

Southwestern News

A PUBLICATION OF SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

SUMMER 2008 | VOLUME 66 NO. 3



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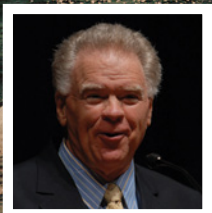
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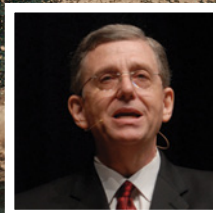
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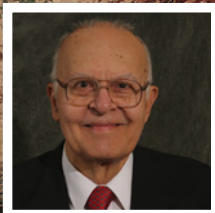
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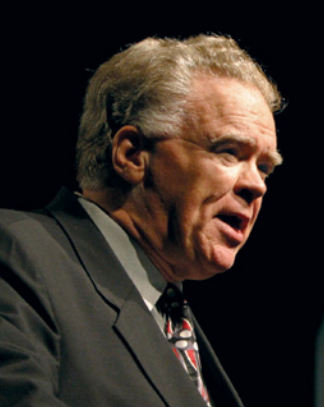
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ON THE COVER

During the seminary's trip to Uruguay, Southwesterners felt burdened to witness to the homeless people outside their hotel. This man was one of seven street people who prayed to receive Christ.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



The banners displayed on the campus of Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth read, "As You Go, Preach." This, of course, is an abbreviated form of the task Christ gave to the church to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord to all nations. If the old axiom "the sun never sets on Southwestern," made famous by President Robert E. Naylor, is true, then this issue of *Southwestern News* bears eloquent witness to the continuing efforts of Southwestern Seminary to preach the Gospel literally to the ends of the earth for 100 years now. In this issue, you will find stories about events that have transpired during the past few weeks and months, such as our centennial celebration and Expository Preaching Workshop.

You will also find information about our Distinguished Alumni, Rev. Eugene Florence, Dr. Gary Moore, and Dr. Tom Elliff. Eugene Florence, who is now 104 years old, was part of a group of black ministers who were tutored for a degree that they could only receive in diploma form because, to our shame, blacks were not allowed in the seminary at that time. Later, when he was 100 years of age, we had the privilege of awarding to him the degree he earned. He has continued preaching and working in his garden, and it is our joy to recognize him. Dr. Gary Moore has been Minister of Music at First Baptist Church, Dallas, and Second Baptist Church in Houston. For many years, his contribution in the area of music and drama has been

influential nationwide. Dr. Tom Elliff, former two-term president of the Southern Baptist Convention, gifted pastor, marvelous missionary, and now a leader with our International Mission Board, is the third distinguished alumnus. Elliff has modeled through his family what we at Southwestern believe is most critical. Finally, you will be blessed by a challenging word by David Mills, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Seminary, concerning the responsibility of all of us to share the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

A blind man sat by the roadside one day and heard people whispering that Jesus was walking by. Crying out and refusing to be quieted, he pled "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Although the contemporary world sometimes does not know who Jesus is, nevertheless, the vast majority of its inhabitants continue to cry out, "Oh God, have mercy upon me." The responsibility of Southwestern Seminary is to train a generation of men and women to talk about Jesus, the Son of David, who not only will have mercy on those who seek Him but also will bring the blessings of heaven into their lives. As you read this issue of *Southwestern News*, rejoice with us in what God is doing.

Until He Comes,

Paige Patterson

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CALENDAR

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JUNE »

1-4

Zambia, Africa, Mission Trip
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SBC Pastor's Conference
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10-11

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9-28

Chiang Mai, Thailand, Mission Trip
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AUGUST »

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25-26

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URUGUAY

Engaging Worldviews with the Gospel

Story by KEITH COLLIER

Photography by MATTHEW MILLER





While spring break on the beach is a time of leisure for many, a group of Southwesterners spent theirs bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to the South American coast in Montevideo, Uruguay, March 15-24. With a population exceeding a million, the capital city of Montevideo is an eclectic blend of agriculture, the arts, and business, creating a cornucopia of lifestyles and worldviews.

Regardless of social status or income level, Southwestern students and faculty, together with a few of their family members, engaged individuals with the Gospel and planted seeds among the city's upper-middle class as well as homeless populations. They engaged atheists, agnostics, Buddhists, Catholics, Wiccans, and evangelicals.

International Mission Board (IMB) missionary Paul Sheaffer, creator and coordinator of the Gospel Advancement Project

(GAP), connected the group with a local missionary in Montevideo. GAP is a "Gospel saturation ministry designed specifically for an urban setting." The goal of the project was to get the Gospel of John into every home and apartment in Pocitos, an upscale beach neighborhood in Montevideo.

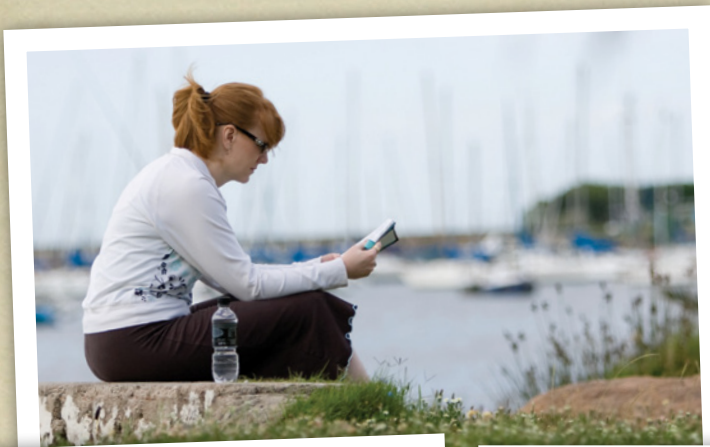
"Historically, the people of Pocitos have been obstinate and closed to conversations about Christ or spiritual matters," Sheaffer said. "This past week we saw God do the unexpected in many ways." The group achieved remarkable results, passing out more than 3,700 copies of the Gospel of John in the selected region.

Along with these distributions, teams conducted "worldview surveys" to help the resident missionary better understand the people with whom he works. Additionally, Gospel tracts were used in street witnessing encounters, resulting in seven homeless people making professions of faith.

Ron Sears, a Southwestern student and minister of education at First Baptist Church in Joshua, Texas, used the trip to







strengthen his family's commitment to international missions. Sears brought his wife, Tina, and two of his daughters, Shawnda and Stephanie, on the trip with him so they could serve together in a missions setting.

Several years ago, Ron and Tina were able to go on a mission trip together with their daughters Brittany and Shawnda, but Stephanie was not old enough to go at the time. They promised Stephanie that they would do their best to take her on a mission trip before she graduated from high school, but schedule conflicts and finances have not allowed it.

Enrolled in his last semester in the M.Div. program, Ron was trying to plan a family vacation during spring break when his pastor suggested he look into going on a mission trip with Southwestern. As he discussed it with Tina, they felt it would be a good opportunity to include Stephanie. When Shawnda, who is a student at Oklahoma Baptist University, heard about it, she wanted to go as well.

The cost of the trip would have totaled \$10,800 for all four of them, but they were convinced that God wanted them to go. They held tight to their family motto: "Never underestimate God." Through two student scholarships, a love offering from their church, and gifts from a support letter they sent out, they received nearly \$8,000 toward the trip.

"Worldview questions have helped to peel back the layers of religious backgrounds that people carry around and get straight to the heart of what kind of relationship that person has with Jesus Christ."

Wes Terry, student
The College at Southwestern

Knowing they would be distributing the Gospel of John in Uruguay, Ron created a reading plan through the book for his family to follow during the month preceding the trip. He also made prayer cards to pass out to members of their church and to people at Tina's work.

"As a family, we committed to pray for each other and read the Gospel of John," Ron said. "We purchased a journal and an EvangeCube for each of us and a couple of 'Sharing Jesus Without Fear' learner guides so we could practice our Gospel presentation skills."

Upon arrival in Montevideo, the group from Southwestern was given an orientation session by the missionaries. They worked in a higher-class area where the majority of people rely

on a sense of security in themselves and the government rather than recognizing the necessity of God in their lives.

The next morning, the missionaries instructed the group to spread out along the coast to spend time praying over the city. Everyone on the team agreed that the amount of time they spent in prayer was the most critical contribution to their success during the week.

Ron said, "It was a powerful time. My prayer was that God would help me to see everyone (through His eyes). They were created in His image with an eternal soul and a free will to choose whether they would follow Him when He knocked on their hearts. This was a great time and set the stage for the whole week."

The worldview surveys were an eye-opening experience for Ron. Each survey consisted of five questions, which assessed the individual's social and spiritual views. After completing the survey, team members would invite the participant to a follow-up event at a local restaurant to hear the results of the survey and have discussions about it.

"It was completely different than what I had imagined," Ron said. "My fears were removed, and I found myself prayerfully seeking the next person to talk to. Once again, I was amazed at how quickly the Uruguayans warmed up to us, and a bond began to form."

Nineteen people attended the worldview reception, where they were also introduced to the local missionaries and given an invitation to better understand the Christian worldview. Thirteen people signed up to be involved in an Alpha Course, a six-week study that would compare their worldview with a biblical worldview and present the Gospel. The team learned in April that at the conclusion of the Alpha Course, four of the participants prayed to receive Christ, including a former Buddhist.

Since returning from the trip, Wes Terry, a bachelor's student at Southwestern, has begun using the worldview surveys in his hometown of Abilene, Texas, in order to open evangelistic conversations.

"In Montevideo, there were a lot of people who had no religious beliefs at all," he said. "In Abilene, it's hard to find a person who is not affiliated with a church or who at least claims to be 'Christian.' Worldview questions have helped to peel back the layers of religious backgrounds that people carry around and get straight to the heart of what kind of relationship that person has with Jesus Christ."

During the week, teams also noticed groups of homeless people and "recyclers," people who lived off the Dumpsters. Although these individuals were not part of the demographic the team was targeting with GAP, they could not resist ministering to them. Teams began bringing extra food from lunch or breakfast to them and sought to build relationships with them.

Art Savage, associate director of the World Missions Center at Southwestern, was "burdened for some homeless people on Thursday morning as I saw them sitting on a small brick wall just outside our hotel."

“The team was having our morning devotion and these homeless folks would not escape my thoughts. I knew that they needed to hear the Gospel. I grabbed a translator after our devotion time, and he and I went to talk to the two guys.” Eventually, five more people joined this small group as Savage was sharing.

“As we shared, a lady asked me, ‘Does God care for me, an old beggar lady who asks for money and lives so dirty on the street?’ I told her that He especially cares for her, and she began to cry. All seven prayed to receive Christ.” By the end of the week, these new believers were having a Bible study on a corner near the hotel where the team was staying.



The Sears family gathered together each night to discuss their experiences throughout the day because they were split into different teams. “As a father, I’m extremely moved to see my kids out doing this stuff and wanting to do it,” Ron said.

“If someone’s never been on a mission trip with their family, they’re missing a blessing,” Tina said. “There’s nothing like being a parent and being able to sit back and watch your children minister to others and watch them share their faith.”

“Being able to watch them and see them get excited about it and to be alongside my husband and my daughters and all be focused on that one mission is awesome.”

The Sears’ teenage daughter, Stephanie, appreciated having the support of her family with her on the trip. She has always had a heart for missions and is hoping to serve possibly in Africa after she graduates from high school.

Shawnda Sears was challenged by the trip to be a more courageous witness for Christ where she lives and plans to seek

more overseas missions opportunities. She also treasured the opportunity to experience the trip with her family.

“There’s just something special and forever impacting to be able to prayer walk alongside your dad,” Shawnda said. “It’s also encouraging to be able to see my dad witness through a translator the Gospel of Christ while I’m standing right beside him, praying quietly that the Holy Spirit will use my dad and touch the lost person’s heart.”

Tina Sears has felt the impact of the trip on her life as she has returned home. “It was a time of refocusing,” she said, adding, “Not only do those people (in Uruguay) need Jesus, but I see people every day at work who need Jesus too.”

A significant portion of the funds the Sears raised came from Tina’s co-workers, both Christians and non-Christians. Since returning, she has taken advantage of opportunities to share her experiences with her co-workers.


“One lady in particular in my office is Buddhist,” Tina said. “I shared with her about how a couple of team members had shared with a woman who was Buddhist and how close that lady is to accepting Christ.” Her co-worker commented to her how impressed she is by the impact the trip had on Tina.

The Sears family encourages every family to consider doing missions together. Recognizing that the financial aspect can be intimidating, Ron said, “If you’re convinced that God wants you to go, it’s not an option on whether you should.”

They recommend preparing educationally and spiritually as a family prior to the mission. They read books and searched the Internet to better understand the culture and spent time preparing through prayer and Scripture reading for the specific ministry they would be doing. “Be prayed up to have a willing spirit to do whatever is needed,” said Tina.

Keith Eitel, dean of the Roy Fish School of Evangelism and Missions at Southwestern, was one of the leaders on the trip and had the opportunity to watch this family on mission in action. “They are a great blend of godly personalities,” Eitel said. “Each one brought a unique spirit and enthusiasm to the tasks, which helped the whole team thrive.”

Seeing great benefit in family mission trips, Eitel said, “Often, it gives the family the opportunity to experience and live out their vision of missions together, pray together, work together, and watch God move together. Many times, this is a key event in either their lifelong commitment to missions or actively moving to become a missionary long term.”

Trips around the globe are scheduled throughout the year for individuals or families interested in joining Southwestern as it takes the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Contact the World Missions Center for guidelines and more information on how you can be involved. 





A close-up photograph of a person's hand playing a guitar. The hand is positioned on the fretboard, with fingers pressing down on the strings. The guitar has a light-colored body and a dark fretboard. The background is a warm, textured wall with a gradient of yellow and orange tones. The title 'GOSPEL MUSIC' is written in a blue, serif font at the top, and 'Redefined' is written in a large, black, cursive font below it.

GOSPEL MUSIC

Redefined

STORY BY KEITH COLLIER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JONATHAN BLAIR

Throughout history, godly men like Moses and David in the Old Testament, as well as Martin Luther in church history, have used music not only to praise the Creator but also to proclaim His redemptive plan for mankind. In this same spirit, Southwestern music professors Edgar Cajas and Tom Song, along with the dean of the School of Church Music, Stephen Johnson, used music to spread the Gospel while on mission in Guatemala, April 17-27.

The trip was part of the initial stages of revitalizing the Music in Missions concentration within the Master of Music degree. According to Cajas, “Future projects for seminary music students and faculty were explored, including church planting using music.”

Going to Guatemala was an obvious choice for Cajas, who was born and raised there. After receiving his second master’s degree from Southwestern in 1990, he returned to Guatemala and started *Escuela Alfredo Colom*, a Christian school for music teachers and the only private school in Guatemala City authorized to give music education degrees. Knowing that most churches could not pay musicians, Cajas wanted to train people to be able to make a living through music and also serve as ministers of music in churches.

Cajas, Song, and Johnson visited the school. After Johnson gave a lecture on composition, students divided into areas of interest such as voice or music education. Cajas took a small group of seniors to talk about music education. As he got to know the students, they told him about the dangers in the city and how many of them had been robbed of their money and instruments.

Using the conversation about these dangers to talk about eternal security, Cajas asked the students if they knew where

they would go if something tragic happened to them. None of the students, even some who had an evangelical upbringing, knew how to respond.

He then used a Gospel tract to share the Gospel, and 11 of the students prayed to receive Christ. Cajas hopes these young music teachers, who will soon be teaching an average of 400 elementary students each year, can win others for Christ.

Later in the week, the school’s handbell choir played at a local shopping center. A crowd gathered as they played, so they passed out tracts and shared the Gospel with the crowd.

The professors also took time to minister to the large Korean population in Guatemala. More than 10,000 Koreans live in Guatemala and primarily work in its many cloth factories. The team visited one of the cloth factories, which is owned by a Korean Christian, and also participated in a prayer meeting at a Korean church, where Song, a native of Korea, shared his testimony.

These visits established connections with Korean Baptists, opening the door for Southwestern Korean students to gain ministry skills as well as course credit through future ministry opportunities in Guatemala. Korean Baptists in Texas are already planning on appointing a Korean student from Southwestern next year as a missionary to Guatemala.





Cajas, Song, and Johnson also partnered with the Nicodemus Project of the International Mission Board (IMB) in Guatemala. They taught master classes and presented lectures in music schools and secular universities as part of a strategy to reach working professionals and university students.

Because the secular universities have traditionally been closed to all types of Christian work, the lectures opened a door to build relationships between Guatemalan music professionals and the local IMB missionary. Attendees of the lectures were invited to become part of small groups, which give financial advice based on biblical principles leading into Gospel presentations. More than 20 people signed up to join a group.

Cajas put the strategy in context: “Just the fact that I introduce him as Dr. Johnson who is the dean of church music and a member of First Baptist Church in Keller, people say, ‘A professional musician can also be a Christian?’” Many in the upper class assume that Christianity is for the ignorant and poor, so these lectures help change those perceptions. Additionally, each professor used the lecture as an opportunity to share the Gospel.

Cajas’ lecture topic dealt with studies in music education and brain research. He pointed out to his audience that God uniquely created humans with the ability to create music and melodies. He told them, “The brain is so complicated and so efficient that there is no way that we can’t think that God made us.” He also pointed to the human need to have communion with the Creator.

