ISIS: The lowdown

HANNAH WRIGHT
Staff Writer
wrightjh@jbu.edu

ISIS makes front-page news on a weekly basis. Understanding ISIS requires a surprising amount of background in Middle Eastern politics and Muslim history.

ISIS stands for the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, also known as ISIL, or simply Islamic State. The organization works less as a terrorist group and more as a militant organization with active recruiting, an organized administration and a treasury amounting to about $2 billion dollars, according to reports by a June 16 article in The Guardian.

ISIS is pulling not only from the Middle East, but now from France, the United Kingdom and the United States. "A lot of young people have been recruited in a very exploitative way," said Mia Bloom with the Center for Terrorism and Security Studies. The recruiters are like predators, she said, looking for young people who very often are searching out some involvement, and may not necessarily know what their individual obligations are to their religion.

"So what do they do is they combine feelings of guilt and that they live in the West, and that there are people, there are Muslims suffering in the Middle East with this distortion of the Islamic faith," Bloom said. "So you have to go to the phallic ideal in order to fulfill your individual obligation to their religion."

As ISIS takes more territory, beginning to own entire cities, Americans can involve themselves in the ministry. The process begins when churches or individuals take empty shoeboxes and fill them with items to wear, to work with, to learn with, to eat with and something to love such as a stuffed animal.

The boxes are then collected and taken through in a relay system to final processing centers where everything is checked for quality to ensure every shoebox meets the customs requirement. The last step takes place when the shoeboxes are sent to countries all over the globe. Distribution teams set up camps and help local pastors and leaders pass out the shoeboxes. With each shoebox, a child receives nothing except love.

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Ministries merge to expand vision

KACIE GALLOWAY
Staff Writer
galloway@jbu.edu

The goal, commission, to make disciples of all nations, is known and practiced by Christians all over the world. John Brown University’s newest ministry, Antioch has been created to accomplish and embody this mission.

Beginning this year, CAUSE ministries E-VaN and Partners in Prayer, combined to create Antioch. The ministry aims to “Train and support disciple-making locally and globally.”

Last year’s students in the two ministries occupied they would work better together, and the idea of combining the two ministries was born.

While Partners in Prayer focuses on praying for the global church, especially foreign missions, E-VaN focuses on local evangelism. According to Josiah Wadsack, co-leader of Partners in Prayer last semester, it made sense to combine the efforts of both causes.

“We are both excited about helping people physically, and gain possessive about foreign missions,” he said. “But we can forget about helping people right here with their spiritual life.”

Wadsack explained that local and global outreachs go hand in hand, and one cannot function without the other. He also emphasized on the name of the ministry, referring to the story in Acts 11 in which Jews feared persecutions gathered together in Antioch and told the gospel to the Gentiles.

According to the passage, this is the first time these followers of Jesus were called Christians.

Because they ministered to both believers and strangers, the name suited perfectly for the new CAUSE ministry.

Antioch seeks to carry out its mission of disciple-making through several different events. The group, led by seven core members, meets Monday evenings to hear from guest speakers and have small group discussions.

On Tuesday nights, Antioch gathers together to pray over local and global churches, peoples and groups. The CAUSE ministry also plans to host a variety of events, ranging from an evening over the course of the school year.

“We’ve had a lot of new people come and get excited about discipleship,” said Karlin Vestal, one of Antioch’s leaders.

“I feel like there are a lot of people who are afraid of sharing the Gospel, and we want people to get excited about it,” Vestal said.

“Prayer is one of the hardest ministries there is, it isn’t sexy,” Wadsack said, explaining many people’s lack of activity and hesitancy to get involved.

“Sure, I can give money to support a cause, but is that how God wants us to get involved?”

Because Antioch is a new ministry on campus, it is still working on finding its footing. Many of the organization’s plans are in the works, and the group’s leaders are still working to see what tools works best for them.

“It’s hard because it’s new, but it’s also exciting,” said Vestal.

