorn and barbecue.

Local artisans will sell their work at a Holiday Bazaar on the second floor of the Welcome Center from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m.

The Chamber Singers will perform their concert in War Memorial Chapel at 5 p.m.

The 24 singers, led by Warren Cook, will celebrate the start of the season with Christmas music.

At 6 p.m. the Southside Christian School's high school choir will perform the lighting ceremony pre-show.

Then at 6:30 p.m., the lighting ceremony and caroling program will take place on front campus in front of Rodeheaver Auditorium.

The lighting ceremony,

one of the biggest events happening today, will transform BJU's front campus into a beautiful, festive sight for all of Greenville to enjoy.

During the lighting ceremony, the University Singers will sing many Christmas favorites, and the audience can participate.

Greenville Mayor Pro Tem Amy Doyle will turn on the lights using a giant candy cane during one verse of "O Holy Night."

The Southside Christian choir will then join the University Singers for a few songs.

President Steve Pettit and BJUgrass, his bluegrass group, will also perform "Jingle Bells."

At 7:30 p.m. in Rodeheaver Auditorium, the symphonic wind band will perform "Masterpiece," a concert featuring serious wind band works and Christmas favorites.

Turner said the concert will be divided into two parts.

"The first half of the concert is works that are considered part of the standard repertoire for college and professional bands," Turner said. "It is always dramatic, beautiful and engaging."

Turner loves the opportu-

nity for the band to showcase their talent to a large audience. He said that around 1,200 to 1,500 people attend the concert every year.

"This is very large for your normal university band," Turner said.

The second half of the concert will bring in the Christmas season with songs such as "Bells," "Away in a Manger" and "Sleigh Ride."

"We have a bunch of really wonderful arrangements of Christmas carols," Turner said.

Each year, people can gather around the "Giving Tree," hosted by the Alumni Relations office, for cookies and hot chocolate made by the culinary arts students.

This year, donations from

the "Giving Tree" will go to The Anchorage Christian Camp in Waccamaw, North Carolina, a camp damaged by Hurricane Florence.

BJU's Christmas celebration also focuses on bringing in the Greenville community.

"We're giving back to the community for Christmas," Cushman said.

Children can go to the "Christmas Village" by the Welcome Center to win prizes, hear Christmas stories, decorate cookies, buy gifts for their family members and more.

They can even play games with some of the Bruins athletes.

The Christmas Village will be available between 4

and 6:30 p.m.

Erin Jones, director of BJU's Museum & Gallery, said M&G is partnering with BJU's Homeschool Connect and BJU Education Group to create an event for seventh-grade to 12th-grade homeschool students.

This event, "A Victorian Christmas," will have five stations where students can discover what Christmas was like in the late nineteenth century.

This event will be in the plaza outside the seminary and alumni buildings and the library.

For more information, visit <https://www.bju.edu/events/christmas-lighting.php>.

Today's Events:

8 a.m.

Cookies and Hot Chocolate

Ugly Sweater Contest

All Day

11 a.m.

Christmas Chapel

Cookie Decorating contest in the Dining Common

Lunch

After Chapel till 1 p.m.

Annual Christmas Radio Show after chapel till 1 p.m. and then in the evening before and after lighting ceremony

Food Trucks and Holiday Bazaar

4 - 9 p.m.

5 p.m.

Chamber Singers Concert

Lighting Ceremony Preshow

6 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

Lighting Ceremony and Caroling Program

Symphonic Wind Band

7:30 p.m.



BJU's Christmas celebration attracts many families from the community. Photo: Derek Eckenroth/BJU Marketing

Tis the season to be...decorating? As Christmas rolls around again this year, the time has arrived to shake out the garland and polish those silver sleigh bells that ring every time you open your drawers.

Your creativity is the limit, but if you can't think of any good ways to out-decorate your neighbors, then you had best keep reading.

The Collegian contacted Rena Stiekas, a representative of the events department at BJU, to get some ideas. Thankfully, we found out that college students don't have to spend a semester's tuition on decorations.

Stiekas said there are some neat and inexpensive decoration supplies at local dollar stores or Walmart. In fact, YouTube and Pinterest have plenty of ideas for dollar store challenges. For about five dollars per person, roommates can come up with several items to hang from the window or ceiling.