Johnson presented a lecture on composition in the 21st century. “Being a composer, it is an easy connect to go from composition to your relationship with Christ because composition is different than the other art forms of performance in that the performers have to just do what is in front of them and what they’re directed to do, and composers create that direction,” he said.

“Composition is an artistic presentation of philosophy. You have a philosophy, you can present it artistically, and then people act it out. Under that premise, I was able to talk about if your heart is pure and if you have your composition as an overflow of your relationship with the Lord, that will come out in your composition.”

Additionally, the professors ministered to children in a couple of the poorer villages and led worship services in



churches, including a service at *Primera Iglesia Bautista San Pedro La Laguna*, which was broadcast by radio to 10 villages with an audience of more than 5,000 people.

Although the School of Church Music has been involved in a variety of mission projects over the years, Cajas wants to see them step out from behind the instruments and performances to engage the lost more directly. Recognizing that music opens doors that preaching cannot, he believes, “There is a point where I have to personally share my faith with others.”

“We understand that it is not music that will really change a person’s life. Music is only a tool. As Christians, we need to understand that it is not the way we are performing or even what style of music we are using. It is how God is using our talents and our music in general to share with others.”

Southwestern’s emphasis on music in missions started with T. W. Hunt in 1965. The original purpose of the program, according to Hunt, was to “find the music in any given culture that would communicate most to the people in that culture.” The goal then would be to bring people to Christ and create an indigenous church with indigenous music.

Cajas’ background with music and missions makes him the perfect individual to lead the rebuilding of the program. Growing up in a musical environment in Guatemala, he learned to play the piano at an early age and directed his first choir at age 10.

Additionally, Cajas says his life “is a product of missions.” His mother was the first person in their neighborhood to open classes for children through Child Evangelism Fellow-



ship. Cajas came to know the Lord through a missionary involved in the project.

After he graduated from college in Guatemala, another missionary further impacted Cajas when she asked him what he planned on doing with the rest of his life and recommended he attend Southwestern. Through a scholarship provided by a partnership between the seminary and the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Cajas became the first Central American student to study in the music school at Southwestern.

Through their work in Guatemala, these Southwestern professors also explored the potential for future ministry projects. These projects will be used in conjunction with the Bachelor of Arts in music as well as the revamped Music in Missions concentration. All students in the College at Southwestern are required to participate in an international mission trip to graduate, so these projects will serve as opportunities for those in the Bachelor of Arts in Music program.

“I FEEL THAT THIS TRIP WAS A GREAT SUCCESS BECAUSE NOW A STUDENT CAN COME TO US, AND WE CAN SAY, ‘WE HAVE A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN GO. WE KNOW HOW TO WORK IT ALL OUT. WE’RE READY. JUST GO.’ ”

“The advantage of working in Guatemala is that it is a three-hour flight from Dallas into a completely different world,” Cajas said. He also noted the effects of globalization in Guatemala, which create an opportunity for students from Korean, Spanish, or American backgrounds to serve.

Johnson agreed, adding, “The purpose of this trip was to see if this is a place where there is a good outlet. ... We also made great connections with new church plants in the villages as well as ministries in downtown Guatemala City.”

Hoping to offer classes as early as the spring of 2009, the music in missions degree plan will consist of essential courses in theology, music ministry, missions, and the student’s primary musical field. Classes offered are planned to include cross cultural communication, missionary anthropology, music in missions, ethnomusicology, and a music in missions practicum.

“Right now, we are looking to be one of the few leading schools in the country that is promoting music for the sake of evangelism,” Johnson said, adding, “Either people ignore evangelism because they don’t believe in it, or they ignore music because they don’t have a vision for it. I feel that this trip was a great success because now a student can come to us, and we can say, ‘We have a place where you can go. We know how to work it all out. We’re ready. Just go.’ ” With this experience, Southwestern leads the way in reaching the lost through music. **SM**





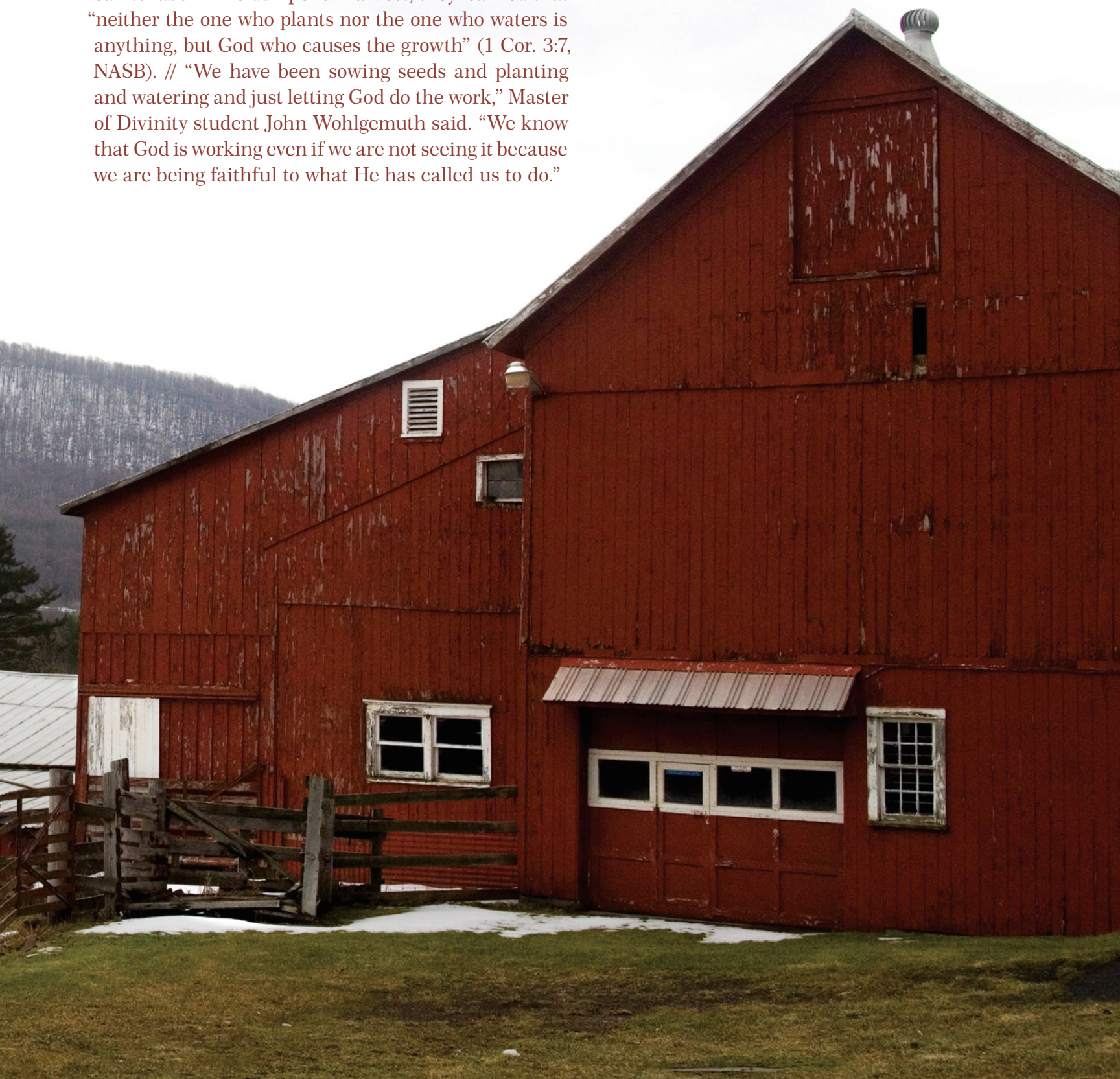
Preaching Coast-to-Coast

Southwestern's Spring Evangelism Practicum

Story by Benjamin Hawkins
Photography by Jonathan Blair
& Adam Covington



Southwestern students and faculty members ventured out of the Bible Belt to preach the Gospel in 25 states across the U.S. during spring break revivals, March 16-19. Following God's call to labor in fields ripe for harvest, they learned that "neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth" (1 Cor. 3:7, NASB). // "We have been sowing seeds and planting and watering and just letting God do the work," Master of Divinity student John Wohlgemuth said. "We know that God is working even if we are not seeing it because we are being faithful to what He has called us to do."



Wohlgemuth served in Stamford, a 218-year-old village nestled in the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York. The village that was once a booming tourist location is now home to slightly more than 1,200 people, 90 percent of whom have rarely, if ever, entered the church. Though Stamford has a thriving Catholic church, most other area churches struggle to keep the doors open.

According to Pastor Waylen Bray, the 30-year-old Stamford Baptist Church is reaching out to the unchurched community to refute the popular belief that churches are “closed-door institutions.” For that purpose, Bray has been active in the life of the community in various ways, including visitations at nursing homes, hospitals, and the fire department. Throughout the practicum, Wohlgemuth worked alongside Bray in making visits, sharing the Gospel, and learning how to specifically pray for the community.

“It is always neat to see somebody who has done (ministry) for a long time, who can not only show you how it is done in a church setting, but also (through) walking out in the community and having good relationships with people,” Wohlgemuth said. As he ministered alongside an experienced pastor, he learned “the importance of getting in the culture and getting involved with people’s lives outside of the church.” By doing this, a believer may earn the trust of those who would otherwise never enter a church.

The seminary has provided Stamford Baptist Church with revival preachers for about five years. Bray expressed gratitude and satisfaction with past revival preachers and reported that the church has maintained a connection with one former student who now serves on the mission field.

“We’re tremendously grateful that someone funded John (Wohlgemuth) coming here, and that the seminary has a sense of mission to the point that it is not just a matter of packing information into the heads of young men and women but sending them out to do ministry and service,” Bray said.

For Wohlgemuth, the value of his ministry at Stamford was due to time spent in the Word of God. “I think that when people are challenged with the Word clearly, when they are faced with Scripture—I think that changes lives,” he said. “At heart, it is the Scripture that changes lives, and the Holy Spirit using that in people.”

Nearly 2,000 miles from Stamford, Justin Williams, a student in the College at Southwestern, also realized the power of God’s Word and the magnitude of preaching it. “I think the one thing that has stood out in the preparation time, and even during the course of the week, has been just the gravity of God’s Word,” Williams said.

“I cannot imagine anything else that has more weight to it. We’re talking about people’s eternity, and it is a scary thing. And there is so much responsibility involved.” The opportunity to carry this responsibility, however, is one of the advantages of the practicum.

Williams volunteered to serve at the Indian Nations Baptist Church of Albuquerque, N.M. Indian Nations Baptist is one of a handful of Baptist churches reaching out to the estimated 30,000 Native Americans from different tribes in the area. Having come from a Native American background himself, the choice to go to Indian Nations was not a difficult one for Williams. “Since I have been here at Southwestern, especially, I have been more interested in my heritage, probably because I am closer to Oklahoma and closer to my Choctaw Nation,” he said.



John Wohlgemuth prays with a family at Stamford Baptist Church.



Waylen Bray, pastor of Stamford Baptist Church in Stamford, N.Y.

Pastor Allen Scott Tafoya, who often encouraged Williams and gave him ministry advice over meals, sees great value in the Spring Evangelism Practicum. As a Master of Divinity student at Southwestern in the late 1980s, he participated in a spring break practicum in which he and a small group of students proclaimed the Gospel on the streets of New Orleans.

The practicum “does give young preachers and young ministers an opportunity to practice their gifts. And I think that is a big reason to do it,” Tafoya said. “And just the idea of carrying on revival meetings: You know, we would all like to see spiritual awakening and revival come to the country, and we need to keep praying for that and working towards that and doing things that will help that to take place.” The revival practicum itself, he added, “provides an opportunity for the church to be faithful to the task that God has given them to do.”

Tafoya also reported that God opened doors of ministry as he and Williams made visits during the week. Through working with Tafoya, Williams was reminded of the importance of patience in ministry, especially when working among people who accept Christ but do not allow the Gospel to immediately transform their lifestyles.

“We know that
God is working
even if we are not seeing it, because
we are being faithful
to what he has called us to do.”

“You just want to hurry up and address those things, but it really takes time and you have to have an extreme patience with people and with your congregation,” Williams said. “I think that the biggest thing I have learned from Pastor Tafoya is just his patience with his members and his congregation. ... He is willing to wait on God to do the work within them.”

After the spring break practicum, Dan Crawford, professor of evangelism and missions, reported during a chapel service that 68 students and faculty members volunteered to preach revival services. They shared the Gospel with 499 people one-on-one, and preached a total of 336 sermons throughout the week. The effort resulted in 220 decisions, including 57 professions of faith.

Crawford, who has led the Spring Evangelism Practicum for 23 years, also “passed the mantle” to Cky Carrigan, associate professor of evangelism. “When Elijah stepped down, he



passed the mantle to his successor,” Crawford said. Instead of a mantle, Crawford handed Carrigan nine pages of statistical reports bearing witness to the fruit of the 5,523 Southwesterners who have served in the practicum during the past 50 years. Participants through the years have reported nearly 14,000 professions of faith.

“I have high hopes for the future of this program because I intend to honor the heritage that modeled for us a biblical

way to push back the darkness in a lost and dying world,” Carrigan said. This foundation for the practicum has been built up by past evangelism professors Malcolm McDow, Roy Fish, and Crawford. Carrigan said he desires to honor the heritage of this practicum by encouraging expository preaching and one-on-one evangelism. Most important, he would encourage Southwesterners to pray that God might work through the revival practicum. **SN**

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few,” Carrigan said. “I hope the entire Southwestern family will be praying with me to the Lord of the harvest for more laborers for His field.”



Allen Scott Tafaya (left), pastor of Indian Nations Baptist Church, speaks with a church member during visits in the community.



Justin Williams participates in "Native Dress Night" as he preaches to Indian Nations Baptist Church.



ON YOUR
MARK...
GET SET...

GO PREACH.

WITNESSING TO THE ENDS OF THE RACETRACK



STORY BY MICHELLE MYERS // PHOTOGRAPHY BY JONATHAN BLAIR & KATHLEEN MURRAY



The phrase “As you go, preach” was inscribed on the cornerstone of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary’s Fort Worth Hall in 1910 under the leadership of the seminary’s founder. This continual reminder for seminary scholars to do the work of the evangelist has led students to countries around the world, to churches around the nation, and even to racetracks just a few miles down the road.

In celebration of Southwestern’s centennial, the seminary initiated 100 days of evangelism. Professors set the example for the first 50 days in the spring to pave the way for students to join evangelism efforts for the remaining 50 days in the fall. As part of this commitment, several faculty and students shared the Gospel at Texas Motor Speedway, April 3-6.

John Babler, associate professor of pastoral counseling, is a leader in Texas Alliance Raceway Ministries (TxARM), part of the Motor Racing Outreach. His influence at the raceway led to Southwestern’s involvement in the ministry. John Babler may be a professor to some or a minister to others, but all would call him an evangelist.

Babler first got involved with TxARM because it was a chance to do ministry alongside his son, Hudson, who was then 10 years old and a big racing fan. Hudson is now a junior in the College at Southwestern, working toward a life of vocational ministry.

Babler feels TxARM has done a great job serving and ministering to others in past years but has neglected to take full advantage of the opportunity to share the Gospel. Babler said, “My wife once told me, ‘If hell is real, it ought to impact everything you do.’”

Babler uses this vision to lead his family, and its impact has carried over to evangelism at the raceway. Coming back this year to help TxARM launch a new model for training volunteers, Babler emphasized the motto, “Evangelism is Job No. 1.”



While the ministry used to focus mainly on activities for kids, the spotlight is now on salvation. Volunteers do door-to-door evangelism in campsites and invite crowds to two evangelistically driven musical concerts and five church services throughout the week. While parents watch their children in the bounce houses, they can also benefit from volunteer counseling and prayer.

Some chaplains share the Gospel while transporting disabled fans on golf carts between the campsites and the track. Other chaplains ride in the emergency vehicles when spectators have medical emergencies to minister to families on the way to the hospital.

Caleb Higgins, a student in the College at Southwestern, also grew up as a NASCAR fan. After attending his first race in 2006, he saw the opportunity and the need for evangelism at the events, so he began witnessing on his own at the Texas Motor Speedway. After asking for prayer in one of his classes, a professor put him in contact with Babler.



Since NASCAR is one of the only sports that still allows public prayer in Jesus' name, Higgins realized the fans might be more open to Christ since they hear His name before every race. "They even televise the prayer," Higgins said. "The sad fact is that most of them don't have a personal relationship with Christ. But if you just show that you care for them, they will listen."

Under Babler's direction, professors and students engaged others using a conversational Gospel approach. Whether inviting them to attend one of the ministry events or simply discussing their favorite drivers, the purpose is to engage someone in conversation, lead into the Gospel, use the Ten Commandments to make them aware of sin, and share the love of Christ. In addition to writing the curriculum to train volunteers, Babler has also provided his co-workers in Christ with a unique evangelism tract titled "From Start to Finish: Good News from God's Word for You."

