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The Threefold Advocate

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Economists predict another recession is 'unlikely'

"The likelihood of severe recession like that of 2008 is pretty slim, based on historical norms."

- Randall Waldron

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The downward trend of the trend lines were improving, but they are going in the exact opposite way," Dennis Nally, Chairman of Pricewaterhouse Coopers told USA Today. "There are very few bright spots to talk through."

Economists both on campus

and in the U.N. do not feel this is the case. The market has enjoyed a rate of slow but steady growth since the recession following the burst of the housing bubble in 2008. In that time, the market experienced a dramatic downward spiral that finally resulted in the U.S. government's bailout of the American economy in 2009. While the market has experienced decrease in the last quarter, this is to be expected. "We've opened this year up with a fairly dramatic decline in the U.S. stock market. The market will continue to bounce around quite a bit. There's a lot of uncertainty out there, but in terms of overall economic performance, we seem to be stuck in a pattern of slow

growth," Randall Waldron, professor of economics said. "The stock market is often very volatile. We know that sometimes, a downturn in the market can be a sign of economic downturn, but not always. The stock market crashed pretty severely in 1987, but nothing bad happened to the general economy. It was several years until we had any kind of recession, and even then it was pretty mild," Waldron said. An update from the International Monetary Fund released last week said, "a modest and uneven recovery is expected to continue." The IMF is an organization started by the U.N. with the purpose of "fostering global monetary cooperation, securing financial

stability, and sustainable economic growth, and reducing poverty around the world," said on its website, Much of the worry stems from the great decline in oil prices. Increased production in oil, due in large part to fracking, has led to an overflow of product. In the same report, the IMF said, "oil prices have declined markedly since September 2015, reflecting expectations of increases in production by the Organization of the Petroleum Producing Countries." While it's not expected that the economy will experience a great recession like that of 2008, it is very possible that the economy could go through a lighter recession.

Luke Powers, a junior majoring in international business said, "A lot of news reports and statistics show that we're at a chance of having another recession and there is a chance of that. However, the key differences point to sustainable growth rather than inflated growth in the future." Waldron had a final word on recessions, "The likelihood of a severe recession like that of 2008 is pretty slim, based on historical norms. Major recessions tend to be once in a generation type things. Now, I'm not saying there's not a recession ahead, possibly in the near future, but we've typically had recessions every six to eight years and they're usually very mild."

Lawmaker proposes legalized prostitution

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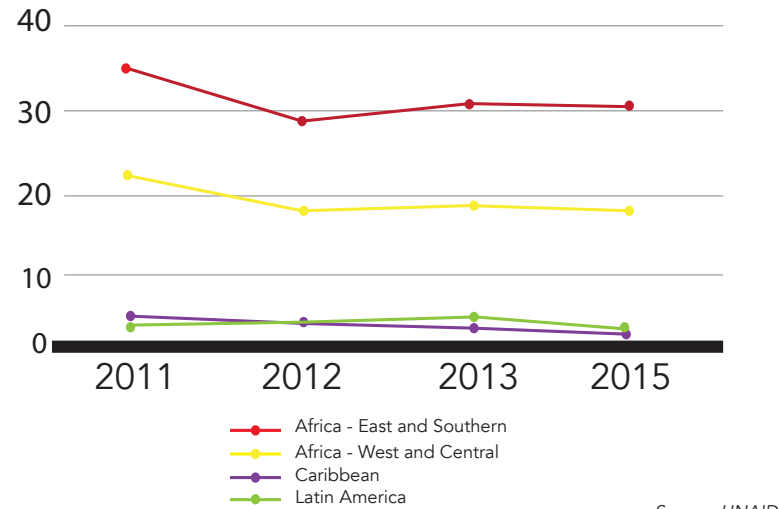
Prostitution may become legal in New Hampshire if a recently proposed bill is passed. Rep. Elizabeth Edwards wrote the legislation in light of Amnesty International's recent call to legalize prostitution globally in order to protect human rights of sex workers. While prostitution is currently legal in Nevada, it is only legal in brothels and is illegal in Carson City, the capital, and four out of 16 counties. Street prostitution is illegal. The proposed New Hampshire bill, on the other hand, legalizes consensual prostitution between consenting adults statewide and does not limit solicitation of sex to brothels. The bill also states that it "makes any solicitation of sexual contact involving a person under 18 years of age or through the use of force or intimidation a felony."

Rep. Edwards of Manchester

said her bill was inspired by Amnesty International's recent call to legalize prostitution globally. Amnesty International states that sex workers are "one of the most disadvantaged groups of people in the world, often forced to live outside the law and denied their most basic human rights." "Sex workers are not able to negotiate and organize for their rights, or for access to the justice system when their livelihood is a crime," Edwards said to local news station NH1. Students at John Brown University had varying opinions on legalizing sex work. Lindsay Dodson, a senior marketing major, summarized the discussion by saying that right now, the situation with prostitution in the U.S. is unhealthy, and the question is whether legalizing sex work will make it better. "I know there's a lot of abuse that happens. Not only with pimps, but also with the clients," Dodson said. "People get murdered that way."