Antioch’s current series of discussions is centered on the idea of disciple making in the context of IBU. According to Wadsack, their goal is to discover what IBU students need to grow as disciples.

“We are still figuring everything out and seeing what discipleship will look like here at IBU,” Wadsack said. “We don’t have all the answers, but we do know this is the heart of God.”

If you are interested in joining Antioch or would like more information, contact them at: Antioch@jbu.edu

Submitted by DANA WILLIAMS
Chapel singer craves new Christian sound

KELLY ESCARCEGA
Staff Writer
escarcegak@jbu.edu

Andrew Peterson loves stories. He began performing music and crafting songs when he was 19 by using experiences from his own life and the people around him. Peterson said what is most important about performing music is the people he gets to meet. "I don’t love music as much as I love connecting with people through music," said Peterson.

The inspiration for his music came from musician Rich Mullins. His music immediately captured Peterson’s attention because of its “breakdown” and the imperfections. Through Rich Mullins’ music, Peterson said he could feel how broken he was.

Peterson said getting paid to think about his life is one of the greatest blessings that has come as a result of his music. He said he forced himself to acknowledge and face his imperfections. Through Rich Mullins’ music, Peterson said that he could feel how broken he was.

Peterson said there is a fear of his music becoming “cheesy.” He wants his music to sound different. Peterson believes in the beautiful history of Christian art, paintings, music and the like. He reminds us that some of the Christian music we dislike is only a “small slice” of the whole of the beauty that Christianity holds.

He said he wants his music to be different from the norm, so that he can continue to connect to people.

The students at JBU had a chance to experience his music during chapel. Mandy Meyer, sophomore, said, “His music is more real and personable.”

“His music is more real and goes deeper.”

"He still exalts God, but gets down to the human level," said Meyer.

She enjoyed his style and enjoyed how personable and honest he was.

Kileah Armstrong, sophomore, said he particularly enjoyed his music because of his talent of writing lyrics. Armstrong said he uses that gift from God to write about reality and where he is in life.

“His music people where they’re at,” said Armstrong. "I think one of the big things he does really well is write from a spot, maybe in life he’s in a really bad situation but when he writes he can step back and go deeper."

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The great R.A. debate

BECKY WATTS
Staff Writer
wattsr@jbu.edu

September 18, 2014
The Threefold Advocate

"If my hope is known that I deeply care about them, and that looks very different for everyone."
- Meaghan Ranz

The Threefold Advocate

"My family is a like the garden that God has given to us," Peterson said when describing his family.

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Peterson said said it was important that his music was not “cheap” or “cheesy.” He wants his music to be different from the norm, so that he can continue to connect to people.

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The inspiration for his music was
The pursuit of happiness: Can it be part of God's will?

It is a common question during discussions about happiness. Can it be part of God's will? In fact, it is such as most Americans see as their dream. We are often told by the media that happiness is a fruitless goal.

We must remember to keep ourselves oriented toward God if we want to experience true joy. As the well-known hymn by Helen Silver elaborates, "Let your eyes upon Jesus, look for the glory of His grace and grace."

Happiness fades, always healthy. But when that drive becomes our identity, we can lose sight of our purpose as sons and daughters of God.

For example, if happiness looks like owning all the coolest clothes or having the newest technological gadget, then an unhealthy materialism can develop. Or, for some, happiness is found in getting high or drinking too much. Or spending too much time at work, or dissatisfaction at our jobs.

More importantly, is it acceptable to live our lives as Christians with pleasure. In fact, it is an idea that most Americans see as their goal. We want to experience true joy. As the well-known hymn by Helen Silver elaborates, "Let your eyes upon Jesus, look for the glory of His grace and grace."

The American Dream is not inherently wrong, wrote Seth Godin. It is a gift, and "absence for-all" faith being a personal project. I taught the history of salvation, but only until he confessed the sin to a priest, then an understanding of purgatory, after purgation, heaven may at last be reached, we are assured.

"So, do both Evangelical Protestants and Roman Catholics believe in the same Gospel?"