Cameron Moore, a raceway chaplain, says many fans are trying to use NASCAR to fill the spiritual void in their lives. "When you look around at the raceway, the fans have all of their physical needs met. They have food, shelter, and friends, but they still know there is something in their life that is missing."

Moore, who has served as a race chaplain in Dallas and in Austin for the past several years, will begin taking classes at Southwestern to pursue his master's degree in May. Moore met Babler through TxARM, so he came to take a campus tour of Southwestern. When Thomas White, vice president for student services and communications, addressed the prospective students on the tour, he guaranteed that when they left Southwestern, they would be able to share their faith. "Since the primary reason I want to come to seminary is to be able to tell others why I believe what I believe, his words confirmed I should come to Southwestern," Moore said.

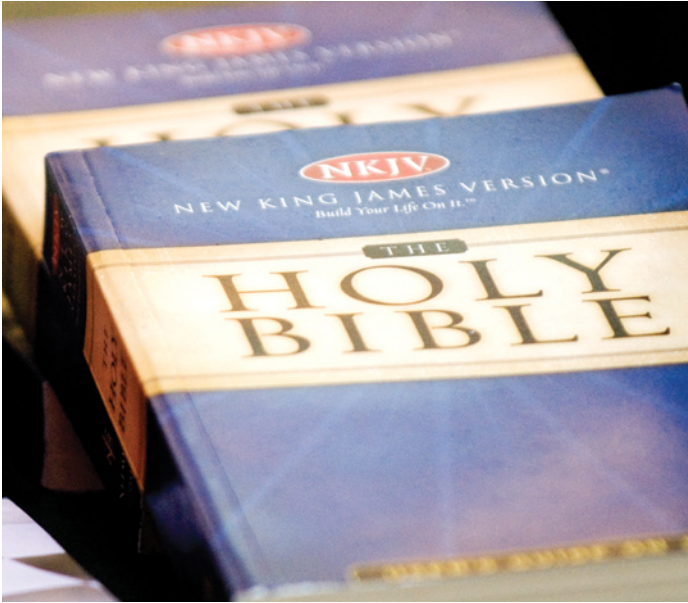
Ky Carrigan, associate professor of missions, and Waylan Owens, associate professor of pastoral ministry, also volunteered at the April races. Carrigan simply asked one man how he and his family celebrated Easter. Whether out of embarrassment or conviction, the man lowered his beer and ended up taking a flyer from Carrigan to further cover up the bottle. Carrigan is currently working on developing an evangelism practicum where students can potentially get class credit for witnessing at the raceway.

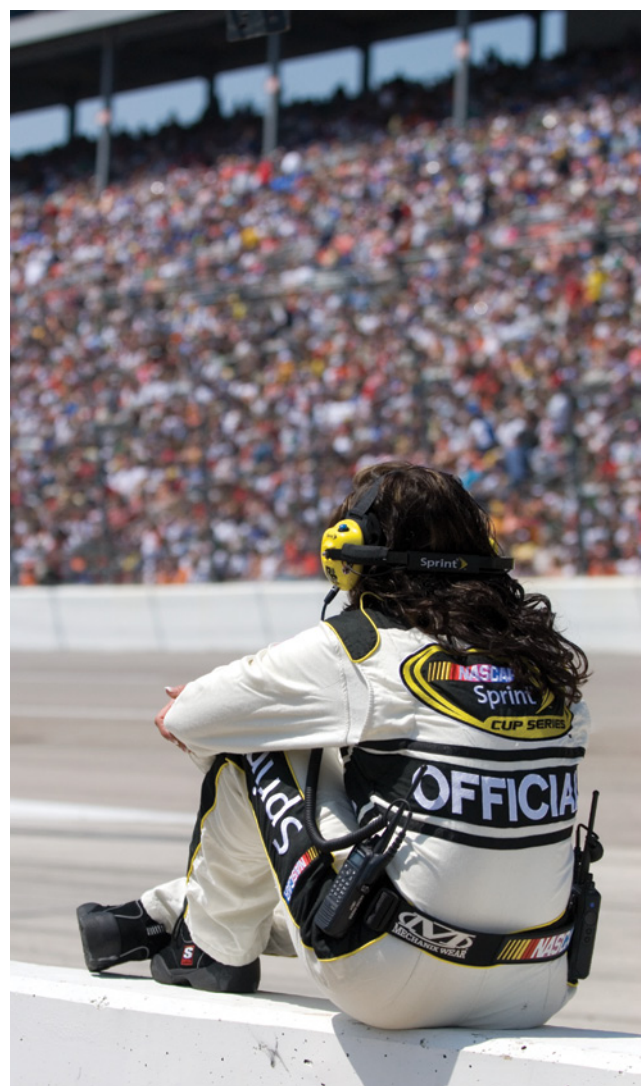
Higgins and nine others decided the most effective way to reach out would be to camp out on Friday night with the crowd and get to know their 200,000 neighbors. He said that he knows he cannot be on the international mission field while he is a full-time student, but he never wants to forget his home mission field. Higgins added, "It is commanded for us to go; therefore, we can't just stay at church and hope people come."

Southwestern's involvement at the raceway has also brought several students to surrender to God's call by attending seminary. Tony Edwards, a recent graduate, was self-employed as a successful auto mechanic when he began volunteering with TxARM. After much prayer, Edwards followed God's leading, sold his business, and began taking classes at Southwestern.

Volunteering at racetracks started out as just another venue of ministry for Tony Edwards but ended up being God's way of preparing him for full-time ministry in chaplaincy. After getting involved at the Texas Motor Speedway in 1997, Edwards became the track chaplain at Boyd Raceway, which holds races every Friday night from March to September. When Edwards began classes at Southwestern in 2002, he thought he would be an associate pastor. However, his involvement at TxARM revealed the direction God wanted him to take.

Edwards hopes his testimony will encourage students to get involved in some type of ministry, "especially if you're not sure what ministry God has for you," he added. "It's called being in the world, not of it. I once heard someone say, 'God





Since NASCAR is one of the only sports that still allows public prayer in Jesus' name, Higgins realized the fans might be more open to Christ since they hear His name before every race. "They even televise the prayer," Higgins said. "The sad fact is that most of them don't have a personal relationship with Christ. But if you just show that you care for them, they will listen."

CALEB HIGGINS, STUDENT, THE COLLEGE AT SOUTHWESTERN

won't steer a parked car.' Don't wait until you have a degree in your hand to start looking." Edwards will graduate with a Master of Arts in Christian education this December.

Babler said most races generate crowds that are equivalent to a small city descending on one location for a week. This results in an overwhelming amount of ministry and prayer needs. "Right now, we just need a lot more volunteers. The urgent need to share the Gospel takes precedence over the ministry's important needs," Babler said.

While the immensity of the race can be overwhelming and the task seems impossible, the volunteers have numerous stories of God's divine intervention of making Himself known. Babler recalls, in the midst of his busy schedule a few years ago, finding 30 quiet minutes to have a conversation with a Catholic couple who were uninvolved in church at the time. "I was able to share the Gospel, and they both came to know the Lord," Babler said. Finding that calm moment was a small gift from God.


Higgins also recounted when a woman asked a group of students for a ride to the grocery store as they were on the way to the store themselves. After talking with her, they discovered she and her husband used to be actively involved in church. However, they began drinking and slowly drifted away. Her husband eventually left her for another woman, causing her to drink more heavily.

After the students prayed with her, she said she was leaving because she did not want to be convicted and not be able to enjoy herself that night as she had planned. The students were not discouraged. "I don't believe in coincidences," Higgins said. "I know we picked her up for a reason."

The next races at Texas Motor Speedway are scheduled



in June and November. "June's race is an Indy race, so it's smaller than a NASCAR event," Babler said. "That means we should only expect crowds of 80,000. The smallest event at the Texas Motor Speedway is still the largest sporting event in North Texas."

Edwards said, "Being involved in TxARM will confirm the need to be intentionally involved in the lives of the lost." Anyone interested in participating in evangelism efforts at future races can visit www.txarm.org for more information, or e-mail Babler at jbabler@swbts.edu. 

operation

GREAT COMMISSION

Story by Michelle Myers
Photography by Kathleen Murray

Seminary president Paige Patterson recently said, “Two kinds of seminaries are available for students worldwide. There are those schools essentially committed to training occupation troops. No criticism can be offered against these schools since occupation troops are always important. But any modern army must have and train its Special Operations Forces, and that is the assignment of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.”

A portion of these students called to go above and beyond their call of duty meet for lunch every Tuesday with Philip Calvert, assistant professor of history for the College at Southwestern. Nothing may seem out of the ordinary as college students discuss the upcoming NASCAR race at the Texas Motor Speedway or the gun show at the convention center. However, they are not deciding where they will hang out that weekend. They are meeting to pray for one another and decide where they will go next to intentionally share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



During fall 2007, Jason Clark, Josh Fischer, and Shannon Harris approached Calvert and wanted his help to begin a street evangelism team. Before the students came to him, Calvert's heart was burdened with the same conviction. Since Calvert had already devised a plan, they began almost immediately.

Emir Caner, dean of the College at Southwestern said, "Beyond Dr. Calvert's academic prowess and accomplishments, his greatest blessing is in the area of evangelism and missions. After earning the title of Fulbright scholar, he has taken on the task of transforming the community around Southwestern."

Since the team began, other students have joined them. They have witnessed to various groups, including the homeless in downtown Fort Worth, middle-class citizens in Burleson, Hispanic communities in Crowley, and Mormons on a street near the campus. While they enjoy sharing their faith to all peoples, the group feels especially called to show Christ's love to those in difficult life positions.



Earlier this year while witnessing downtown, the team prayed for an illiterate man who was having difficulty finding a job that did not require being able to read and write. During their prayers, through the conviction of the Holy Spirit, the man accepted Christ as his Savior. Shortly after, he found a job as a janitor in Dallas.

God's hand has become apparent to the team as they minister. In August, the team planned to return to Burleson. Just before leaving, they pooled their money together to give bottled water away downtown. When they arrived downtown, they learned the public water fountain was not working. Not only were they able to provide water to those who could not afford it on a hot afternoon, but they also had the opportunity to lead one man to Christ and pray with many others.

Along with God's blessing, they also regularly come in contact with rejection and at times, hostility. However, they are not intimidated.

"Rejection is biblical," Calvert said. "Not only are we warned in Scripture that we will be rejected, but you also discover that rejection puts you in good company with Old Testament prophets, the disciples, and our Savior Himself."

KC Wagenseller has learned that the results are not in his hands. "I do my part as a messenger, or even as a servant, depending on what witnessing tools we use. The rest is between God and who we are sharing with."

Calvert's advice to the students in witnessing is to make sure they "stay in control of the conversation. If they remain calm, they can guide the tone of the discussion." He also makes sure students understand the importance of talking to diverse groups. "Witnessing to different types of people will help anyone in ministry because they're going to have to minister to all personality types within their churches."

"There is a lot of work to be done in terms of constantly being on the streets, talking to people so they hear a clear presentation of the Gospel," Calvert said. "We can no longer assume that the average person on the street has heard the Good News."

Dr. Philip Calvert prays for more laborers with a gentleman who regularly witnesses downtown.



In April, the students went to downtown Fort Worth to conduct a spiritual survey of the city. The students had prepared four questions but also used the participants' answers to lead into more specific questions.

The students' first mission was to discover if the person went to church and what he looked for in a church. A younger woman with whom they spoke admitted to being a Christian but had not found a home church since moving to Texas. She said the size of a church was important to her because she wanted a small community of faith.

Three college students from Pennsylvania in town for a conference had immediate answers. "Sound doctrine," the first said. "A place where they preach the Bible," his friend chimed in. "Yeah," the third young man agreed. "And good community is important too, like the church in the book of Acts."

A younger man who called himself a “born-again believer” said he is looking for a church where everything they teach can be found in Scripture. “In my family, God and His Word come first, our family is second, and everything else comes after those two are taken care of.”

“Many people claim Christ because they think they are supposed to be Christians. However, in reality, they do not have a relationship with Christ, and they do not witness to others.”

The students also asked survey participants what they believed about Jesus. Whether the people attended church or not, each person identified Christ as “the Son of God.” Professing believers added details like, “He’s the one who saved me.” One simply said, “He’s my King.”

“The major advantage of witnessing in the ‘Bible Belt’ is that a lot of people know who Christ is, so there is a basic foundation for a witnessing encounter,” Calvert pointed out. He also acknowledged the disadvantage of cultural Christianity.

Before the students ended their conversation with each encounter, they tried to uncover the person’s beliefs about hell. Even those bold enough to proclaim their faith were hesitant to answer this last question. A typical response was that they were not sure what they believed about hell, but they did not want to go there to find out. The boldest response they heard was when a man said, “If you believe in God, you better believe in hell.”

Calvert is thankful for preachers who do not neglect to address hell from the pulpit. “Hell is an unpleasant topic in a culture that does not like to deal with uncomfortable issues. If the idea of hell can be avoided, then people can avoid confronting the ultimate consequences of their actions.”


The professor also acknowledged how many in America’s busy society have convinced themselves that their schedules are too demanding to think about their lives beyond the present moment. “We no longer contemplate reality,” he said. “We calculate the immediate.”

Before leaving to come back to the seminary, the students met a man who regularly witnesses downtown. When he saw the students talking to others, he wanted to make sure they were sharing the “actual Gospel, rather than making them more lost than they were before.” Since the man uses his lunch hour to share his faith every Monday, the students listened to his experiences to help them in future witnessing.

“About 30 percent of the people I speak with are saved, but the rest are lost. Most of them claim they believe in God, but they’ve been taught wrong because they think good works get them to heaven,” he said. “If I find they rely on anything in addition to grace to get them to heaven, I treat them as lost.”

Calvert and the students remain encouraged to find people who are courageous in proclaiming their faith. “As spiritual darkness increases, so too does the willingness of Christ’s followers to boldly witness,” Calvert said. “There are some who want nothing to do with hearing the Gospel, but we always find some who want to make their faith known.” **SM**



A middle-aged man with glasses and a blue button-down shirt is smiling and gesturing with his hands in a factory or industrial setting. The background shows various pieces of machinery and equipment.

Investing in Eternity

JOHN AND PAT CARLSON



JOHN CARLSON considers himself just an average guy who is obedient to share his faith with someone when God presses it on his heart. An engineer by trade, Carlson is the epitome of a faithful, personal witness for Jesus Christ wherever life takes him. Whether he is flying in an airplane or working in a manufacturing plant, he always looks for opportunities to share the Gospel.

Carlson first became involved with Southwestern through his friendship with former evangelism professor Malcolm McDow. Carlson and his wife, Pat, have demonstrated their commitment to evangelism through financial support of Southwestern's Spring Evangelism Practicum, which sends students to churches outside of the Bible Belt to preach week-long revivals during spring break.

"It's a good program because there's nothing like getting out there and doing it," Carlson says. "You can talk about evangelism until you're blue in the face, but it's 100 times better when you get out there and do it. Once you see it change people's lives, it will change your life."

"I think one of the big benefits of the spring practicum is that it gets the preachers out to the pioneer areas of the country, where they probably would never go. They go on the spring practicum, and then they get a heart for churches in the middle of nowhere."

Southwestern is honored to have friends like John and Pat Carlson, who passionately support the seminary's heart for evangelism and who model this same spirit in their own personal lives.

"Everyone is an evangelist, either a good one or a bad one ... People will see your life."

John Carlson is founder and president of Carlson Engineering, which designs, constructs, and installs equipment used by the nation's leading food, beverage, and dairy manufacturers, such as Dreyer's and Coca-Cola. Although his home and office are in Fort Worth, Carlson travels extensively for projects, which often require him to live outside of Fort Worth for months at a time. Despite this strange travel schedule, he makes it a point to connect with a local church near the project along with faithfully serving his home church in Fort Worth when he is in town.

Carlson especially enjoys going with the church to visit people in their homes, noting, "If I'm in town, I'll be at visitation." He is committed to making himself available to share with people whom God puts in his path. "It's God's job to save them," he says. "All I've got to do is tell them. You never know who is sitting next to you, and you never know what their spiritual condition is."

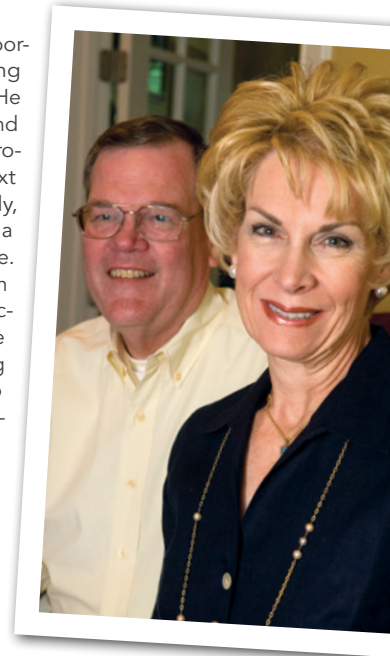
Carlson recalls one such situation when he was working at a plant in Modesto, Calif. He was programming equipment one Saturday, and the only other person in the plant was a maintenance man named Jim, with whom he had developed a relationship.

While they were working, Jim told him about a dream he had the night before about dying.