Dodson said she is for the

Regional trends of median HIV prevalence among sex workers



legalization of prostitution and noted that prostitution is legal in Australia, Canada and much of Western Europe, where HIV rates are low. Dodson said after researching the issue, her three main reasons for supporting the legalization of prostitution are

GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

that it is better for workers as it enables them to report abuse, it gives people autonomy over their bodies and allows police to focus their energies on sex trafficking. Krista Gay is the founder of campus ministry Students Against Sex Slavery (SASS)

and is a volunteer at the North West Arkansas Rape Crisis Center where she manages the crisis hotline and assists in forensic exams of people who have been raped. Gay said she believes the proposed bill is not good for human rights. "This bill will only increase the demand, and thus the number of vulnerable individuals entering the sex trade by force, not by choice," Gay said. "Empowering women means giving them the right to choose who they have sex with, and when. Legalizing prostitution allows other individuals to manipulate this right," Gay said. "Pimps will flock to areas where they can fly under the radar. If prostitution is legal, no one will be looking for prostitutes and question them. Prostitutes lie and say they are doing it willingly because they do not want to be punished, nor do they want their family to be harmed. However, upon

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Increased minimum wage benefits work-study students

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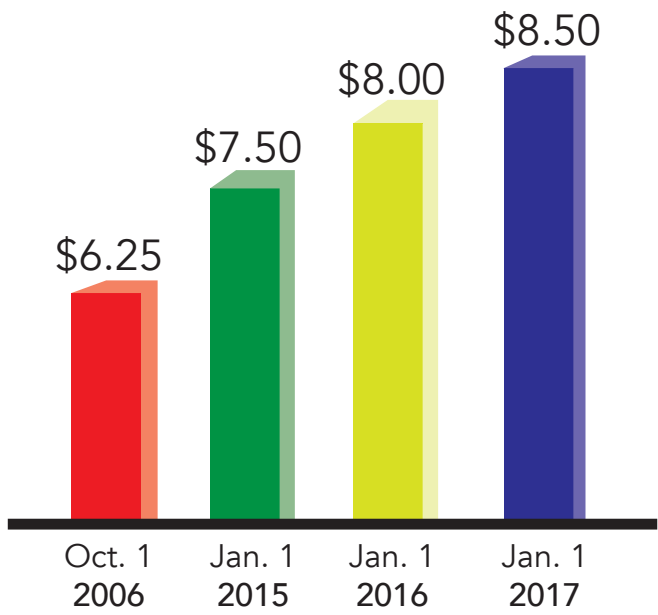
Arkansas's new minimum wage of \$8.00 went into effect on Jan. 1. This is a 50 cent increase from last year's wage, and 75 cents above the federal minimum wage. Work study at John Brown University will be allowed to continue working the same amount of hours, said financial aid enrollment counselor Sarah Cowles. At the normal rate of 7.5 hours a week and 113 hours a semester, students can expect to make an additional \$56.50 this semester. Lauren Wilson, sophomore engineering said she is happy that minimum wage has gone up and the hours are staying the same. "It will really help with paying tuition," said Wilson. Hannah Pickle freshman undeclared major said she is glad minimum wage has gone up since

it helps work-study students, but wonders how it will affect the economics of the University. Arkansas is one of the 14 states that began the new year with wage increases. Arkansas's wage increase is part of a three-year increase plan, passed in November 2014. At the time this bill was passed, Arkansas's minimum wage had not increased since 2006, when it was set to \$6.25. While \$6.25 was above federal minimum wage at the time, it is now \$1 below, and thereby null. The 2014 bill increased state wage to \$7.50 at the start of 2015, \$8.00 this year, and will reach \$8.50 in 2017. While work study students may welcome the wage increase, others are concerned about the long-term impact of increasing minimum wage on the economy. Across the country there has been multiple "living wage" protests. Last week hundreds of airport workers in New York protested for increased pay

and benefits. "It's not supposed to be a livable wage. It is supposed to be a wage for teens and young adults that are just starting off and still rely a little bit on their parents," Claire Griffin, sophomore communication major, said. "Raising the minimum wage will help at first, but it will eventually cause prices to rise universally," she added, expressing a common concern inflation. Patrick Taff is a tax specialist and the owner of 14 H&H Block tax preparation offices in Arkansas and Louisiana. Taff said that minimum wage is not meant to be a living wage, but is rather meant to cover short-term needs in the job market. "I don't know very many hard working people that make minimum wage. The idea is a starting point for learning and growth. If you

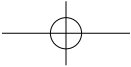
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Minimum Wage Increases in Arkansas



Source: National Conference of State Legislators

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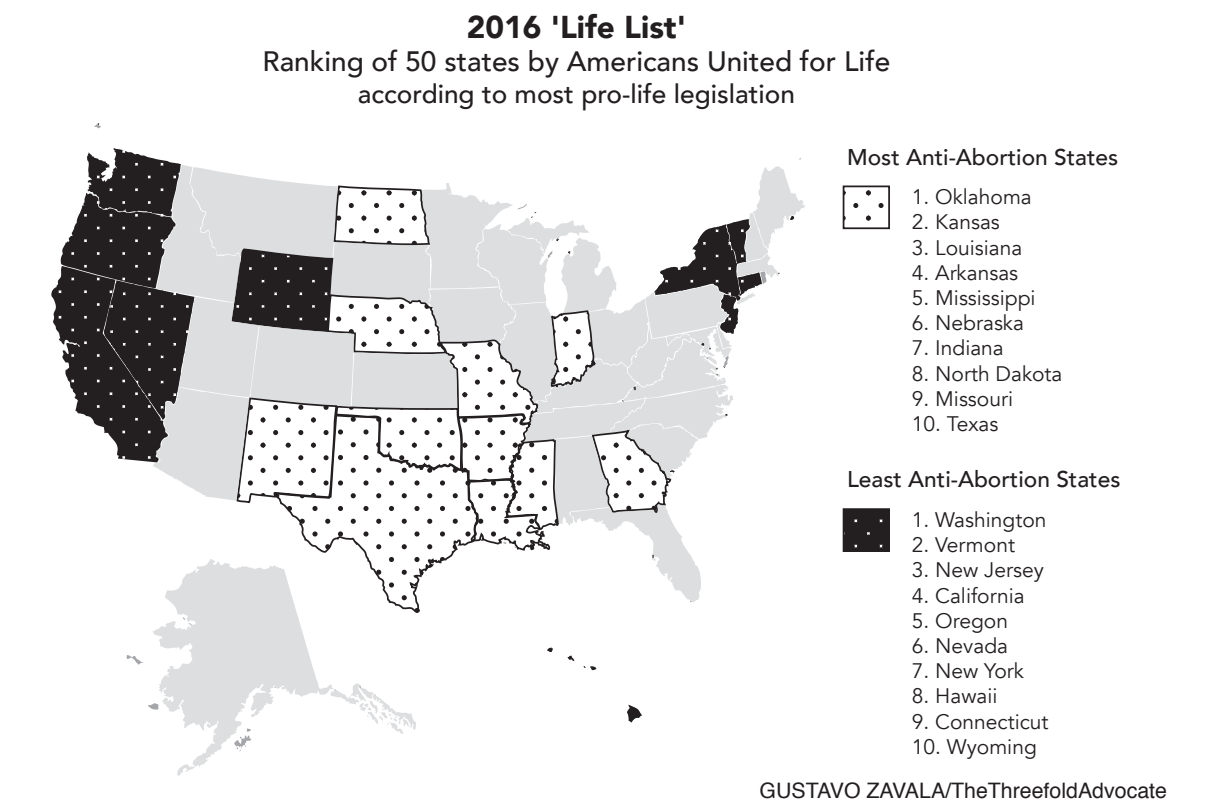