Stiekas said it can be really helpful if you decorate doors with a theme—whether winter wonderland, candy houses, candy canes, gingerbread or just using some updated color combos.

If you have a small tree, Stiekas said students could decorate it with items that represent everyone in the room.

Ornaments can be found in nearly any shape, from basketballs and volleyballs to microscopes and musical notes.

You can also find multicolored lights with different modes, like strobe and fade, in stores and online to hang across your room. Oversized items like snowflakes can be hung from the ceiling.

Garland, with or without lights, can be hung around the door frame with ornaments dangling down.

Don't be A Grinch with your Decorations

orating spirit of things. Surf the web for inspiration and consult with your roommates—maybe even challenge another room to a contest.

"If you are really into the idea of decorating your space, just think outside the box and there are usually cheap ways to come up with some big ideas using a theme, common items, dollar store items and some imagination," Stiekas said. Jon Allen, a freshman in Johnson, and his roommates bought lights to string across their room with red and silver ornaments to hang from them. Allen said it didn't cost that much when spread among all three of them.

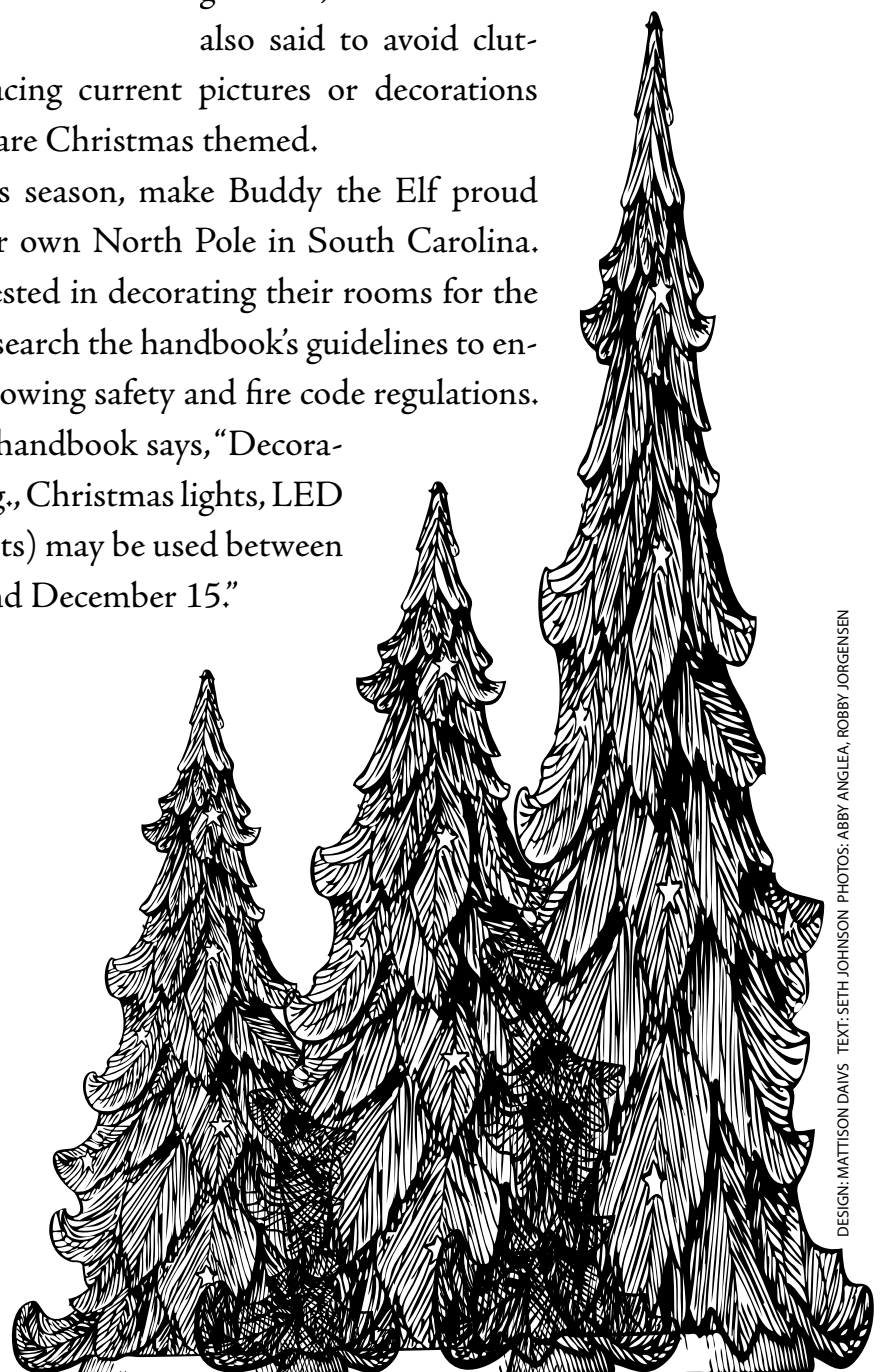
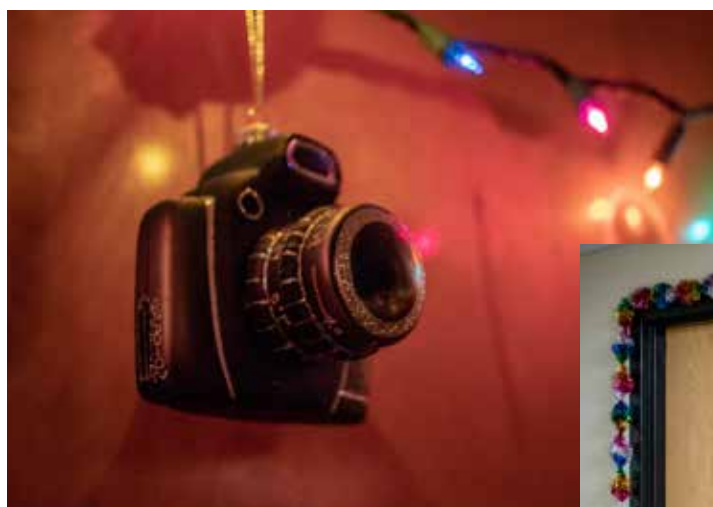
Jessica Teruel, a sophomore in Gaston, and her roommate put up lights as well as little Christmas figurines and trees. They never turn on the overhead lights because they want to keep the room relaxed, warm and welcoming.