"The American Dream is not inherently wrong," wrote Seth Godin. "A desire to grow, progress and succeed is a natural human drive. However, when that drive becomes our identity, we can lose sight of our purpose as sons and daughters of God."
I was educated by Miss Shirley, our neighbor down the road who taught about the dirty immigrants coming to the neighborhood, even as she handed over generous bundles of clothes for my newborn baby. While I appreciated her generosity, it was perplexed by her disregard for newcomers. I was educated by the very immigrants whom Miss Shirley cursed about as they fought for a quality education for their children at one of the worst schools in the state. And I was educated by my black UMD students, who handled inflammatory statements in class with a dignity and patience I could never have mustered. Living at that time in a world characterized by my understanding of God, God, and love, I learned that the pervasive “welcoming face” myth is alive and well and that many black women in the suburbs, who need to be shown love, are treated as if they’re not. I learned that owning a house is a dream that many African Americans, including my Ghanaian immigrant friend, assume that young black men are threats rather than contributing members of society.

I learned that owning a home is a point of pride for many African Americans because it means they’re treated with equal dignity. I learned that some undocumented immigrants face injustice in the schools, often have little recourse for making things right because speaking out might mean deportation. I learned that some people—African-American neighborhood officials—take advantage of that reality to maintain a discriminatory system.

Here’s what I learned from my beloved friends in the DC suburbs. I learned that the notion of “welcoming face” is a delusion. I learned that I have a lot to learn from them because of the uniqueness of their experiences. And so does the whole JBU community. My hope for JBU is that we become a place where people, in class, in the residence halls and in their offices, are less likely to say “I’m colorblind” and more likely to ask, “What color is your world?”
Museum captures ‘full scope’ of art history

EMMA BENTLEY
Contributor: bentleye@jbu.edu

When most people think about Northwest Arkansas, they often think of Walmart and the University of Arkansas, businesses that have made big impacts on the communities around them.

Alice Walton, daughter of Walmart founder Sam Walton, decided that she wanted to make an impact on the Northwest Arkansas community too. She is the orchestrator behind the biggest art museum in the state of Arkansas, and she sought to add a nonprofit museum that people from all over could visit for free.

Walton’s goal behind building Crystal Bridges was to “highlight the full scope of American art and history,” which includes the natural artistic appeal of the woods and springs surrounding the building. She wanted the rolling hills and woods area surrounding the museum to be a special part of every visitor’s experience.

There are a total of seven exhibits, six of which are permanent and one temporary exhibition, which is switched out three times a year and usually stays at Crystal Bridges for three to four months. Each exhibition is divided into different chronological categories, except for one, which is exclusively used to showcase the works of local artists.

The exhibits host a variety of art pieces including paintings of different styles, sculptures, watercolors, sketches with paint, charcoal or pencil and tactile pieces.

Some of the most well-known American artworks shown in these exhibits include the art of Norman Rockwell, Georgia O’Keeffe and Andy Warhol.

One of the reasons John Brown University senior Andrea Perry visited to see the museum is to see the Norman Rockwell painting.

“Norman Rockwell’s ‘Rosie the Riveter’ is my absolute favorite piece of art that I have,” Perry said. “When I was a child, my mom would let me flip through this giant book of Norman Rockwell art that she had. I was in love with his realism and creativity. His work was timeless and unlike anything I had ever seen.”

On the weekends, Crystal Bridges seeks to engage their visitors in a more hands-on and captivating way so that when people leave, they will want to come back, no matter how far away they live, and tell their friends. Some of the activities they host are live demonstrations by local artists, live orchestral music being played next to a piece of art and guided tours.

Another unique aspect of Crystal Bridges compared to other art museums is that they also choose to show the art in nature. The biggest way they seek to include nature is through their four walking trails scattered throughout the grounds.

The trails take visitors surrounding the wooded areas filled with native flowers and trees. They will also walk up open and alongside larger pieces of art, like a bronze pig and a stainless steel tree, which may be too big to fit inside the museum.

