

College Chronicle

August 2009



Director's Cut

From the Desk of Tracy Terrill

Our second year of Shepherds College is off to a great start. It has not been without some challenges, but overall I have been very pleased with the efforts of our faculty and students alike. Most of the homesickness that students experienced the first week or two has diminished, and as a group they are settling into college life. Collectively, they bring a great deal of life and energy to our campus and impact Shepherds in so many positive ways.

During this first month, I have been impressed with the work of our college faculty and staff. They are a talented and industrious group, each one with a strong desire to serve our students and their various needs. Without question, our students are well-cared for and the training and instruction they receive is outstanding. God has certainly blessed Shepherds College with a wonderful staff, and it has been amazing to watch as this group has been assembled and then witness first-hand their interactions with our students. In my opinion, a great faculty is the most important factor in having a first-rate school, and if that is indeed the case, we are headed in the right direction.

On behalf of all of our faculty and staff, let me express our appreciation for your continued support and prayer. As we all collaborate in this endeavor, I am confident we will see the students' progress towards Appropriate Independence.



Angela's Angle

First Year Academic Update

Computer Skills – Students are learning how to use Outlook by sending encouraging e-mails to students and staff.

Cooking – Students are learning about cross-contamination of food.

Daily Living Skills – Students learned how to do laundry and are currently learning the Five Rights about Self-Medication.

Firm Foundations – This is a favorite class of many of the students. They are learning about creation, how the Bible was written, and how sin became a part of creation.

Introduction to Horticulture & Culinary Arts – These classes begin on September 4 and students will receive exposure to each specialty fields once a month.

Language Arts – Students wrote a news article about a peer. The articles have been published by Miss Luchterhand in a word document and have been mailed along with the College Chronicle to SC parents. Students began studying the parts of speech – so far they have learned about common nouns, proper nouns, and action verbs.

Math – Students are progressing through math facts. They recently completed double-digit to single-digit addition. Students are working on two-digit addition and are preparing for multiplication.

Personal Development 1 – Students are learning the importance of making a good first impression and how to get to know someone. Students were able to identify positive and negative first impressions. Then they interviewed staff in order to get to know them. Students are learning how to be considerate of others by cleaning a common area in their apartment.

Study Skills – Students went to the library and received library cards. They are learning how to take notes by reading articles on subjects such as Abraham Lincoln and fossil fuels and answering questions from the articles.

Second Year Academic Update

Church History – Students are learning about the early church by studying the book of Acts. Students are gaining an understanding of how the church had external conflict such as persecution and internal conflict which led to the selection of deacons.

Communications – Students are setting a semester goal for their specialty field. They are breaking the goal into steps that will help them accomplish it. They explored possible obstacles and have planned a way to record their progress.

Computer Review – Starting in September, second year students will have a Computer Review class twice a month. This will provide opportunities to learn new computer skills as well as brush up on skills from first year.



Culinary Arts – The Culinary Arts program as a part of Shepherds College has gotten off to a great start. They are three weeks into the program. The first week they learned about professionalism and



professional habits. During the second week, they started learning about sanitation and finished up the week with equipment identification. They also took their first major test, which they all passed with flying

colors!



Horticulture – Students learned the basic needs of a plant and are taking care of their own plant in their apartments. Students dissected a flower, lima beans, and a kernel of corn. Students studied the movement of a bee to learn about cross pollination. Students are learning the common and scientific names of ten perennial and annual plants, and are becoming tree detectives. They are learning how to identify simple, compound, and needle-like leaves and opposite, alternate, and whorled branches.

Money Skills Review – Starting in September, second year students will have Money Skills Review class twice a month. Students will review how to manage a checkbook. This class will also discuss consumer math.

Personal Development 2 – Students are reviewing how to make a decision and conflict resolution from last year. The students did a wonderful job remembering the steps. They are now working in groups to apply the steps to difficult situations or conflicts they will likely encounter.



Brian, David, & Scott perform a skit for Personal Development Class. The skits involved students working through conflict scenarios.

Residential Life

Apartment Life – In early August, one of the students washed his laundry for the very first time. He was excited and he felt very proud of himself. The girls enjoy eating meals together and spending time in each other's apartments.

Grocery Shopping – During the first month, students rotated meal prep in the Daily Living Skills classroom. Students ate meals together and shared meal clean-up responsibilities. They have transferred from meal prep in the Daily Living Skills classroom to their apartments. Currently, students are learning how to plan a menu and how to make a grocery shopping list. They are also learning how

to choose produce, meats, and find canned goods at the store.



Students sort groceries after returning from the store.

Special Olympics – Students begin bowling practice on September 4 to prepare for area competition in October, regional competition in November, and state competition in December. The following students are on a team: Peter, Rachel, David, Brian, Jocelyn, Jessica, and Nikki. Melissa and Gloria have joined volleyball and practice starts the week of September 7. Good Luck!

The Great Race – To promote exercise, the Shepherds College faculty has challenged the student body to a Great Race! The destination is Madison, WI, which is 200 miles round-trip. We've estimated that each team together has to bike or walk 1,300 miles from September 1- 30. Each participant has a calendar where they record their miles for each day. Cathy Harvey will tally the total number of miles each week to see who is in the lead. If the students reach their goal of 1,300 miles by September 30, they win a trip to Madison to see Dane County Zoo, Albrich Gardens, and drive by the Capitol. It will be a Great Race!

