



# THE CRUSADER

## A Student Publication

# 1

Fall 2019

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## Welcome BACK

By: Kateri Brehany

The 2019-2020 school year is officially in full swing! As always there is a lot of exciting news and many opportunities to explore on campus as well as in the surrounding area of Charlotte. The Abbey itself continues to develop as it introduces new majors, minors, buildings, and clubs for students to explore and become involved with. Charlotte remains a center of adventure as it attracts more festivals, concerts, and restaurants. We hope as the year progresses that you will take advantage of all possibilities and find what you love most about college! With this in mind, I want to welcome you all BACK and in particular, extend some "sage" advice to freshman class (although is never too late for upperclassmen to learn a few new things either):

Take your classes seriously and appreciate your professors. Alright, you should have known this was coming. You are here for a goal; do not lose sight of that. In four years (or less) you will walk in front of the Basilica and be handed a degree, but it is up to you to determine whether you have actually learned anything by that point. So while you are here, go to class and take advantage of the brilliant and amazing professors that want to help you not only succeed, but succeed with passion.

Have fun. These four years go by so fast; you really will not understand it until you experience it for yourself. These are the years to deeply grow and develop yourself as a person, as a friend, and as an adult. Do not hold yourself back from taking advantage of opportunities as they present themselves, no matter how daunting they might seem.

Take care of yourself. Amidst the school work and so-



Mary Help Of Christians Basilica  
cializing, make sure you take care of yourself physically, mentally, and spiritually. Take advantage of what our school offers and go to the Wheeler Center to work out. Remember that ramen does not constitute a healthy meal. Take time for yourself to relax and decompress, find a place on campus that is not your dorm room and let that be your go-to spot. Also, take advantage of the monks and religious aspects of our campus. Even if you are not particularly religious, the monks are great mentors and listeners, and the chapel offers a place of silence that will take you away from the craziness of college.

Finally, some of the best advice I have ever received is this: you will get out what you put in. This goes for so many things, but it goes especially for college. Get involved with people, with clubs, with yourself. For many, this is your first taste of freedom, a chance to decide to do whatever you want to do (within some limits). Your college experience will be what you choose to make of it, what you choose to put in. Personally, I hope you put in everything you have because you have so much to offer.

## Dorm Friendly Omelete

By:Amanda McLaughlin

### Ingredients:

- 2 eggs
- ½ bell pepper, diced
- 2 slices of ham, diced
- Handful of spinach, diced
- Salt and pepper to taste

### Instructions:

1. Combine all the ingredients in a microwavable mug.
2. Microwave for 2-3 minutes (Make sure the egg does not bubble over)

3. Stir and Microwave for another 2-3 minutes

4. Enjoy

\*Cooking times may vary depending on microwave wattage

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## Upcoming Construction Projects

By: Katie McCarthy

Belmont Abbey College has finally begun an exciting new building project, breaking ground on the newest residence hall. Though primarily constructed for the use of upperclassmen, the building is also intended as a space for new classrooms and offices. The contractor for the new facility is University Housing Solutions, with architecture designed by MKC Architects to match the Gothic architecture of our beautiful campus. The construction project will also include additional parking. Though still unnamed, the project has been approved by the City of Belmont. Construction has begun, located across from the softball field. The new residence hall will have five stories, with the first story consisting of meeting areas, offices, and two classrooms, as well as social areas including a student lounge available to all students. Additionally, each residence floor will have a kitchenette, study areas, a laundry room, and a gathering area on each side. These upper floors will only be accessible with the student's FOB, allowing them to access their floor via elevator and stairwell. With plans to open August of 2020, the new residence halls will provide the ability to accommodate all students who wish to live on campus, creating a more enjoyable and successful college experience for all students. The annual cost for the new residence will be \$7,300 per year. Renovations began on the William Gaston Science Building this past summer. The project included the addition of new Chemistry and Physics labs and also an update on the building's exterior. Two patio areas, new windows, and doorways were constructed along with the fashionable Gothic arches making the building more aesthetically aligned with the rest of the architecture on campus. There are also more plans to renovate the entire first level of the building, including the auditorium. Additionally, this summer CaroMont Health announced plans to construct a second hospital in Belmont, adjoining the Belmont Abbey College main campus. The new facility intends to offer an emergency department, inpatient units for patients requiring admission or observation, a labor and delivery unit, and a full complement of diagnostic services. This is exciting news for the college as it supports Belmont Abbey's future plans of establishing new health science programs, including through clinical rotation opportunities sponsored by CaroMont Health. The hospital could open as early as 2023.

