

FEATURES

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Feeding faith in Church Under The Bridge

BY NAARI HONOR
STAFF WRITER

As the days drew closer to Church Under the Bridge on Saturday, April 4, I found myself conflicted by my own expectations and my duty to be objective as a journalist. I could be visited by my version of God or, at the very least, submit to his calling.

It became clear that what resided on the other side of that "or" could very well be the catalyst responsible for the formation of the church. It is responsible for senior co-project coordinator Noelle Lane's passion for Guilford College's participation in the church's services.

"I realized that it was so much more than academic work here, that I could have opportunities to be in the community and not just be in an isolated academic setting," said Lane.

When I arrived, it was not long before I found myself surrounded by volunteers whose names and faces were unknown to me. I felt out of place, but soon, I found myself moving tables and in the midst of the dance of the worker bees.

Eventually familiar faces arrived, and I slowly removed myself from the organized chaos to watch as the community came alive.

I watched as Lane, Bonner Center coordinator Susan May, sophomore Conner Pruitt and first-year Donzahniya Pitre fell into place preparing for a feast. It did not feel like church. It felt like Sunday dinner.

"I always find God there," said May.

The Church is a fairly new model for Greensboro, though there are similar concepts happening in places like Texas, Tennessee and South Carolina.

Mike Murray, one of the core members



Church Under the Bridge was well attended by the Guilford College community, including students faculty and staff, at the big event on Sat, April 4.

of the 16 Cents Ministry, played a pivotal role in starting the Church Under the Bridge ministry in Greensboro.

"We decided to start taking our leftovers to people we knew were on the streets," said Murray. "On one of the first nights we went out to give an older lady a meal, she just started crying because she couldn't understand why somebody would just come out and give her food or take the time to stop and talk to her.

"She said, 'I've got to give you something,' so she reached into her pocket and she gave us sixteen cents."

Guilford stands on its core values of Community, Diversity, Equality, Excellence,

Integrity, Justice and Stewardship. While some may stand on campus and see mortar and brick, it may be time to cast away this veil, creating an open space, free of walls, similar to the Church Under the Bridge.

"Ministry is messy, but we have an example to go by," said Craig. "God's ministry landed

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Art enlivens New Garden

BY CORBIN BARWICK
STAFF WRITER

The art department has created another opportunity to experience Guilford artwork here on campus.

Recently, a new art display has been brought to New Garden Hall by Kathryn Shields, head of the art department, and senior art major Kelly Taylor. Both were invited by the Office of Admission to help bring in a new experience to those coming to campus for visits and tours.

"We have always tried to figure out what do you do with the walls, and we have tried to do some bulletin boards," said Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Administrator Andy Strickler. "It's so hard to keep those up to date, and we want to have families something to look at when they come to tour our campus."

This is the first time the art department has been invited to be included in the admission office. The current art display in New Garden Hall is titled "Inspired: Selected Work by Students and Alumni."

"We are excited to (be able to) share a small selection of the great creativity happening in the art department," said Shields. "We decided to include current students and local alumni artworks as well."

Along with the student and alumni artworks, in New Garden, the Office of Admission also has access to the exhibit artwork being shown in the hallway of Hege Library as well.

"A new art display will be installed yearly, but some pieces will be replaced when certain items are sold," said Taylor. "Each display will include a variety of media from all areas of the art department. Oil paintings — still lifes, portraits and landscapes — drawings, photography, pottery and sculpture."