The beauty of the changing landscape also adds to the look of the pieces.

On their trail walk, visitors will also come across the Crystal Spring, from which the museum receives its name, and the Tulip Tree Shelter that gives visitors a place to hide from the sun and rest while still enjoying the beauty of the natural surroundings.

After visiting Crystal Bridges, guests will come away with many memories of the beautiful pieces of art they saw in the exhibitions.

They will remember the warmth that they received from the very first moment they were greeted.

The beauty of the rolling hills and wooded area with natural flowing springs will prompt them to want to walk the trails before they leave, if only for a brief moment to catch the art that is kept inside.

And of course, visitors will walk away with a better knowledge and understanding of the different works of art created by American artists, depicting the different struggles and joys of living in America all the way from the Colonial Era to the 20th century.

It will be a place to visit often, with friends and family members to help discover this jewel tucked away in the Ozark Mountains of Northwest Arkansas.

Julia Cason lives in Little Rock, Ark. She drives from the museum, yet she said that she frequents the museum often because she finds the water soothing.

Cason and her husband have children that live in a nearby town and the couple will often meet them at the museum for lunch and a walk on the trails.

While the couple was in Cason’s on the restaurant located in one of the museum’s sectors where she can sit comfortably and look over the pond and see the fish swimming below her.

Having lived all over the United States, including the New England area and California, she has been to many art museums, and she said that she enjoys telling her friends that Arkansas has good art museums too.
Everyone’s got them: five little words from a text that stick in your head forever. Some are quite short—WOW! Some are very long. Like Command, and some are more abstract—like Compassionate, some are self-explaining, like Perfectionist, and some are a bit mysterious, like Intuitive. But what do they mean? And how do you see them? StrengthsQuest is an educational leadership program from Gallup Inc. While many personality assessments give tendencies toward certain strength processes, StrengthsQuest focuses on finding and fostering only strengths, ignoring weaknesses completely. “People who are successful learn to use only strengths, ignoring weaknesses,” says Neil Haeffner, University Chaplain. “The reality is we all have weaknesses. By understanding your strengths, I’ve increased my potential for success.”

The research agrees. People who spend time working on their strengths, not spending time with people who try to make you do things you don’t like, regardless of how well you do them, are more likely to be successful in life. After gaining a love for physics in high school, one of Hahn’s teachers, Rhea, began a lifelong journey of science and learning. Hahn studied physics as an undergrad at Texas A&M, joining the Corps of Cadets, an ROTC-like organization established by A&M in 1876. “It was a challenge,” said Hahn. “I was really good at math and science, so I decided to go to college. The military atmosphere was strong—students were required to wear their corps uniform even in dorms—and occasionally promoted unhealthy competition choices. That was hard, because of the Corps, Hahn said. Hahn did not grow up in a Christian home, and his few experiences with the church before college were not very positive. “I went to a bible study where I met cadets and students who were genuine Christians,” Hahn said. “This was my chance to find a group of people who wanted to grow in their faith.” Hahn began his struggle with God that year, and he began to seek his living. As he studied physics, Hahn was asked to teach an advanced physics course for, he says, that class that not only required I loved science, I wanted to teaching it.” Hahn said. Though he was well qualified for his job when he received his doctorate, Hahn looked only for teaching positions, and ended up a professor at Dallas Baptist University in 2003. It was there that Hahn met his wife Alyssa. On their first date, we were talking about ‘Christmas Carol’ in Colombia, Mo.,” Hahn said. “It was a difficult drive, so we had plenty of time to get to know each other.” Hahn and his wife courted and were married in nine months, and have been together for twenty-three years. “Everything we do is a partnership,” he said. For example, Hahn is a successful college chemistry professor at Trinity University for State for several years, but after a short-term, mission trip to Nigeria, Hahn began to feel the call of the mission field. “I thought another struggle with the Lord, this two years two years ago,” he said. “It was a huge mission trip. Hahn and his family moved to Dallas, and Hahn began attending Dallas theological seminary, while teaching full time at the Cambridge University School of Dallas, a college prep school, where he taught physics, calclulus, and theology, as well as serving as Academic Dean. When Hahn’s appointment for the mission field was renewed for the full length of one of their sons, Hahn and his wife began looking for where God was leading them next. The position at John Brown University was the only job that was offered. Hahn was impressed by the ministry and community at John Brown. “I’m a huge advocate of Christian education,” Hahn said. “We need Christians who are well trained in their field and able to work with the challenges of the day.” One of the issues he’s interested in tackling is the intersection of faith and science. “I don’t see any great conflict, I see an amazing culture in the church there’s a huge space between faith and science,” Hahn said. “I am proud that in the church there are many competing voices. But I know that God does not lie. The Bible is not a science textbook, but it is true.” In addition to being interested in the intersection of faith and science, Hahn is eager to get involved in missions. Hahn is also interested in helping students who are interested in missions. When he was a student at A&M, he says, “I was eager to get involved in missions. I have also been thinking about students who would be accessible to students and affordable for the University. Above all, he says, his goal is simple. “I want to teach the next generation,” he said. “I want to have the Lord’s heart for my students, and pour into the lives of my students in whatever way I can open up for them.” Hahn hopes these students are ready to learn. Though he is our professor now, he remembers being a student. “I still have teachers,” he said. “I want to be like my bookshelf, and they can come into myoffice to listen to want I listen to.”
Rugby establishes brotherhood