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## New Fall Faculty

By: Kateri Brehany

As the academic programs and school itself continue to expand, we add more new faces to the Abbey. In particular we'd like to welcome:

**Bostrom, Meredith A., Ph.D.** Kling, Hannah K., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Biology Assistant Professor of Data Science & Economics

**Catchpole, Dana, M.S.** Polnaszek, Timothy, Ph.D.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Sport Management Assistant Professor of Biology

**Custodio, Van Erick, M.S.** White, Ashley W., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Computer Studies Assistant Professor of Mathematics

**Ferguson, Elaine, M.A.** Zdansky, Hannah, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Accounting Assistant Professor of English

**Hayes, Kristin, M.A.** Bethany Darnley

Lecturer in Fine Arts Director of Student Activities

**Hoying, Paul T., J.D.** Wesley Nelson

Assistant Professor of Accounting. Chair, Accounting Department Campus Ministry

**Jensen, Erin B., Ph.D.** Halie Reed

Assistant Professor of English Department Director of Residence life

**Jensen, Erin B., Ph.D.** Lilianna Romie

Associate Professor of English Assistant Registrar



Grand Opening of the William Gaston Science Building, October 12, 2019

## Looking For A New Major?

By: Katie McCarthy

Looking for a new major or minor? See which academic programs Belmont Abbey College has added to the 2019-20 school year:

1. Dance (minor)
2. Economics (major and minor)
3. Finance (major and minor)
4. Leadership Studies (minor)
5. Medieval Studies (minor)
6. Parish and Pastoral Ministries (major)
7. Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (major)
8. Theology and Philosophy (major)

For a list of all the academic programs Belmont Abbey has to offer, and degree requirements, head to: <https://belmontabbeycollege.edu/academics/programs/>.

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## Guest Editorial: Dr. Thierfelder

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One of my favorite movies of all-time is *Chariots of Fire*. In my opinion, the acting, dialogue, cinematography, music, and the fact that it is a true story make it one of the best movies ever made. Others must have thought so as well since it won four academy awards.

If you have not seen it, stop reading this article now and watch it! For those of you who have seen it, you know that the leading characters could not be more different. Harold Abrahams is driven to prove his greatness to the world and overcome the prevailing anti-semitism of his time. In stark contrast, Eric Liddell is a devout Christian who runs only for the glory of God. The movie's plot weaves together the stories of both individuals as they confront the challenges of training for, and competing in, the 1924 Olympic Games in France.

Unlike most movies today, the dialogue is outstanding. I particularly liked the moving speech made by the Master of Causis at the Freshman Dinner.

"I take the war list and I run down it, name after name, which I cannot read, and which we, who are older than you, cannot hear without emotion; names which will be only names to you, the new College, but which to us summon up face after face, full of honesty and goodness, zeal and vigor, and intellectual promise; the flower of a generation, the glory of England; and they died for England and all that England stands for. And now by tragic necessity their dreams have become yours. Let me exhort you: examine yourselves. Let each of you discover where your true chance of greatness lies. For their sakes, for the sake of your College and your country, seize this chance, rejoice in it, and let no power or persuasion deter you in your task."

I also thought the wonderful conversation that takes place between the Duke of Sutherland and Lord Birkenhead after Eric Liddell, who had refused to compete on Sunday, has agreed to run in a different event on another day, is brilliant.

Duke of Sutherland: A sticky moment, George.

Lord Birkenhead: Thank God for Lindsay. I thought the lad had us beaten.

Duke of Sutherland: He did have us beaten, and thank God he did.

Lord Birkenhead: I don't quite follow you.

Duke of Sutherland: The "lad", as you call him, is a true man of principles and a true athlete. His speed is a mere extension of his life, its force. We sought to sever his running from himself.