Carlson used the opportunity to begin talking with Jim about God. He bought Jim a Bible, and their conversations progressed over the next several weeks. Finally, Carlson invited Jim to a church near Jim's home. They visited the church together, and Jim recognized several people in the church, including the pastor's son, who was a volunteer firefighter with Jim.

Eventually, Carlson finished the project and returned home. Three months later, he received a call from Jim, who said, "Hey Big John, I just wanted to call you and tell you that I was baptized yesterday, my wife was baptized yesterday, and my two nieces were baptized yesterday."

"Now that will get you fired up," Carlson says as he recalls the story. "I wasn't there when he got saved, but I was there when he told me about his dream. You just see how God works. God uses a half dozen people a lot of times to intervene in a person's life."



One of Carlson's fondest memories happened with his daughter several years ago. One day, she said, "Dad, I have a lot of friends who aren't Christians, but I don't know how to talk to them." He and she began attending the Evangelism Explosion classes in their church together.

Carlson recalls the impact those classes had on him and his daughter: "For 13 weeks, I never missed a Tuesday. I flew in on Tuesday, and I flew out Wednesday morning a lot of weeks, but I never missed one week for 13 weeks. It was probably one of the best times of my entire life."

Carlson tells story after story of how God has used common circumstances and conversations to open doors of salvation in other's lives. He has led people to the Lord on airplanes, in break rooms, and in people's homes. He uses a variety of methods to share the Gospel, including sharing his testimony, using a witnessing presentation or tract, and inviting people to church.

Above all, Carlson says, "People are open. You just have to be open to share with them." He considers evangelism as every Christian's responsibility, regardless of the methods they use. "Everyone is an evangelist, either a good one or a bad one," he says, adding, "People will see your life." **SM**

EXPLOSIVE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION MARKS SEMINARY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary celebrated its 100th birthday in grand Texas style, March 14, complete with a centennial chapel service, alumni gatherings, and a campus-wide picnic featuring a spectacular fireworks show. Several notable alumni were present to honor the legacy of the seminary's first century of service to Southern Baptists as well as to challenge the institution to remain a premier training ground for pastors, Christian leaders and missionaries.

Cloudless skies and bright spring weather allowed for a special centennial Founder's Day chapel service to take place on the seminary's front lawn. Seminary president Paige Patterson recognized alumni, welcomed students and guests, and read letters congratulating the seminary from Southwestern graduates David Dockery, president of Union University, and Jeff Iorg, president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

Two influential Southwestern alumni gave testimonies of their relationship with Southwestern. Danny Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, thanked Southwestern for consistently setting the pace of evangelism for Southern Baptists. Akin encapsulated his hope for Southern Baptists by saying, "In the day and age in which we live, wedding a healthy, robust theology to a Great Commission passion—that is my prayer for Southern Baptists, that is my prayer for all of our seminaries, and, in particular, the one that has set the pace for so long, that is my prayer and my heartbeat for Southwestern Seminary."

O. S. Hawkins, president of GuideStone Financial Resources, characterized Southwestern by its influence of training more pastors, more religious educators, more music ministers, and more missionaries than any other seminary. He also praised the seminary for its integrity to stay true to founder B. H. Carroll's vision.

After Hawkins mentioned Carroll, Andy Smith, a Master of Divinity student, portrayed the seminary's founder, delivering a speech of what Carroll would possibly state today to reflect on the past 100 years and to charge the seminary forward. "I urge you as a brother, the founder, a fellow servant, to stand fast upon the inerrant Word of God, keeping the seminary lashed to our Savior's cross that all men might know Him," Smith said. "May God bless Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, the president, the faculty and the students to always remain true to the Lord Jesus Christ."

Patterson also displayed the Library of Centennial Classics, a series of 10 books, written by some of the brightest minds in Southwestern's history, such as B. H. Carroll, L. R. Scarborough, W. T. Connor and A. H. Newman. The set, available for order on the seminary's Web site, is bound



in blue hardback with a centennial stamp on the front of each book.

Kenneth Hemphill, the seventh president of the seminary and national strategist for the Southern Baptist Convention's Empowering Kingdom Growth initiative, acknowledged it was "good to be back home." Reading through John 17, Hemphill encouraged the crowd to be "kept and sanctified by the Word while in the world."

Hemphill acknowledged that students leave Southwestern to serve the Master "wherever it may lead," whether as pastors of small churches or mega-churches, or spending their last days in the grasp of a captor. He encouraged students to let "God advance His Kingdom, by His power, for His glory."

After lunch, alumni gathered in Truett Auditorium for a time of singing and testimonies from alumni. James Leo Garrett, distinguished professor emeritus in the School of Theology at Southwestern, represented graduates from the seminary's founding through 1965. Garrett, a noted Baptist historian, discussed the progression of the seminary's first 100 years. David Allen, current dean of the School of Theology, represented alumni 1966-1986 and recounted his life journey, which brought him to Southwestern as a student, and then as a trustee, and finally as a professor and dean.

Bart Barber, pastor of First Baptist Church of Farmersville, Texas, represented those graduating from 1987 to the present. "We live on the eve, I am convinced, of a great Baptist renaissance that is going to breathe vitality and confidence into our churches, as we proclaim the New Testament Gospel and plant New Testament

churches throughout the world," Barber said, adding, "Because of that, because of you, and because of so many other reasons, I am so proud to be a Southwesterner."

Following the alumni meeting, separate alumni receptions were held for each of the schools, where birthday cake was served and alumni were able to meet past and present faculty. Alumni, students and faculty members then gathered on the lawn in front of the B. H. Carroll Memorial Building, where they stood side-by-side to form the number "100" for an aerial photograph memorializing the seminary's Centennial Celebration.

Afterwards, an estimated 2,100 centennial celebrants sat down to a barbeque dinner on the West Lawn, while children enjoyed playing on bounce houses. Following the dinner, they were blessed by an evening of musical variety provided by the School of Church Music. The evening began with entertainment from New Sound and from pianist Don Wyrzten, professor of music at Southwestern. Seminary students Parker Webb, Justin Stone, Abby Caldwell, Preston Atwood and Andrew Pearle then performed Southern Gospel songs and hymns. Following their performance, Joe Hardin, associate professor of church music, led contemporary worship with the help of Southwestern student vocalists and members of the New Sound ensemble.

The festivities of the day concluded with an impressive fireworks show. Blasts exploded above the seminary's iconic Memorial Building, casting colorful lights into the clear night sky, and a final charge was given for Christians to shine the light of the Gospel into a darkened world. **SM**

SEMINARY CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL IN WESTERN FASHION

While “hats off” is usually the appropriate expression to acknowledge an accomplishment, “hats on” seemed to be a better match for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary’s centennial convocation, Jan. 17. To celebrate a century of theological training in Texas, the professors topped off their traditional attire with a not-so-traditional cowboy hat.

“Academic regalia in general is derived from medieval dress. Many of the hat designs reflect what was popular at that time,” said Craig Blaising, executive vice president and provost of the seminary. “As Southwestern celebrates its centennial, we felt it was appropriate to wear a hat that reflects the time and location of this great school: a beaver felt western hat—black, in keeping with formal academic tradition.”

After welcoming both new and returning students, trustees and guests, Blaising introduced a special guest. As darkness filled the chapel auditorium, a spotlight revealed a large replica of the portrait of the seminary’s founder and first

president, B. H. Carroll. What initially appeared to be a narrative voice soon developed into a drama presentation, as graduate student Matt Brandt, dressed to parallel the man in the portrait, stepped through the frame.

The dramatization re-created the meeting where Carroll proposed moving the seminary’s campus from Baylor University to Fort Worth. Seminary president Paige Patterson later revealed that this was the first of many performances to be presented throughout the year with the intention of educating students about the seminary’s history.

This chapel service, however, only marked the beginning of a two-year celebration of Southwestern’s centennial. On March 14, 1908, B. H. Carroll established the seminary on the campus of Baylor University, and he moved its campus to Seminary Hill in 1910. Throughout its 100-year history, more than 40,000 graduates have gone out from the seminary to serve in local churches and mission fields around the world. **SN**



AWARD RECIPIENT SHARES FOUNDER’S HEART FOR THE BIBLE

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary celebrated B. H. Carroll Day on March 13, with a special chapel service and awards banquet to honor the seminary’s founder and this year’s B. H. Carroll Award recipient. June Hunt, founder of Hope for the Heart ministries, accepted the award on behalf of her organization.

Hope For the Heart is a worldwide ministry committed to Christian discipleship and Bible-based counseling that features the award-winning radio broadcast by the same name heard daily in 25 countries. Hunt’s warmth, wisdom and wit reveal a real friend behind the microphone.

Hunt sang a song from one of her albums during the chapel service. Before singing, Hunt said, “Thank God for Southwestern, an institution that holds to the power of God’s Word. My words do not matter. Your words do not matter ... but His Word is sharper than a double-edged sword.”

Following the chapel service, the B. H. Carroll Award Luncheon was held in the Naylor Student Center. The B. H. Carroll Award is presented to friends of Southwestern who support the seminary and share a common vision for training men and women for ministry.

After receiving the award, Hunt again commended the use of the Bible in counseling, stating, “Truth sets people free.” When speaking to a non-Christian caller on her radio show, Hunt says, “I’m going to deal with what they called about, but

then I transition into salvation because there’s no sense in trying to put a band-aid on cancer.”

Hunt is also the author of *Biblical Counseling Keys*, the foundational book for the Biblical Counseling Institute for Hope, initiated by the Criswell College, where Hunt earned her master’s degree in counseling. Her ministry has recently endowed the Hope for the Heart Chair of Biblical Counseling at Southwestern.

Other special guests attended the chapel service, including the seminary’s seventh president, Kenneth Hemphill. Craig Blaising, executive vice president and provost, also announced the celebration would not be complete without a visit from Carroll himself, continuing the series of centennial dramas organized by Calvin Pearson, assistant dean for preaching and pastoral studies.

Master’s student Robert Ring portrayed Carroll as he explained his vision for Southwestern Seminary to his wife, Hallie. Emily Felts, a bachelor’s student playing Hallie, listened intently as Ring presented Carroll’s vision on a train to build a school in the Southwest to train young Baptist preachers.

In addition to honoring Carroll for establishing the seminary, current president Paige Patterson also acknowledged Carroll’s mother, who faithfully prayed for her son, though many said he had the “hardest of hearts” before his conversion. Continuing his message series from “The Sermon on the Mount,” Patterson challenged the crowd to engage in genuine prayer rather than letting prayer become “something believers do a lot of lip service about, but don’t do enough of.” **SN**

CAMPUS NEWS

Centennial Celebration





FIRST COLLEGE GRADUATING CLASS DISPLAYS "HEARTS OF FIRE AND HEADS OF WISDOM"

The College at Southwestern (CSW) began in 2005 with 77 students and one degree program. In the past three years, Southwestern has added 200 students who can select from seven concentrations within either the Bachelor of Arts in Humanities or Bachelor of Arts in Music. At this year's centennial graduation, 10 students made up the first graduating class of CSW. Andrew Pearle said coming to Southwestern "was the best decision I could have made. Now, I have an education that I trust and a theology that I can build upon without wondering if it is true or biblical."

Many have the misconception that students who attend a college at a seminary have never known anything besides Christianity, but that is not the case. Preston Atwood came to know Christ as his personal Savior just five years ago. Although he spent his childhood in Christian churches, during high school, his older cousin and uncle convinced him that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) was the one true church. His father forbade him to attend Mormon Bible studies and services and forced him to continue to attend church with his family, but Atwood studied his new religion on his own.

"For the next three years, I waded in a miserable swamp of confusion," Atwood remembers. "While my Mormon relatives encouraged me to look towards Christ as the perfect example of how I ought to live, I was hearing simultaneously at my parent's church how Christ lived the life that I could never live." After three months of fasting and intensely studying Christianity and Mormonism, Atwood turned away from LDS beliefs. He became burdened to study the Word of God, ultimately leading him to CSW.

Most of the graduating seniors admit that when they began their studies, they were overwhelmed with the academic expectations. However, their time here has transformed their priorities and philosophy of education. Brent Colee said the greatest thing he has gained at Southwestern is an appreciation of knowledge and learning. "I had never finished a book before attending Southwestern," he admitted. "But now, I cannot stop reading."

While the students were overwhelmed at times with the amount of reading, the parents were more surprised by the content of their assignments, including readings from Plato and the Koran. Vernon Burger points out "how important it is to study the original sources ... to see how people truly think." Instead of causing the students to waver in their faith, it has guided them closer to His truth.

A favorite work mentioned by several seniors was *Pensees* by Blaise Pascal. Kyle Fowler says this text has increased his boldness in sharing the



Gospel and inspired his passion "to reach those on their way to death and eternal separation from God." Another favored book was *Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan. Max Stabenow describes the book as "an excellent witnessing tool. It communicates the journey of the Christian walk with amazing integrity and character development."

These 10 seniors have built friendships with one another that will last beyond the separate directions they are going after graduation. Daria Bertch, who plans to begin work on a master's degree in occupational therapy, will miss "the amazing people, both professors and friends" the most. Jennifer Stanczyk said that as she works on her certification to teach in the public school system during this next year, she will "continually praise God for this college and for professors who challenged me daily about the beliefs I hold."

Outside the classroom, each CSW student is required to go on an international mission trip before they graduate. As a result, four of the seniors have been called to missions. Spencer Bolduc either plans to enroll in Southwestern's Jump Start program, where he will spend the first two years of his master's degree on the mission field, or participate in the International Mission Board's (IMB) Journeyman program.

Burger and his wife will continue the ministry they started together, speaking around the country and traveling to Sudan. Stabenow and his wife have applied to work with the North American

Mission Board (NAMB) and help with a church plant in Arizona this summer. Tim Wheeless, who is leading a mission trip to Zimbabwe this summer, said, "The world is bigger than my hometown, and there is a world of ideas that needs to be explored and charted."

As a final piece of advice to the first graduating class, Emir Caner, dean of CSW said, "Never stop sharpening your weapon. If this curriculum challenged you in the reading of many pagan and Christian works and yet you do not have the intense desire to continue to develop your knowledge of worldviews and biblical distinctives, we have failed. If you continue to use and sharpen the tools with which you have been equipped, we have succeeded."

While not all of the students have finalized their plans for next year, four have decided to further their education before heading into ministry. Atwood, Fowler, Pearle, and Wheeless all plan to remain at Southwestern to pursue a Master of Divinity, while Burger will work toward a Master of Arts in Islamic studies.

This diverse group's future goals range from the pulpit to the Team Impact crusades. The college's goals can be summed up in the following statement: "The mission, no matter what your academic pursuit, is to create effective witnesses for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The College at Southwestern will prepare you to live with a heart full of fire and head full of the wisdom of God." **SN**



SOUTHWESTERN GRADUATES CHALLENGED TO TAKE UP GOSPEL-CENTERED SERVICE

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary celebrated its spring graduation service in centennial fashion, May 9. Hundreds of guests, students, and faculty members gathered on the lawn in front of the B. H. Carroll Memorial Building "as a salute to all of those who have gone before and made an immeasurable contribution" to the seminary. In honor of the seminary's western heritage, faculty members traded in their academic caps for black, beaver felt cowboy hats.

During this spring 2008 commencement service, the seminary conferred degrees on 239 students from 26 states and 12 countries, including Korea, Indonesia, Zimbabwe, and Germany. In a last word to these students, President Paige Patterson pointed to the heart of service displayed by the seminary's founder, B. H. Carroll, and ultimately by Jesus Christ. He urged graduates to leave Southwestern not with the desire for a career and financial gain but with the desire to serve and proclaim the Gospel. As they go into the world to fulfill this call, they will face many trials, but Patterson reminded them of God's faithfulness.

"Sometimes the mountains may seem insurmountable," Patterson said. "Sometimes it will seem as though the wall cannot be breached, but remember that all things are possible with God."

Southwestern Seminary honored two retiring faculty members by inviting them to take part in the commencement service. Siegfried Schatzmann, professor of New Testament, led in the reading of scripture, and Robert H. Welch, dean of the School of Educational Ministries, delivered the benediction.

The seminary also invited parents of graduates to participate in the ceremony. James Caldwell, senior pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Saint Albans, W.Va., led the invocation. He is the father of Master of Divinity graduate James W. Caldwell II. Tom Vann, associate professor of pastoral ministry, presented master's degrees to his daughter, Audrea (Vann) Medina, his son-in-law, Jeffrey Medina, and his daughter-in-law, Heather Vann.

Bob Pearle, pastor of Birchman Baptist Church of Fort Worth, Texas, delivered a prayer of commissioning after graduates received their diplomas. He is the father of Andrew C. Pearle, who graduated with the Bachelor of Arts in Humanities from the College at Southwestern. Additionally, David Bertch, professor of humanities in the College at Southwestern, received the honor of presenting his daughter, Daria, with her diploma for the Bachelor of Arts in Humanities. **SN**

TRAVEL

OPPORTUNITIES

AND MISSION TRIPS

HERE ARE THE LATEST OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE WORLD MISSIONS CENTER AND THE TRAVELING SCHOLAR OFFICE TO EARN CLASS CREDIT WHILE TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE NATIONS. CREDIT IS AVAILABLE FOR BOTH SEMINARY AND COLLEGE STUDENTS, SO DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED IN 2008-09.

