# Southwestern baptist theological seminary Fall 2008 | Volume 67 NO. 1

# Modeling Biblical



- Moved to Texas, leaving Alabama \* my relatives for the first time - I'm studying in the Seminary Wives program -Greek is my favorite class oo far - My husband + I are both students - Using my skills to bene fit the library on campus - All to partner with my husband wherever the Lord takes us

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BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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#### Is There A Biblical Paradigm for Womanhood?

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#### A Godly Woman is to be Praised

Mrs. Patterson is a model of biblical womanhood and woman-towoman ministry.



STUDENT PROFILES: Southwestern Women's Programs

Through a variety of personal backgrounds and ministry callings, the next generation of leaders in women's ministry are yielded to the Lord and receiving their training at Southwestern. ON THE COVER Kay Cherry watches a candid moment between her daughter Ashley Smith and her granddaughters Jewell (3) and Sidney (6 months). Photo by Jonathan Blair.





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# PRESIDENT'S LETTER



All of life is an experience of being misrepresented by somebody with ill motives assigned. This was the experience of Jesus and Paul and others, and I am certain that God allows it to take place with us so that we can fill our cups to overflowing with the sufferings of Christ

(Philippians 3:10). But nowhere is this misrepresentation more obvious than it is on the issue of the distaff.

As this issue of *Southwestern News* will indicate, Bible-believing Christians have never believed that women are inferior to men. The very earliest verses of Genesis established full equality of both woman and man. God said of Eve, "I will make a helper exactly corresponding to him;" and Adam, when he saw her, confirmed her full humanity by saying, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh." In fact, as I think about it, nowhere in my Bible have I come across any place where a good husband is said to be of more value than rubies. Elkanah, with Hannah his wife, tried the argument that he was better to her than seven sons, but I have never thought that she was very much impressed with his argument.

Men and women are certainly different; and from man's point of view, I must join the French in declaring, "Vive la difference!" For example, in my study of church history, seemingly there are always more women than men following the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ. And there is certainly no doubt in my mind that women tend to rise to faith in the midst of tribulation or sorrow more often and more effectively than men. I honor and stand amazed at the strength of these "weaker vessels."

At Southwestern, we do believe that God's plan, purpose, and to some degree, gifting of women and men are different. My own sweetheart is a gifted theologian, Bible teacher, homemaker, and servantleader. On top of that, she is sweet and beautiful two attributes that I seldom attribute to men. I rejoice that she thinks women and children are just as important as men and is therefore delighted to devote her energies to mentoring women.

Southwestern is deeply committed to doing the following things in preparing women for Kingdom ministries:

- To provide programs in theological studies and homemaking that will emphasize the primary significance of wifehood, motherhood, hospitality, and volunteerism.
- To graduate women thoroughly tutored philosophically, theologically, and exegetically to teach the Bible to women and provide an alternative to the shrill, unthoughtful feminism of the postmodern era in churches and schools.
- 3. To equip women—whether single or a wife and mother—as missionaries who will put everything on the line for Christ.

Those who rail against womanhood as taught at Southwestern, including the God-assigned roles for men, women, and children, not only usually misrepresent our position but also reveal their own hearts and unfortunately the status of the world that their views have produced. So read in the pages that follow the Southwestern answer to modern and postmodern feminism. I thank God for the wonderful female professors we have here at Southwestern and for the ever-burgeoning female presence in the student body of Southwestern.

Until He Comes,

atters

Paige Patterson

# SouthwesternNews

FALL 2008 Volume 67, Number 1

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# CALENDAR

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# OCTOBER »

#### 10

Advanced Expository Preaching Workshop Preaching Jesus' Timeless Stories: The Parables in Luke Contact ext. 2440 or visit www.swbts.edu/aepw

#### 10-11

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**20-22** Fall Trustee Meeting

21 L. R. Scarborough Luncheon

22 Women's Auxiliary Luncheon Contact ext. 7236

#### 27-28

BREAS Conference Inside Out: An Interactive and Experiential Dialogue on Making Disciples Contact ext. 2440 or visit www.swbts.edu/breas

# NOVEMBER »

#### 7-8

Certification in Biblical Counseling: Levels 1&2 Contact ext. 2440 or visit www.swbts.edu/bccertification

#### 10-11

SBTC Bible Conference & Annual Meeting

#### 12

Hope for the Heart Chair of Biblical Counseling Inauguration

24-28

Thanksgiving Break



# DECEMBER »

4 President's Club Dinner

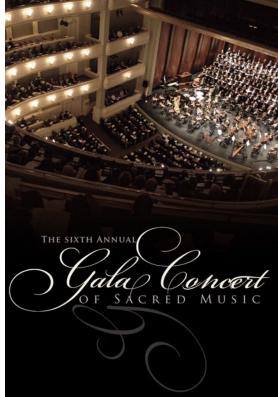
Handel's Messiah Concert

#### 12

Fort Worth Graduation Travis Avenue Baptist Church

#### 13

Houston Graduation



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009 8:00 p.m. Nancy Lee & Perry R. Bass Performance Hall Fort Worth, Texas

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**BY Terri Stovall** 

44 You will find no wimps at Southwestern. You will find that the men and women who come there are taking the Great Commission of our Lord seriously as never before."

Seminary president Paige Patterson gave this accurate description of the students at Southwestern during his report to the messengers of the 2008 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis.

The women of Southwestern are not wimps, and they are sold out to the task of taking the Gospel to the ends of the earth. They do so in an era where beliefs are challenged on every front, the family is under constant attack, and cultural tolerance propagates doubt of absolute truth and the sufficiency of Christ.

The women who come to Southwestern are willing to go to the places where e-mails are sent home full of cryptic shorthand because publicly declaring the message of Christ could come at the cost of their lives. And yet, they are quietly leading women to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ on a daily basis, discipling them in their faith, and testifying to the miraculous hand of God. We exist to prepare women theologically, spiritually, and practically for Kingdom service at home, in the community, and to the ends of the earth.

Theological Preparation

As I talk with recent graduates, they tell me about opportunities they have to visit with young women who ask tough questions about what it means to be a woman in the 21st century. Our alumni are overjoyed to open the Bible and share with these women what biblical womanhood is all about. When confronted with these challenges in real min-



istry situations, graduates recall their class discussions and interactions, which provide them with confidence in what they believe and what they are teaching.

The women's programs at Southwestern provide the breadth and depth needed to prepare women to be fully grounded both biblically and theologically. These ladies not only receive the superior theological training that all Southwestern students receive but also focused study to combat evangelical feminism in our culture and to teach God's truth to women in many different contexts.

Amanda Taylor said, "While I was a student, it was easy to stand against liberal views when others were standing with me. Now that I am in full-time ministry, I have been challenged regarding my convictions about Scripture and biblical womanhood. The principles [the faculty] teach will guide you to lean on God and His Word so you can stand firm when others around you fall." Taylor graduated with a Master of Arts in Christian Education with concentrations in women's ministry and evangelism and has returned to Southwestern to begin the Ph.D. program. The breadth of focused women's programs offered at Southwestern includes two certificates, undergraduate and master's concentrations, and a Ph.D. minor, with other programs in development. Regardless of the program, however, all possess a common purpose of preparing women theologically and biblically to be educated and equipped for whatever God calls a woman to do. Faithfulness to Scripture and conservative theological excellence are the cornerstones upon which all other educational areas are built.

# Spiritual Dreparation

Recognizing that theological knowledge apart from spiritual growth and transformation results in a purely academic exercise, the spiritual lives of women are a critical part of the women's programs at Southwestern. Paul declared in his letter to the church of Ephesus that "we do not wrestle against flesh and blood." Rather, we are in a battle of such proportions that the spiritual preparation of putting on the full armor of God is the only way to be strong in the Lord. As women grow spiritually, they struggle with their own questions, face family crises, and search for godly counsel. It is during these teachable moments that training women for ministry involves spiritual preparation through mentoring and modeling a Titus 2 lifestyle.

Camey Gravley, a graduate of the women's ministry certificate program, reflects that "professors not only taught me about ministry inside the classroom, but they personally ministered to me. [They] made time to walk me through the death of my father. By their example, I learned it is an honor to fill whatever the need may be, whether answering phones, praying with others, teaching Bible studies, or simply sitting beside a hospital bed."

Women thrive on relationship. God, in His wisdom, designed the best opportunities for growth to occur in community and as fellow believers share life together. It is one of the consistent threads found in the educational philosophy at Southwestern. Abby Caldwell, who completed the Seminary Studies for Student Wives Certificate, valued that her "classes were taught by real women who offered valuable lessons from their own life experiences."

This generation of students yearns for connection with women who can challenge them to live a life that is pleasing to God. Master of Divinity student Gabrielle Pickle says, "The women's programs

#### WOMEN'S ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Student Wives Certificate (13 Credit Hours) Prepares student wives to be prayerful and passionate partners with their husbands and ministry

#### Leadership Certificate in Women's Ministry (12 Credit Hours)

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#### Master of Divinity, Women's Studies Concentration (91 Credit Hours)

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#### Master of Divinity, Women's Ministry Concentration (91 Credit Hours)

Possesses a significant focus in theology and biblical languages equipping students to integrate theology, faith, and practice in order to lead a ministry to women through local church ministry

#### Master of Arts in Christian Education,

Women's Ministry Concentration (64 Credit Hours)

Equips students to integrate theology, faith and practice in order to lead a ministry to women with a strong focus on local church ministry

#### Doctor of Philosophy, Women's Ministry Minor (44 Credit Hours plus Dissertation)

Prepares women as highly specialized and competent professionals in the field of women's ministry office is literally a place of refuge for the women at Southwestern." It is in these informal times of connection that Southwestern is intentional about encouraging and holding women accountable in their spiritual walk, their relationship with God, and their family; praying for them; listening to them; and always taking them back to God's truth.