"I'd suggest going simple since you don't have that much room to begin with," she said. She also said to avoid cluttering by replacing current pictures or decorations with ones that are Christmas themed.

This Christmas season, make Buddy the Elf proud and create your own North Pole in South Carolina. Students interested in decorating their rooms for the holidays can research the handbook's guidelines to ensure they're following safety and fire code regulations.

Page 39 of the handbook says, "Decorative lighting (e.g., Christmas lights, LED lights, rope lights) may be used between November 1 and December 15."

No matter your level of interior design talent, you can find ways to get into the dec-



USAeroFlight offers aviation courses to BJU students

SETH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

BJU students can earn an aviation minor through a partnership with USAeroFlight, a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certified training school with accelerated training options.

If students complete the entire flight program, they earn FAA-certified private and commercial pilot's licenses with an instrument's rating.

Students who don't want a full-fledged aviation minor

can obtain a single license or rating without having to complete all 18 credits necessary for the minor.

The program prepares students for a diverse set of jobs from piloting for missions to teaching others to fly.

In fact, Seth Severson, a BJU student who completed his aviation minor prior to BJU's outsourcing of the program with USAeroFlight, now teaches as an instructor for USAeroFlight, as do other BJU alumni.

Stephen Laird, a flight

instructor at USAeroFlight, said the flight school is the only one in South Carolina that offers the Part 141 curriculum, which allows students to receive accreditation faster than normal because of the high level of training.

The aviation program was a part of the University in the past but is now a separate company.

One of the reasons the University discontinued the program in May 2014 was due to costs, like hangar space, airplanes and insurance.

Severson said, "Even though it's not the BJU flight program anymore, many of the same instructors and values still exist, especially in the environment and quality of teaching."

The aviation courses combine classroom instruction with real, hands-on piloting experience with flights that can last from one to three hours.

The courses for the program aren't covered by a student's BJU tuition. Instead, students must pay for the training separately.

A private pilot's license course can cost around \$9,000, though the cost varies slightly per person.

A commercial license could end up costing around \$20,000.