Arkansas ranked No. 4 on anti-abortion list

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Americans United for Life ranked Arkansas the fourth most anti-abortion state in the nation this month. Arkansas was also recognized by the organization as their top All Star State for passing seven anti-abortion laws last year. These laws include preventing the state funding of abortion clinics, a law requiring a 48-hour waiting period before an abortion can be performed, strengthening the requirements concerning abortions performed on minors and a law requiring providers of drug-induced abortions to follow United States Food and Drug Administration protocols. Several of these laws were based on Americans United for Life's model legislation, featured in their Women's Protection Project. "This is a historic time for life. More life-affirming and protective state laws have been enacted since 2010 than in any similar period since Roe v. Wade, and Americans United for Life has been involved in nearly one-third of abortion-related measures enacted over the last six years," AUL CEO Charmaine Yoest

said, according to their website. Despite this, not all John Brown University students see the need for additional laws. "As much as I am against abortion, I don't think we should have more laws against it. It would just drive abortion into an illegal service and would be much riskier for the women having the abortion," Ariana Odom, senior psychology major said. Despite being pro-abortion rights, senior English major Allyssa Alvarado agreed with what Odom said. "I can understand why they want to try and deter people away from the choice of abortion, but I don't think it really helps," Alvarado said. "If anything, I think that there should be steps taken to make it a safer and more accessible option. I don't think the law should be concerned with the choices people make, but the safety of the people," she added. Several John Brown University students supported such anti-abortion efforts. "I'm against abortion. To me, it's like telling someone, 'You're a burden to me. Let's end your life,'" chemistry graduate Kristina Matney said. "Adoption is a better option in my opinion or we



could educate our youth on how pregnancy happens and give them the tools they need to prevent it." Chemistry graduate Hannah Wright also said she is anti-abortion. "As soon as a new organism is formed in the womb, it should be treated like a person," Wright said. "There's no scientific reason

to believe that a fetus at any stage of development is any different than a child, except that it's hard to humanize someone you can't see." In addition to the new laws, Arkansas' abortion rate has been dropping. "This high national ranking and the fact that Arkansans' abortion rate is near the lowest it has been

since the 1970s prove the efforts of so many are finally paying off," Family Council President Jerry Cox said in a press release. Cox also stated that while Arkansas needs more anti-abortion laws, the public should volunteer at pregnancy and adoption centers in order to help women with unplanned pregnancies.

Performer spreads message of reconciliation

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With a smile stretched ear-to-ear and hands raised Darris Sneed introduced himself through song on the John Brown University campus. Returning for the third time, Sneed's joy was evident from the stage in the Cathedral of the Ozarks as the student body worshipped together. Sneed's message was a call to action for the University and today's generation. He commented on the importance of being the hands and feet of Christ and how Christians need to care for the needs of their communities. "A lot of times you won't know what your community needs until you go. Find out! So that means you have to force yourself to come outside yourself. If Jesus were here today he would come outside of his nice car and four-people, two-bath house and go out and find out what people need," Sneed said. Sneed added that God calls us to reach out and stretch ourselves in new ways to meet the needs of our neighbors, brothers and sisters.

"I don't care if you live in the suburbs or the ghetto; there is always a need. I believe wherever there is a need, God will fill it," Sneed said. Sneed believes that today's generation often gets caught behind a screen and puts on a false face towards the world. In 2014 Sneed lost everything. His bank account was empty and his car was repossessed. "In the midst of the struggle I was still trying to worship and lead people, but people see this life on Twitter and Facebook and thought I was okay, but behind the scenes I was dying," he said. Sneed said he learned what it was like to hold on to God alone because He was the only one he could lean on. "I was literally in a corner in the fetal position one day and then only 3 months later, God brought a car and opportunities and I was ministering to thousands of people. The process is necessary. You have to go through the lows to be a good steward of the highs." Meghan Hardwick remembered his singing talent and had her calendar marked for Sneed's return to the University. Hardwick said, "Out of all the chapels, that's one I didn't

