



“Helderberg Christian School Unearths the Past to Educate the Present”

On Friday, September 22, 2017 Helderberg Christian School had the pleasure of hosting Mr. Robert Dean, Archaeologist with the NYS Education Department’s Cultural Resource Survey Program. Students in grades 5-12 learned how an archaeologist performs his work and the importance of preserving, interpreting and sharing the past for today and our future.

One test site was dug on the HCS campus (formerly St. John’s Lutheran Church). A discussion was led concerning what may be found based on survey maps of the area during the 1800’s. Students dug approximately 2 feet deep taking turns sifting the site, evaluating materials found as man-made or natural, and cataloguing discoveries. Unearthed was a shard of pottery from the mid 1700’s, three other separate and distinct patterns of pottery, chunks of hand formed brick and pieces of slate indicative of period roofing as well as countless other treasures. A question remains for the future; we discovered a barrel that had been filled with cement in two locations of the foundation. The boards have gone, but the concrete is left holding clues. Students have formed multiple hypotheses as to the purpose of the concrete filled barrels. All artifacts will remain on site at Helderberg Christian School.

Helderberg Christian School is a NYS Registered School with a mission of providing a program of academic excellence integrated with a view of the world from a Christian perspective. For more information about the dig or ongoing enrollment please contact Helderberg Christian School at 518-499-5416.