Gabby Mayo, a sophomore Christian ministries major with an aviation minor, said, "[USAeroFlight is] definitely very thorough,



Student Nicholas Marks poses with his instructor Stephen Pate and checkride instructor Thomas Burke. Photo: Submitted

and they want to take you where you need to get professionally."

She said the courses are challenging because they have a lot of technical information.

But if you can survive without the thrill of flying 24/7, the program provides an exceptional experience.

"Flying is fun," Mayo said. Mayo wants to use aviation in missionary work, supplying

the materials necessary for missions or providing relief after disasters.

"My teachers were a definite highlight of the program," Severson said. "Almost all of the instruction is one-on-one, and my instructors really cared about me succeeding both personally and professionally."

Students interested in the program can find more information at usaeroflight.net.

SUDOKU

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A private pilot's license can cost \$9,000, and a commercial license can cost \$20,000. Photo: Submitted

Students can give meaningful presents even on budget

SARAH SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

With Christmas just 25 days away, many college students are thinking about shopping for presents.

Accompanying the wreaths, ornaments and sleigh bells are the school bills, subscription fees and appointment costs that college students have to pay every month.

All those costs accumulate and sometimes cloud the excitement of spending more money on Christmas gifts.

"Tis the season to get creative and save money!

College students can consider creative gift ideas rather than shopping for full price items.

Homemade gifts save the day as an affordable and meaningful way to show someone you love them.

Family members often love receiving photo crafts where they can see their loved ones.

John Paul Barnard, a freshman business major and photographer, enjoys putting together a photo album of photos he's taken that match someone's interests.

Ornaments with pictures inside make a great seasonal gift.

Mary Jo Lohmeyer, a junior nursing major, has received homemade ornaments from her cousins every year.

"On our tree we have personalized Christmas ornaments from each year, so we can see my cousins growing up," she said.

With weather in Greenville cooling down, scarves, hats, and gloves are always a fun and needed gift this Christmas.

Matthew Bruce, a junior

business major, has recently picked up crocheting and is excited to crochet his dad a scarf this year.

Making clothes is not for everyone, but for those who like to pick up new hobbies, crocheting and sewing are helpful skills.

Thrift stores are great sources of raw materials that anyone can recreate into a great homemade gift.

Emma Thompson, a senior elementary education major, loves crafts and thrift shopping.

Thompson makes a list of things throughout the year that people like.

When she goes to the thrift store, she already has an idea of what she's looking for.

She knows what patterns she likes so she'll get a whole cart load and then narrow it down.

"I usually make my pres-

ents, because as a college student that's the best way to do it," she said.

A few years ago, Thompson started collecting wood, and would paint verses or songs lyrics on the wood.

She often goes to Pinterest, an online ideas board, for Christmas gift inspiration.

For Thompson, Christmas shopping is a year-round hunt, and she often hangs on to unique finds and waits.

Food is always an affordable and delicious option. Lohmeyer and her mom make recipe jars for their family.

They layer ingredients in a jar and put the label and recipe on the outside.

Lohmeyer said she loves that idea because it's a decoration and a recipe in one.

For the family member or friend who has a food allergy such as gluten or dairy, taking

the time to make them something they can enjoy goes a long way.

Another money saving strategy is to take advantage of special discounts and sales online.

Lohmeyer worked at Amazon for a year and enjoys 10 percent off every order up to \$100 a year.

She regularly uses Amazon to buy Christmas gifts because most of her family lives in Minnesota, which is quite the distance from her home in Ohio.

On Christmas Day, they all FaceTime and she watches them open the gifts she sent.

Another way her family saves money, is by drawing names.

They fill a hat with everyone's names, and they take turns picking names out of the hat.

They're given a budget

and can spoil that one person.

Online saving resources and discount sites are valuable to Emily Heape, a sophomore business major.

She does most of her shopping online because it is harder for her to tell when sales are in the store.

Heape saves money by using coupon codes from RetailMeNot.com, a site that provides thousands of coupons for many different stores.

Less expensive stores make a great source for gift exchanges.

Bruce and his cousins do a Dollar Tree gift exchange and the eight of them have a great time making each other laugh and smile with fun gifts.

One Christmas, his brother decided to rewrap Bruce's Christmas present from last year and give it to

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BJU Bruins wrap up season with NCCAA tournament

ANDREW SCHMIDT
Staff Writer

The Bruins volleyball team has claimed its first NCCAA DII National Championship victory in a match against the Maranatha Baptist University Sabercats.