Practical Preparation

As critical as theological and spiritual preparation are, opportunities to be involved in ministry and to gain practical experience provide the final crucial component for a comprehensive program of ministry training. The women at Southwestern have many opportunities to participate in practicums, international mission trips, site-based study tours, community evangelism, and ministry experiences that allow women to hone critical life and ministry skills under the guidance of caring faculty.

"Although I believe being a homemaker is fulfilling God's created purpose for my life, it doesn't mean I have a comprehensive, innate knowledge of how to do it best. I still need to learn what my responsibilities include, to practice achieving them well and to get used to using the necessary tools." *Emily Felts, College Student* 

> Over the past several years, women have traveled to North Africa, reached out to the neighboring community through a clothing giveaway, and taken an active part in evangelism endeavors. They are also expected to be involved in ministry through their local church. The 2008-09 academic year brings new opportunities with specific days for women to be involved in door-to-door evangelism, leading a women's conference, a trip to Oxford, and opportunities to mentor others.

> The chance to practice learned skills is critical to the educational process for homemaking students. Emily Felts puts it best,









"Although I believe being a homemaker is fulfilling God's created purpose for my life, it doesn't mean I have a comprehensive, innate knowledge of how to do it best. I still need to learn what my responsibilities include, to practice achieving them well and to get used to using the necessary tools."

The women's ministry student is required to create and implement discipleship plans, missions education opportunities, and other woman-to-woman ministries through her local church under the supervision of a mentor. Practical ministry skill development, built upon a solid theological base flowing through spiritual vibrancy, is when the women of Southwestern begin to see God working through them, honoring this time of preparation.

For Kingdom Service

Former seminary president Robert Naylor is credited with saying, "The sun never sets on Southwestern," reflecting the many graduates who are serving around the world in every time zone. This includes women. There are countless stories of how Southwestern women are being used by God to reach this world for Christ. Some of these stories can be shared in detail while an increasing number can only be shared in general terms because they occur in places where personal and ministry security is a concern.

The women of Southwestern are serving God on five continents. They are mothers and pastors' wives; they are ministering to girls and women; they are involved in local, North American, and international missions. The women of Southwestern are teaching in schools, serving in crisis pregnancy centers, working with the homeless, caring for the sick, and teaching Bible studies. The list is endless.

A common question asked is "What does a woman who graduates from Southwestern do?" The answer is both complex and simple. They serve in a thousand different contexts doing a thousand different things, yet they all have one thing in common. They share the love, message, and truth of the one true living God to women and families, making a Kingdom difference from Fort Worth, Texas, to the uttermost parts of the earth.

This is what drives the women's programs at Southwestern. It is the women God is bringing to us who are willing to pay the price to do whatever God asks. They are our heartbeat and why we exist.



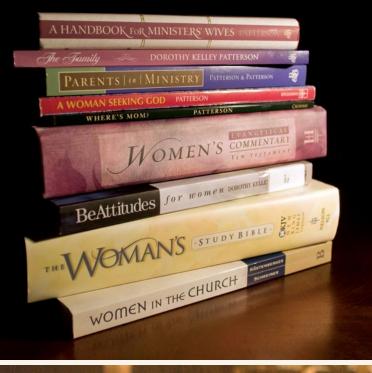
# Is There a BIBLICAL Paradigm for WOMANHOOD?

#### BY DOROTHY KELLEY PATTERSON

For more than a century, a movement has swept across the nation and around the world questioning traditional definitions of masculinity and femininity and especially the respective functions coming from their distinctive natures. Not only the biologist, the anthropologist, the psychologist, the sociologist, and the theologian, but also the women and men who are establishing homes and families have been left grappling with this basic philosophical question: What, if any, male-female distinctions are to be established in the life of a society?

The ever-confusing "double speak," even in the church, is an effort to accommodate the corporate agenda coming from spiraling feminism and the personal whims arising out of a postmodern culture. Scripture is stretched upon whatever grid has been embraced and has been called to defend two polarizing positions—an impossibility if indeed the Bible is the Word of God truth without any mixture of error. Added to "double speak" in more recent decades is "double listening," in which those holding diametrically opposite views are able to hear affirmation for whatever they wish to affirm.

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woman of valor. How precious is a loving wife and mother she is worth far more than rubies. Her family lacks for nothing. She is clothed with trength and splendor. She looks heerfully to the future and she hares her wisdom with kindly teaching. She is a joy to her children and the pride of the husband. Many wome excel but none can surpass her!



Godly women, or women who want to devote themselves to obeying God and what He has clearly inspired in His written Word, must indeed listen to what feminists whether secular or "biblical"—are saying by reading their books and hearing their concerns; yet they cannot allow any human words or personal desires to trump Scripture. Thus, the careful reading of Scripture—regardless of what some deem datedness in its message for the modern era must include a meticulous exegesis, or verse-by-verse personal study, coupled with sitting at the feet of one with the exegetical tools for such deep study, to ferret out exactly what God is saying to every woman—whatever her age, position in life and family, or generational timeframe.

This urgent mandate for every woman drives Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary to enlist faculty and staff and to develop and continually fine-tune its many programs for women. Southwestern must equip women to establish their homes, to become part of their communities, to assume leadership in their churches, to go even to the uttermost corners of the earth with the Gospel and with the determination to disciple women for Kingdom service.

#### A LOOK AT THE OLD TESTAMENT

In the ancient world everything was not perfect or fair. Although a woman's legal position, even in Israel, was weaker than a man's from the framework of our human understanding, women were protected with some basic rights and often managed to change restrictions into opportunities.<sup>1</sup> Hebrew laws did offer protection for women. Some commentators suggest that the dowry given a daughter at the time of her marriage was actually the daughter's share of her father's estate, which she received upon marriage while her brothers had to wait to receive their shares until the death of their father. If there were no sons in the family, daughters could receive the inheritance (Nm 27:8-11). Even a woman taken captive in war had rights (Dt 21:10-14), and a man found guilty of raping a woman was stoned to death (Dt 22:23-27). A man and woman caught in the act of adultery were both to be stoned (Dt 22:22).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>For an excellent study of complex ancient laws governing a woman's life, see James Baker, Women's Rights in Old Testament Times (Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1992).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For a fuller discussion of these difficult texts, which to the human mind seem to be antagonistic toward women, see the New American Commentary volumes on Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy from B&H Publishers.

The design and purpose for womanhood is presented in Scripture, beginning with the creation account and continuing throughout the warp and woof of the biblical text without contradiction and with absolute consistency so far as character traits for women are commended or denounced by the biblical writers.

Although women participated in worship (Dt 29:10; Neh 8:2; Jl 2:16), they were not required to do so in the same way as the men, which may have been because of their responsibilities as wives and mothers (1 Sm 1:3-5, 21-22). Children were commanded to respect both mother and father equally (Ex 20:12; Dt 21:18-21), but they were the special charge of their mother (1 Sm 1:22-28; 2 Tm 1:5)—not because the care of children was a demeaning task but because it was a consuming and all-important responsibility. In the biographies of kings, the names of mothers appeared regularly (2 Kgs 12:1; 14:2).

#### A LOOK AT THE NEW TESTAMENT

Although Jesus certainly encountered negative assessments of women within His first-century culture, He chose women to be the first to bear witness to His resurrection (Mt 28:5-10), perhaps because they were at the tomb to perform the very duties usually assigned to women, i.e., bringing spices to care for the body in death just as they had cared for physical needs for the living. Women followed Jesus, and He often used things of specific interest to women in His teaching (Mt 14:21; Lk 13:18-21).

The obvious recognition of women, such as in the birth and infancy narratives of Jesus (Mt 1:3,5-6), went beyond what would have been expected in the cultural setting of that era. Jesus spoke to women (even those, such as the Samaritan woman, who would have been spurned by religious men, Jn 4); He taught women indi-

vidually and privately as well as when they were among the multitudes who followed Him (Lk 10:38-42). Women were sometimes central characters in His parables (Mt 13:33; 25:1-13; Lk 18:1-8); women were commended (Mt 9:20-22; Lk 21:1-4). In His teachings, especially on marriage and divorce, He considered the protection of women (Mt 5:27-32; 19:3-9).

None of Jesus' actions questioned the intellectual acumen and spiritual sensitivity of women. Their spiritual privilege was absolutely equal before God; yet their spiritual activity was just as certainly different, as noted in Charles Ryrie's *The Role of Women in the Church.*<sup>3</sup> No woman is included among the 12 apostles or in the 70 He sent out (Lk 10:1ff), and no women were in the group where the Lord's Supper was instituted (Mk14:17-24). However, even though women were not included in certain activities, they received a new importance as Jesus elevated their domestic responsibilities by taking note of ways they ministered to Him and others (Mt 26:6-13; Mk 14:3-9; Lk 10:38-42;Jn 12:1-7).

#### AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION

This general overview of womanhood in the Bible now provides the backdrop for the question of a spiritually sensitive woman: Does the Bible contain a paradigm for womanhood? My answer is a resounding "yes!" The design and purpose for womanhood is presented in Scripture, beginning with the creation account and continuing throughout the warp and woof of the biblical text without contradiction and with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Charles Ryrie, The Role of Women in the Church (Chicago: Moody, 1970), 31-38.

absolute consistency so far as character traits for women are commended or denounced by the biblical writers.

This biblical paradigm allows for diversity and uniqueness, as one would expect from a God who fashioned every woman and man according to His plan and design (Ps 139:13-16), but is nevertheless entirely consistent with the creation order and the Creator's plan for the nature and purposes of womanhood. The ideal composite of biblical womanhood consists of different—but not contradictory or antithetical—elements because it rests in complementarity to the rest of God's creation.

Both the man and the woman were created "in the image of God" with equal worth in their very being and with the same access to Him (Gn 1:27). The verb used to describe the creation of the woman at its root means "build" (Hb. *banah*; Gn 2:22), suggesting a permanent and reliable architectural design as well as an aesthetically pleasing purpose as would be true in the construction of a building of importance. In preparation for this "building" of the woman, the man was fashioned from the dust of the earth (Gn 2:7). The fact that the woman was "built" from "one of his ribs" (Gn 2:21-22) speaks to the intertwining of their lives and purpose in a unique way.

#### THE CREATION ORDER

The creation order reveals a unique design for the woman and the man, both in the image of God and created with a unique capacity for fellowship with Him as well as with one another, and yet each with a particular role assignment. In this foundational passage (Gn 2:7-24) the word describing the woman is packed with theological meaning—"helper who is like him" (Gn 2:18). In other words, the woman as a "helper" depends upon her husband for direction, provides for him what he lacks, becomes a partner with him to aid and strengthen him in the task; yet she is "like him," equally created in God's image and a joint heir with her husband in fellowship and intimacy with Christ (1 Pt 3:7).

The term's association with God Himself (Ex 18:4; Dt 33:7,26,29; Ps 20:2; 22:11,19) underscores that it is not reserved for inferior beings or worthless tasks. Its nuance of meaning is clearly directed to function and not to personhood. In no way does this designation limit or

invalidate a woman's giftedness; rather it makes that giftedness, together with her skills and expertise, available to the one she is committed to help. Other tools are available to help—whether living beings or even inanimate devices, but only the woman corresponds to the man in a complementary way as a thinking and responsive partner able to provide not merely more of the same, as in repetition or multiplication, but something different than he provides for himself.

This intimate partnership does not negate the uniqueness of either the woman or the man, nor does it suggest the absorption of one by the other. Rather it is a divinely planned merger that brings the strengths of both into play to offset respective weaknesses as well as provide double strength in the challenges of life and work, and the divine plan indicates how His plans are to be carried out through specific roles and responsibilities. Some are quick to undervalue hard work, which for women and men can be overshadowed by the lack of tangible rewards therefrom, and the necessity for abdication of personal rights in order to serve others, which was modeled by no less than Christ Himself (Php 2:5-8).

#### THE CHURCH ORDER

Together the man and woman were to continue the generations and exercise dominion over the world and its resources through a reciprocity emulated in the servant leadership of the man and the responsive submission of the woman (Eph 5:22-24). Both functions were modeled perfectly in Christ Himself.

Although the human penchant is to evaluate such differences in subjective terms, i.e., with certain tasks being superior as contrasted with others considered inferior, one must be cautious in allowing a personal value system to supersede and thus dictate what divinely assigned tasks are worthy of time and effort. For example, one who would see authority and administrative leadership and salaried work as more important and thus preferable to managing a household or conceiving and nurturing a child would be treading on dangerous ground (Ps 127:3-5; 1 Tm 5:14; Ti 2:4). Would Timothy have ever come under the tutelage of Paul had it not been for the nurturing of his mother and grandmother? (2

Tm 1:5). Without biblical moorings, one would most certainly find more frustration than fulfillment in a subjective appraisal of what is good or bad, acceptable or best.

The exegesis of Scripture, and thus the quest for biblical paradigms, is not the citing of isolated verses or even selected pericopes; the serious student of Scripture must lift the whole counsel of God above the trends in the culture and even beyond the instincts of the heart. Every woman serious about selfless service to Christ must ferret out the divinely appointed design from the Creator Himself even if that prototype does not appear palatable to contemporary standards and agendas.

#### FOR FURTHER READING

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#### A PARADIGM OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD IN SUMMARY

#### WHO IS SHE?

She is created "in the image of God" (Gn 1:27).

She is assigned to be a "helper" (Gn 2:18).

She is uniquely fashioned with a life-bearing womb and the capacity for nurturing (Gn 3:16,20).

She is identified as a "joint heir of the grace of life" (1 Pt 3:7).

#### WHAT DOES SHE DO?

She "fears the Lord" (Pr 31:30; see Lk 1:46-55).

She develops a "gentle and quiet spirit" (1 Pt 3:4; see Lk 2:38).

She honors her husband and the Lord through her diligence and creativity (see Pr 31:10-31).

She is committed not only to human relationships but also to God (Ru 1:16-17).

She is available (1 Sm 25:32-33; Est 4:14-16).

She does what she can, however humble the task (Mk 14:8; Ac 9:36; 12:12-15; 16:14-15).

She shares the good news of the Gospel (Ac 21:9; Lk 2:38; 24:22-23).

She participates in mentoring and discipleship (Ac 18:26; 2 Tm 1:4-5; Ti 2:3-5).

She accepts God-given boundaries and recognizes the authorities mandated by Scripture (1 Tm 2:9-15).

# BUILDING THE By Keith Collier NEXT GENERATION OF OMMEMBER









Built on the foundation of Scripture, the College at Southwestern's homemaking concentration within the Bachelor of Arts in Humanities degree is challenging social norms and aims to provide the next generation of godly women with the tools they need to manage their households well. Titus 2:3-5 commands older women to "encourage the young women to love their husbands and children, to be sensible, pure, good homemakers, and submissive to their husbands, so that God's message will not be slandered."

In a day and age where feminism has belittled women who stay at home rather than find their value in the workplace, God's standards for the family and the home have been tossed by the wayside, sometimes even in the church. The homemaking concentration teaches women how to use the home for caring for the family and for hospitality ministries. Students benefit from courses related to home finance, child development, nutrition, meal preparation, design, and clothing.

Making up only 23 hours of a 131-hour bachelor's program, the concentration is a small part of a degree that prepares women to engage their culture with the Gospel. In addition to homemaking skills, "a woman in this degree will have studied Greek or Latin, completed a significant block of biblical and theological studies and read many of the world's greatest philosophers and primary classical sources," says Terri Stovall, dean of women's programs at Southwestern.

"She will be able to engage women of diverse religious or cultural backgrounds. It is a complete, well-rounded and challenging education that truly lays a foundation for any direction God may take her."

As early as 1908, Southwestern's founders were committed to building godly homes and offered coursework in "Domestic Sciences." One hundred years later, Southwestern continues to equip women for ministry in the home. As part of this commitment, the seminary hired Laura Zettler as assistant professor of homemaking and director of the homemaking concentration. Zettler brings educational experience, youthful zeal, and dedication to women's ministry.

Additionally, Andy and Joan Horner, founders of the direct sales jewelry company Premier Designs, gave a generous gift to the seminary for the purpose of constructing a building conducive for instruction in homemaking. This educational building will look more like a home than a classroom, complete with kitchen and textile labs, as well as a large library, full of resources for classroom lectures. Upstairs, two rooms will house seniors in the homemaking concentration and another room will be available for guest housing. The Horners started Premier Designs to help ministers' wives support their families financially while also staying home with their children. "As we saw people, particularly in the '60s, '70s, and '80s, everybody was moving out into the corporate world, and motherhood wasn't given a very high rating," says Andy Horner.

"The most important time of a kid's life is the first six years. If we could have moms stay at home with these kids, I believe it would change the next generation of kids growing up."

This desire to see women fulfill God's design for their lives fueled a conversation between Joan Horner and Mrs. Patterson. They talked about their concern for ministers' wives being prepared to support their husbands in pastorates as well as missionary service. When the Horners were presented with the opportunity to support the homemaking program, they were excited to be part of a program that will bless families and enlarge ministries.