want to miss. I looked forward to his evident love for the Lord and his ability to get JBU students out of their shells and actually have fun worshipping." Hardwick described his energy and presence as refreshing and agreed with Sneed's point that our generation is social media obsessed. "Although I think we recognize that Facebook posts aren't going to solve anything, it was a good reminder to actually love people instead of just complaining about what is or isn't being done," Hardwick said. Jessah Taber, sophomore music major, said she appreciated Sneed's honesty and passion about Christian's impact on the world. "It's neat hearing life experience and advice from a younger adult who has first hand experience with racism, prejudice and just growing up as a Christian in this world," Taber said. She said she hopes that his words press on people's hearts and minds. "I hope we begin to see change concerning these issues, starting right here on our campus." Both loved hearing him sing at the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration and Hardwick said it

was clear that Sneed was attuned to what God wanted him to say. "One encouraging thing for me was that he acknowledged that racism still exists, but he didn't dwell on blame. This was encouraging because even as he speaks, he is living out what he believes: acknowledging the problem and then finding ways to take action," Hardwick said. Sneed is currently living in

Florida in an area with a mixed population and said he loves to dive in and spend time in a new culture. He believes it makes him a person of more influence. "Most people just need attention and love and they just need an hour of your time. Eventually you develop trust and love and take on the heart of God," Sneed said.



KLARA JOHANNESSEN/TheThreefoldAdvocate
Darris Sneed, worship leader and pastor serving in Orlando, Fla., performed in chapel at John Brown University on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Walmart shutters 269 stores

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Eleven Walmart Expresses closed in the Bentonville area today adding to the total 269 stores closed worldwide since the beginning of January. Four hundred and fifty employees were laid off at Walmart's headquarters in Bentonville, Ark. as, "part of a plan to increase its competitive edge," according to USA Today. "Approximately 16,000 associates will be impacted, including around 10,000 in the U.S.," said Doug McMillon, Walmart CEO and President. "More than 95 percent of the stores closing in the U.S. are within 10 miles on average of another Walmart, and the hope is that these associates will be placed in nearby locations." "Even with today's actions, Walmart will continue to invest in its future, with plans to open more than 300 new stores worldwide over the coming year," McMillon said. Although those laid off will receive 60 days pay and severance if eligible, former John Brown University student Emily Cade said it does not comfort the loss of her father's job. "They are doing whatever they can to come out of this



LEXI CHRISTENSEN/TheThreefoldAdvocate
Several Walmart shoppers will have to drive to the next town to get their groceries after the store closures. without looking like the bad guys. Walmart is definitely close to the hearts of many of those who have grown up in Northwest Arkansas. So they don't want any blemishes on their records with long time customers," Cade said. Cade's father worked as the director of Global Shared Services at the David Glass Center in Bentonville until Walmart laid him off. "These layoffs are sporadic. After investing in a company for years, one should be able to feel a sense of safety. Instead, there are people out there worrying about whether they will have jobs or not," Cade said. When asked whether Walmart was closing stores because of its recent investment in wages, McMillon replied, "Not at all. This is about

managing our portfolio smartly." Hazeley Pyle, a University student and Walmart sales associate, disagreed, saying that while the wage increases were beneficial, Walmart is "now trying to get that money back by closing down the stores." However, Pyle said that Walmart is trying to improve its operations. "They changed a few rules like attendance ... just to improve the work flow and make the store a better place," Pyle said. Cade sees the changes as a detriment. "I personally believe that Walmart wanted to get rid of the old and in with the new. New is good and change and growth are great, but if you're hurting thousands of people in the process, is it really growth?" Cade questioned.

BILL continued from page 1
However, upon careful investigation, it is often discovered that these women really have no choice at all." In response to the argument that people should have autonomy over their bodies, Gay said, "I support an individual's right to have sex with whomever they choose, as long as it is 100 percent consensual." "I have met dozens of prostitutes, and I have never met one that sold their body who enjoyed it, or were doing it because they wanted to." They were often being forced to do it by a boyfriend or a pimp," Gay

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depend on minimum wage you will never get where you need to be," said Taff. "The problem is we think that we deserve more, so we want minimum wage increased instead of working harder to earn more than minimum wage and forcing our employer to pay us more or risk losing us to a different competitor." Taff added that raising the minimum wage could potentially "lead employers to stop hiring because the wage for the work is not worth it." "Most of the time it pushes smaller business to pay cash instead, which never gets reported and so taxes are not paid and money is not reported and more free benefits are given out," said Taff.

Gun violence demands action
Support stricter regulation on firearms

By this point, everyone is somewhat familiar with the debate surrounding gun control in the U.S. After numerous mass shootings, emotions and tensions are running high. President Obama issued an executive order this month to help reduce gun violence and increase public safety.

There are many sides to the debate and many complications to consider when enacting any sort of legislation concerning guns. There are various interpretations of the Second Amendment, powerful lobbies that financially support politicians and impassioned survivors of gun violence.

Despite these differences, every sensible person agrees that the violence needs to end. According to the White House, “over the past decade in America, more than 100,000 people have been killed as a result of gun violence.” That is 10,000 people each year. This includes accidental deaths, suicides, homicides and other gun-related deaths.

We The Threefold Advocate believe that stricter laws must be enforced to keep the wrong people from getting access to firearms. Opponents of gun control may argue that more rules take away their ability to buy guns, but should it really be easy for someone to buy a weapon that could be used to kill someone? While it is our constitutional right to keep and bear arms, it does not mean there should not be a reasonable regulation of those weapons.

Some also argue that criminals will still obtain weapons illegally, even if there are stricter gun laws. However, recent events have shown that many mass shooters obtained their weapons legally, detailed in a New York Times’ story titled “How They Got Their Guns,” which covered the Umpqua Community College shooter, Charleston church shooter and Aurora theater shooter.