The game took place in the Davis Field House Saturday, Nov. 17, at 1 p.m.

The Bruins volleyball team beat the Sabercats in three back-to-back sets, winning 29-27 for the first set, 25-17 for the second and 25-19 for the third.

The Bruins national title is the 15th NCCAA DII national championship that volleyball coach Vickie Denny has won in her coaching career, and it marks the third college that she has coached

to a national championship (Maranatha, Clearwater and BJU).

Brooke Beaver, a freshman nursing major on the team, was named the Most Outstanding Player for the tournament.

Saleena Walker, a junior English major, was also named to the All-Tournament team.

The women's soccer team was defeated in the national championship game against the Grace Christian University Tigers last week.

This game took place at Alumni Stadium Saturday, Nov. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

The Tigers scored their first goal in the first half of the game, but the Bruins rallied after halftime and earned their first goal to tie the score 1-1.

However, after three over-times, the Tigers defeated the Bruins in penalty kicks, scoring their second goal and ending the game at 2-1.

The men's soccer team faced the Pensacola Christian College Eagles on Wednesday, Nov. 14, and the North Central University Rams on Thursday, Nov. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

The Bruins lost to the PCC Eagles 3-1, and their season ended in a 2-1 loss to the NCU Rams.

Jesse Rush, a junior exercise science major and Bruins soccer player, said the players have been able to form unique relationships with each other this season.

"You get to know guys really well, and you can invest in one another and encour-



Three members of the men's soccer team are graduating this year. Photo: Hal Cook/BJU Marketing

age one another and you can grow spiritually," Rush said.

Isaac Landry, a junior middle school education major and Bruins soccer player, shares this sentiment.

"I've really enjoyed the friendships I've made on the team," he said. "I've really en-

joyed the spiritual edification.

Some of the guys on the team are some of my closest friends and they've been really encouraging to me."

Neal Ring, director of athletics, announced on Monday, Nov. 19, that coach Jesse McCormick will be stepping

down from his position as head coach of the men's soccer team.

According to a statement released by the BJU Bruins' website, McCormick has coached over 100 matches during his seven seasons as head coach.



The women's soccer team faced Grace Christian University in the championship. Photo: Hal Cook/BJU Marketing



Katherine Ring, a sophomore on the volleyball team, spikes the ball at the net. Photo: Derek Eckenroth/BJU Marketing



CONGRATULATIONS WOMEN'S BRUINS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Front Row: Lauren Mukenschnabl, Saleena Walker, Brooke Beaver, Rachel Williams, Kaitlin Mowry, Brittany Annand, Lily Nelson, Dr. Vickie Denny

Back Row: Abby Plew, Erin Jarvis, Mark Corbin, Jordan Anderson, Laura Gaston, Jamie Grimes, Courtney Bates, Katherine Ring, Christa Schlichting

Student-led chapel to narrate the Christmas story

JO ELLEN WALKER
Staff Writer

The student-led chapel on Tuesday, Dec. 4, will be a narrative of Christ's past and continued work on our behalf from the perspectives of Isaiah, Joseph, Mary, John and Paul.

Student narrators will tell the Christmas story, beginning with the prophecies of the Old Testament, continuing through His life on earth and looking forward to His Second Coming.

Ian Dyke, the communication director for the Student Leadership Council, said the narrative will illustrate why Christ is the best gift ever given and why His life is the best story ever told.

Dyke said he brainstormed ideas for the service and worked to connect

everything back to this semester's "Give Thanks, Give Back" theme of gratitude.

"Through this chapel, we're hoping, number one, to give praise to God for the gifts that He's given," Dyke said. "Number two, to give back, like Paul and John talk about [by] becoming witnesses [to] the rest of the world."

Tori Conover, women's student body president, formed the group of narrators and musicians who will be performing in the service.

She created the script by compiling passages of Scripture and putting them into first person.

"Everybody loves listening to a story," Conover said. "I'm hoping this [service] will take those Christmas passages that are really familiar and make them come alive."

Someone will introduce

the narrative by reminding students of the connection between the Christmas story and the Gospel.

"[The Gospel] is honestly one of the biggest reasons we can have gratitude," Conover said, referring to this semester's gratitude theme. "The Christmas story [is] a reminder of how much we have to be grateful for."