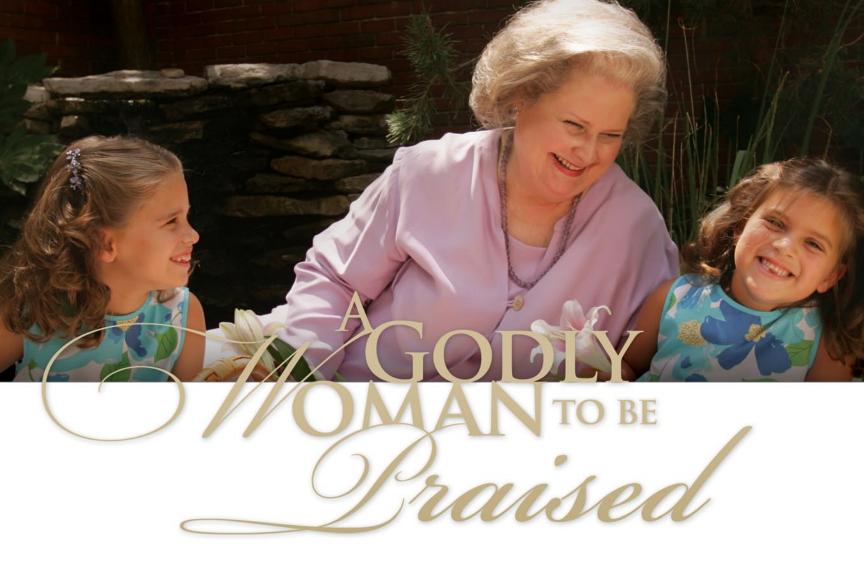
"All of it will help them in their future role as a homemaker to keep their home a haven for their children and their husband," Joan says. "She is a helpmate to him. Everything she does in the home should be pointed toward that role as a helpmate and loving wife.

"She will be able to give more positive support to her husband if she's not put in a situation where she is not comfortable. ... and this will give her more confidence in the work that God will call her to do."

Her husband agrees, adding, "I hope it would encourage family togetherness, and I hope that it would help the young ladies when they go into this particular job of having more confidence in knowing something about how to set up a meal and how to handle guests in their home. It should increase the relationship not only between the husband and wife but also with the deacons and church membership."

During a groundbreaking ceremony, Aug. 13, Andy Horner made an astute observation: "There are millions and millions and millions of houses in America but a low percentage of homes." Southwestern hopes to break this trend and encourage a movement back to the primacy of the home. A grand opening celebration is planned when the house is complete.

In addition to supporting Southwestern's homemaking program, the Horners also provide jewelry for the seminary's Dressed for Service ministry and have made contributions to the new chapel building campaign. They dedicated this homemaking house in honor of Andy's mother, Sarah Horner, who was an Irish immigrant to Canada and a single mother of 13 children.



the power of Christ and with the help of the Holy Spirit, Mrs. Dorothy Patterson demonstrates strength and noble character while carrying out her responsibilities in ministry and in the home. A typical day for Mrs. Patterson includes waking up early to provide breakfast and spend time with her husband, attend chapel, host a lunch for invited guests, greet important donors or trustees, teach academic classes, work on her writing, encourage the women who are a part of Southwestern Seminary, and take a phone call from her granddaughters. From recruiting students to hosting alumni and friends of the seminary to assisting with various development projects, her list of numerous activities benefits every area of Southwestern Seminary.

As Southwestern Seminary's first lady, she is also the backbone and driving force behind its women's programs. Mrs. Patterson never ceases to amaze those who work alongside her with the incredible God-given ability she has to perform these endless tasks well. Candi Finch, a doctoral student at Southwestern, stated, "Mrs. Patterson is tireless in her pursuit to honor God daily through whatever ministry God has provided for her, whether supporting her husband, teaching a class, counseling a student, or hosting a hospitality event."

#### IN THE HOME

At the age of 19, Mrs. Patterson married Paige Patterson, her childhood sweetheart. After 45 years together, President Patterson beautifully describes her as "the most unselfish human I have ever known." The Pattersons' union illustrates God's established purpose for marriage, as she willingly submits to the loving leadership of her husband. Mrs. Patterson comments, "He asks for my input and listens respectfully to the insights I have to share. I feel loved and useful, even when he does not accept my counsel."

Some people may wonder why Mrs. Patterson is not referred to as "Dr. Patterson" after learning that she holds two doctorates. However, for Dorothy Patterson the title of "Mrs.," signifying the high calling of wife and mother, comes before the ministry associated with the title of "Dr." Mrs. Patterson's first priority has always been to support her husband and to join with him in rearing their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.



In fact, Mrs. Patterson has authored and contributed to many works on the family, including: *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood, A Handbook for Parents in Ministry; Where's Mom?: The High Calling of Wife and Mother in Biblical Perspective; and The Family: Unchanging Principles for Changing Times.* 

Amidst success, Mrs. Patterson has not sacrificed the well being of her family. Her oldest granddaughter, Abigail, age 10, says her grandmother is the first person she turns to for advice, and she has taught her to "love and serve the Lord in everything" she does. Concerning families, Mrs. Patterson explains, "We would have no churches without the families that undergird their work; we would have no communities without the backbone of families that serve their needs; and we will have no future generations without willing wombs and nurturing care of offspring."

#### DEMONSTRATING HOSPITALITY

In addition to Mrs. Patterson's dedication to the home, she is widely known for her ministry of hospitality (Rom 12:13). Pecan Manor hosts more than 4,000 people each year and serves as the central greeting place for friends of the seminary. The majority of the house is open to the public, including two dining rooms, multiple sitting areas, offices, and the Pattersons' library. Inside these walls, the Pattersons cultivate relationships and communicate the seminary's message to a broad range of guests.

Another way in which Mrs. Patterson provides hospitality is by making welcome baskets for the special guests staying on campus and hospital baskets for Southwestern friends and families undergoing medical difficulties. Through the staff at Pecan Manor, she provides meals for students, faculty, and staff who are celebrating the arrival of a new baby, loved ones in the hospital, or the unfortunate passing of a family member. Not surprisingly, Mrs. Patterson's 8-year-old granddaughter Rebekah admires her grandmother's giving spirit and "how she is always doing nice things for people."

In every area of hospitality, Mrs. Patterson points to the Gospel. Plates and decorations with Scripture verses and personally sharing the love of Christ with house guests are a few examples of how she uses the gift of hospitality to demonstrate what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

#### **EXCELLING ACADEMICALLY**

Mrs. Patterson earned an undergraduate degree from Hardin-Simmons University, a Master of Theology from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, a Doctor of Ministry from Luther Rice Seminary, and a Ph.D. from the University of South Africa. The motivation behind the degrees came from being a good steward of God-given gifts as well as from her desire to support the ministry of her husband, who constantly encouraged her to complete these degrees.

As Dr. Paige Patterson took on presidential roles at Criswell College, Southeastern Seminary, and presently Southwestern Seminary, Mrs. Patterson volunteered to teach women's classes ranging from theology to practical ministry without pay as a way of supporting her husband's ministry. She also offers her class, "Wife of the Equipping Minister," to all women attending the seminary and seminary wives at no charge. "Where are the volunteers today," asks Mrs. Patterson.



As a woman who draws upon the strength of the Lord to combat the harmful aspects of contemporary culture, Mrs. Patterson is a strong warrior for the biblical view of womanhood. In 1983, she served as chairman of the Presidential Bible Committee for President Reagan. She and her husband were among the original signers of the Danvers Statement in 1987, a document defining the complementarian position on biblical manhood and womanhood. She also helped form and now serves on the Council for Biblical Man-

hood and Womanhood. Internationally, Mrs. Patterson serves on the 16-member selection committee of the World Congress of Families that is scheduled to meet in Amsterdam in 2009.

Mrs. Patterson helps provide leadership and influence for the advocacy of complementarianism through her writing. She contributed the chapter titled "The High Calling of Wife and Mother in Biblical Perspective" in *Recovering Biblical Manhood* and Womanhood, a book that responded to feminist theology. She is currently editing a two-volume commentary on the Bible, *The Women's Evangelical Commentary*, in part to combat feminists' interpretation of Scripture. Her other works, *Should Women serve as Pastors*? and *A Woman Seeking God: Discover God in the Places of Your Life*, further serve to defend proper biblical roles for women.

In addition, Mrs. Patterson's role in directing and editing *The Woman's Study Bible* and in writing *BeAttitudes for Women* have contributed resources specifically focused on insights from Scripture relating to women. A comprehensive list of her articles and contributions can be found at www.dorothypatterson.info.

#### MENTORING WOMEN

As God blesses Mrs. Patterson's gifts of writing books and teaching courses, He also continues to place her in a position where she can mentor and influence women and women's programs across the world for the purpose of bringing glory to Christ. The Pattersons annually visit former seminary students serving on the mission field and are able to minister to both husbands and wives.

Following is a short list of some of the women who have been directly influenced through the teaching of Mrs. Patterson: Ter-

ri Stovall, dean of women's programs at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Trish Hawley, professor at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Alicia Wong, director of women's programs at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; Jaye Martin, director of women's programs at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and director of women's evangelism for the North American Mission Board; Monica Rose, professor of women's studies courses at Liberty University; and Ashley Allen, who is helping lead the student wives' program at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Through modeling a proper program for women's studies and influencing these ladies, Mrs. Patterson shapes and molds women's studies programs at many conservative institutions in the nation. Dr. Terri Stovall is grateful that God has given Patterson a clear vision of what theological education for women looks like.

Furthermore, Trish Hawley says, "Mrs. Patterson has been a true exhorter and encourager. From early on she believed in me and wanted to give me opportunities that few others were doing at the time. She is like that with everyone who is willing to work hard to show herself approved. She has worked very hard throughout her life to be diligent in her studies, and she honors others who are willing to do the same without favoritism. She is a true friend, who will both encourage and correct you as the season predicates."



Women taught by Mrs. Patterson all point to the same lesson she instilled in them: Scripture. Her sincere passion is to teach women the inspired, inerrant Word of God. She frequently challenges her students to realize they will either "live under Scripture or above it." Watching Mrs. Patterson at seminary graduation reveals her commitment to her students and to her Lord. With tears of joy and a face beaming with pride, she embraces the women the Lord sends to learn and to faithfully teach His Word.