EGYPT: EXPLORING THE EXODUS

- December 28, 2008 - January 11, 2009
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- Hosted by Drs. Eric Mitchell and Steven Ortiz
- For details, contact the Traveling Scholar Office at 817.923.1921, ext. 6832.

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- Winter term
- For details, contact the Traveling Scholar Office at 817.923.1921, ext. 6832.

ZAMBIA, AFRICA

- Dates: June 3 - 20, 2008
- Purpose: Evangelism and pastoral training among African tribal peoples in eastern Zambia along with some urban evangelism work in the capital city.
- 3 credit hours available

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- Dates: July 9 - 28, 2008
- Purpose: Ministry among Buddhists, Muslims, and Hill tribe peoples in a unique jungle environment.
- 6 credit hours available in each of 2 sets of classes.



'EXPULSED' PROFESSOR FINDS A HOME AT SOUTHWESTERN

A controversial documentary released nationwide on April 18 could foster a cultural shift “equivalent to the fall of the Berlin Wall,” says William Dembski, research professor of philosophy at Southwestern Seminary.

The seminary hosted a private screening of the director's fine cut of *Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed* in the seminary's Ray I. Riley Center on March 3. In the film, host Ben Stein tracks down scholars who have been criticized—or “expelled”—by the academic community for their support of intelligent design (ID), a research program that flies in the face of Darwinism.

“This film exposes the hypocrisy of an academic and cultural elite who pretend that they value freedom of inquiry and expression but in fact suppress it when it clashes with their deeply held materialistic convictions,” said Dembski, who is one of the leading ID scholars featured in the documentary. He and other proponents of ID have suggested that the universe shows signs of having been designed by some intelligent being.

Dembski appears in *Expelled* to discuss background information on ID. He is also among the “expelled,” who “have had their careers and livelihoods assaulted for advocating ID.” In 2000, he was relieved of his post as director of Baylor University's Michael Polanyi Center for Complexity, Information and Design, and this center, which he founded, was closed. However, Dembski found a home at Southwestern Seminary in 2006, where he continues to defend ID. Most recently, he co-authored and edited *The Design of Life*, a comprehensive survey of the field, which he recommended to those interested in the further study of ID.

According to Dembski, many fields of study involve intelligent design, including archaeology, forensics, and the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI). An archaeologist, for example, examines the evidence—like a curiously shaped stone—to determine whether it might be the product of a human intelligence.

“These sciences, however, are uncontroversial because any intelligence detected through them

could be an ‘evolved’ intelligence,” Dembski said. “Most of the action with ID, on the other hand, centers in biology, so that any intelligence involved with the emergence of living things is likely to be an ‘unevolved’ intelligence. ID therefore challenges materialistic theories of evolution, such as Darwinism.”

Unlike creationism, however, ID does not begin with the Genesis account of creation, nor do its proponents attempt to describe the nature of the intelligence that designed the universe. Despite this fact, Dembski noted, “ID is friendly to Christian theism in a way that materialistic forms of evolution never have been.”

“One of the biggest obstacles to people coming to Christ in Western culture is the impression that science has disproved the Bible and Christianity,” he said. “ID therefore helps to correct this false impression by showing that our best science supports belief in a higher intelligence responsible for life. ID does not give you the Christian God as such, but it puts you in the right ballpark.” **SN**

HAVARD SCHOOL HOSTED INTELLIGENT DESIGN DEBATE AT REGIONAL ETS CONFERENCE

Leading scholars debated the value of intelligent design at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's J. Dalton Havard School for Theological Studies in Houston, March 28-29.

The debate was held in conjunction with the Southwest Regional Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) at the Havard School. The conference's theme was “Natural Revelation, Natural Law, and Design in the Cosmos.” Professors from Southwestern joined the field of scholars from several seminaries and colleges to present papers during breakout sessions at the regional ETS meeting.

John Laing, program chair of the Southwest Regional ETS and assistant professor of theology and philosophy at the Havard School, said that the debate involved high-stakes issues.

“The protections of the first amendment loom large, as do the nature of truth and the meaning of science,” he said. “While opponents of intelligent design argue that it is simply religious creationism ‘in a cheap tuxedo,’ proponents of

intelligent design argue that the philosophical naturalism which drives the opposition is equated with metaphysical naturalism. There is an atheistic assumption behind the teaching of Darwinism in public schools, but this is never admitted. Thus, to a large extent, these debates impact the kind of education children in our country will receive. It is our concern that it includes an atheistic base that violates the first amendment.”

The debate featured William Dembski, research professor of philosophy at Southwestern Seminary, who is among the leading proponents of intelligent design. He and other proponents of intelligent design suggest that the universe shows signs of having been designed by some intelligent being. Dembski presented the case for design during the two plenary sessions at ETS. Leading intelligent design critic Niall Shanks, distinguished professor of history and the philosophy of science at Wichita State University, countered Dembski's presentation.

“The timing of this conference could not have been better,” Laing said. Intelligent design, he explained, has triggered widespread debate since 2004-2005, when it played a central role in a federal court case, *Kitzmiller vs. Board of Education*, in Dover, Pa. In the case, the Dover Area School District was challenged for presenting intelligent design as an alternative to evolution for explaining the cause of life. He said that he expects the April 18 release of *Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed*, a documentary exploring the persecution of scholars who support the intelligent design movement, will once again fuel the debate.

Laing added that the conference was especially appropriate to the Houston area due to a unique exhibit at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. The exhibit, called “Lucy's Legacy: The Hidden Treasures of Ethiopia,” features the skeleton of “Lucy,” supposed by scientists to be a 3.2 million-year-old ancestor of the human race. **SN**



STUDENT PREACHES IN SOUTHWESTERN'S CHAPEL SERVICE

Master of Divinity student Brent Thomason preached during Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's chapel service, April 29.

Thomason was chosen to preach from among other master's level students enrolled in preaching classes during the fall 2007 and spring 2008 semesters. Preaching faculty at the seminary selected Thomason based upon the excellence of his sermon preparation and delivery in class.

According to David Allen, dean of the School of Theology, the Student Preaching Day not only recognizes capable preaching students by letting them speak before their peers, but it also "fosters genuine expository preaching." Training students to deliver expository sermons is "what we are about here at Southwestern," he said. Allen noted that Thomason displays "an exuberance, a passion, for expository preaching."

"He has a real devotion himself to expositing the meaning of the text in preaching," Allen said. "He is very committed to that. Letting the structure of the text drive the structure of the sermon—he is very committed to that."

The preaching faculty also selected Master of Divinity student Jared Vineyard as the runner-up for the Student Preaching Day. In recognition of his achievement in preaching classes over the past two semesters, he was invited to lead in prayer during the chapel service. **SN**



40TH ANNUAL YML CALLS STUDENTS TO BE OVERWHELMED

Southwestern Seminary's 40th annual Youth Ministry Lab (YML) called student ministers and youth from across the United States to be overwhelmed by God's majesty, April 4-5.

YML is recognized as one of the premier national training events for student ministry, aimed at training student ministers, volunteers, parents, and youth. This year's theme was Overwhelmed: Humbled in His Presence, which keynote speaker Francis Chan acknowledged as the biggest challenge in youth ministry today. "We tend to teach students not to do bad sins, which paints such a small picture of God. They need to be overwhelmed by Him."

Chan said his passion is to see the next generation display a much deeper love for Jesus. "Our theology and our reality are so far apart that it sets us up for ridicule," he said, challenging students to live what they believe.

If these youth "become overwhelmed with who God is, awed by His presence, they are going to be really excited to see God begin to reveal His presence in their high schools and their churches," Johnny Derouen, associate professor of student ministry, said. "And they won't settle for less. And they will ask God, 'You may not move, but we are

not going to quit asking ... Give me my school, or I can't live. Do something that can't be explained by good planning or a good youth ministry. Do something that can only be credited to the moving of Your Spirit.'"

Since it began in 1968, YML has been completely organized by Southwestern students and staff. This year, nearly 100 seminary students helped to plan and carry out the events at YML. According to co-leaders Jeff Black, a Master of Arts in marriage and family counseling student, and Clay Thomas, a Master of Arts in Christian education student, the highlight of this year's event was the Reality Revival Experience on Saturday.

During the Reality Revival Experience students caught a glimpse of elements that have been present in past times of revival. "Although we can't make God move, there are things we can do to show God that we want Him to move," Black said. Thomas added, "We want students to realize they can be the generation that changes our world."

These sessions allowed youth to see how true revival would affect their daily lives, whether at home, at school, or in their devotional lives. The Reality Revival Experience also provided time for personal reflection and prayer, as well as worship. **SN**

PRAISE RESOUNDS AT FIFTH ANNUAL GALA CONCERT

More than 1,200 worshippers lifted their voices to praise God during Southwestern Seminary's fifth annual Gala Concert of Sacred Music at the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall, April 3.

"The ministry of music to touch the hearts of men and women has been the goal of the School of Church Music for over 93 years," Stephen Johnson, dean of the School of Church Music, said. "This last Gala Concert of Sacred Music was able to do that very thing."

Southwestern's Master Chorale joined the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra to lead the audience in hymns such as "How Firm a Foundation" and "To God Be the Glory." In keeping with the tradition of the event, the evening was closed with the singing of Handel's "Messiah." The concert featured performances from the chorale and orchestra, conducted by seminary professor David Thye, and from special guests, the Annie Moses Band.

"I'm so pleased that the Gala gives the audience the opportunity to join together singing songs and hymns of praise and worship during the concert," Thye said. "What a wonderful spirit of joy and fervor for the Lord was experienced as we sang together! Finally, I'm honored to be a part of this ongoing celebration that gives Southwestern Seminary the opportunity to reach out to the Fort Worth community and greater Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex for the glory of Christ Jesus, our Lord." SM



TRUSTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

FALL MEETING – OCT. 15-17

Statement of support: In light of recent public attacks, trustees unanimously approved a statement of affirmation in support of President and Mrs. Paige Patterson. The statement emphasized Patterson's integrity and openness and called for the attacks to cease, citing that they are a poor witness to a lost world.

Increase in net worth: Mark Sheldon, director of financial services at Southwestern, announced a \$33 million net gain in assets as he guided the trustees through the annual audit of financial statements.

Highest enrollment in five years: Southwestern has experienced consistent growth in enrollment for the second consecutive fall. This enrollment is the highest in five years.

Additional student housing: Approval was granted for the construction of four "quad" apartment buildings along Townsend Road.

New faculty members (effective Jan. 1, 2008):

- **Waylan Owens** as associate professor of pastoral ministry in the School of Theology
- **Cky Carrigan** as associate professor of evangelism in the Roy J. Fish School of Evangelism and Missions

SPRING MEETING – APRIL 7-9

New faculty members (effective Aug. 1, 2008):

- **S. Aaron Son** as professor of New Testament in the School of Theology
- **Laura Zettler** as assistant professor of homemaking in the College at Southwestern
- **Herbert W. Bateman IV** as professor of New Testament in the School of Theology

Tenured professor: Trustees approved the tenure of Ian Jones, assistant dean in the School of Educational Ministries' division of psychology and counseling and director of the Baptist Marriage and Family Counseling Center.

Faculty promotions:

- **Scott Floyd** was promoted from associate professor to professor of psychology and counseling.
- **Margaret Lawson** was promoted from assistant professor to associate professor of foundations of education.
- **Marcia McQuitty** was promoted from associate professor to professor of children's ministry
- **Lyndel Vaught** was promoted from associate professor to professor of church music.

New Board of Trustees officers elected: Dr. John Mark Caton (president); Geoffrey Kolander (vice-chairman); Harlan Lee (secretary)

Homemaking House: The groundbreaking for the Horner Homemaking House, an instructional facility and student housing for the seminary's homemaking concentration, will occur soon. All funds have been secured for the project.

New student housing update: The new student housing project has received some redesigns due to building codes. Instead of the original plan of having four quad units, totaling 16 apartments, the new plan provides three units with six apartments each, totaling 18 apartments. Current projections have the units being completed by January 2009.

Book Donation: Trustee Mike Boyd (Tenn.) presented every trustee with a free copy of the biography *Bill Wallace of China*. Boyd, who is pastor of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church in Knoxville, Tenn., is also donating a copy of the book to every student at Southwestern. For every copy of the newly reprinted book that is sold, a New Testament translated into Mandarin will be sent to China.

For more complete news releases associated with these meetings, please visit www.swbts.edu and click on "News Releases" from the "News & Info" menu. SM

SOUTHWESTERN STUDENTS RESPOND TO GREAT COMMISSION URGENCY

Global Missions Week, Feb. 4-8, challenged students and faculty to listen for God's plan to determine their role in international missions. The urgency to take the Gospel to the nations energized the campus through chapel messages from leadership at the International Mission Board (IMB), opportunities for students to talk with IMB missionaries, and a concluding worship time at the World Missions Center on campus.

Tom Elliff, IMB senior vice president for spiritual nurture and church relations, pled with students in his chapel message on Feb. 5 to heed the call of God, whatever it may be. He said that some are called to go overseas, others are called to help mobilize missionaries, and others are called to pray or give in order to support missions.

"The call to missions is really the call to go into your place of opportunity, the place for which you are perfectly suited, the place God has prepared for you, the place where your life and your energies will count the most," Elliff said.

Elliff invited those who would be open to whatever God wanted to say to them about world missions to come down to the front of the chapel. Nearly every seat was empty as students and faculty flooded the altar. More than 80 students filled out response cards, pledging some type of missionary involvement.

Testimonies of students' calls to missions surfaced throughout the week. Many who were already called to international missions received clarity about the specific location where God wants them to serve, including dangerous areas such as Pakistan and North Korea. Recognizing the risks involved, these students value God's call over their safety.

Southwestern students were not the only students affected during Global Missions Week. In preparation for the week, students prayed for believers around the Metroplex to answer God's call to plant churches overseas. Tuesday afternoon, a female student from the University of Texas at Arlington felt God confirming in her heart that she was supposed to serve in China. After calling the World Missions Center, she came to campus on Wednesday and met with World Missions Center Associate Director Art Savage.

"She is clearly called to China, and she is an example of how we all need to respond to His call with a sense of urgency," Savage confirmed. "And praise the Lord that she knew to call Southwestern because we can certainly help her with this."

IMB President Jerry Rankin confirmed Southwestern's emphasis on missions in Wednesday's chapel service. "We are so grateful for the encouragement and partnership of Southwestern," Rankin said. "Global Missions Week isn't a unique occasion, but global missions permeates every class, every discipline, and every chapel. There is a constant awareness, not only in praying for and supporting missionaries, but mobilizing students to go out and touch a lost world." SN



Global Missions Week

SOUTHWESTERN TO OFFER NEW LOW PRICE FOR ONLINE EDUCATION

Have you ever wanted to take a few theology classes, but knew you could not yet move to seminary? Perhaps you already finished your degree but are still looking to further your education. Southwestern Seminary's administration has announced that the per-credit-hour price for online classes will drop from \$408 to \$173 in the 2008-2009 academic year for SBC students.

Thomas White, vice president for student services and communications, said, "At Southwestern, we are continually seeking to fulfill our commitment to education in the local church. By lowering the cost of our online classes, it is possible for those who cannot move to a seminary campus to engage in the highest quality biblical training at an affordable price."

For more information on how to apply and all applicable fees, please contact the office of Admissions at 1-800-SWBTS-01 or visit our Web site at www.swbts.edu. SN

ARCHAEOLOGY PROFESSOR RECEIVES SWCRS GRANT

Eric Mitchell, assistant professor of Old Testament and archaeology at Southwestern Seminary, was awarded a Junior Scholar Grant during the meeting of the Southwest Commission on Religious Studies, March 15.

The grant, given annually to up-and-coming scholars in biblical studies, will advance work on the Tel Gezer Regional Survey Project. Since 2007, Mitchell has led the research for the project alongside co-directors Steven Ortiz, associate professor of archaeology and biblical backgrounds, and Sam Wolff of the Israeli Antiquities Authority.

"It's a great encouragement to me," Mitchell said, noting that the grant will provide necessary equipment for the project. He also expressed gratitude for the support from Southwestern Seminary: "The survey would not get done if it were not for the school's support."

Ortiz expressed his excitement that Mitchell received a "competitive grant" and recognition from his peers. He also said that Mitchell's research "is important for reconstructing ancient society during the Old Testament period." SN

SCHOLARS WELCOMED DURING DAY-HIGGINBOTHAM AND DRUMWRIGHT LECTURES

Southwestern Seminary welcomed two respected scholars to its campus during the Day-Higginbotham Lectures and the Huber L. Drumwright Lectures this spring.

During the Day-Higginbotham lectures, Reformation and Anabaptist historian Abraham Friesen said, "Political intervention in the early years of the Reformation transformed the entire movement and forced the Reformers either to revise their early positions or face, like the Anabaptists, a future filled with persecution."