The executive actions from the White House also requires more money be spent on mental health initiatives and create hundreds of new jobs. The National Rifle Association also supports fixing the “broken mental health system.” There is common ground to be found in the midst of this debate, but it can be hard to find through the murk of misinformation about gun control, which is why we The Threefold Advocate urge everyone to be well informed about this critical topic.

Misinformation about gun control and legislation is extremely detrimental to creating positive change in our society. While it is easy to share an infographic, quote or article on social media, we encourage you to make sure that the information you are sharing is accurate.

Pay attention to both sides
Work to improve the criminal justice system

The Netflix series “Making a Murderer” has led to questioning the American legal system. Steven Avery did not appear to get a fair trial in the documentary and this needs to be discussed.

The documentary has also come under fire. Several people are claiming that important evidence was missing in the series. The prosecution said that several pieces of evidence in their case was left out. Also, in watching the documentary, it was clear that there was no one from the prosecution in the documentary.

We The Threefold Advocate believe that people should be willing to look for the other side of every story. Often times, it seems the accused’s side of the story is the one that is not presented. Even in these cases, the student should discover both sides.

The Threefold Advocate encourages students to look for both sides of the story. Read multiple news sources on the same topic so that you can be sure you are getting the most accurate information.

Despite the difficulties in making sure you see both side students should always look for both sides so that you will be the most informed as possible.

One easy way to do this is to make sure you read some stories from sources that you know you may disagree with.

We The Threefold Advocate also believe that Christians should look to improve the legal system. There have been 156 people exonerated from death row, according to the Death Penalty Information Center. One of the convictions occurred in 2013, proving that even with the improvements to DNA testing, there can still be flaws within the justice system.

We understand that this is more work, but it is important to be sure that you receive both sides.

We also understand that at times it is difficult for students to feel as though they can make changes to a corrupt system. However, just speaking up can make a huge difference. The Threefold believes students can make a difference in this way.

Pride prevents service



SAMUEL
CROSS-MEREDITH

STAFF WRITER

It has been a tradition in Christianity to spurn the service of our brothers and sisters upon us. While we are not reluctant in the least bit to serve our brothers and sisters, as a general rule for ourselves (Christians), we give of ourselves until we are bled dry. Then we will offer our dry bones, but when the time comes for us to receive service, for us to receive love, we refuse it with such a vehemence so as to cause self-flagellating monks to take note. To disregard the service of our brothers and sisters, to refuse their roles in our lives is just as bad as refusing to serve them.

When our Lord was at the feet of Peter, what were His words? When Peter refused to be served by a Man whom he knew to be greater than himself, did Jesus back off and accept that Peter was not

“How on earth can we be of service to one another if nobody allows service done unto them?”

comfortable being served? Of course not! “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me,” Jesus says in John 13. Again in Matthew 20 and Mark 10, Jesus says “The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” Accepting the service of our great Lord is the precise thing that brought us into this life. Will we then take the arrogant route of assuming we are greater than the service of our Lord?

In the same passage that Jesus washes the disciples’ feet, Jesus says this to His followers, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet” (John 13:12-14). How on earth can we be of service to one another if nobody allows service done unto them? How can we go about imitating our Lord if we are not allowed

by one another to do so?

Stop resisting. Do you not know that the love your brothers and sisters show to you comes in many different forms? To receive gifts, to receive services, to receive affection and kind words, is to accept the gifts of our Lord that He has given us to give to one another. If we are all broken, all together and all lower than the next, then we’re all just tattered rags sewn together with golden thread. To give may be better than to receive, but to receive is a gift to your friends and, ultimately, your family.

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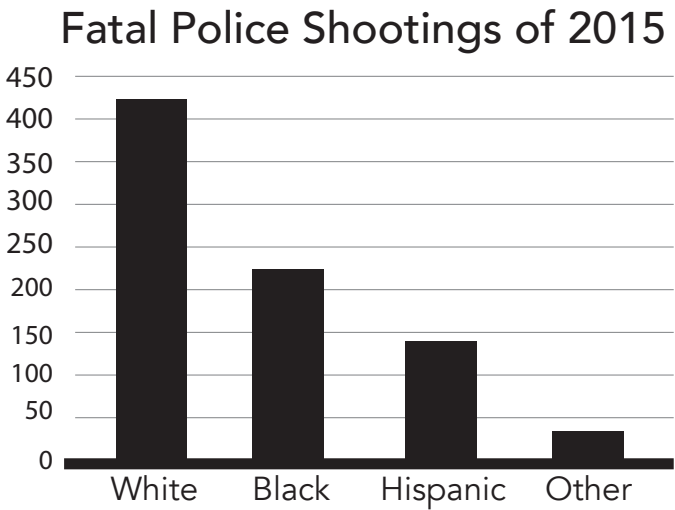
-Letter to the Editor-

I was surprised when I read the last issue of the Threefold Advocate. Right on the very front was an article about the Chicago shooting. I am always saddened to hear about shootings. Shootings are tragic. So I began reading the article. Within the article called “Chicago Shooting Sparks Unrest” I saw an unsettling statistic of social injustice regarding race. As a JBU student, social injustice is an issue very dear to my heart. We are called to oppose social injustice and be the change. So after seeing this startling statistic I delved further.

I began to research felonies in reference to race to see how the statistic stood in perspective. I noticed that the statistic was from 2010-2012. Curious if there were more recent statistics, I turned to Washington Post, which has a running statistic that is updated regularly. As students, our job is to be inquisitive and to ensure that all information is accurate and updated. The statistics for this year shown below.