#### SERVING THE CHURCHES

In addition to serving alongside her husband during his years of service in the local church, Mrs. Patterson remains committed to training women in ministry. She has influenced countless pastors' wives through personal mentoring. Her writings, such as the chapter "The Universal Spare Part: A Look at the Pastor's Wife" in *The Church at the Dawn of the 21st Century*, provides inspiration and encouragement. Her perspective provides a valued voice in articles such as "Why I Believe Southern Baptist Churches Should Not Ordain Women," "Should Women Serve as Pastors," "Role in the Church: Two Views," and "The Impact of Feminism on the Church and State."

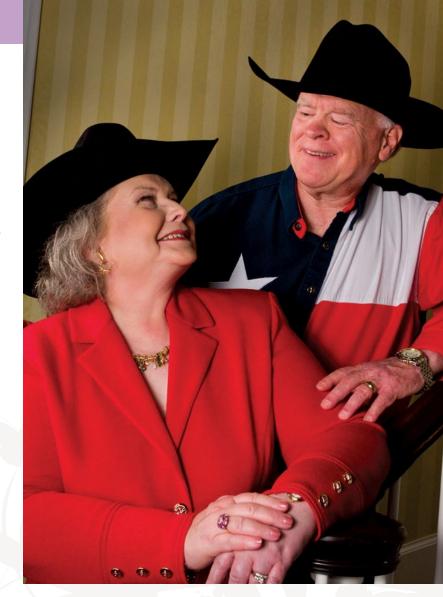
Mrs. Patterson serves as one of the leaders in the Women's Leadership Consultation, a forum for local church leaders in women's ministry to network, learn, and apply biblical truth. She has hosted and served as president of the executive committee of the SBC Ministers' Wives' Luncheon, which occurs annually at the Southern Baptist Convention. In 1998, she helped develop the new article on the family for the Southern Baptist Convention's revised confession of faith, the *Baptist Faith and Message*.

The ministry and heart of Mrs. Patterson thrives on the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ from the local church to the ends of the earth. Her commitment has taken her to more than 75 countries where she met with Pope John Paul II in the Vatican, had coffee with former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, and was the guest of Yaser Arafat at a banquet in Saddam Hussein's palace guesthouse in Baghdad.

#### CONCLUSION

The heritage of Mrs. Patterson will live well past her life on earth. She still actively teaches women whom she says are among the brightest of tomorrow. Her example and motivation push women to become biblically and theologically trained to better serve the local church and God's Kingdom. One of her desires is to see a generation of well-trained female Bible teachers for women's ministries in the churches.

Southwestern's dean of women's programs, Terri Stovall, states, "Every now and again, a person will come along at just the right time with a unique gifting and a purposeful vision that is used in such a significant way that there will never be another like them.



Mrs. Patterson is one of these people. She has worked to endlessly protect that which God has entrusted to us. Mrs. Patterson has been a driving force behind the development of so many opportunities for our women. Since she has come to Southwestern, our women's academic programs have quadrupled."

Dr. Patterson perfectly and eloquently describes his wife best, "I doubt that there ever lived a stronger advocate for womanhood, wifehood, motherhood, and grandmotherhood than my remarkable wife." And, she truly is remarkable. As a beautiful reflection of Christ and a godly woman of strength and noble character, she is a woman greatly to be praised.

Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

PROVERBS 31:28-30

# Southwestern Seminary Women's Programs

Southwestern is blessed with some of the brightest and godliest women training for ministry in the world today. Despite various backgrounds, they all seek one goal: *to make Christ known wherever God has called them*. From engaging state legislatures to college students, Southwestern's women stand equipped and ready to fight the secular views of the culture. In academic settings and in the home, they model the biblical paradigm for womanhood, promising to be the next generation of woman-to-woman mentors and ministers. In the following pages, take a glimpse at some of these women and see what God is doing in and through them as they yield their lives to Him. Ashley Smith has a unique view of Southwestern Seminary. Not only is she married to Steven Smith, assistant professor of preaching and associate dean for the professional doctoral program, but she is a student herself. This close proximity has shown her that Southwestern is an outstanding school, accomplishing a purpose grander than itself.

Her husband's close relationship with the seminary affirmed Southwestern's "Christ-centered focus and excellent academic standard." After evaluating the different programs, she began pursing a Doctor of Ministry in 2007.

"I believe it will help prepare me for the ministry opportunities in my future." Smith says the degree enforces the idea that the role of wife and mother will always be her primary calling.

Smith is grateful that Southwestern recognizes the primacy of the family and God-given roles. This summer, she was scheduled for a two-week doctoral seminar. Understanding her role as wife and mother, her professors worked with her to make sure priorities stayed in order.

"Southwestern helped me maintain a high academic standard as well as allow me to be a good mom," Smith says. "The most important lesson I am learning is to align my priorities with God and keep balance in my life."

Currently, Smith speaks to women about what God's Word has to say to them. After completing her degree, Smith plans to continue speaking but hopes her doctoral training will allow her to write with the "focus of teaching women the Bible while being near to my family. I will continue to commit my prized time to my daughters and family," she says.

Her husband says, "I am grateful for her sacrifice of putting me and the girls first and letting other things fall in when they can. Motherhood is unique in this way; the actuality of being a mother is ministry, and it prepares one for a broader ministry to the church. Ashley is a very gifted communicator. It has been a thrill to watch her grow in exegetical competence and into a deepening commitment to stay faithful to the text she teaches."

The Smiths feel Southwestern is home inside and outside of the classroom. "We love the relationships we have built here," she says. "It is so much fun to enjoy the privilege of getting to know faculty and students who will spend their lives serving God all over the world."

"Few environments provide a constant reminder of God's big picture, and we feel so blessed to be a part of a seminary family whose primary focus is Kingdom work," Smith says.







Candi Finch

As a child, Candi Finch attended church sporadically with her family. When her brother and twin sister got involved in the youth group at church, Christ began to work in her life.

"I remember our youth minister coming to our house," Finch recalls. "He invited me to come to the youth group . . . but I never did. I thanked him but told him that wasn't really my thing."

Shortly after, Finch ended up at a conference with her sister. God used the speaker's illustration of the hole in unbelievers' hearts that could only be filled by Jesus to bring conviction and repentance.

"From then on my life changed, and I never looked back," Finch says.

God placed several women to mentor Finch along the way. Her youth pastor's wife answered her questions in the beginning, but her pastor's wife, Jean Knight, formally mentored her. "She believed in me, cultivated my heart for missions, and stretched me in my walk."

After her freshman year of high school, Finch went on a mission trip to Miami. "I remember thinking, 'I could do this for the rest of my life.' I knew I wanted to be in ministry, but I didn't know if it was what God wanted," Finch recalls.

Finch struggled for two years before realizing she could do nothing else with her life but serve the Lord. "I knew if I could do for one student what the women in my life had done for me, it would be enough."

Finch currently mentors two sophomore girls at Glenview Baptist church and one college student who recently began serving as a missionary in Tanzania.

Finch is pursuing Ph.D. studies at Southwestern, majoring in systematic theology with a minor in church history. Finch is open to whatever the Lord wants her to do with her life but loves teaching. "There is such a great need for women to be taught biblical womanhood, especially by women with theological convictions like Mrs. Patterson. That's where my heart is."

Finch says God used mentors to change her life's direction. Now she desires to be used by God through the education and ministry example she has received at Southwestern to help change the lives of others.

This January, Austen Brown, a junior in the College at Southwestern, will testify before the Texas Board of Education to promote intelligent design (ID) as a viable subject in public school science curriculum. Her title of Miss Arlington, a preliminary pageant of the Miss America Scholarship Program, opened the door for the opportunity.

If your perception of pageant girls includes curling irons, frappuccinos, and world peace, prepare to be pleasantly surprised. Austen Brown's character and intelligence overshadow her tiara, and her high heels do not hinder her strong walk with the Lord.

"The high school I attended received numerous awards for the high levels of education it offered. I had a full scholarship to college. But I had never heard of intelligent design until I came to Southwestern," Brown admits.

"Would you go into a surgery with a surgeon who only has half of the information about the procedure? No. But that's what we're doing to our young people when we neglect to teach them about intelligent design. They walk out into the world blind," she says.

At the spring meeting for all Miss Texas 2008 competitors, Brown met Texas Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst. When Dewhurst opened the floor for questions after his speech, Brown asked his opinion of ID. After dialoging with her in front of the other contestants for several minutes, Dewhurst requested to meet with Brown individually in late July.

Her long-term goals include a state mandate for all districts to teach ID alongside evolution. "I would love to see a mandatory curriculum where young people are exposed to the truths of intelligent design as well as the weaknesses of Neo-Darwinism," she states.

She also hopes if this mandate passes in Texas that it would have a ripple effect on other states. Dewhurst also invited Brown to bring along William Dembski, research professor in philosophy and a leader in the field of ID, when she addresses the state board of education.

What began as an attempt to earn scholarship money developed into a platform for Brown to influence the science curriculum taught across Texas in primary and secondary education. Brown may not have won the title of Miss Texas, but she would not trade the role she has now for the extra row of stones in the state crown.