The rugby huddles before a match, a team ritual that they practice before every match.

“Right now we are using our practice time to develop a connection in a team where both the new and returning players,” said Zoemma. “Rugby establishes brotherhood,” said Zoemma.

The rugby team is excited to see how far they will go this year. After winning their first game this past weekend, Rugby team is excited to see how far they will go this year.

Men’s soccer proved skills on and off field

Golden Eagles prove skills on and off field

In case you missed it...

Men’s soccer

(2-3) beat No. 5 team Oklahoma Wesleyan.

Women’s soccer

(4-1-1) at Benedictine.

Women’s and men’s cross country placed 1st place at the Platinum Buffalo Invitational.

Upcoming Home Games

Saturday, Sept. 20

@ 5:30 p.m: Women’s Soccer vs. Benedictine

@ 7:30 p.m: Men’s Soccer vs. Benedictine

The Threefold Advocate

September 18, 2014

Athlete of the week

ADAM HOLT
Men’s Soccer

Holt was named Scorer Athletic Conference’s Defensive Player of the Week. Blocking four potential goals, Holt helped the men’s soccer team #9 ranking team Oklahoma Wesleyan last Friday.

The Corrections

In Issue 1 of The Threefold Advocate, the story included an error in the information of Mackenzie Rich. The soccer picture with Men’s Cross country photograph by Nathan Szymich. The basketball photo with Intercollegiate Athletics was photographed by Daniel Madrid.

COLLEEN CORNETT
Managing Editor
cornettc@jbu.edu

Rugby establishes brotherhood

The rugby huddles before a match, a team ritual that they practice before every match.

“The rugby huddles before a match, a team ritual that they practice before every match. The team encourages everyone to come out and try out at any of our practices. Marcus Ciccarello, junior international business major, said.”

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@ 7:30 p.m: Men’s Soccer vs. Benedictine

The Corrections

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Managing Editor
cornettc@jbu.edu

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cornettc@jbu.edu

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Linda eagles focus, ‘one at a time’

TARAH THOMAS
Sports Editor thomastr@jbu.edu

John Brown University women’s soccer team hopes to build on last year, primarily by focusing on the prize up front, starting with God, and second, letting the results come with hard work and perseverance.

Last season, the women’s soccer team became conference champions, advancing themselves to nationals. The girls are looking forward to this season and are working their way up to the top, one game at a time.

“Last year was definitely exciting, but with every year everyone has to start over,” Kathleen Paulsen, head coach for the women’s soccer team, said. “We’re looking at it as another opportunity to grow and to grow.”