These are the reported fatal shootings of 2015. So why then, with new information available, use statistics from 2010-2012? Journalism is a sacred and fragile thing. Sometimes statistics can fit viewpoints more conveniently. I was very disappointed to see the discrepancy. While the article was about a very current event, current statistics were not used nor were they cited. This is a call to anyone who writes articles to be very careful. Journalism is a sharp instrument and needs to be used properly in order to serve the public. Racism is a very sensitive topic and should be treated with care. Doing one’s homework is crucial to helping people understand current events.

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The Threefold Advocate would like to clarify that editorials, those pieces in the column above this paragraph, are the opinion of the editorial board. They are therefore not attributed to individual writers. The writings to the right, with mug shots and pithy headlines, are columns. Each is the sole opinion of the mug shot’s owner. On occasion, readers wishing to respond to an article or to express a viewpoint will write a letter to the editor. The opinion pages serve as a community bulletin board and are meant to continue the dialogue about various issues relevant to the JBU community. Please write. We want your input.

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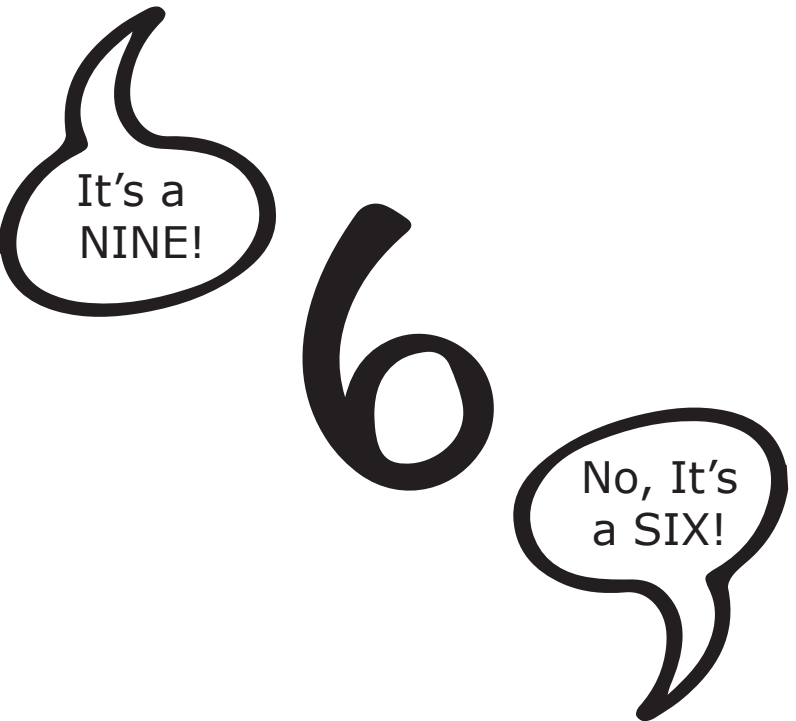
OPINION 5

See who God is, not who you want



DEBORAH
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Ethnocentricity. It permeates the issues we are passionate about; yet, we are blind to it. The word comes from cultural anthropology and it means viewing the reality from our own cultural perspectives. A cylinder viewed from different angles is a visual example. Its two-dimensional shadow changes from a circle to a rectangle, depending on your perspective. When people from different cultures have to work together or share resources, misunderstandings can result as ethnocentric perspectives differ. (Is it a circle or a rectangle?) These differences are not prejudices but perceptual limitations. They become prejudices when we refuse to acknowledge the validity of another’s point of view. This is why diversity and race are such hot topics these days. It is at the heart of the Syrian crisis, the heightened sense of offense that permeates



GUSTAVO ZAVALA/TheThreefoldAdvocate

Facebook, economic and class divisions and even generational conflict within the same family. I believe ethnocentricity also leads to blindness and division between us and God. I think most people at JBU try to “put themselves in someone else’s shoes” as a way to broaden their perspectives. How about putting ourselves in God’s shoes to see things from his perspective? We are a media-infused culture. If we look to media sources to identify what God thinks, we will encounter a confused god who supports opposing points of view with conflicting “proof of texts” for each prespective. When we interpret God from our own cultural frameworks, we distort God’s true nature. Humans have long been

making gods in their own images, while God has been trying to reveal himself to us. In the beginning he walked with Adam, conversing with him and sharing his heart. But Adam chose to listen to Eve, the voice of another human whose opinion he elevated above God’s. So God, knowing that we are socio-cultural beings, gave the Israelites a culture that would allow them to better understand him. The regulations of exclusivity were to protect this special worldview, and yet, like Adam, they chose to listen to the voices of the cultures around them. Voices that, like Eve, had been influenced by the serpent. But God keeps trying to move us past our ethnocentric

views so we can see things from his perspective. He sent Jesus to again walk with us, and the Holy Spirit to quicken us and speak to us. The Bible is our primary source for learning what God thinks, helping us know who Jesus is and what the voice of the Holy Spirit sounds like. Biblical illiteracy

I was making a god in my own image. Rather than reading the hard, bizarre or confusing passages of the Old Testament as if they don’t pertain to us, and skipping those that are too boring, we should ask God to reveal himself to us in these very passages. He says we are to seek him. Jesus hid his truth in

Biblical illiteracy effectively diminishes our understanding of God. The Old Testament then becomes outdated, legalistic regulations from an angry God.

effectively diminishes our understanding of God. The Old Testament then becomes outdated, legalistic regulations from an angry God. This perspective distances us from the very God who desires to walk intimately with us. I was married to a Muslim (which was a great lesson on the effects of ethnocentricity) when I rededicated myself to Jesus. In our discussions my husband challenged my arguments by asking, “How do you know that’s in the Bible? Have you ever read the whole thing?” That began a process of regularly reading through the whole Bible every year for over 20 years. I learned that if I did not immerse myself in the Bible with the goal of having my perspective changed, then

parables. I am 100 percent in favor of talking with people who are different from us in order to get beyond our ethnocentricity. But if we are not talking to God too, then we run the risk that we may be influenced by people who merely want to impose their own ethnocentric views on us. A new year has just begun. I encourage you to regularly and repeatedly read through God’s entire word–cover to cover–in order to understand who he is a little better. One day we will see him face to face.