Dyke attends the rehearsals to make sure everything is running smoothly and to maintain open lines of communication.

He said the student body will sing many well-known Christmas carols together and hear some special numbers on stage between narrators.

"When you actually look at the lyrics, they're filled with rich doctrine about Christ [and] His incarnation," Dyke said.



Chapel will encourage students to be grateful for Christ's coming to earth. Photo: Rebecca Snyder

He said the lyrics are filled with references to the Old and New Testaments—passages that remind believers of the fact that people had been waiting for Christ for thousands of years before He

finally came to earth.

Dyke said we are privileged to live in the world after Christ has come.

Because of Christ's sacrifice, we have the hope of His Second Coming.

"Everyone loves Christmas," Dyke said. "This chapel service gives students the opportunity to sing Christmas songs, hear the story of Christ and reflect on what He has done for them this semester."

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him again—an act that Bruce does not recommend.

Funny gifts are a good way to match someone's personality. Besides photography, Barnard likes to use inside jokes to get a laugh out of his friends.

Dollar stores have an assortment of gag gifts, surprise bags, and prank gifts to

choose from.

Never underestimate the power of a long note or card.

Lauren Mukenschnabl, a junior special education major, loves accompanying her gifts with handwritten cards and letters.

"A great way to personalize a gift and still keep it cheap is to give a handwritten letter," she said.

Each letter can be unique and no matter what, it always adds a nice touch to any gift. Mukenschnabl said she likes to add little trinkets, stickers, art or Bible verses in there for a bonus surprise.

No matter what route you take this Christmas, remember that being present with family members is present enough.



GO

follow

our new *Instagram* account
@thecollegianbj
for exclusive photos and weekly highlights!

Caroling groups offer opportunity for seasonal ministry

SAMANTHA VEIRA
Staff Writer

With the Christmas season comes many holiday traditions, such as decorating trees, checking off wish lists, putting up lights and planning family get-togethers.

Christmas caroling, another familiar Christmas tradition, is an opportunity open to all BJU students this holiday season.

This year will be the second year that the University has organized a student volunteer caroling system.

Students will be sent out into the Greenville community in groups of 12 to 15 people beginning tomorrow, Saturday, Dec. 1.

Groups will be caroling at hospitals, nursing homes and Miracle Hill centers.

Students interested in participating may assemble their own groups and sign up on the Google form sent out by BJU communications.

Caroling groups can include society brothers and sisters, discipleship group

members, classmates and other friends.

Carolers can specify their availability on the form by signing up for a caroling slot, which typically lasts for about an hour in the evening.

Last year's Christmas caroling outreach was organized by Chelsea Fraser, a faculty member in the School of Fine Arts and Communication, and her leadership and communication class of just over 20 students.

The carolers visited several ministries including Miracle Hill Rescue Mission, Pendleton Manor, Greenville Memorial Hospital, Haywood Estates, St. Francis Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House.

BJU students were able to sign up for the outing by filling out an online survey that was emailed out several days before the event.

An announcement was made about the event in chapel as well.

The students were able to select which days they would be available to go caroling.



Retirees enjoyed a student caroling group last year. Those interested in participating in this year's caroling outreach can assemble their own groups. Photo: Stephen Dysert

Then, the volunteers were split up into small groups and assigned a location.

Anna DeMott, a junior communication major, visited a nursing home last year.

Before her group began caroling DeMott said the group took some time to visit with the audience.

"We got to know the residents a little bit and walked around and talked to them,"

she said.

Each caroling group was given sheet music for several popular Christmas carols.

They would also take song requests and crowd favorites to add some variety to their repertoire.

For some of the songs, the residents sang along.

Marcio Infantas, a senior biblical studies major, said, "They're happy that you're

there singing for them and it's rewarding to see the people smiling and having a good time."

Natalie Greiner, a junior accounting major, said the caroling experience reminded her of Christmas back home.

"It's fun to go places and sing to people and bring them joy," she said. "I'd definitely do it again."

Greiner went once with

a group from her society, the Tri Epsilon Pirates, and another time later that same week she went with a group of friends.

Infantas said, "If you're going with friends, it's always a good time."

This year's Christmas caroling outreach will provide an opportunity for BJU students to reach the community with Christmas cheer.