Lord Birkenhead: For his country's sake, yes.

Lord Birkenhead: No sake is worth that, least of all a guilty national pride.

In terms of the main characters, one of the best lines by Eric Liddell comes while he is explaining to his sister Jenny why he is focused on running rather than immediately returning to the Chinese mission established by his father. "I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure."

And later, while Eric is running down the final straight-a-way toward his 400M gold medal and world record, he recalls the words he had spoken to a crowd of fans earlier, "...And where does the power come from, to see the race to its end? From within."

In stark contrast is Harold Abrahams whose "professional" approach to training has driven him to a win at all costs. He says, "If I can't win, I won't run!" His betrothed, Sybil Gordon, shoots back, "If you don't run, you can't win."

Harold's self absorption, singular focus on worldly success, and the accompanying anxiety and worry overwhelm him as he prepares to run the 100M final. He says, "And now in one hour's time, I will be out there again. I will raise my eyes and look down that corridor; 4 feet wide, with 10 lonely seconds to justify my whole existence. But will I?" He continues, "Aubrey, I've known the fear of losing but now I am almost too frightened to win."

My point in sharing with you all that is written above is to refresh your memory and provide the context for gaining an insight that is often missed towards the end of the movie. When the Olympic team finally arrives at the train station, the athletes are hailed by a throng of fans who lift them up onto an open vehicle in order to parade them down the street. We might have missed the fact that Harold Abrahams is not among them if it weren't for the shot of Sybil, his sweetheart, expectantly staring down the tracks looking for him. Everyone has left the station and the station manager is preparing to close the gates. Just before he does so, Harold steps off the train and Sybil runs towards him. They embrace and kiss and walk off arm-in-arm.

What are we to make of this? Harold, who wanted the world's adulation and praise, waits until everyone is gone, except Sybil, before exiting the station. It's not hard to understand if you think back to what happened after he won his race. Everything slowed down for him and he had no joy. In fact, he did not speak to anyone in the locker room and then quickly exited the room without a word or look back.

What we come to understand about Harold as he exits the train and embraces Sybil, is that he has had an awakening. For the first time in his life, he has come to know the true source of peace and happiness. He recognizes that without love, life is empty no matter how great the achievement. In the end, *Chariots of Fire* teaches us that love triumphs.



## The Stages Of Spooky Season

By: Mason Harrigfeld

Everyone loves and adores the Spooky Season, also known as the Halloween season. The leaves turn orange, red, and yellow and start to fall to the ground creating a pile of leaves to jump in. The heat finally lessens and it becomes sweatshirt wearing season. But what many people do not understand is that there are stages to the spooky season. There is the Pre-Spooky Season, Stage 1, Stage 2, Stage 3, Stage 4, and Stage 5 and Post-Spooky Season.

The Pre-Spooky season is the first initial rush and excitement for the Spooky Season. It begins on September 15th, and will not end till September 24th, the week before October. During the Pre-Spook Season, Halloween items such as skeletons, ghosts, fake spiders, and fog machines begin to be sold. However, it is not until Stage 1 of The Spooky Season when you can put up those decorations.

Stage 1 of The Spooky Season begins a

week before October. During this stage of The Spooky Season, it is finally acceptable to put up your spooky decorations. Put up those fog machines and foam tombstones and spookify your front yard.

Stage 2 of The Spooky Season is when the marathon of watching spooky movies begins. Stage 2 begins on the first day of October (The Spooky Month). The tradition is to watch a horror/scary movie every single day leading up to October 31st.

