

Alpha Chi Induction Ceremony

Shirley McIntosh

North Carolina Tau Chapter Seven Montreat College students were inducted into Alpha Chi on Tuesday, February 2 in a candlelight ceremony in the Chapel of the Prodigal. Alpha Chi is a national honor scholarship society founded in 1922 whose purpose is to promote academic excellence and exemplary character among college students and to honor those who achieve such distinction. Montreat College's Tau Chapter was established in 1990 and since then has inducted 146 members.

The members of Alpha Chi represent the top 10 percent of our junior and senior classes. Members must be approved by the faculty for exhibiting outstanding character and citizenship as well as academic achievement.

The seven new Alpha Chi members are Alli-

son Baumgartner, Holly Duckworth, Benjamin Hall, Aron Lippard, Kimberly Ott, Rikki Roccanti, and Joel Sellers.

Allison Baumgartner is from Charlotte, North Carolina. She is majoring in elementary education. Here on campus Ali is a member of our volleyball team and an active participant in FCA.

After college Ali plans to return to Charlotte and pursue a career in education.

Holly Duckworth is from Nebo, North Carolina. She is majoring in biology with a pre-professional concentra-

tion and hopes to attend medical school after college. Holly is active in her church, is married, and has an eight year old son, Ray.

Benjamin Hall is from

to obtain a degree in physical therapy.

Aron Lippard is from Troutman, NC. He is majoring in biology with a pre-professional concentration. After graduating from Montreat College, Aron plans to attend physical therapy school and obtain a doctorate in physical therapy.

Kimberly Ott is from Pucallpa, Peru. She is majoring in Biology with a pre-professional concentration.

On campus she enjoys FCA, coffeehouses, concerts, and skiing. After college Kimberly wants to travel, get a job as a physician's assistant, or perhaps go to med school.

Rikki Roccanti is from Tallahassee, Florida. She

is majoring in English with a concentration in literature. Rikki is a valued assistant in our college library. After college Rikki plans to attend graduate school to continue her studies in English.

Joel Sellers was born in Grass Valley, California, but now lives in Clyde, NC. He is majoring in Elementary Education. Joel is engaged to be married in May, and after graduation plans to become the student pastor at his church and begin a teaching career.

Seven additional students are continuing members of Alpha Chi at Montreat College. They are Hillary Irusta, Stephen Jackson, Joanna King, Helen Miller, Elena Pashina, Sophine Smith, and Caris Wetzel.



Columbus, NC. He is majoring in Biology and is a member of the Chemical Management Team. Ben is an RA, an FCA leader, and participates in Cross Country and Track. Ben plans to attend graduate school

Fashion Savvy Christians

Direna Cousins

In the past Christians were very conservative in the way they dressed, especially females. Some Christians did not even wear makeup or any jewelry apart from wedding rings. They thought it was a sin to wear such things, and that to do so represented a pagan lifestyle.

Over time, the traditional view of how Christians dressed changed. More and more Christians are wearing makeup and jewelry, and are basically taking over parts of the fashion industry. There are Christian designers, makeup artists, and modeling agencies, just to name a few of the areas in fashion where Christianity is strongly represented.

However, there still seems to be a conservative view as to how Christians are

supposed to dress and not be frowned upon by society.

I am a Christian and I love fashion. I believe that there is no such thing as a "Christian" fashion or style. In a recent conversation on Skype, one of my best friends said, "Society seems to forget that Christians are fashionistas too. Some Christians tend to believe that dressing up in nice clothes, painting one's nails and puckering up for some lipstick is not Christ-like, and I think that's a biased view against Christianity."

I think that part of the reason why individuals view "fashion-savvy Christians" as taboo is because of Christians themselves.

I've notice whenever Christians talk about beauty or define it they

focus solely on inner beauty. They tend to only look at Scriptures that support their view of beauty. One such passage is Peter 3:3-4: "Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight."

I strongly think that Christians misinterpret this Scripture. They think that they should not take part in jewelry or fine clothing, and would risk being vain in God's sight if they did. However, the Scripture clearly states that your beauty should not be defined by these things. As Christians we should know that we are

already made beautiful in the image of God. Hence, all these things should just accessorize our beauty. We should not get caught up in beauty, fashion, or anything other than Christ for that matter. Nevertheless, females need not refrain from dressing up or adorning themselves with fine jewelry or clothing. Beauty from God is both inner and outer. Though the Bible warns us about beauty, God still wants us to be beautiful both inside and out. Therefore I think it is unfair for one to only look at Scriptures that talk only about inner beauty. Throughout Song of Solomon, he speaks richly about outer beauty. 1:10 states, "Your cheeks are beautiful with earrings your neck with strings

of jewels. We will make your earrings of gold, studded with silver." Verse 15 also states, "How beautiful you are my darling! Oh, how beautiful; your eyes are doves."

It is then clear that outer beauty is important, not just inner beauty. Christianity is not bondage. God gives us freedom of choice and He wants us to be happy in Him. Fashion or our clothing should not define our faith or our beauty. Also, we should never portray Christianity as a religion that has a dress code. However, we should not be provocative or inappropriate in the way we dress, whether you are a Christian or not.