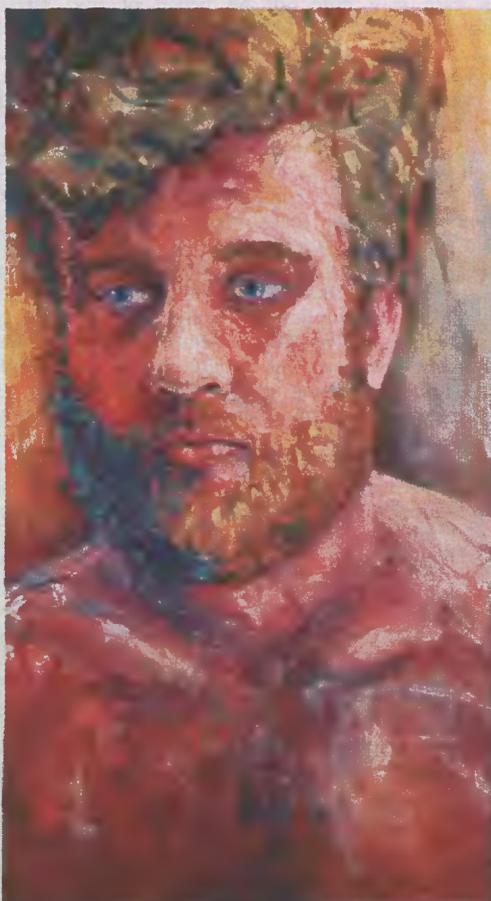
There are 13 artists contributing to this art display: sophomore Kate Mitchell, junior Molly Freilich, seniors Chris Austin, Juan Chicharro, Hannah P. Litaker, Samantha Saatzer, Alejo Salcedo and Gloria Taylor-Williams, Angelique Emile '14, Hannah Reed '14, Karla McDonald '14, Justin Poe '12 and Taylor.

Several pieces are on sale, and some of the artists are also available to do commissioned pieces.

"It's wonderful to have prospective students and their families view our artwork when they come to Guilford to visit," said Taylor. "We are thrilled to provide this opportunity for the artist for exposure and sale of their work. We have already sold one piece from the show."

Each artwork was specifically selected by Shields and Taylor to reflect the quality and diversity of the work that comes out of Guilford.

"Our goal is to bring more visibility to our program," said Shields. "I came up with the title 'Inspired' because, in addition to the student themselves being inspired to make the work, we hope the work will be inspiring to the visitors. It would be fantastic if the work help attract potential students to our department and to the College."



CCE student Samantha Saatzer's piece is for sale.

Retired poet Gibbons Ruark reads and reflects

BY LESLY VASQUEZ
STAFF WRITER

At 7 p.m. on March 1 in the Art Gallery of Hege Library, the Learning Commons, the Honors Program and The Greenleaf Review hosted "Rescue the Perishing," a poetry reading by American poet Gibbons Ruark.

Learning Commons tutor Doug Smith introduced Ruark with his own definition of what a writer is before starting the event.

"Writers are stranger creatures; they live in the world but they do not find it adequate," said Smith. "So, they invent other worlds, stories, poems and essays."

Ruark then began the reading, first mentioning a former colleague, famed poet Randall Jarrell.

He stated that he hoped that the poem he was about to read would be touched by Jarrell's spirit.

"(I do it) to rescue the parish," said Ruark. "What otherwise might be lost, you can save ... for a while, at least through writing poems about it."

Ruark started the actual reading of his work with his poem named "My Daughter Cries Out in Her Sleep."

"I don't write (from) ideas," said Ruark. "I write out of images, sounds, experiences or things that people have said that I might recall being vividly said and try to make something out of that."

The second poem was inspired by his daughter Jennifer and was addressed both to his father's ghost and to her.

The poem, "Hybrid Magnolias in Late April," was published in the book "Passing Through Customs" in 1999.

Later he read a poem about his younger daughter, Emily. The poem was titled "To Emily, Practicing the Clarinet." It takes place in a lakeside house in the back with a yard, in Ireland.

"(It's) where I had gone deliberately to work on poems for my sins," said Ruark.

Ruark's penultimate reading, "Lightness in Age," was published in The New Yorker but not in any of his books. The poem featured humor, sympathy and romance.

"In general, I tend to write love poems or eulogies, but frequently either one of those kinds of poems can be keyed by some physical object or some image or something in growth," said Ruark.

He ended the event with a poem that was dedicated to his wife, Kay Ruark. The poem was called "The Goods She Can Carry: Canticle of Her Basket Made of Reeds."

At the end of the event, some of Ruark's books were raffled off. He signed several of them.

"Giving readings is a pleasure," said Ruark. "It helps you recover a little of the sense of what it was like to write the poem in the first place."

Ruark is now a retired poet with seven published books. He has numerous awards including three Poetry Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and a Pushcart Prize.

"I don't think of myself as a poet unless I am in the activity of writing a poem," said Ruark.

The Greenleaf Review was impressed with the turnout and hope their launch-party readings — which will include reading from those who submitted to the literary magazine — and many other readings have this same turnout.