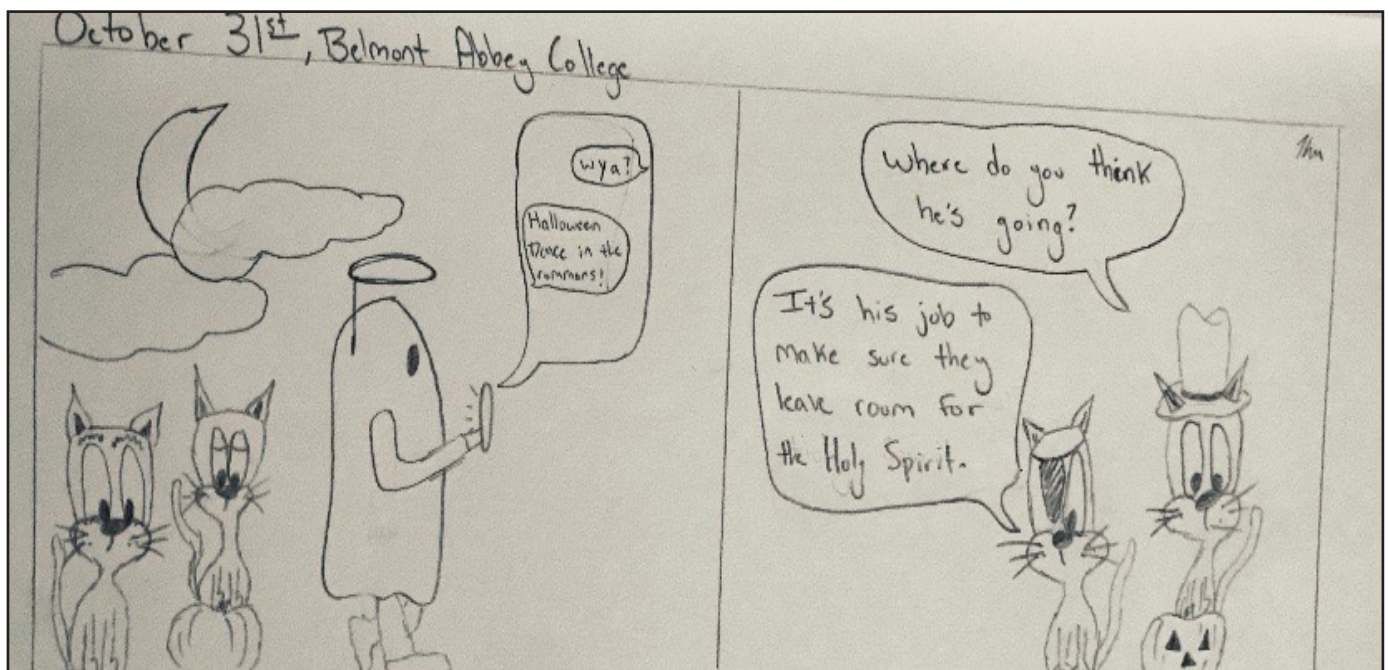
Stage 3 of The Spooky Season is when people begin to go costume shopping. This stage begins on the second Monday of October, which falls on Columbus day. This allows the children to have the day off and have time to pick the best spooky costume that will fit them for Halloween.

Stage 4 is the time to go shopping for candy and sweets in preparation for

the Spooky Holiday itself (Halloween). During this stage, it is time to go pumpkin shopping and pick out the biggest pumpkin to carve. Stage 4 starts seven days before Halloween (October 24th). This is to allow the pumpkin to be alive for Halloween.

Finally Stage 5, on October 31st, the Spooky Season itself, Halloween! This is the time to celebrate and party. Kids will run around going door to door getting sweets and sugars to have later. Find the scariest movie you possibly can and watch it later in the night. It is customary to stay up well beyond midnight to also celebrate All-Saints day which follows Halloween.

After all of the Halloween celebrations, it's time to go into the Post-Spooky Season. During this time, parents will take their share of their kids' candy. People begin to take down all of the spooky decorations, and all of the excess Halloween candy goes on sale. Now it's time to enjoy the fall weather and prepare for the upcoming winter.



Cartoon by: Katie McCarthy

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## Money The Abbey Way

By: Bethany Darnley

Sept. 20th Belmont Abbey College kicked off their new initiative to build financial literacy programs and support for students that align with the Benedictine Hallmarks. The kick-off included a full day of workshops on budgeting and increasing credit scores. One-on-one financial advising was also provided. Keep an eye out for more signs and events focused on Money: The Abbey Way.