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No more pity parties over class projects



LEAH GUY
CONTRIBUTOR

I am a family and human services major, which means that a year of my college education was spent completing senior seminar. This is a class in which you either write a book or produce a thesis of original research.

Train yourself not to use the word stressed. Frankly, it's boring and unoriginal.

You probably already knew that a significant amount of headspace and conversation was occupied by this project. Here are a few things I learned in the last year, which may be especially helpful for senior seminar students, but I think it could potentially be good for others

1. Senior seminar matters

so much. Completing a project of this scope has the potential to bring lots of things to the surface, to solidify passions, to increase confidence and to make a healthier and more balanced person. We can choose to get serious about our academic work at any point, but completing a project of this scope is an obvious time to really buckle down. I walk away from the experience deeply grateful for the opportunity to study seriously something I care about and also with a renewed sense that studying, writing and discovering gives me life. I gain incredible fulfillment from learning, and that realization will help guide me through my next several years. 2. Senior seminar doesn’t matter most. Senior seminar is an undergraduate research project, and it will not be the

without attempting to attain perfection. When I turned in my thesis, I did it with the conscious awareness that my literature review could have been significantly better. But I also didn’t pull a single all-nighter. I’m pleased with my end product, and I’m also pleased with the health and balance I maintained throughout the process. 3. You’re not the only one doing something hard. I went into the year with the resolution that I would not, as long as circumstances were manageable, complain about senior seminar. This resolution can be applied to anything, though. I did this because, before I even started my project, I had already grown weary of

the talk that surrounded senior seminar. The truth is, people don’t love hearing about how stressed you are. Ours is not the only major that does something hard. Art majors have galleries and portfolio shows. Cinema majors make actual movies. Have you ever actually talked to a business major about strategic management? Do you realize how hard the MCAT or LSAT are? There are lots of people in different fields doing incredible, academically rigorous work. In fact, there are a lot of people doing things that are way harder than senior seminar. Put your small and momentary pain of academic rigor (which is really privilege) in perspective (read: get over yourself). Talk about how much you’re

learning, or growing, or finding your passion, or the fantastic poem you read during your study break, or the fantastic pint of ice cream you somehow ate during your study break or the playlist you made to help you write. Train yourself not to use the word stressed. Frankly, it’s boring and unoriginal. School is awesome, because, when we pay attention and take advantage of the opportunities afforded to us and listen well and study hard and care about what we’re learning, we become better intellectuals and better humans.

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Want to share your thoughts on Immigration? Summer Camp? Theology? Your Pet?

Send your opinions to:
Advocate@jbu.edu
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Got Opinions?

Adults relieve stress by coloring



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Adults have found a new way to entertain themselves while releasing the stress they have accumulated during the day—through coloring books.

Coloring books, better known as adult coloring books, have become a new trend in the market. These books provide people different ages a healthy entertainment option instead of spending all day sitting in front of a TV. Some books are marketed as stress relievers while others are

mind-focused treasure hunts, according to Tech Time.

The coloring books were not always this successful.

“When I heard about them, the books, I thought they were about pornographic coloring books,” said senior international business major Marcus Ciccarello.

Despite the confusing start, the fame of adult coloring books has increased considerably in the last three years. “Secret Garden: An Ink Treasure Hunt & Coloring Book” and “Enchanted Forest: An Inky Quest and Coloring Book” by Johanna Basford; “Balance” by Angie Grace and “The Mindfulness Coloring Book:

Anti-Stress Art Therapy for Busy People” by Emma Farrons are the books topping the best-sellers list in Amazon, according to CNN.

Also, improved mental health has been strongly connected with coloring books because it has therapeutic potential to reduce anxiety, create focus and cause mindfulness, according to CNN.

“To have a coloring book makes me feel back to my childhood, it is really fun,” said Ciccarello.

Junior nursing major, Rebecca Baugher, and sophomore family and human services major, Blythe Wisdom, got a coloring book

for Christmas. They said that the coloring books are a fun way to spend time.

“I have friends that talk about them [adult coloring books] on Christmas, and my parents got one for me,” Wisdom said.

The coloring books come in different sizes, making them easy to take anywhere. Baugher said that she has a small coloring book in her backpack so she can use it in any situation.

“Sometimes I do [coloring] during class. It helps me to focus while I am hearing the classes,” she said.

There are also coloring books based on famous TV series such as “Game of Thrones” and “Doctor Who.”

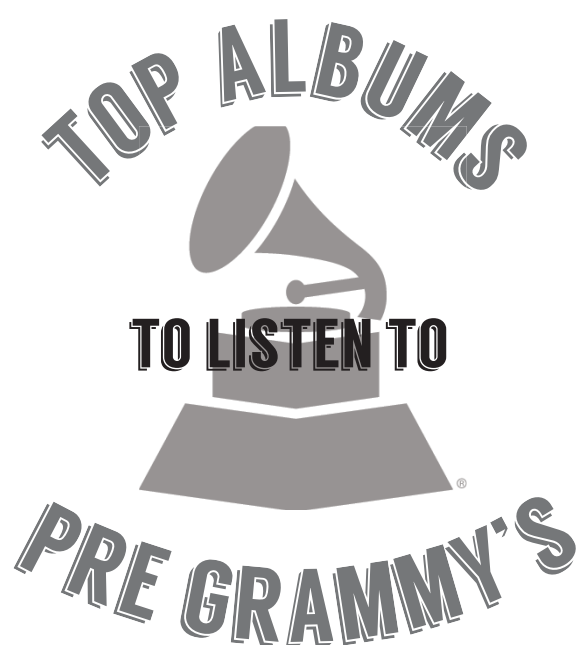
“If I can choose a topic it would be ‘House Hunters International,’” said Baugher.