New Testament scholar Richard Bauckham, during the Drumwright Lectures, pointed out that the Gospels are unique in ancient literature because they mention "the really poor, the destitute, the beggars." Some of these beggars, like Bartimaeus in Mark's Gospel, even have names. The Gospel writers mention the names of such minor, and sometimes lowly, characters because they were the eyewitnesses who passed down the events recounted in the Gospels. Bauckham based these lectures on his book, *Jesus and the Eyewitnesses: The Gospels as Eyewitness Testimony*. SN

STUDENTS AND PASTORS CHALLENGED TO 'PREACH THE WORD'

Paul's charge to Timothy to "Preach the Word" reverberated in every session of the fourth annual Expository Preaching Workshop, Feb. 25-26. Steven Smith, assistant professor of preaching and James T. Draper Jr. Chair of Pastoral Ministry at Southwestern, discussed the current obsession with styles of worship and how it affects the way many preach.

Smith outlined the difference between text-centered sermons and text-driven sermons. In text-centered preaching, he said, "The preacher takes a text of Scripture and all the points of the sermon come from the text, but it is not driven by the structure of the text." In contrast, text-driven preaching allows the substance, structure and style of the text to dictate one's preaching. For example, if the structure of the text is inductive, then the sermon should take on an inductive structure.

Alan Streett, W. A. Criswell Chair of Expository Preaching at the Criswell College in Dallas, Texas, and author of *The Effective Invitation*, challenged conference participants to plan out the invitation as part of the sermon. "The invitation is the conclusion of an evangelistic message," Streett said.

Also featured during the workshop were President Paige Patterson; David Allen, dean of Southwestern's School of Theology; Calvin Pearson, assistant dean for preaching and pastoral studies; Jerry Vines, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla.; and John Meador, pastor of First Baptist Church of Eules, Texas. SN



Preview Conference

PREVIEW CONFERENCE OFFERS A SNEAK PEAK OF SOUTHWESTERN

Nearly 150 prospective students and guests from across the nation gathered at Southwestern Seminary for its annual Preview Conference, April 24-25.

The conference gave “prospective students a chance to experience Southwestern, and by that, I mean the standard of excellence in education, the level of community, and the commitment to worship,” Adam Groza, director of admissions, said. “Our ultimate goal is that they sense God’s will, and that they understand and hopefully come in line with our commitment to evangelism, preaching, and missions.”

During the conference, prospective students toured the Southwestern campus and student housing and were able to hear from the deans of each school at the seminary. They also enjoyed student life at its peak during an all-campus picnic with Southwestern faculty members, staff, and current students. In a Lion’s Den session, President Paige Patterson, School of Theology Dean David Allen, and College Dean Emir Caner entertained questions from conference participants. **SN**

CENTER FOR CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT TO BE ESTABLISHED ON CAMPUS

Southwestern’s Board of Trustees agreed to partner with the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention to establish the Richard Land Center for Cultural Engagement on its Fort Worth campus. The center will provide a location for focused research, conferences, and the study of Christian morality and action.

“Religious liberty is under attack today in our own country, where we never thought it would be,” said Patterson. The partnership will pave the way for individuals across America to have the opportunity to study and research ethics, public policy and other cultural and philosophical issues. Details for the opening and function of the center will be discussed in the future, and the boards will combine their efforts to secure funding for the venture.

Richard Land has served as the president of the ERLC since 1988 and has been a representative for Southern Baptist and evangelicals’ concerns before Congress, U.S. presidents, and the media. The ERLC is an agency of the SBC and focuses on the effects that social and moral concerns have on public policy issues. **SN**

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EUGENE FLORENCE

Eugene Florence began taking classes at Southwestern Seminary in 1943 when he was 39 years old. As he attended classes at night twice a week, Florence pastored churches in Decatur and Granbury, Texas, on the weekends and spent his weekdays working construction and at an iron company. He also picked up any odd job that came along to help support his wife and four children. After eight years of this exhausting schedule, Florence was awarded a diploma in theology in 1951.

Hardship has been a regular occurrence in Florence's life. The program in which he was enrolled at Southwestern was called Negro Extensions. These classes were taught off campus or in the basement of the seminary by volunteer faculty members or advanced students at night only. "We weren't even allowed to be seen," Florence acknowledged.

Florence also recalls being rejected to serve as a chaplain in the U.S. Army during World War II because he was over 40 years old and had four children at home. Since then, he has buried three of his children. It is also still painful for him to talk about his first wife, his children's mother, whom he married at age 17. She died from an infection that could easily be treated with common antibiotics today.

However, Florence has maintained a Christ-like attitude throughout his life's trials. In fact, he shared the Gospel with a man the police arrested for stealing some of his property. He also never thought it was unfair that he was unable to take classes during the day like the Caucasian students. "I just thought that was the way it operated," Florence said. "I just attended regularly for eight years."

After completing his diploma, Florence continued to preach on the weekends. In the 1960s, he began a career as a janitor during the week at Texas Christian University. He became a well-known figure on the campus, working until he was 89 years old.

During the 2004 fall graduation ceremony, President Patterson acknowledged that when the Southern Baptist Convention began in 1845, our Baptist fathers had many things right. "But they made one tragic mistake. With regard to race, our convention took a very sad position that was unbiblical, ungodly, and un-Christian in every way. ... It is one thing to make a bad mistake. It's another thing to never come to the point where you say, 'We were wrong,'" Patterson said during the ceremony.

In 2004, Southwestern faculty and trustees were able to verify from Florence's records that the coursework he completed actually qualified him for a master's degree rather than merely a diploma in theology. On Dec. 10, 2004, at the fall graduation ceremony, seminary president Paige



Patterson presented Florence with his new degree, which he had earned so many years before.


"I must have given out thousands of degrees so far, being president of three different institutions," Patterson said. "But I've never had quite as much fun giving a degree as I did today."

Florence is still able to drive himself and preaches whenever he is asked. "As long as he keeps me living, I'm going to trust Him and preach the Gospel whenever I can." In February 2006, Florence returned to Southwestern to speak in the seminary's chapel service. At age 102, he preached God's Word with a strong voice and made effective use of illustration and humor.

Students who heard Florence that day call him "an inspiration," an encouragement to see his "total commitment to do the will of God," and "a

reminder that in times of trouble, we must keep faith in Jesus Christ."

While some think preaching at his age is miraculous, Florence says the answer is simple. "Obedience is what the Lord requires," he said. "Be obedient, and the Lord will add to your days. The disobedient, the Bible says, will be cut off from the land."

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has chosen Florence to receive a Distinguished Alumni Award for 2008. They are planning to take Florence with them to the Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis, Ind., this June. At 104 years old, Florence will experience his first flight in an airplane and attend his first Convention. 

2008 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

By Michelle Myers

GARY MOORE

Though Gary Moore is a native of Houston, Texas, he traveled around the world before ending up serving in his hometown as senior associate pastor of Second Baptist Church. Before returning home to take this position in August of 1981, Moore served in churches in both Texas and Louisiana.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in applied music from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Moore headed to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary to pursue a master's degree of church music in conducting.

Moore chose to attend Southwestern because of the reputation and high academic standards of the School of Church Music. While he was a student, Moore served in various area churches and sang with Southwestern Singers, Southwestern Men's Chorus, and the Oratorio Chorus.

The faculty's educational professionalism combined with a true love of the students made a lasting impression on Moore, which is something he strives to emulate in his own ministry. Moore remembers that one of his professors, Evelyn Philips, drove 55 miles the Sunday after his senior recital to encourage him and express her pleasure in the quality of the recital. According to Moore, this act is "representative of the lengths to which the faculty will go to personally encourage students."

Moore still serves at Second Baptist Church of Houston. In addition to touring with his church choir around Texas, he has led choir tours around the United States and the world. He has also given this opportunity to the youth by leading international mission trips with the youth choir to Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and South America.

Moore's musical abilities have opened doors for him in many music genres and venues. The contributions he has made include composing music and lyrics for more than 200 songs. One of his most well-known works is "The Throne" with Michael W. Smith, featured on one of Smith's albums and later voted "Song of the Year" by *Gospel Music Magazine*. He has also written, produced, and directed 13 original musicals.

Furthermore, Moore wrote the musical score for *A Candle In The Darkness*, a film on the life of William Carey produced by Gateway Films. He has conducted and recorded with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Houston Symphony Orchestra, and the Fort Worth Opera Company.

Gary and his wife Kristen enjoy spending time together and investing in the lives of their talented children. Joshua, a writer, musician, and producer, is also a member of the contemporary



worship band Caedmon's Call. Ashlea is a senior at Baylor University and a model with the Neil Hamil Agency.

Moore remains excited with the Lord's work being done at his alma mater. "Today, Southwestern continues to uphold the highest standards of scholarship, but it does so at the foot of the cross," Moore said. "Southwestern pursues its academic

goals with the humility of the Master its students, faculty, and alumni serve.

"The plans for expansion in the immediate future in terms of curriculum and facilities under Dr. Patterson's capable and fervent leadership will result in the greatest days the seminary has ever known in preparing leaders to win a lost and dying world for Jesus Christ." **SM**

TOM ELLIFF

Dr. Tom Elliff has faithfully served Southern Baptists in various roles for more than four decades. A third generation pastor, Elliff has led several churches, including 20 years of service at First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Oklahoma. As a pastor, he was active in denominational life, serving as the president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Pastors' Conference and president of the SBC for two terms. He has also been chairman of the Southern Baptist Council on Family Life and led in a variety of association and state convention responsibilities.

Elliff and his wife, Jeannie, served a brief stint as missionaries in Zimbabwe with the International Mission Board. In 2005, Elliff left his position in Oklahoma to serve as Senior Vice President for Spiritual Nurture and Church Relations for the IMB. Today, Elliff uses his role to teach and nurture missionaries, mentor IMB staff, and relate to Southern Baptist pastors and churches.

In addition to his service in the local church, denominational life and world missions, Elliff also makes significant contributions to continuing education. Elliff was a key speaker at Southwestern's 2007 Baptist Distinctives Series, *The Family: Reclaiming a Biblical View of the Family, Womanhood and Manhood*. He received a bachelor's degree from Ouachita Baptist University, a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The author of nine books, his publications include *A Passion for Prayer: Experiencing Deeper Intimacy with God* and *Unbreakable: Seven Pillars of a Kingdom Family*. Elliff is a well-known speaker for conferences and crusades around the world, as well as a frequent guest on Christian television programming.

Elliff's favorite activities include traveling with his wife and spending time with their four children and 23 grandchildren. He loves being outdoors, whether golfing, fishing, hunting, or gardening. He also enjoys reading biographical and historical accounts, as well as writing for inspiration and entertainment.

Anxious to put into practice what he was being taught in his classes while at Southwestern, Elliff served as pastor of Vickery Baptist Church in Dallas and First Baptist Church of Mansfield. Elliff said, "I profited immensely from the teaching and personal interaction with such renowned professors as Roy Fish, William Tolar, Cal Guy, Jack Gray, and Larry Walker, to name but a few.



Their academic expertise, coupled with their personal warmth and walk with God, left an indelible stamp on my life."

Elliff considers Southwestern to be an institution that is willing to "pay the high cost and sacrifice that is necessary for genuine effectiveness. I am confident that Southwestern's influence exceeds the grandest imagination."

When Elliff was on campus in February, during Southwestern's Global Missions Week, he

challenged students in chapel to be open to whatever God wanted to say to them about world missions. "The call to missions is really the call to go into your place of opportunity, the place for which you are perfectly suited, the place God has prepared for you, the place where your life and your energies will count the most," Elliff said. In response, more than 80 students pledged some type of missionary involvement. **SN**

By Keith Collier

FIRST CHAIR OF STEWARDSHIP INAUGURATED AND INSTALLED

In an age of consumerism, wisdom is needed to aid people in investing their time, money, and energies into worthwhile endeavors. Believing that humans are merely stewards of the gifts God gives them, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has inaugurated and installed the first designated chair of stewardship in a Southern Baptist seminary.

"It is a great privilege to inaugurate and to install a chair in a pioneering vision of teaching and training not just the people generally but the pastors for the churches and ministers in the churches for a vital area of church ministry," said Craig Blasing, executive vice president and provost of the seminary.

Scott Preissler, professor of stewardship at Southwestern Seminary, was installed into the Bobby L. and Janis Eklund Chair of Stewardship during the seminary's chapel service, Nov. 7. The faculty wore full regalia and many special guests were present in honor of the inauguration and installation.

President Paige Patterson delivered the message during the service and said the story of Achan's sin in Joshua 7 illustrates the severity of stealing from God. After miraculously delivering Israel from Egypt, God promised to give the possessions of the cities to them. The only requirement was that the first city they conquered, Jericho, was to be devoted to God. According to the passage, the nation was cursed because Achan stole some of the treasures and hid them in his tent. It ultimately cost him and his family their lives.

The basis of Achan's sin was not God's need for Jericho's wealth, Patterson said, adding, "God exists in and of Himself with no help from the outside, and as a result, everything in creation is His. God doesn't have need of anything." Despite this truth, he said, failure to tithe is stealing from God. Tithing is the biblical prescription of giving 10 percent of one's income to his local church.

Patterson then addressed the question of why tithing is necessary. Tithing, he said, "is a decision between human greed and human gratitude." It recognizes the grace of God, allows Christians to cooperate and achieve greater things, and breaks them out of the sinful pattern of greed.

Patterson disagreed with the position that tithing was a matter of the law and is no longer applicable in the age of grace. He differentiated between ceremonial and moral law in the Old Testament. Christ fulfilled the ceremonial law, so it is no longer necessary. Moral laws, he said, "are always enforced because the moral law grows out of the nature of God Himself."

After his message, Patterson conducted the official inauguration and installation of the chair of stewardship. He praised Eklund for his years of service and said, "Nobody I know has been more consistent at wedding together the causes




of evangelism and biblical stewardship than Bobby Eklund."

Eklund has served in ministry for 55 years and is the president of Eklund Stewardship Ministries, which serves churches through developing capital fund campaigns. Additionally, he serves as the stewardship consultant for the Southern Baptist of Texas Convention and as a part-time professor of church stewardship and development for Luther Rice Seminary.

After pastoring churches in Texas for 30 years, Eklund joined the evangelism division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and in 1991, he became the director of the Church Stewardship Department. Under his leadership, the department raised approximately \$250 million for church building projects.

Preissler is director of the Center for Biblical Stewardship located at Southwestern Seminary, which is the official, authorized provider of certified

stewardship continuing education units (CEUs) by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training. According to Preissler, the center has onloan the largest stewardship library, stewardship-related art, and Christian giving artifact collections in the world and makes available new stewardship resources through its Internet delivery system.

Preissler was dean and founder of The Meyer Institute for Stewardship Leadership, which trains more than 200 leaders per year in stewardship studies. He has a bachelor's degree in business and ministry leadership from Taylor University in Indiana, a Master of Science in higher education leadership and a Master of Arts in philanthropic studies and nonprofit leadership from Indiana University, and a Ph.D. in stewardship studies and nonprofit leadership from Union Institute & University in Cincinnati, Ohio. 



ALUMNUS DONATES BOOK WITH B. H. CARROLL INSCRIPTION

Mike Tignor, a two-time graduate of Southwestern and pastor of First Baptist Church in Midwest City, Okla., donated a one-of-a-kind book to the B. H. Carroll collection in Southwestern's historical archives, March 20.

The book, H. C. Vedder's classic *Short History of the Baptists*, has a handwritten personal note from B. H. Carroll dated March 25, 1909. The note, written on a flyleaf in the book, describes Christ's Kingdom and the autonomy of individual churches. Additionally, handwritten comments and corrections are found throughout the book.

Tignor felt it was only appropriate in honor of Southwestern's centennial year to "donate this book to the institution that so blessed my life and ministry during my two degree experiences." **SN**



Dr. L. Russ Bush III

SOUTHWESTERN MOURNS THE PASSING OF BAPTIST PROFESSOR, AUTHOR & STATESMAN

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary was saddened by the news of the passing of Dr. L. Russ Bush III, distinguished professor of philosophy of religion, director of the L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture, and academic vice president and dean of the faculty emeritus at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., on January 22, 2008.

Bush, who received a Master of Divinity in 1970 and a Ph.D. in 1975 from Southwestern, was honored with the seminary's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006. Prior to joining the faculty at Southeastern Seminary, he served as professor of philosophy of religion at Southwestern from 1973-89.

Bush was a prolific writer, authoring several books and contributing numerous journal and magazine articles. His most well known book, coauthored with then Southwestern and now Southern Seminary historian, Tom Nettles, *Baptists and the Bible*, focused on the historical perspective of Baptists toward the doctrine of the inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible.

Paige Patterson has stated that Bush's book *Baptists and the Bible* is "one of the 10 most important publications" of the 20th century.

"In that book, Bush and Nettles demonstrated that beyond all doubt the Baptist theologians, pastors, and leaders of the past were overwhelmingly of the persuasion that the Scriptures do not err," Patterson said.

In 1989, Bush was appointed academic vice president at Southeastern Seminary. At the time, Patterson said Southeastern "was undergoing a metamorphosis as it returned to the faith of its fathers." Bush served under Patterson's presidency at Southeastern Seminary from 1992-2003.

Patterson said of Bush's passing, "The loss of Russ Bush is felt profoundly by many. For me it is the loss of a treasured friend, a loyal and faithful soldier, a committed churchman, and a fertile philosophical and theological mind. He is now in the home for which he prepared his heart and to which he longed to go. Farewell, sweet friend."