One easy way to save money is to take advantage of Crusader Discounts! This month we are highlighting Caravan Coffee and Dessert Bar. Caravan offers 15% off your total order when you show your student ID. It's located just two miles away from the campus and offers a wide selection of coffees and sweet treats perfect for any Fall day or late nights studying.

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## Theatre Minor

By: Eli McBride

The theatre minor captures a wide range of perspectives within the theatre and is an important minor for anyone that is interested in learning more about any aspect of theatre. The theatre minor is more than just classes about acting as it includes classes focused on direction and on the history of theatre.

The first class I took in the theatre minor was Theatre Appreciation which is essentially an introduction to theatre. The class was taught by Jill Bloede and there was an emphasis on experiencing local theatre and developing an understanding of how your expectations for a play impacts your experience.

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## Spiritual Growth At the Abbey

By: Clare Ruedisueli

The Abbey is full of students who are striving to build a good community around them. As each pursues their vocation as a student, it is also important to strive for holiness. The campus is growing beautifully, but this Fall has proved to be spiritually abundant in many ways for faculty, students and monks. Before students even returned to campus, Dr. Joshua Hren gathered interest in a weekly rosary walk around campus. It was scheduled to be prayed on Thursdays at 7:15 pm, beginning in front of the chapel. The first Thursday had a wonderful turnout with many both students new and old and several monks! Br. Leo will be leading an informal daily rosary walk on the same route at 9 pm, every night excluding Thursdays. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come whenever they are able.

Another new opportunity for spiritual growth that has begun in the Abbey community is Our Lady's Praying Crusaders, led by Mrs. Lauri Scott. These Crusaders gather prayer intentions for the campus staff, students, faculty and monks and storm heaven with great enthusiasm and devotion. If interested, email Lauri: ourladysprayingcrusaders@gmail.com. Their prayers have become an incredible power for the Abbey community, especially for the Hintemeyer scholarship students and the Freshmen. The Freshman Retreat was beautifully abundant in grace with the help of Our Lady's Praying Crusaders and their persistence in prayer for the staff and retreatants.

Eucharistic Adoration, of course, is a huge part of campus life here at the Abbey. The schedule, although generously filled with commitments, still needs help in fulfilling the weekend hours in order to have Adoration throughout the entire week. If you have not already promised an hour to spend with Jesus, be encouraged to do so! Time spent with the Creator is the best rest and comfort one can find amidst the stress of college. Also taking place in the St. Joseph Chapel is Tuesday mass at 7:30 pm. This mass is usually full, but room is made for anyone that wants to attend. There is also an 11 a.m. daily mass and that mass has families, students, faculty and the monks to pray the Liturgy of the Hours consecutively throughout the day. Everyone is welcome to attend mass. With these opportunities and encouragement for holiness, the Abbey community hopes to grow even more intimate with Christ and to actively live out God's Will in all the College's endeavors.

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Other areas of theatre are taught including the actual skills of acting whether that be in plays with Acting 1 or with musicals in Acting 2. Another class taught by Bloede is Intro to Directing where the focus is understanding theatre from the perspective of the director. Another class is Intro to Stagecraft, taught by Gary Sivak, and the focus is on working backstage with props and operating lights. The main purpose of the theatre minor is to be able to see theatre from all points of view.

If you want a rounded and clear understanding of theatre then the theatre minor would be a perfect fit for you. If you are not interested in this minor, you might be interested in taking a theatre class to satisfy your required fine art credit. I recommend Acting as a class as you will learn a lot and be pushed out of your comfort zone.

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## Our Student Leaders

By: Evan Lutz

In early September, the student body took to the polls and chose representatives from among their numbers. The results are in.

Freshman Class President: Isabella Barrett  
From: Phoenix, Arizona, but spent much of her childhood in Belgium.  
Major: Great Books and Political Philosophy.

Sophomore Class President: Mason Harrigfeld  
From: North Carolina native  
Major: Psychology

Junior Class President: Abigail Houseal  
From: Hockessin, Delaware  
Major: Economics and Business Management

Senior Class President: Kathryn Laughlin  
From: Concord, North Carolina.  
Major: Psychology with a minor in biology.