"God made sure in the beginning that I knew this had nothing to do with me," she says. "He is consistent and faithful. It is about Him."







Jenny McChesney was beginning to wonder if she would be able to make it through boot camp. She felt so alone. She had never been away from her friends and family or her beautiful home in Hawaii. Upon her arrival, her drill instructors confiscated everything but her Bible.

She read God's Word each night before going to bed. She poured her heart out to God, realizing He was all she had. Slowly, she began to feel less alone and more empowered to make it through the strict training.

"His Word sustained me. His promises kept me going. He really did hear me. It was through His grace and His faithfulness alone that I made it through that challenging time of my life," McChesney says. Soon thereafter, she surrendered her life to the ministry and enrolled at Southwestern to pursue a Master of Divinity.

Class assignments and the reading workload clued McChesney in that she had now entered Bible boot camp. Southwestern was in fact more academically challenging than she expected. "Each course is in-depth and requires intense study of Scripture and related works," she says.

McChesney knew God would sustain and keep her through this as well. Hardship at seminary differs from boot camp. Her professors, unlike her drill sergeants, treat her as an individual and not a number. They not only teach but also invest in her personally.

One of her favorite professors is Paul Hoskins, assistant professor of New Testament. "Apart from helping me with Greek verb charts and parsing in the classroom, he has encouraged me in my academics and my walk with the Lord," McChesney says. "He desires to see me succeed at seminary and in my walk with Christ. Each week, I go to his house to have dinner with his family and participate in a Bible study his wife leads with several other seminary women."

She also stays encouraged through her job at the Recreation Aerobics Center (RAC) on campus. "The friendships I have made with co-workers and fellow students make the demands of school much lighter."

Prior to coming to Southwestern, McChesney's passion revolved around discipling youth. However, since becoming involved in women's programs on campus, she has become burdened for women's ministry. She is now focused on developing her biblical knowledge and fulfilling her commitment to Christ.

McChesney says, "My desire is to stay strong in my faith and trust God in all circumstances." Relying upon God, McChesney can handle whatever boot camp lies ahead. She could hardly believe her eyes when she read the job description on the seminary's church minister relations Web site. It was the perfect match for the call God had placed on her life. Walsh describes her journey to her first full-time ministry position as "one giant 'yes' from God moving me in that direction."

Bethany Walsh completed a Master of Arts in Christian Education at the beginning of July. Just three weeks later, she moved to Memphis, Tenn., to begin serving as the women's director of college ministry at Bellevue Baptist Church.

While a student at Texas A&M University, Walsh spent most of her time at Central Baptist Church. Kyle Hoover (MDiv 2002), the university pastor, regularly expressed his passion for college students remaining a part of the body of Christ. As graduation approached, she knew God was calling her to minister to college women in the church setting.

"So many students go away to college, and they don't go to church anymore. They might join a Christian organization on campus, but the statistics are unreal about the number of college students that just stop going to church," Walsh says.

She enrolled at Southwestern Seminary and began volunteering with the college ministry at Travis Avenue Baptist Church. Through her classes and ministry involvement, the Lord confirmed her conviction to work with college women in the local church. However, she also encountered doubt whenever she shared her passion with others. What church would have a college ministry large enough to justify a woman on staff full time?

The Lord encouraged Walsh, reminding her of the women who had mentored her. In high school, Whitney Prosperi led the girl's ministry at Champion Forest Baptist Church and specifically invested in the female students in the youth group. In college, Hoover's wife was also heavily influential in her life.

Bellevue recently renovated three office buildings centrally located between the city's college campuses. Walsh is excited about the campus outreach opportunities "The Vue" will offer and plans to reach out to sororities, women's sports teams, and other women's organizations on campus.

Walsh says, "God has shown me that no matter what others may suggest, God will provide a place for me to serve when He places a passion in my heart. I desire for college students to become so involved in seeing the whole church work together for His purpose that they are always active in the body of Christ."



BethanyWalsh

Keep these letters. They will serve as my journal. n her first letter I have had incredible opportunities of witness to students, to the letter would residents, to faculty. They have given me opportunity to speak in very secular environments and programs, and they tell me they want me to talk about being a missionary surgeon in India. The most important thing we have to remember when we think of God's call is that we must be willing to obey without qualification. Especially I think for young women, they often want to put up some qualifiers: 'I am willing to go if I have a husband. I am not willing to go if I am single.' We really cannot put conditions; we have to be willing to do whatever and know that God is going to supply whatever may be needed along the way. That has certainly been my experience. I could sum this up by saying that being in the place to which God has called you gives such joy and privilege that's totally independent of the circumstances that may surround you. Rebekah Naylor









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ALUMNUS PROFILE

By Keith Collier

### REBEKAH NAYLOR: COMMITMENT TO GOD'S CALL

"Keep these letters. They will

#### serve as my journal."

When Rebekah Naylor wrote these words in her first letter home from college in 1960, she never imagined the letter would be the first of 4,091 letters throughout the next 40 years that would chronicle her faithful commitment to God's call on her life. His call has led her down many roads and into various roles, including clinical physician, medical missionary, hospital administrator, professor, and strategy coordinator for the International Mission Board (IMB).

Aspiring to be a doctor at an early age, Naylor first felt called to ministry at age 13 during the Lottie Moon missions week at her church. She waited to tell her family until she was 15, although they were not surprised. Her father, Robert Naylor, was president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at that time and was extremely supportive.

After completing medical school at Vanderbilt School of Medicine in Nashville, Tenn., Naylor began her residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, which was a cross-cultural setting that helped prepare her for the mission field. Because of her gender, though, her desire to be a surgeon was not widely accepted within the hospital.

"They had never taken a woman in the program before and they never took another one for 10 years," Naylor says. "I was the only female in a male-dominated world. Some faculty and peers thought I shouldn't be there, but others were supportive, including the department chairman."

Upon completing her residency, Naylor attended Southwestern Seminary in preparation for her missionary assignment to India with the IMB. "This opened up for me a new area of interest and vision that I had not had before," she says. Her classes in personal evangelism, philosophy of religion, and systematic theology gave her a broader vision of what life was all about.

In 1974, Naylor excitedly arrived at the newly constructed Bangalore Baptist Hospital in India and knew immediately that it was where God wanted her to be. This would be the place she would devote her life to, adjusting and adapting to the needs of the ministry as they developed. "My roles at Bangalore Baptist Hospital were quite varied and kind of evolved as the ministry evolved," says Naylor. Her roles progressed from clinical physician and surgeon to chief of medical staff and then chief officer of the hospital by the mid-'80s. Her responsibilities also included mentoring young professionals as surgeons, teaching formal classes for doctors in residency, opening a school of nursing, and launching a chaplaincy training program.

"Another role that I enjoyed was that of discipler and, of course, witness, which was really integrated into my other roles," Naylor says. "I had many opportunities to lead Bible studies and discipleship groups with hospital staff and young professionals."

In 1999, she became the IMB strategy coordinator for the state of Karnaktaka, India, a role she continues in today. She has worked alongside Indian evangelists and church planters across the state. Throughout her years, she has seen the impact the Gospel has had in India.

"The Gospel impacted our city, our state, and the culture as we in the hospital would tell patients about Jesus Christ. We had unrestricted, wonderful opportunities to witness to patients," Naylor says, adding, "The hospital has given credibility to the witness so that when someone goes out into a village and is identified with us and with Baptists, they are respected, and they are allowed to speak.

"I could sum this up by saying that being in the place to which God has called you gives such joy and privilege that's totally independent of the circumstances that may surround you."

"In the first 35 years of medical missions through the hospital, over 900 churches were started, and that is definitely a big impact in the community and surrounding area. Today the hospital's spiritual ministry remains a priority. In the last 12 months, we've had well over 2,000 professions of faith in the hospital." Naylor loves to give advice to those interested in missions, especially women. "It's a privilege at this stage of my life, on the other end of the career, to give advice to young people who are interested in missions and who feel that God is calling them. My first point of advice is to be very sure of your call, to know exactly what it is that God intends for you. The second point of advice would be that whatever is that place of service, God will equip you for it and sustain you through it.

"The most important thing we have to remember when we think of God's call is that we must be willing to obey without qualification. Especially I think for young women, they often want to put up some qualifiers: 'I am willing to go if I have a husband. I am not willing to go if I am single.' We really cannot put conditions; we have to be willing to do whatever and know that God is going to supply whatever may be needed along the way. That has certainly been my experience.

"I could sum this up by saying that being in the place to which God has called you gives such joy and privilege that's totally independent of the circumstances that may surround you."

Naylor also serves as an associate professor and director of student education in the department of surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, a position that has given her ministry opportunities despite being in a secular state university.

"I have had incredible opportunities of witness to students, to residents, to faculty. They have given me opportunities to speak in very secular environments and programs, and they tell me they want me to talk about being a missionary surgeon in India."

Naylor will finish her IMB active status and retire in January 2009. She plans to stay involved overseas and continue to mobilize long-term missionaries.

Naylor is thankful for her connection with Southwestern, both as a president's daughter and a student. "It is a school which is so committed to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ here and all over the world, that it is a privilege to be identified with Southwestern Seminary."

The story of Naylor's life has been captured by her lifelong friend Camille Lee Hornbeck in the recently published *Rebekah Ann Naylor*, *M.D.: Missionary Surgeon in Changing Times*, available through Hannibal Books.



