

faith n' action

On Being Chaplain ...

Steve Woodworth

What do you like/dislike about your new position at Montreat College and what changes do you hope to make while holding that position?

LIKE: Without sounding too cheesy, what I love most about my new position at Montreat College is YOU, the students. I mean that. I love laughing with you, worshiping with you, talking with you, watching curling with you, crying with you and praying with you. Most of all, I love being able to walk next to you as Jesus works on your heart. College is that crazy time in life when you have to figure some things out for yourself. You aren't living off of the faith of mom and dad anymore, which is

freeing, but scary too. I love your energy and enthusiasm, the way you look at the world and still believe that anything is possible, that one person really can make a difference. I feel humbled to be able to share some of the most important years of your life with you and to be able to play a part in you becoming more like Jesus. And even if, in the grand scheme of things it is a real small part, I love the opportunity just the same.

DISLIKE: I am a relational guy. I wish all of my time could be spent hanging out with you guys (and girls) wearing jeans and a T-shirt, smoking cigars on the front porch of Howerton... but I can't I have to sit in my office sometimes and get tasks

done. Every part of my job is wonderful and necessary, but I simply wish I had more time to just live life with all of you.

CHANGE: I would like to hear more staff/faculty speaking in chapel and I would like to raise the awareness and participation of our students in social justice issues. I want to see a greater variety of ideas being tossed around and I want to create a space where people can dialogue over issues they disagree on with mutual respect. At some point, I would love to teach a preaching class and have a night every month that students can come to my house to talk about faith over a cigar. Most of all I want to see a greater sense of community on our campus where people will-



ingly come out of their rooms, take their iPods out of their ears and connect. I guess the biggest change I have in mind is when I propose that we remove all the

doors and cut the internet connections in all campus housing. That should make an impact.

Sunday Morning Porn

by George Dobson

I was exposed to porn earlier than most kids; I saw my first pornographic video when I was in third grade. Not long after, I sneaked peaks at Playboys and searched the Internet for anything I could find. This continued through my middle school years and up through high school. The longer I went, the more my problem progressed in severity. I however, saw no reason to stop because most of my friends looked at porn too.

The number of hardcore pornography outlets in the U.S. outnumber the number of McDonalds by more than 3 to 1 (Family.org). Children spent 64.9% more of their time on pornography sites than they did on game sites in September 2000 (Net Value), a number that increases each year. The world's youth have been attacked from every angle when it comes to porn access.

This isn't just a problem that thirteen-year-old boys face and then grow out of. For many it becomes a life-long addiction and the only way out of it is with the help of others. According to The Washington Times roughly 60% of all Internet activity is spent on pornography websites. Luckily this battle is not being ignored by all of society; a select few are step-

ping up and actually doing something to combat the problem that our youth culture is facing today. One of these groups is none other than XXXchurch, the ministry that visited the Montreat campus just a few weeks ago.

Craig Gross and Mike Foster founded XXXchurch to serve as a ministry to those entangled in the dangerous web of pornography and sexual addiction. They began with a simple goal in mind: rid the world of porn. Okay, so maybe it wasn't that simple. Craig and Mike certainly weren't guys to be easily discouraged though. They began their ministry by going to porn conventions all over the country, setting up a booth and ministering to the masses of deceived people. Since then, XXXchurch has grown to help even more people by attending the world's largest porn convention in Amsterdam, helping individuals get out of the porn industry, and setting up a system known as XXXwatch. XXXwatch tracks all of your internet activity and every two weeks e-mails any suspicious web-addresses to an accountability partner.

I heard about XXXchurch towards the end of my junior year. Because I had recently accepted

Christ, I was eager for a solution for my porn addiction. I instantly downloaded their XXXwatch and though it took a little while, I was eventually cured of my addiction. To say that I am no longer tempted, would be a lie. I face temptations just like everyone else, but thanks to Jesus and the guys at XXXchurch I don't struggle nearly as much with those temptations.

On Tuesday night, January 31 Craig Gross, co-founder of XXXchurch, spoke at a convo-credit event here at Montreat College. The turnout wasn't amazing but the people there knew that they heard something special. Craig spoke about sexual addiction as we expected. However, he also talked about accountability and honesty with your brothers and sisters in Christ. The Montreat campus needed to hear Craig's message. So many people were intent on keeping their own little secrets that no one realized everyone was struggling with the same things. Montreatians immediately began confessing their sexual addictions and struggles, confronting problems they had with other people, got honest about their faith and most importantly everyone began showing genuine concern for the well being of their brothers



and sisters.

Matthew 22:39 tells us to love our neighbor as ourselves. Montreat College needed to be awakened to this idea. Show a genuine concern for each other, and don't shy away from the problems that you might have to get your hands dirty to solve. Do you care enough about your brothers and sisters in Christ to reach down and pick them up?

Are you bold enough to reach up and grab the hand that is trying to lift you up away from your problems?

If you are interested in learning more about XXXchurch, perhaps helping them out by donation of time or money, or downloading the XXXwatch program, then go to xxxchurch.com and follow the links.