Students at the President's Ball 2019

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## Having A Ball

By: Sammy Day

Until a few weeks ago the origins of the President's Ball were actually a mystery around campus. For every one that I spoke with, including Dr. Thierfelder, it has just been an unspoken tradition here at the Abbey. Previously there was a President's Inaugural Ball that occurred with the inauguration of each new President, however, when Dr. Thierfelder arrived in fall 2004 there was not an Inaugural Ball. Dr. Thierfelder felt that an Inaugural Ball celebrating his arrival at Belmont Abbey was unnecessary when there were many more important things to be done around the school. The Inaugural Ball was not open to students and faculty and staff had to RSVP in order to attend. This event was transitioned into the President's Ball which Dr. Thierfelder sees as an important tradition because it is not meant to celebrate him, but the students. It has become a beloved tradition at the Abbey.

Much of the tradition's significance can be found in the Abbey community itself. It is the first large event of the year, one that students look forward to and get to dress up for. It is one for all of the student body to attend. Freshmen typically arrive earlier while upperclassmen tend to arrive well after the first hour, this is simply a pattern noticed by the President. Dr. Thierfelder noted that one thing he enjoys about the Ball is not only getting to meet the student body and gain an understanding of how to better prepare the year for students but also watching the different friendships and dynamics that are built at Belmont Abbey. One of his favorite memories from a past President's Ball was witnessing three students invite a more shy student to join their group and welcome that shy student who eventually opened up and enjoyed the dance. He appreciates seeing the hospitality of all the students here on campus and the friendships that blossom; the friendships that are created here are one of his favorite things about Belmont Abbey in general.

As a President who cares deeply for the student body, Dr. Thierfelder finds it important that he is available to students and that the student body knows who he is. With this, he is also aware of how little students actually see of him due to his busy schedule and even more aware of how little everyone sees Mrs. Thierfelder. Wanting to build this connection to students, they both find it important that she attends. The Ball also holds a special significance to the Thierfelders as a family. Many of their children have attended or do currently attend Belmont Abbey and one thing that Dr. and Mrs. Thierfelder look forward to is seeing their children arrive because they are able to see them in a different light, in a manner that they do not always see. This is also a special night to them as a couple. It is one of the few nights a year where they look forward to dressing up for the occasion and have time together, just them. When asked if they have any special traditions regarding the Ball Dr. Thierfelder responded, "Having a big family is like, a thing, it really is. There is something going on up until the minute you walk out the door. But you learn to have a date in the moment, walking from the door to the car, riding in the car together, dinner after, whether out or at home; it's a date". Their marriage is another thing that they hope to bring to the student body, even if it is just something subtle that the students see as they come in the door, the Thierfelders hope that they can show the students that love is real and alive and that marriage is good and that it is worth it and worth believing in.

Whether the importance lies in parental joy, personal relationships, or the student body as a whole, Dr. Thierfelder finds significance in the President's Ball and hopes that the students and faculty do as well! With approximately 400 in attendance, it is believed that this past ball was one of the better-attended Balls in Abbey history. Hopefully, the tradition will continue and the significance of it will continue to be held by both the President and the Student Body.

Also, a special thank you to everyone who helped put together the Ball and ensure its success.