# DONOR PROFILE

By Michelle Myers

# \$100,000 ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED FOR STUDENT PASTORS' WIVES

Tommy French, pastor of Jefferson Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, La., does not believe you find a good woman behind every good man. Instead, she stands beside him, just as his wife Mary did during their lifetime of ministry.

"I don't know how a man can lead a church without the help of a godly woman. I think her side-by-side ministry is why they've kept me for 50 years," he joked. This spring, French celebrated his 50th year as pastor at Jefferson Baptist Church.

In 2001, Mary was diagnosed with cancer, beginning in her breast and spreading to her lungs. After treatment and surgery, the doctors knew they had eliminated the cancer from her body but were rightfully concerned it would return. Exactly five years after her last surgery, the cancer came back aggressively. By November 2007, the doctors knew there was nothing left they could do.

Mary did not want to spend her last days in the hospital. "I wish you could come with me," she whispered to her husband as he cared for her at home. French knew it was not the Lord's time for him, but he told her, "I promise to walk you to the gate." For the next two months, French made sure that he or his two daughters were with Mary at all times.

As Mary was courageously battling cancer, French also became burdened for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and his good friends, Paige and Dorothy Patterson. He began frequently witnessing attacks from secular media for Southwestern's women's programs, particularly the academic track for seminary wives and the homemaking concentration within the College at Southwestern.

"Mary never wanted any recognition for her hard work," French said. "But I promised her I would donate money to help equip pastors' wives in her memory. She still didn't want the credit, but she believed in the purpose of the scholarship."

Mary faced eternity with dignity and went to be with the Lord on Jan. 16, 2008. A few days later, French informed the Pattersons of his generous donation. "I told Dorothy, 'I want this scholarship to set up exactly what you want to accomplish because I support what you're doing. I also don't want my Mary to be forgotten,'" French recalls.

Together, they developed the details of the Mary French Priscilla Scholarship. The award will go to the wife of a student preparing for ministry who desires to further her own education. She will also participate in a high level of mentoring, most of which will be done by the first lady of the seminary. With an endowment level of \$100,000, this scholarship will cover tuition, fees, books, and opportunities to participate in selected conferences, including the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. She will also receive a brief biography of Mary's life.

French proudly acknowledges Mary's tireless service to the church. In addition to helping French establish the church itself, she founded the Jefferson Baptist Kindergarten and Preschool in 1967, where she served as director for 14 years. She also served in the church wherever there was a need, whether teaching Sunday school, singing in the choir, coordinating weddings, or counseling a member who needed someone to listen.

"A pastor's wife is called to complement her husband in ministry," French says. "As a helper, you have to be theologically sound and know your husband's craft. This scholarship will give the needed tools and training to best assist their husbands, just as Mary did for me."

French is delighted to have the opportunity to give back to Southwestern. When he was a student, he remembers sitting in the library and being so thankful for the men and women who donated money to build it and fill it with resources.

"I can preach because of their investment to educate me," French says with humility. "I want to support Southwestern's leaders and staff as well as enable students to do what God has called them to do."



By Keith Collier

#### From a Hill in Havana

From Seminary Hill in Fort Worth, Texas, to a seminary on a hill in Havana, Cuba, a partnership has been forged, making it possible for Cuban pastors to receive the theological training they need to serve the Lord in a country where the Gospel is spreading. For three years, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has been training professors in the areas of evangelism and missions at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Havana, which was on the verge of closing several years ago.

The Cuban seminary has since experienced astounding growth, increasing enrollment from 68 students in 2006 to more than 650 students in 2008 through its main campus and seven extension centers across Western Cuba. Paige Patterson, president of Southwestern Seminary, and Daniel Sanchez, the Vernon D. and Jeanette Davidson Chair of Missions and director of the Scarborough Institute for Church Growth at Southwestern, participated in the Cuban seminary's graduation ceremonies at Calvario Baptist Church in Havana, June 6.

"The historic occasion of the graduation of 150 students from a seminary that a few years ago was on the brink of extinction with only two students enrolled was like attending the day of Pentecost," Patterson said. During the ceremony, Sanchez awarded seven professors with their "licenciatura" degrees (equivalent to master's degrees), and then those professors handed diplomas to the students they had been able to train since completing their degree plan.

"The Cubans have succeeded not only in planting literally hundreds of new churches but also in planting churches that remain confessionally Baptist and ardently evangelistic."

"The large assembly of people meeting at Calvario Baptist Church seemed to have the smile of God upon all that transpired," Patterson said. "I was particularly grateful for the leadership of our own Dr. Dan Sanchez



Daniel Sanchez conducts commencement ceremonies for the Baptist Theological Seminary of Havana.

as well as Hermes Soto, pastor of McCall Memorial Baptist Church and the president of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Havana, and oncologist Dr. Victor Samuel Gonzalez, the president of the Baptist Convention of Western Cuba. The partnership of the Cuban seminary with Southwestern will continue to make a profound difference in the future both for Cuban Baptists and for us."

Sanchez mentioned his joy in leading the project. "In light of the fact that the Cuban people are responding so well to the Gospel at this time, it is indeed a privilege for us here at Southwestern Seminary to partner with the seminary in Cuba in its task of training leaders to serve all of the churches that are emerging as a result of a church planting movement that is taking place at this point."

Patterson agreed, adding, "The house church planting movement in Cuba is easily the most remarkable that I have observed in all of my extensive travel throughout the world. The Cubans have succeeded not only in planting literally hundreds of new churches but also in planting churches that remain confessionally Baptist and ardently evangelistic." In many cases, eight to 10 of these house churches relate directly to a historic congregation and consequently meet the needs on every level of society.

The team attended Casa Victoria, a local house church located in the poorest part of Havana, where more than 150 young people had recently come to faith in Jesus Christ. The majority of them came from a life ruled by alcohol, drugs, or prostitution. Inspired by their conversion stories, Patterson remarked, "Seeing the modesty with which these young people dressed and hearing their remarkably cogent and biblical testimonies could not soon be forgotten."

Southwestern looks forward to continuing its partnership with the Cuban seminary. Every couple of years, Southwestern will bring professors to Fort Worth for concentrated training. In addition, Southwestern professors will visit Cuba to give specialized training to professors in Havana.

"Just a little bit of help and encouragement from us can make a big difference," said Sanchez. "We were truly inspired by the commitment of Cuban Baptists to the Lord and to the spreading of the Gospel."

By Keith Collier

## Alumni Luncheon Highlights God's Ongoing Work at Southwestern Seminary

Celebrating its 100th year of training ministers, Southwestern welcomed alumni and friends from around the country to its centennial year alumni luncheon during the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting, June 11.

Eugene Florence, Gary Moore, and Tom Elliff were recipients of the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Awards. President Paige Patterson commended them for their faithful service to the Lord and for representing Southwestern Seminary throughout their ministries.

As an African-American student at Southwestern from 1943 to 1951, Florence was enrolled in the Negro Extensions program and received his diploma of theology. After recognizing that the coursework he completed actually qualified him for a master's degree rather than merely a diploma in theology, Patterson presented Florence with a Master of Divinity in 2004.

Florence graciously accepted his Distinguished Alumnus Award to a standing ovation by alumni and revealed his heart on the issue of race. "I don't see color; I just see all God's people," he said. As for what the future holds, the 104-year-old said, "However many years I have left, I just want to be a blessing." Despite his advanced years, he continues to preach the Gospel whenever he gets the chance.

Moore serves as senior associate pastor of Second Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, and is an award-winning musician and composer. Expressing his appreciation for the seminary, Moore said, "The faculty took great attention, great care, and great love to not only teach the students the necessities of life but also the hard things they needed to do to succeed and make their ministries effective."

Elliff served as pastor of several churches, including 20 years at First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., before arriving at his current position as senior vice president of spiritual nurture and church relations for the International Mission Board (IMB). He considers his days at Southwestern one of the most influential times in his life. "When seminary students talk about seminary," he said, "we don't talk as much about what we learned as who we learned under. We talk about the people who influenced our lives, and I can give you a list of folks who influenced my life deeply while at Southwestern Seminary."

Patterson shared his annual alumni report, noting the many ways God is blessing Southwestern Seminary. Recognizing the seminary's presence around the world, he pointed to degree programs offered through Southwestern in Germany, Korea, and the Philippines as well as theological training in various locations in South America, Africa, Europe, and Asia. Southwestern also boasts an international faculty from countries all over the globe.

Patterson praised faculty and students for their ongoing involvement and passion for evangelism and missions. "Missions becomes the air you breathe," he said. "The mission and evangelistic task of the church becomes the very atmosphere of the school. Ladies and gentleman, that's the way it ought to be, and that's the way it is at Southwestern Seminary now."



In election of National Alumni officers,

Southwestern's jazz ensemble performs for alumni at the annual alumni luncheon.





Eugene Florence addresses alumni luncheon at SBC annual meeting.

By Benjamin Hawkins

## One Lost, Many Found in the Zambian Bush

Nearly two centuries have passed since the renowned missionary and explorer David Livingstone disappeared in "deepest, darkest" Africa until an American journalist found him six years later. This summer, a student from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary followed God's missionary call and lost his way in the head-high grass and countless intersecting footpaths of the same African bush.