This is not only encouraged to grow physically but also in practice, but also spiritually by praying to God and on and off the field.

“We think it’s crucial for everything we do to,” Adrienne Kennedy, one of the four captains of the soccer team, said. “We’ve got something that we love. We couldn’t get through practices or through a game without having our community and our each other to encourage our faith. The community tells us that we have to do is everything we do, on and off the field.”

One of the ways that they show Christ’s love on the field through community is by praying with the opposing team after every game. Kennedy and a former player came up with this idea when a speaker talked about connecting with your enemy in chapel.

“Pray for your enemies,” Kennedy said. “Although the team we are playing isn’t necessarily our enemy, we’re competing against each other. Why shouldn’t we pray for them?”

The soccer team is in the process of leaving a legacy by living out their core values in the here and now, Kristen Minton, player for the team, said. That the difference between being a legacy and leaving a legacy is in the here and now.

“It’s not about what it’s going to be in the next year, it’s what we are right now,” Minton said. “Right now, we’re trying to focus on one game at a time. We’re a big group of girls with a lot of talent on the field. The experience may vary longer in our minds. But as much as we can, we are going to try to focus.”

As the soccer team continues to play hard and well, Paulsen warns the team to most importantly, have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

“Big terms: God. I hope that these women walk away from college knowing and loving God in a way that they never knew he was before soccer was part of their experience but that still define who we were,” Paulsen said. “I think that soccer is the microcosm of this. If you focus on, in a three-month window, you experience all the emotions that you experience in a year of life because that’s how it’s played. If you can successfully finish the season, then it’s an actual training ground for the future.”

TWEETS THIS WEEK

“First meet down! Great job JBU men and women soccer runners on getting first place today! #goBU” @gingirler

“Feeling great waking up today after last nights win against #5 in the country! HappyDays #goBU” @RDuncan27

_#gojbu enjoyed watching former Siloam students on the volleyball court today_ @kevans506
Siloam Springs fosters the word “community” in more ways than one. The small town features various organizations and charities that help those in need, sheltering the homeless, supporting children in need and feeding the hungry. These organizations are available to whoever needs assistance and are always looking for more volunteers, donations and support.

Other Organizations Include:

- Dogwood Literacy Council
- Manna Center
- Boys and Girls Club
- Siloam Springs Adult Development Center
- Tailwaggers (local animal shelter)
- Only Believe Tabernacle

Ability Tree

This organization helps people with disabilities and their family members by providing R.E.S.T. which stands for Recreation, Education, Support and Training. Anyone can volunteer in a few easy steps. All one has to do is go to website abilitytree.org and fill out a form as a volunteer a church/agency or as a business. Ability Tree can also be reached at 479-373-6033.

New Beginnings Pregnancy Services

This organization helps women with unplanned pregnancies, sexual health information and mentoring opportunities in addition to offering parenting classes. New Beginnings accepts donations and volunteers to help at the clinic.

Genesis House

This ministry is a shelter that assists the homeless, offering emergency shelter, food and comfort, as well as help with homeless prevention and rental assistance programs, involving motels, hot meals and basic items such as blankets and coats. Currently, Arvest Bank is partnered with Genesis House to raise 1 million meals. They are asking for donations of non-perishable food items from now until Nov. 1 at the Siloam Springs, Gentry, Kansas and Oklahoma locations. It is also possible to make $1 cash donations at the locations. Every dollar represents the equivalent of five meals for local families.

Hunger & Thirst Ministries

Started by Bill and Sandra Parsons, residents of Siloam Springs, Hunger & Thirst Ministries offers hot lunches Monday-Thursday and emergency food boxes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, in addition to clothing for those who might need it. The ministry depends solely on individual and private donations from the community. If you are interested in getting involved, call them at 479-373-6220.

Written By: Kelly Escarcega

Designed by Alyssa Schoenwald

Photos by Kelsey Gulliver