## Abbey History: The Basilica of Mary Help of Christians

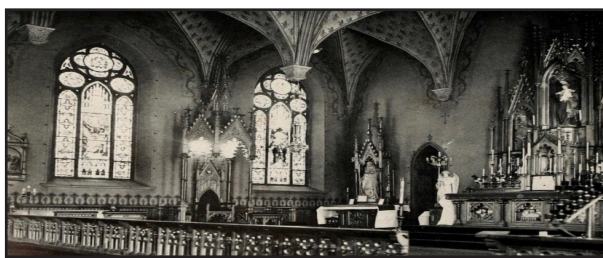
By: Caleb Kualii

The Basilica of Mary, Help of Christians stands out from all other buildings on campus. It is easy to recognize the physical significance of the structure given its soaring towers, its prominent position at the forefront of our campus and the fact that it appears on the official college logo. The history of the church stretches back to the Abbey's early days. Ground was broken for the construction of the church in 1892. At that time being only 16 years old, the community of the monastery and its college was rapidly outgrowing the small, wood-framed chapel that had served as the center of spiritual life since 1877. Like many of the buildings on campus, the larger church was built by the monks themselves using the plentiful wood, stone, and clay from around the monastery property. The completion of the building on December 17, 1893 was marked by the opening Mass of Gaudete Sunday, celebrated by Abbot Leo Haid. The new building was especially noted for its imposing towers and beautiful windows, two architectural features that remain relatively unchanged 126 years later. The taller tower is called Ora and the shorter, Labora. Ora houses the three church bells (St. Mary, St. Walburga, and St. George), which continue to ring daily to mark the celebration of the Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours. Apart from the towers, windows are certainly the most beautiful aspects of the Basilica's architecture. They were hand-

Painted by artists of Francis Mayer and Co. of Munich, Germany as exhibition pieces for the 1892 World's Columbian Exposition. After the exhibition, Belmont Abbey purchased the complete set of windows from Mayer for \$280 each. The windows were installed in the Nave and Chancel of the church and are still in their original frames up to the present day. In 1964, the monks commissioned a major renovation of the church interior to accommodate the liturgical reforms brought about by Vatican II. Pictures of the pre-1964 sanctuary clearly display the former ornateness of the interior, almost unrecognizable compared to the appearance today. Though the current interior looks quite austere in comparison, its simplicity ultimately strikes a good contrast with the intricacies of the windows. Around the time of the interior changes, there was also the addition of the current Narthex that used bricks from the old monastery bakery. This was built to serve as a baptistry. Now, what determines a "church" from a "basilica"? The title of "Basilica" is a relatively recent name given in the building's history. For the majority of its existence, the Basilica was, in fact, properly called Belmont Abbey Cathedral. In the early days of the 20th century, Catholic Parishes were few and far between within Gaston County and the surrounding area. As a result, St. Pope Pius X

elevated Belmont Abbey to the position of Territorial Abbey. Essentially, the Abbey was given the responsibility of exercising the functions of a Diocese, becoming the center of Ecclesiastical authority in the area. In this case, the Abbot of Belmont Abbey became an Abbot-Bishop, fulfilling the role of both Abbot and diocesan Bishop. A Cathedral is a church containing the seat of the Bishop, hence the title was granted to the Abbey until 1977. Later on, in 1998, a Vatican decree issued by St. Pope John Paul II elevated the title of the church once more, this time to the rank of minor Basilica. This rank is given to churches that are historically significant, yet continue to serve as active centers of liturgy and ministry. Once a church is designated as such, it is given the opportunity to add the Papal Keys and Conopaeum (a red and yellow umbrella-like canopy) to its official coat of arms. Additionally, the church is granted the title of Basilica.

Learning the Basilica's history increases the appreciation and reverence for Belmont Abbey's most beloved building. All history and research purposes were provided by the work of Fr. Paschal Baumstein, O.S.B., whose research contributed greatly to the writing of this article. If you would like to learn more about the Basilica, please pick up a free copy of Fr. Paschal's informational brochure, available in the church Narthex.



The Basilica interior prior to renovations

### Ms. Rita

By: Kateri Brehany

This past summer, Belmont Abbey said goodbye to Rita Lewis as she passed away in mid-July. Students who walked through the first floor of Stowe were kindly greeted by a smiling Rita. Ms. Rita served the school in her role for almost four decades. This past year she was presented with an honorary doctorate degree from the college in recognition of her tireless devotion to her work and the school. Ms. Rita will be forever remembered at the Abbey for her graciousness and embodiment of the Benedictine Hallmarks.