Bible Studies – The young ladies meet once a week with Jenna Patton to study Lies Women Believe and the Truth that Sets Them Free. The young men meet once a week with Nate Brasch to study the book of Isaiah.

Extra-Curricular Activities – Students have been having a great time on weekends. They made homemade stroganoff and spaghetti and meatballs with Chef McCarthy. They've watched a few videos such as: *Madagascar* and *Race to Witch Mountain*. They played board games such as: Pictionary, Connect Four, and Keys to the Kingdom. They took a boat ride on Browns Lake in Burlington, WI and several students went tubing. Students went to Bong Recreational Area for a nature walk. They

also went to Lake Michigan to soak up some sun, eat a picnic lunch, and play games.

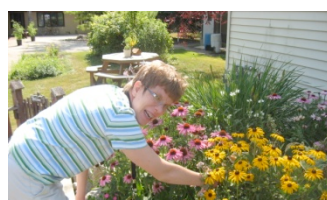
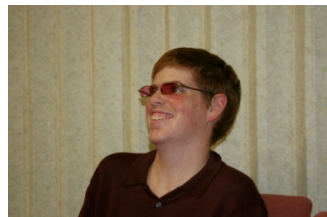
Buddy Walk – Students will participate in the Buddy Walk at the Milwaukee County Zoo on September 27. This walk promotes the acceptance of individuals with Down Syndrome. There is a \$10 registration fee and this amount will be taken out of each student’s CAM account.

Service Opportunities – Second year students volunteered at the Racine County Fair in the corn booth sponsored by the Union Grove’s Chamber of Commerce. The students rotated through different jobs including husking and buttering corn, customer service, folding napkins, cleaning tables, etc. The students enjoyed the benefit of eating the grilled corn.

Appropriate Independence Awards

Each month, staff will select students who have made strides in reaching Appropriate Independence. We will look for students who have taken responsibility for their physical, emotional, social, and spiritual independence. The August Appropriate Independence awards go to Jessica, Brian, and Kyle. Brian and his roommate started a prayer wall where they post prayer requests from students, staff, family, and friends. Together they spend time each week praying for these requests. Kyle received this award for taking out the garbage without being asked. Jessica received this award for steps in managing her health.

SC Scrapbook



One of God’s Wonders...

The Horticulture class was all abuzz on August 27, because the caterpillar they found had hung himself up-side-down in preparation to form a chrysalis. We did not know how long it would take for him to start forming his cocoon state, so student, Jessica Gobeli, and staff, Cathy Harvey, kept checking on the caterpillar. Jessica got on the internet to see if she could learn how long it takes once a caterpillar positions himself up-side-down prior to the chrysalis forming, but she couldn’t find any information. It was an exciting day. On August 27, the caterpillar covered himself at 9:00 am; the whole process took about two minutes.



We have had an exciting start to the school year. Students are learning a lot. I teach Language Arts, Math, and Study Skills for first year students. The students are learning about their classmates and themselves. They recently interviewed other first year students in preparation to write a news article about their peer. Students are also journaling during Writing Lab.

I asked them to journal about what they hope to learn or accomplish during their year at Shepherds College.

I would like to learn how to...

- “... be organized for class.”
- “... cook by myself.”
- “... be an encouragement to others.”
- “... do fractions in math.”
- “... read different chapters in the Bible.”
- “... learn more about God.”
- “... get and keep a job in the world.”
- “... type and do e-mail.”
- “... know God and serve Him better.”

One of the students also included this comment at the end of the journal entry:

We are here to know Jesus is with us. He is in you and through you. None of us knew that

God existed before you were born. We were made for this. I'm made for God's purpose to see the light of Glory. Not for us, but it is all for Him. We are living all for Him. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. We live by faith, not by sight. Jesus is the only one that I could live for.

During a class discussion, I asked the students, "What have you learned since you came to Shepherds College?" Here are some of the students' responses.

Since starting Shepherds College, I have learned ...

- "... how to make friends."
- "... how to do my best for Jesus and He will take care of the rest. "
- "... how to cook."
- "... how to treat others better."
- "... that God is there when you need Him."
- "... that we will get through this school year together."
- "... how to work as a team in Cooking class."
- "... how to do laundry."
- "... about my friends and what they like to do."
- "... about life lessons. For example, if you have a hard time and you feel like you can't, you say Philippians 4:13 – 'I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.'"

Success Story

In Study Skills class, students are learning how to study effectively and complete homework. A recent class topic was to help students learn the importance of minimizing distractions while studying. In the first activity, I had students read an article about Andrew Jackson and answer comprehension questions while *School House Rock* was playing. It took over four minutes for the students to complete the task and over half of the students answered 50% of the questions incorrectly. In the second activity, I had students read another article about Genghis Khan and answer comprehension questions in a silent classroom. It took two minutes for the students to complete the task and all the students answered

the questions correctly. The students were excited about learning this important study technique.

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