Another theme students would like to see in a coloring book are New Girl and National Geographic.

Some libraries have created adult coloring programs in to people’s increased interest, according to the American Library Association. Students have expressed that it would be a good idea if the University provided coloring books to each student and created sessions in the library.

“They should do it during finals week,” said Baugher.

Color the picture of JBU’s Cathedral of the Ozarks above.



The 58th annual Grammy Awards airs on CBS Feb. 15th at 8/7c. These are a few of the most nominated albums/artists the Recording Academy selected after receiving over 20,000 entries. These albums have been released from October 2014 to September 2015. Don’t miss it.

Traveller by Chris Stapleton

Album of the Year
Best Country Album
Best Country Solo Performance
Best Country Song

1989 by Taylor Swift

Album of the Year
Best Pop Vocal Album
Record of the Year
Song of the Year
Best Pop Solo Performance
Best Pop Duo/Group Performance

Sound & Color by Alabama Shakes

Album of the Year
Best Alternative Music Album
Best Rock Song
Best Rock Performance

Beauty Behind the Madness by The Weeknd

Album of the Year
Best Urban Contemporary Album
Best R&B Performance
Best R&B Song
Best Pop Solo Performance
Record of the Year

To Pimp a Butterfly by Kendrick Lamar

Album of the Year
Best Rap Album
Best Rap Performance
Song of the Year
Best Rap Song
Best Rap /Sung Collaboration

X by Ed Sheeran

Best Pop Solo Performance
Record of the Year
Song of the Year



A SIT DOWN WITH
MOLLY DEVINE

FRIDAY JAN. 29
J. ALVIN ATRIUM 8 P.M.

GRACE NAST/TheThreefoldAdvocate

HOW MANY SONGS ARE
ON YOUR NEW EP?

We have seven songs on the album, each of which tells a unique story. Hence the album name, “Stories.” Most of the songs do not follow a typical “verse, chorus, bridge” structure, but flow freely and tell a linear story. I am so excited to share “Raisin Toast” and “Claire” with everyone. I wrote “Raisin Toast” about finding joy in the little moments I share with Grandpa, who is suffering from Alzheimer’s Disease. “Claire” is a new one, inspired by one of my deep, heart friends. She constantly teaches me what it means to love myself where I am.

WHICH THREE ARTISTS
INFLUENCE YOUR MUSIC
THE MOST?

Sara Hickman: Sara was the original, fierce singer-songwriter in my life. She really introduced me to storytelling songwriting.
Lucy Rose: Lucy writes a lot in odd tunings, and incorporates electric guitar into her softer acoustic melodies.
Cat Stevens: What a CLASSIC! He knows how to write a good hook, and shares the spotlight with various instrumentalists. Talk about a jam session.

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO
BE WHEN YOU GREW UP?

Well, I have always been a performer at heart. My dad is a musician and sound engineer and provided me with all the opportunities in the world to explore my talents growing up. I have always had the dream of packing up a tour bus and playing all the best hole-in-the-wall venues in the country with my best friends, playing impromptu shows in Waffle Houses along the way. But more realistically, I have always wanted to be a social activist and community developer. I love people, hate poverty and yearn to find sustainable solutions to problems.

WHAT WAS ONE OF THE
FIRST SONGS YOU LOVED
TO SING?

I grew up listening to Sara Hickman, a local Dallas artist that my parents discovered in the eighties. Her song “Simply” has always been one of my favorite songs. I remember sitting in the back seat of my mom’s car when I was itty bitty, singing along with Sara. When I was fourteen, I actually met Sara and sang “Simply” with her at a concert in downtown Dallas. It was so incredible.

ANY SECRET TALENTS?

I am a top-notch sailor! I grew up sailing a small Sunfish on Lake Huron in Michigan, and even briefly taught at a sailing camp in Texas.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE PEOPLE
LEARN FROM YOUR ALBUM?

Your story is SO important. Mundane moments, first dates, crippling depression, loss, wanderlust... every part of your story is worth telling. Beauty and joy can be found in the darkest corners of life, and that is something to talk about.

ANY EMBARRASSING STORY?

There are far too many to choose from. They all pretty much deal with bodily functions in public settings. You can connect the dots.

REPORTED BY
REBEKAH HEDGES



Courtesy of ROBERTO POZUELO

Fifteen students visited Reconciliation Park in Tulsa, Okla. last weekend as part of the Tulsa Immersion Trip. The park commemorates the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921, showing both the destruction of racism and the hope of reconciliation.

Tulsa Immersion Trip

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Less than two miles from the location of the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921, fifteen students learned about reconciliation and community development during a three-day immersion trip last weekend. Students stayed at John 3:16 Mission in Tulsa, Okla., an organization that operates by principles created by the Christian Community Development Association. Three of the most important Christian Community Development Association principles are living amongst the people being ministered to, helping communities get the resources they need, and reconciling people to God and each other. Students led youth groups, shared stories with homeless people over dinner at the shelter, learned about the Christian Community Development Association community development principles and visited Reconciliation Park, which commemorates the Race Riot. Arline Mejia recalled passing by a man huddled under a bridge just after she had been complaining about the cold. “It was emotionally overwhelming,” she said. “In other circumstances, I would never have noticed him,” Mejia said, but explained that her experience at the shelter changed her. “I was able to get to know people in a situation similar to his.”