### A Night to Remember

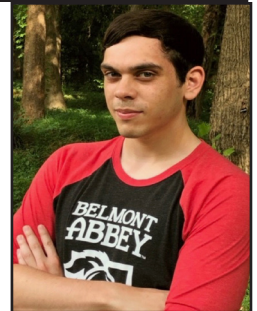
By: Theresa Wilson

Every year, the Elves of the Agora literary journal host three Poetry, Song, and Story nights. There is one in the fall, and two are held in the spring, the last one being in April where the magazine for that year is first released. These events help to drum up submissions from faculty, alumni, and current students of their original poetry, short stories, art, and photography. This first event was held on Monday September 16th in Grace Auditorium at 7 pm. It began as usual with the Agora band playing a folk song, followed by the rest of the eclectic group, both students and faculty. The event was casual with food provided in addition to food for thought, such as the reading by John Paul Hamilton of a short story by Kafka. Bethany Gareis and Sofia Swanson did a knock-out rendition of "Hit the Road, Jack," and we were fortunate to hear Dr. Hren, and his daughter sing. Sister Jane, a necessary part of every Agora gathering, read for us—I bet you didn't know she writes poems! Several original songs and short stories were shared by students, among them Freshman Mary Kate Giggle, Junior transfer Frank Lockavitch, and Freshman Jamie Nunez. We were especially surprised by the appearance of Sally Thomas, Dr. Thomas' wife, who read her original poetry. She will conduct a poetry workshop this October, hosted by the Agora Elves (watch for announcements). The Agora event was so jam packed with sharing of poetry, stories, and songs that it went past 9! Will you come to the next Agora Poetry Song, and Story night, or submit to the magazine? We hope so!

SAMMNY DAY is a Junior at the Abbey. She is majoring in English and minoring in stress. When she does have free time she enjoys spending with her friends. If she's not on campus she is likely at a local coffee shop.



CALEB KUALII is a Junior at the Abbey and a member of the Honors College. He is pursuing a degree in History and intends to minor in Political Philosophy. He is a native Californian but has lived in Charlotte for the past 5 years. Upon graduating, Caleb hopes to prove that a History major can in fact get a good job.



KATERI BREHANY is a Junior suffering from senioritis (only when it comes to schoolwork). Things she does to procrastinate are: pet the campus cats, go to coffee shops, enjoy the company of her friends, make canvases, watch Netflix, and call her family.



ELI MCBRIDE is a Junior at Belmont Abbey. The only thing that keeps Eli going is romantic poetry and cat memes.



EVAN LUTZ is a freshman here at Belmont Abbey College. He is currently majoring in Great Books, and in his free time he enjoys playing chess, playing music, reading, and writing.



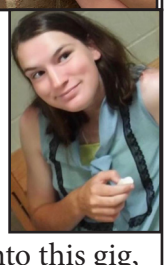
AMANDA MCLAUGHLIN is a Junior, Business Management Major, who values her friends, a good cup of caramel iced coffee, and new adventures. She also contains more sass than she leads on so don't be surprised if you get caught in it.



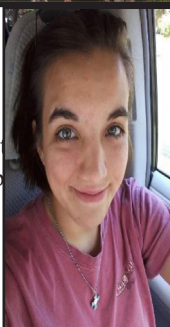
KATIE MCCARTHY is a Junior at the Abbey, studying English. From the beautiful state of Colorado, her spirit animal is Shakira. On school holidays she resides with her two dogs, Mac and Ellie.



THERESA WILSON is senior, history major, in the Honors Institute. This is debut writing for The Crusader but her experience in journalism extends back to her freshman year when she began as an editor for the Agora literary journal. As with Agora, she got dragged into this gig, but she's very excited to be a part of this group!



CLARE RUEDISUELI is a Junior at the Abbey, studying English and trying to figure out what to do with her life. She hails from Norfolk (Nor-fick), Virginia but remains loyal to the great state of Michigan. Most of her time is spent working in Holy Grounds, (making coffee, maybe drinking it, too) or studying God knows where. Clare lives for the challenges, would die for her friends, and kill for a good conversation.



SUBMISSION DEADLINE:  
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# AGORA

BAC's student-edited literary journal *Agora* wants your original:

- Poetry!
- Short Stories!
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- Graphic Artwork!

Send your submissions by e-mail with your name and contact info to the Agora editors:  
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Contributing editors: Clare Ruedisueli and Dr. Erin Jensen

## Want to contribute to the next edition of The Crusader?

Please email [BACNewspaper1876@gmail.com](mailto:BACNewspaper1876@gmail.com) with article topics and inquires about writing or editing.