In a paper presented at Union University in 2004, Bush said, "Who are the Baptists? We are a Bible-believing people who teach the New Birth, the priesthood of every believer, religious freedom, the gathered church, the sovereignty of God, salvation by Grace through Faith, the permanence of salvation, and the historicity and factual inerrancy of Holy Scripture. We baptize by immersion to symbolize the literal death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. We share the Lord's Supper in order to remind ourselves of His flesh and blood offered as a sacrifice for our sin; and we do all of this by Faith as we await His soon return. Who are the Baptists? They are God's faithful band of saints who seek above all to present Christ to the world."

In addition to being active in Baptist endeavors, Bush served in broader evangelical positions, most notably as national president of the Evangelical Theological Society in 1994 and national president of the Evangelical Philosophical Society from 1988-89.

Over the years, Bush served as interim pastor at churches in Washington, D.C., and Wichita Falls, Texas, and as assistant minister of adults at First Baptist Church of Dallas. Additionally, he led numerous group tours to Bible lands such as Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Turkey, Greece and Italy. **SN**

SOUTHWESTERN TRAINS PASTOR-SCHOLARS IN SOUTH KOREA

With a revised Korean D.Min. program, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary endeavors to equip South Korean pastor-scholars and nurture global outreach.

For nearly 10 years, Southwestern has provided a doctor of ministry program based out of Taejon, South Korea. Steven Smith, associate dean for the professional doctoral program at Southwestern, said that South Korean ministers have exhibited a great respect for education, and the seminary's Korean D.Min. program makes it more accessible to them.

"The significance of this program to Southwestern is that we now have the tentacles of theological education embedded in Korean pastors who themselves are all over the world," Smith said. Because South Korea follows only the United States in sending out the most missionaries throughout the world, the Korean D.Min. program also has great potential in fostering world outreach. **SN**

A FAITHFUL WITNESS FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS

“Hello, my name is Garland McKee. Your name?” says a smiling man as he puts his hand out to shake yours. The next thing you know, his warm personality has drawn you into a conversation.

He asks, **“Are a Christian? Have you accepted Jesus Christ in your heart as your Savior?”** If you say **“No,”** he asks, **“Would you let me have a minute of your time to tell you how you can do it?”**

J. Garland McKee has used this approach to give a verbal witness to at least one admitted non-Christian daily for the past 48 years. “The key,” he said, “is that I really believe that a person without Jesus Christ is going to a real, eternal hell, and I want to take everyone I can to heaven with me.”

Graduating from Southwestern in 1957, McKee became a pastor in Houston, Texas. With an average of 500 people attending Sunday school, he was discouraged by the realization that he was hard-pressed to find one admitted non-Christian in his church.

In December of 1959, he made a commitment to tell at least one non-Christian a day about Jesus Christ, starting Jan. 1, 1960. Since then, he has only missed about 80 days during this span, which averages less than two per year, and these have typically been due to illness or being in a country where he did not speak the language.

“After I had done it for 8 to 10 years, it was just like brushing my teeth,” McKee said. “The only things we do are what we give priority to.” This priority has led him to witness to more than 17,500 people in 46 states and several countries.

Every morning, he asks God, “Give me someone to witness to today.” He’s never taken it for granted that God would answer his prayer, and yet, God has never failed him on this request.

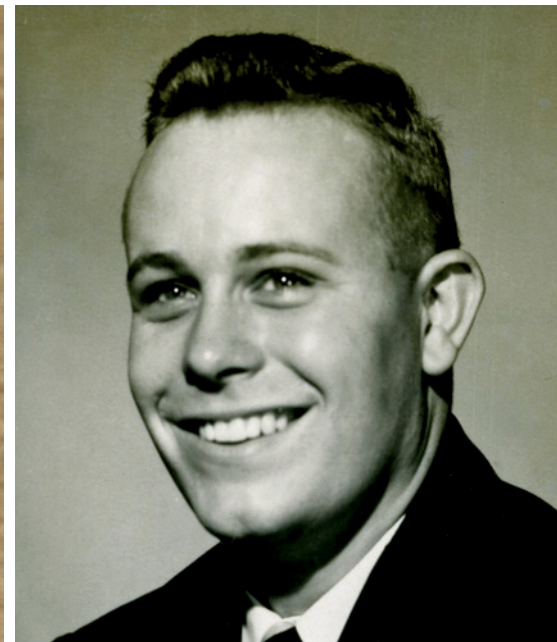
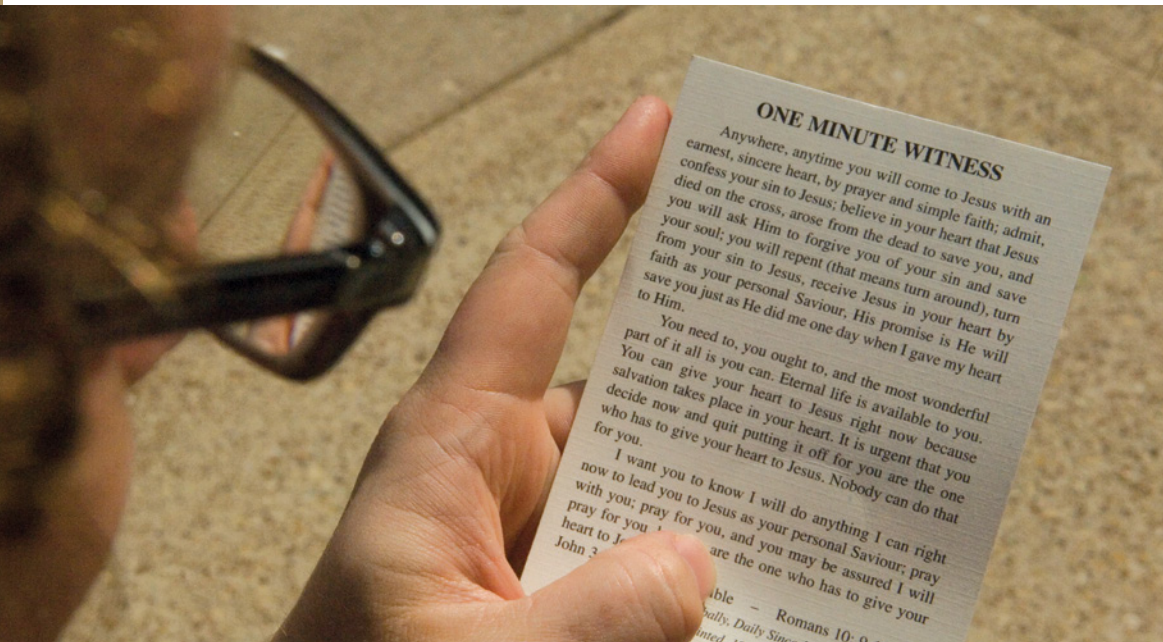
McKee’s son, Gil, admires his dad’s zeal for evangelism and infectious love for people. Born six days after Garland made his evangelistic pledge, Gil has seen his dad’s faithfulness to this commitment his entire life.

Gil, who earned his Master of Divinity from Southwestern in 1985 and now serves as pastor at First Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa, Ala., said, “I’ve never known anyone who really genuinely loves people any more than my dad.

“It doesn’t matter the race, it doesn’t matter the age or background. None of that has really ever mattered to him. I’ve probably seen more of Jesus in my dad than I’ve seen in any other Christian I’ve ever known.

“I can remember times when Dad would come in for the night from meetings or something at the church, and it would be 9 or 10 o’clock and he’d already gotten his clothes off. He





“The number one reason you don’t share your faith is because you’re fearful of being resented, rejected, and embarrassed.”

would remember that he had not borne a witness yet. He’d put his clothes back on, get in the car, and go to a service station or a grocery store or wherever he had to go until he found somebody to share the Gospel with.”

Garland McKee believes that the reason Christians do not share their faith is not because they do not love Jesus or do not want to reach the lost. “The number one reason you don’t share your faith is because you’re fearful of being resented, rejected, and embarrassed.”

McKee’s own testimony demonstrates that this fear is unfounded. In all the years that he has been sharing with non-Christians, only 35 people have not let him complete his witness, less than 1 percent. He is not discouraged when people reject his offer because “we’re just the messengers.”

Additionally, he has noticed a higher frequency in the last five years of those who have responded, prayed, and put their faith in Jesus Christ. Early on, he started having cards printed to hand out called the “One Minute Witness.” Each card has a brief explanation of the Gospel and how to become a Christian.

He hands the card to everyone he talks with. He has it memorized, so he shares it to them without reading from the card, which mentions the name of Jesus nine times. McKee said, “There’s power in the name of Jesus,” noting that there is no other name that convicts individuals of sin and has the power to set them free.

For those who pray with him to receive Christ, he gives them an “Eternal Life” booklet, which explains salvation

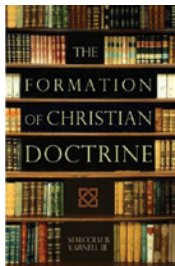
more thoroughly and encourages the new believer in the next steps in growing in their newfound relationship with Christ. McKee also encourages them to find a church home and make their profession of faith public.

You might think that the reason McKee is able to be such a faithful witness is because he has an outgoing personality or has a “gift” for evangelism. To this, he responds, “Witnessing is not a gift; witnessing is the function of a Christian.”

As a child, McKee recalls being trained to witness in church and going out with his dad to share the Gospel. He considers his dad, a blue-collar worker for the railroads for more than 50 years, to be the greatest Christian example he has ever known. During his time at Southwestern, McKee’s zeal flourished under his professor, Huber Drumwright.

McKee has been a Baptist preacher for 55 years. He served as a pastor of churches in Texas and Louisiana for 33 years, and as the evangelism director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention from 1991 to 1995, training pastors and lay leaders in evangelism. Currently, he preaches in revivals and pulpit supply and continues to use humor, as he has done since 1958, to open people up to the Gospel.

Pointing to McKee’s efforts as an example of an evangelistic alumnus, Southwestern continues to challenge students to faithfully share the Gospel. McKee walks through life with three goals: preach the Gospel, bear witness to at least one admitted non-Christian daily, and keep people laughing. “That’s what I’m going to do the rest of my life.” **SM**



PRESIDENT'S BOOK REVIEW

THE FORMATION OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

By Malcolm B. Yarnell III

Published by B&H Publishing Group, 2007

Reading Malcolm Yarnell's *The Formation of Christian Doctrine* reminded me of recent journeys to the Alaskan wilderness. There I discovered the difficulty of attempting to carve new trails in the thickly forested areas where often only the paw of the bear had rested. Yarnell's self-imposed assignment is no less difficult and is certainly hedged with more potential land mines; yet this brief volume of only 200 pages in the final analysis constitutes one of the most wide-ranging and thoughtful volumes that I have read in many years. The book will doubtless be helpful to many, but especially to those who are serious about doing theology in a free-church context. This book is essential for at least four reasons.

First, this brief tome is the most erudite and interesting volume that I have read in the last three years. Yarnell interacts helpfully with theologians of the patristic, reformation, modern, and contemporary eras with equal ease. He assesses Roman Catholic theologians both prior to and subsequent to Vatican II, responds to Orthodoxy, to the Magisterial Reformers, to liberal thinkers and neo-orthodox theologians and does so with remarkable even-handedness and insight. A case in point is his very helpful analysis of Oscar Cullmann, a theologian not often cited positively by conservative Southern Baptist theologians. However, Yarnell, while certainly not agreeing with Cullmann in some of his historical-critical conclusions, finds Cullmann's critique of the enlightenment ethos to be quite serviceable in the hands of free-church thinkers. Likewise, he encounters Maurice Wiles, Joseph Ratzinger, Herman Bavinck, John Henry Newman, and a host of others, finding meaningful assistance and providing thought-provoking critique of all. At the same time, he brings to light the thinking of Pilgram Marpeck, Balthasar Hubmaier, and a host of other early Baptist and Anabaptist thinkers.

This leads to the second great contribution of the book. Those familiar with Baptist terrain know that contemporary Baptists have debated among

themselves for years concerning their own origins. Do modern contemporary Baptists develop out of English Separatism, or do they have even earlier roots in the Radical Reformation of South Germany and Switzerland? Yarnell severs this Gordian Knot with one swipe of his rapier-sharp incisiveness, pointing out that an organic historical connection may be of interest to the historian. The more important feature is that the Anabaptists of South Germany and Switzerland, as well as the Baptists of England and contemporary Baptists, have all come to the same sorts of conclusions about the nature and interpretation of the New Testament. In that sense, contemporary Baptists have a great deal to learn from both of the groups and have sometimes learned those lessons well. By taking this approach to the problem, Yarnell may leave the historical enigma in place, but he certainly advances profitable theology and ecclesiology in a way that has most often been missed in the etiological discussion.

Third, the book is helpful because, unlike the Landmarkers among Baptists, Yarnell recognizes and clearly documents Baptist dependence upon others who have preceded them. He knows that the debates of the Christological Councils and the writings of the church fathers of the first five centuries provide valuable building blocks for the Baptist edifice. Even more so, he recognizes the affinities that Baptists have with Luther, Calvin, and the other Magisterial Reformers and asserts the intrinsic value of their relationship with all of these. But, on the other hand, unlike ecumenists among contemporary Baptists, Yarnell recognizes the unique contribution of Baptists and believes that those contributions are worth preserving. In the process of developing a prolegomena to theology and in developing the doctrines that Baptists hold dear, Yarnell believes that the English Baptists and the Anabaptists of the continent edged closer to the New Testament pattern than the Magisterial Reformers did and consistently applied many of the principles that the Magisterial Reformers did

not succeed in maintaining consistently. In fact, the strategic importance of the book is that it represents one of the few attempts by a Baptist at providing a manual for the formation of Christian doctrine. Future development of these themes will have no other alternative except to take Yarnell's substantive and seminal work into account.

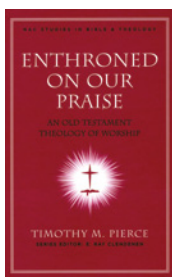
Finally, the book is valuable in that while Yarnell definitely believes that the rich heritage of Baptists and Anabaptists is well worth preserving, this is not hagiographa of the Baptist movement. To the contrary, one of the most prominent rebukes to Baptists in the book concerns the very genesis of the Southern Baptist Convention and its support of slavery and that in direct contradistinction to one of the most cherished Baptist principles—namely, liberty of conscience. Citing David Walker, an African-American Christian, Yarnell makes the point that no one is right about everything but that it is especially reprehensible when the most ardent advocates of the Great Commission violate the terms of that commission by embracing racism.

For these and many more reasons, this manual is important far beyond its slender girth. As I stated on the cover of the book, if you are a participant in the Baptist experiment, Malcolm Yarnell's *The Formation of Christian Doctrine* is the most important book in the past 50 years. If you are not a Baptist, but maintain the slightest curiosity about why Baptists have charted a dissenting and exclusive, to say nothing of lonely, path, here is the tome that will not only answer your question but will also precipitate the thoughtful stroking of your academic beard. If I could prevail upon every pastor in Baptist life to read just one book, I would plead that it be this volume. SN

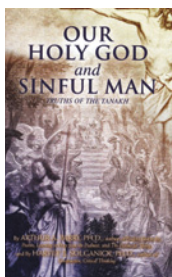
PAIGE PATTERSON

President

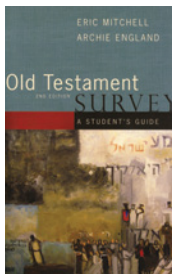
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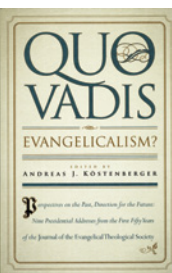
TIMOTHY M. PIERCE
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 B&H Academic, 2008



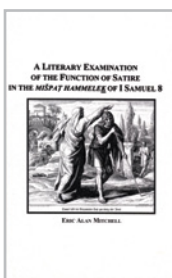
HARVEY SOLGANICK
 ARTHUR A. PARRY
OUR HOLY GOD AND SINFUL MAN: TRUTHS OF THE TANAKH
 iUniverse, Inc., 2007



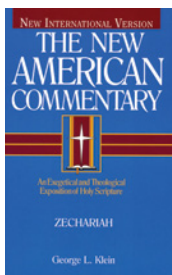
ERIC MITCHELL
 PAUL HOUSE
OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY, 2D ED.
 B&H Publishing, 2007



CRAIG A. BLAISING
"FAITHFULNESS: A PRESCRIPTION FOR THEOLOGY" IN QUO VADIS, EVANGELICALISM?: PERSPECTIVES ON THE PAST, DIRECTION FOR THE FUTURE: NINE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES FROM THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS OF THE JOURNAL OF THE EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
 Crossway Books, 2007



ERIC MITCHELL
A LITERARY EXAMINATION OF THE FUNCTION OF SATIRE IN THE MIŠPAṬ HAMMELEK OF I SAMUEL 8
 Edwin Mellen Press, 2007



GEORGE L. KLEIN
THE NEW AMERICAN COMMENTARY: ZECHARIAH
 B&H Publishing, 2008



THOMAS WHITE
 JASON G. DUESING
 MALCOLM B. YARNELL III
RESTORING INTEGRITY IN BAPTIST CHURCHES
 Kregel Academic & Professional, 2008



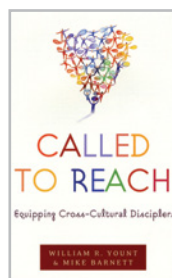
EMIR FETHI CANER
"ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY," IN PAUL COPAN AND WILLIAM LANE CRAIG, EDs., PASSIONATE CONVICTION: CONTEMPORARY DISCOURSES ON CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS
 B&H Publishers, 2007



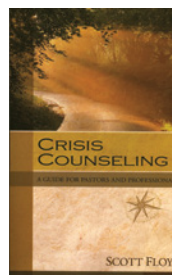
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 H. EDWARD PRUITT
DE HOOGSTE PRIJS
 Barnabas, 2007



WILLIAM A. DEMBSKI
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 Foundation for Thought and Ethics, 2007.



