

# UPDATE

## From the Cooks



We've just had a great Thanksgiving and Christmas is not that far away! November has been both a good and busy month. So, let's catch you up some with **what's happening on campus and also what's happening in our personal lives.**

Providentially, this last month, I was able to attend two important local conferences. They were important because these kinds of conferences provide a place for me to network with Christian theologians and Christian philosophers who are working on the cutting edge of these two key disciplines. Since **my work is with Christian professors on secular**

Name tags from the two conferences I attended this month. One for the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological & Philosophical Societies; and one for the West Region's conference of the Society of Christian Philosophers.

**campuses it pays** to both stay up-to-date with current trends in scholarly work, especially related to **theology and philosophy**.

The first one I attended was the West Region's Society of Christian Philosophers (SCP) held at the **U.S. Air Force Academy**. As I mentioned in my last update, it was being organized by Dr. Adam Pelsler who teaches philosophy at the Academy.

Dr. Pelsler attends and sometimes speaks to our local Christian faculty fellowship at the USAFA. That conference I mentioned came to fruition this month. The conference theme was "The Wisdom of Love."

It was a blessing to connect with a number of professors and campus ministers who are working with students and faculty along the Front Range in Colorado. The same was true later in the month **when I attended the combined annual conference** of the Evangelical **Theological Society** and the Evangelical **Philosophical Society**. Both of these were held concurrently at a hotel in Denver...only about a 1/2 hour drive from where we live. Again, I went hoping to hear the presentation talks, but mainly to connect with Christian scholars with whom I maintain a relationship. The ETS conference theme was "Holiness," however, there were many other kinds of presentations. Wonder what they talk about at these conferences? Here's a link to what were the ETS & EPS schedule of presentations: [schedule](#).

The good news is that I was also fortunate to connect with folks, who in the past I've brought in as conference speakers and outreach speakers on campus. It was also a chance to make new acquaintances. For instance, I met with Dr. David Horner and Dr. Greg Gannsle—both of whom teach at **Biola University** in California. For over 30 years I have had relationships with both of them and they are important Christian thinkers in the areas of Christian ethics and culture. Since what I think about a lot and also use in my discipling my faculty in these relevant these areas, these friendships are greatly valued.



A group photo of those who attended the SCP conference at the US Air Force Academy. A nickel for you if you can find me in the picture: hint I'm on the left side of the pic, in the back row.



Also, this month we have held our regular meetings at the USAFA and at CSU. Here's a link to a talk given to our leadership team at the Academy in early November: [Virtue, Happiness and the Flourishing Life](#).

Other personal catch-ups:

Recently Phyllis had a front tooth break-off! The next day she visited the dentist and got a temporary cap—she thinks it looks better than the original : ). Next week she'll have a root canal and subsequently a permanent cap down the line. Whew, that was a tough day.

Earlier this year Scott worked for Amazon deliveries, but has made a change to working for a local bank as a teller. This seems to fit him better and who doesn't like banking hours and their calendars?

Jim's recent cancer blood test came out fine. That means it has been 23 years of clear tests following his diagnosis of aggressive cancer in 1999. Thanks for your prayers!

Our dog Isaac has reached 9 years of age—that's 63 dog years—the last 8 years with us. He occasionally nips at us and demands his way as apparently all alpha male dogs do at times. He is an Alaskan malamute that was bred to pull heavy sleds, thus he usually gets his way. ; -)

Warmly in Christ,

Jim for Phyllis and Scott

<https://www.academicconnectionsghcm.org>