WILLIAM R. YOUNT
 MIKE BARNETT
CALLED TO REACH: EQUIPPING CROSS-CULTURAL DISCIPLERS
 B&H Publishing, 2007



SCOTT FLOYD
CRISIS COUNSELING: A GUIDE FOR PASTORS AND PROFESSIONALS
 Kregel Academic & Professional, 2008

NAMB & IMB APPOINTMENTS



DOUG (MDIV, 1997) & SONNIE BECK
Mobile, Ala.; church planting



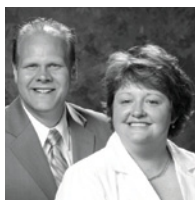
RUSSELL (MDIV, 1977) & KYOON BEGAYE
Farmington, N.M.; where Russell serves as an associational missionary



BRANDY CAFFEY (MACE, 2008)
Baltimore; missionary for Strategic Focus Cities



NICK E. COLE (MDIV, 2006)
Bountiful, Utah; church planting



KEVIN (MDIVBL, 1994) & ALICIA MADDEN
Westbank, British Columbia; where Kevin has been named as a church planting missionary coordinating new church starts for Western Canada



ROY R. (MDIV, 1972) & WEIDA SPANNAGEL
Jefferson City, Mo.; where Roy has been appointed state director of missions



WILLIAM "BILLY" (MDIV, 1995; PHD, 2003) & CHRISTINA VICTOR
Columbia, Mo.; where Billy is serving as regional collegiate evangelism coordinator for the central region of Missouri



JOHN K. (ADV. MDIV, 2007) & GLORIA YI
Chicago; where John is serving as a church planting missionary pastor



JACOB RYAN (MDIV) & DODIE SHAREE GLOVER
South America; evangelism and church planting



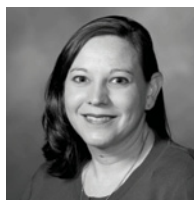
DOUGLAS DEAN HUTCHESON (ADIV, 1985)
South America; strategy coordinator



ERIC DAVID (MDIVBL, 2000) & KRISANN PEASE
Central, Eastern and Southern Africa; evangelism and church planting



DAVID LEE (MDIV, 2005) & KIMBERLI DAWN (EXRE) SAMS
South America; university ministry



KARLA ALEXIS TURNER (MDIVBL, 1999)
South America; evangelism and church planting



Additionally, 11 Southwestern alumni were appointed by the IMB to serve in secure locations around the world. As such, their identities, assignments, and locations have been withheld.

1950

Preston A. Taylor (BD 1955, THM 1956, MDiv 1975) to First Baptist Church, Zapata, Texas, as pastor.

1960

David R. D'Amico (BD 1966, THD 1970, PhD 1975) retired, living in New York City.

Gary L. Hearon (MDiv 1967) to First Baptist Church, Canton, Texas, as pastor.

Paul Nelson Wilhelm (MDiv 1965) retired, living in Fort Smith, Ark.

Valerie Wilson (MRE 1966) retired, living in Schaumburg, Ill.

1970

Robert F. "Bob" Curtis (MDiv 1977) to New Prospect Baptist Church, Olive Branch, Mo., as pastor.

Tom Daniel (MDiv 1976, DMin 1987) to Rocky Mountain Chapel, Cripple Creek Colo., as pastor.

Keith Walker (MRE 1975) to First Baptist Church, Pigeon Forge, Tenn., as co-pastor.

1980

Danny Bush (MARE 1983) to Lincoln Memorial University, West Knoxville Branch, Knoxville, Tenn., as adjunct faculty member.

Joe Flegal (MARE 1984) to Northwest Baptist Convention, Vancouver, Wash., as Church Health Strategist.

William P. Ford (MRE 1980, EdD 1989) to LifeWay Christian Resources, as Church Consultant (Texas/Louisiana).

Paul F. Hard (MDiv 1985, MARE 1986) appointed to the Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling.

Curt Hernandez (MARE 1983) to Advice for Life Ministries, High Point, N.C.

Mark A. Johnson (MDiv 1985) to Salem Avenue Baptist Church, Rolla, Miss., as senior pastor.

Matt Hudson (MDiv 1987, PhD 1995) to First Baptist Church, Taylor, Texas, as senior pastor.

David Mathis (MM 1989) to First Baptist Church, Rosenberg, Texas, as minister of music and worship.

Susan "Sue" Walsh (MARE and MAMFC 1989) to Capella University and San Antonio College, San Antonio, Texas, as adjunct professor.

Kevin Wieser (MRE 1980) to Little Rock Christian Academy, Little Rock, Ark., as assistant principal.

1990

Kenny Cargill (MAMFC 1997) to New Park Hills Baptist, Rollingwood, Texas, as pastor.

Todd Roberson (MARE 1992) South Texas Children's Home, Beeville, Texas, promoted to president and CEO.

2000

Velvie Banister (MACE 2005) to Dahlonga Baptist Church, Dahlonga, Ga., as minister to children.

Jonathan Brown (MACE 2002) to First Baptist Church, Temple, Texas, as minister of childhood education.

Rex D. Butler (PhD 2002) to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La., as associate professor of church history and patristics.

Jeremy Roberts (MDivBL 2007) to Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Lenoir City, Tenn., as senior pastor.

Phillip Smith (MDiv 2001) to Ida Baptist Church, Ida, Texas, as pastor.

BIRTHS

Hudson Christopher, Aug. 9, 2007, to Michelle and **Chris Gaynor (MM 1986)**.

Lucille Elizabeth, Jan. 24, 2008, to Kimberly and **Charles Hewitt (MDiv 1999)**.

Neil Travis, Sept. 24, 2007, to **Michelle (Tabb) (MARE 1996)** and David Marsden.

Melody Joy Massie, Jan. 24, 2008, to **Rosalee (Popov) (MACM 1997)** and Mark Massie.

William Andrew "Drew," to **Ann Farley-Parker (MDivBL 1998, PhD 2005)** and Dan Parker.

Hayden Lillian, Feb. 1, 2007, to **Dawn (Richardson) (ExMACE 2001)** and Ryan Starkey.

MARRIAGES

Brooke Burelsmith to **Jasen Brown (MM 2004)**.

Kelly Britton (MACE 1999) to Kelvin DeShazo.

April Suzanne Dunagan to **Charles Patrick Kelly (MDiv 2001)**.

Alicia Louise Woodard to **Paul David Blevins II (GRDPCE 2001)**.

Betty Crouch Gibson to **Robert J. O'Brien (Ex 1969)**.

MEMORIALS

1930

Thomas Nettles Stallworth, Jr. (ExCM 1936).

1940

James Earl Coggin (THM 1946, THD 1949).
Arthur Driscoll (MRE 1949).
James G. Haggard Sr. (BD 1949, THM 1950, MRE 1965).
Thomas F. Henderson Jr. (BD 1949).
William Boyd Hunt Sr. (THM 1942, THD 1945).
Eunice Parker Means (MRE 1947).
Stanton Harris Nash (BSM 1948).
Charles W. Rich (MRE 1945).
Esther Beth Rogers (MRE 1941).
Alton B. Yarbrough (ExRE 1948).

1950

Asa David Couch (BSM 1954).
Fred A. Duckett (Ex 1952).
Elmo Cyril "Buddy" Feazell Jr. (BRE 1956).
Joe Flegal (MRE 1955).
Horace Horton (ExTH 1954).
M.L. Jones (BD 1956).
Owen Horton Kersh (MRE 1952).
Wyatt Wain Lee (BD 1951).
Harvey Lewis (THM 1942).
Paul D. McMillan (MRE 1959).
Billy R. Mullins (ExTH 1952).
Frank M. Newton (BD 1952).
Edgar Lee Savage (BRE 1950).
Jessie C. Whitley (DipTH 1954).

1960

Byron B. Cox Jr. (MRE 1961).
Henry E. Davenport (BD 1963).
Wendell Lee King (DipTH 1968).
Edward C. Little (ExTH 1960).
Harold William Moye (MRE 1967).
Floyd Dean Newberry (MRE 1966).
Harrison H. Smith (ARE 1962).

1970

L. Russ Bush (MDiv 1970, PhD 1975).
Charles Allen Debney (MDiv 1977).
Aaron Alan Hass (MACM 1979).
Loyd D. Stout (DipRE 1972).
Jerry Lee Vestal (DipTH 1976).
Ronny Waycaster (MDiv 1979).

1980

Gordon Lewis Bamberg (MDiv 1985).
Walter Edwin Knight Jr. (MDiv 1983).
Richard McGee (MDiv 1981).
Phillip McMinn (MDiv 1985).

1990

William Brown (MM 1999).
James Edward Hollars (MDiv 1992).
Jack Marco Peer Jr. (MDivBL 1994).

2000

Christey Miller (MACE 2003).
Guillermo "Willie" Rangel (ExGRDPCE 2002).

THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSONAL EVANGELISM



One could say that it is nearly impossible to exaggerate when speaking of the importance of personal evangelism. This conviction inspired B.H. Carroll, founder of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, to create a professorship of evangelism. He offered this professorship to L.R. Scarborough, and as

best we can tell, Scarborough was the first evangelism professor in this history of the Christian church. The "Chair of Fire," as it is called, has been held by men filled with Gospel zeal such as Scarborough, Roy J. Fish, and current president Paige Patterson. In its 100 years of service, Southwestern has taught evangelism, modeled evangelism, employed seminary evangelists, organized evangelism projects, and funded an endowed chair of evangelism. Southwestern's concerted efforts in theological education demonstrate the magnitude of the evangelistic task that Christ has given His people and churches.

Personal evangelism matters for a number of reasons. To begin with, personal evangelism matters to unbelievers. Unbelievers may not realize it, but their greatest need is for a Christian to offer the Gospel to them. The Scripture warns that unbelievers are perishing, and that this state will intensify into agony and torment after death. Christ provides their only hope for rescue, and Christ has mandated that His people and churches

share the Gospel with everyone. It pains me to say so, but unless readers of this article share the Gospel with unbelievers, probably no one else will. Much of the religious world has abandoned the Gospel. Others obsess over their personal or internal church concerns. Governments do not evangelize. Public schools do not evangelize. In fact, most Christians do not evangelize. If unbelievers are going to hear of Christ, they will have to hear it from people like you.

Additionally, personal evangelism matters to the witness. In the Christian life, Christians have unique duties and universal duties. Unique duties consist of the individual callings God gives to each Christian. For example, God has called some Christians to pastor churches, but He has not called all Christians to this. God has called some to teach Sunday school, but not all. He has called some to participate in music ministry, but not all. These are unique callings.

On the other hand, God has commanded all Christians to observe universal duties. Among these are prayer, holiness, Bible reading, church attendance and tithing. We could name more, but the point is that God expects all Christians to observe these. Personal evangelism is of the latter and not the former. That is, personal evangelism is not a unique calling but a universal command. Personal evangelism, then, is just as important to a Christian's integrity as is prayer, holiness, Bible study, church attendance and tithing. Without personal evangelism, Christians weaken their integrity. With personal evangelism, they strengthen it.

Finally, personal evangelism matters to God. Jesus endured great pain to save the world. He lived in a human body that He might die for sin.

The birth at Bethlehem happened because we needed His death at Calvary. L.R. Scarborough wrote, "The most gigantic undertaking God has laid out for Christian men is to lead lost souls to Jesus Christ. The salvation of the world cost God more, and requires more from man, than any other movement in human or divine history. To make a world He had only to speak the word (Heb. 11:3); to save the world He had to crucify His only begotten Son (Is. 53:10). In this saving program He requisitioned all the powers of His triune deity, and He calls for the cooperation of every saved man." It is important to God that unbelievers miss hell. To keep them from suffering eternally, Jesus died for their sins. He gave His life. He endured the cross and despised the shame. From Calvary, He announces to all unbelievers, "You'll go to hell over my dead body." Those who have dedicated their lives to becoming like Jesus will share His affection for lost humanity. They will embrace His concerns and adopt His priorities. They will love what Christ loves, and if the cross is any indication, He loves lost people and wants them to come home to Him. Won't you join with me in making personal evangelism a daily priority in your life?

Dr. David Mills is an associate professor of evangelism in the School of Evangelism and Missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.



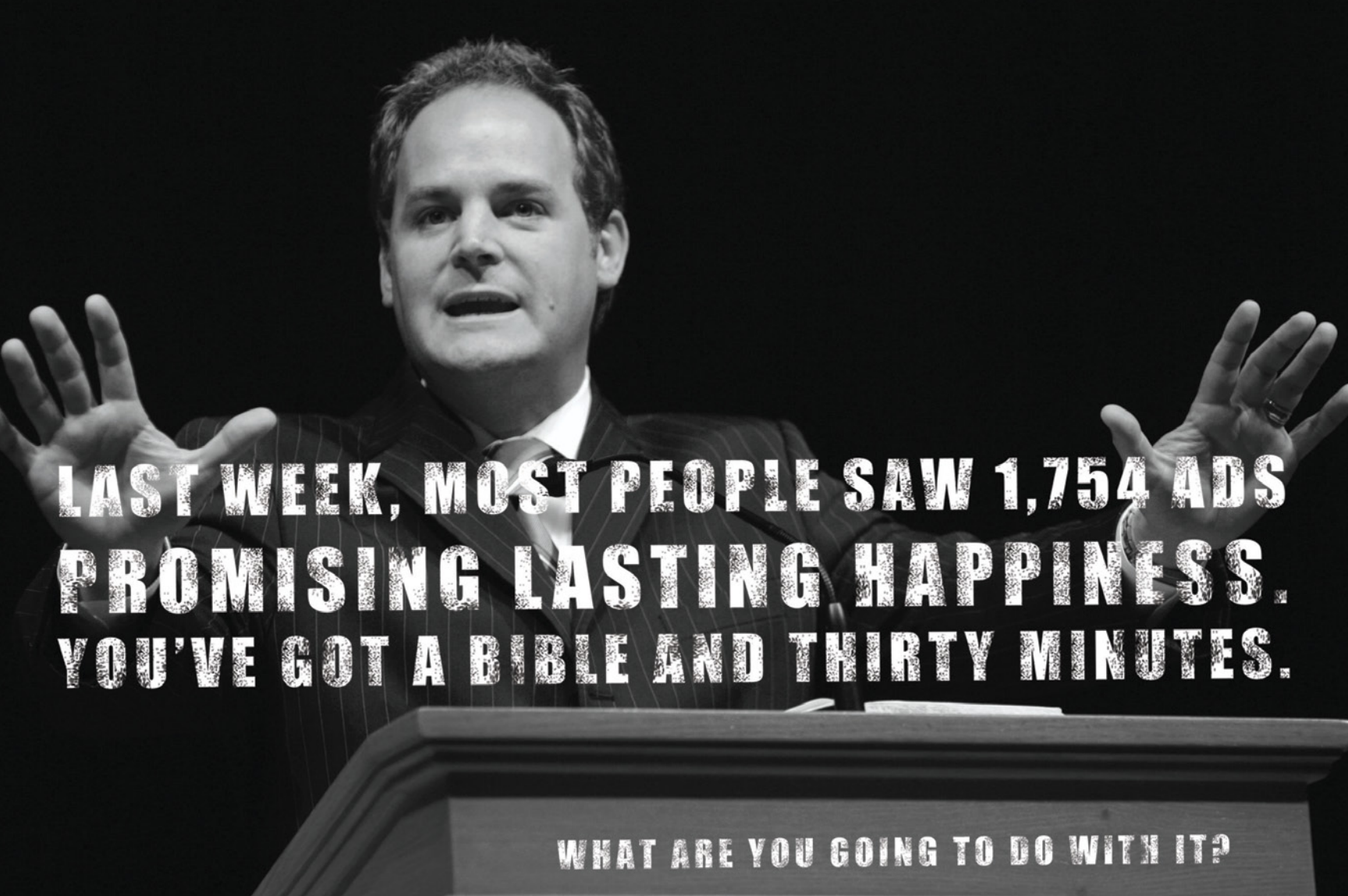
- Relocated from Maryland, leaving a well paying job
- My wife + I have 5 children (between 16+6)
- Working 20 hours a week
- Studying full-time
- Living off limited savings
- All to prepare for God's call to be a faithful shepherd

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