Christians, he said, should not "underestimate what the Lord can do and will do when we present His Word and will as clearly as we can to those who profess their faith in Him."

It was nearly dark when Anthony Brister finally found his way back to camp, unharmed. Brister traveled to Zambia with a team of five other volunteers from Southwestern in early June. They pitched camp in the African wild, east of the nation's capital, where nobody wants to lose his way.

According to Art Savage, however, many Zambians are lost in a maze of religious ideas far more confusing than the winding paths of the African wilderness. Savage, associate director of the World Missions Center, rejoiced that nearly 90 Zambians found their way out of this maze when they believed the Gospel. "Zambia is a very open country ... to everybody," Savage said, including Catholics, Seventh-day Adventists, Hindus, Buddhists, and regional cults. With this plurality of religions, Zambians in the bush are often left wondering whom they should follow, and for how long: "Do I follow you today and the next guy tomorrow?"

The Southwestern team confronted this problem: After showing the Jesus film, they would invite interested Zambians to a meeting where they could teach them about what it means to be Christians and Baptists.

Waylan Owens, professor of pastoral ministry at Southwestern, attributed the growth of these new converts ultimately to the work of the Spirit, adding that he could not "quantify" the impact of the morning lessons to the Zambian believers and the newly planted churches.

Christians, he said, should not "underestimate what the Lord can do and will do when we present His Word and will as clearly as we can to those who profess their faith in Him."

At the end of their trip, the Southwestern team traveled to the city of Livingstone, near Zambia's border with Zimbabwe. From there, they visited Victoria Falls. David Livingstone was the first European to discover these falls, and they have since been listed among the wonders of the natural world. But, as Southwestern student Pam Schroer commented, "After all the people we met and after how we saw God work, it kind of lost its luster."



Southwesterners participate in a Bible study with Zambians. PHOTO BY JOSHUA OWENS



Zambian mother with her child. PHOTO BY JOSHUA OWENS

## Chamber Chorale Harmonizes Music and Missions in Korea

Faculty and students from Southwestern Seminary harmonized music and missions as they visited five cities in South Korea this summer.

The 13-student Chamber Chorale performed sacred music and proclaimed the Gospel at 29 venues, including churches, schools, and a U.S. military post. According to Stephen Johnson, dean of the School of Church Music, members of the ensemble assumed the need for an excellent performance, but they never lost sight of the greater vision.

"Each student understood that the primary purpose for everything that we were doing was all about ministry," Johnson said. In the course of the trip, hundreds of South Koreans professed faith in Christ. During three concerts in Pohang, a city of nearly 500,000 people and 700 Buddhist temples, almost 400 high school and college students responded in some way to the Gospel message. Of these, more than 300 made professions of faith.

The chorale organized its first mission trip to Korea last year at the invitation of the Far East Broadcasting Company. This company hosted the chorale and committed to follow up with those who expressed interest in the Gospel during the trip.

By Benjamin Hawkins

## Dean of Theology Makes Hebrews Authorship Claim

David Allen, dean of the School of Theology at Southwestern Seminary, addressed a centuries-old debate during the seminary's Northcutt Lectures, Aug. 28-29. In his first lecture, titled "Jesus, Scripture, and Sermon as Word of God," Allen suggested that the book of Hebrews was actually a sermon composed by Luke. The authorship of Hebrews has been debated since Christianity's patristic age, although Christian thinkers have often asserted that the apostle Paul or one of his colleagues was its author.

Allen added that Hebrews is "one of the most important books in the New Testament for its contribution to the nature, the theology and the practice of preaching" since it

"Scripture is the authoritative Word of God in the present," Allen said. "The focus in Hebrews is what God is saying to us now through the word written then. Not once does the author say, 'God has given me a word of knowledge to give to you,' as is common in charismatic circles today." is a sermon based on Psalm 110:1 and 110:4. "The New Testament documents indicate exegesis was the primary method of doing theology in the early church," Allen said.

Allen wrote his doctoral dissertation on the authorship of Hebrews, and is anticipating the publication in 2009 of two books he has written on Hebrews: a commentary on Hebrews in the New American Commentary Series, and The Authorship of Hebrews: The Case for Luke.

During the lecture series, Allen also answered *Charisma* magazine's one-year-old challenge for Southern Baptists to embrace charismatic theology and practice. Allen opposed any charismatic movement among Southern Baptists.

According to Allen, three Southern Baptists appeared on the Trinity Broadcast Network to support the charismatic movement among Baptists only three months after Charisma issued its challenge. One of them suggested that the phrase, "Thus saith the Lord," can be applied to the "prophetic utterances" of modern believers in the same way it is applied to Scripture.

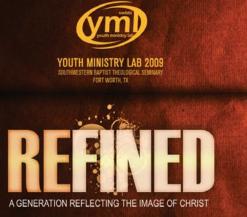
Allen declared that this theological position "denigrates the sufficiency of Scripture," and its message is contrary to that of the biblical book of Hebrews. He made his stand during the second of his Northcutt Lectures, titled "Was the Author of Hebrews a Charismatic?"



Dr. David Allen, dean of the School of Theology at Southwestern Seminary.

"Scripture is the authoritative Word of God in the present," Allen said. "The focus in Hebrews is what God is saying to us now through the word written then. Not once does the author say, 'God has given me a word of knowledge to give to you,' as is common in charismatic circles today." Although the author of Hebrews most likely played an important role in the first-century church, he pointed his audience to the message and authority of the Old Testament, rather than to "extrabiblical revelation."

Allen's lectures can be accessed on Southwestern Seminary's Web site at www.swbts.edu/lectures.





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By Keith Collier and Benjamin Hawkins

## Chaplains Offer Real Independence to Those Who Fight for It

While soldiers, sailors, and airmen in the armed services defend freedom on a daily basis, military chaplains fulfill a higher call of duty, offering spiritual freedom to those who serve our country domestically and abroad. For U.S. Army Chaplain Brandon Denning, God used his past military experience and ministry training at Southwestern to prepare him for the task.

"As chaplains, we deal in relationships," Denning said. "I never thought God would call me to be a missionary." He views chaplaincy as a missionary opportunity to a unique people group.

"The military is often a culture that is overlooked as far as missions is concerned, and yet it is one of the biggest missionary fields we've got out there," Denning said, adding, "We've got soldiers who need the Lord."

"On the battlefield, it's a real battle with real enemies that fire real guns with real bullets," he said. "We're there to provide real answers and real hope with a real Gospel."

In 1996, Denning became the 453rd sentinel to guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington,





Friends and family surround 1st Lt. Brandon Denning and his wife Laura to pray for them during Brandon's commissioning ceremony.

Va. He served in this highly honored post for four years, conducting more than 700 walks before receiving an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army. After leaving the military, he never thought he would return.

While attending Southwestern Seminary for a Master of Divinity with a concentration in pastoral counseling, Denning felt the Lord leading him back toward the military. Through his experience as a volunteer fire chaplain as well as the injury to a friend in Iraq, he began to reconsider military chaplaincy. Upon graduation, he reported for active duty to the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, N.C., June 6.

Justin Woods, president of the chaplain fellowship at Southwestern, spoke of the dangers and duty of chaplains during Denning's chaplain commissioning ceremony, May 9. "On the battlefield, it's a real battle with real enemies that fire real guns with real bullets," he said. "We're there to provide real answers and real hope with a real Gospel."

Tom Vann, associate professor of pastoral ministry and a retired U.S. Army chaplain, said, "Southwestern has a reputation for training high quality military chaplains," adding that between 20 and 30 Southwestern students each year are involved with the armed forces as chaplain candidates.

For the past 100 years, hundreds of Southwesterners have served as military chaplains, taking the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ to life-threatening battlefields around the world. To learn more about this heritage, visit www.swbts.edu/chaplaincy.

# Uncovering a Destruction of Biblical Proportions

During the third year of excavations at Tel Gezer, Israel, archaeologists and volunteers from Southwestern Seminary surveyed the destruction inflicted upon the ancient city during the lifetime of the biblical prophet Isaiah.

"We knew we had nearly four to five feet of collapsed, fired mud-brick, so we knew that there was a fierce conflagration and massive destruction," said Steven Ortiz, associate professor of Archaeology and Biblical Backgrounds at Southwestern. Ortiz is the principal investigator at Tel Gezer and co-directs the excavation alongside Sam Wolff of the Israeli Antiquities Authority. Southwestern Seminary provided eight student volunteers and four excavation staff members. The project serves as a field school for the seminary's Master of Arts program in archaeology and biblical studies.

"The irony is that while most digs in Israel attract evangelical students, there are very few evangelical archaeologists or supervisors working at these sites," he added. "We hope our M.A. program will provide a pool of well-trained students who can not only take leadership positions in field archaeology but also have authoritative voices in debate."

To learn more about Southwestern's dig at Tel Gezer, visit www.gezerproject.org.

By Benjamin Hawkins

#### Southwestern's San Antonio Extension Finds a New Home

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's William R. Marshall Center for Theological Studies moved to Castle Hills First Baptist Church of San Antonio this summer.

"Pastor James Shupp (of Castle Hills) has a heart to call people to the Gospel ministry," Rudy González, dean of the San Antonio extension center, said. "We at Southwestern share that burden as well. In the years ahead we will work to produce top-notch biblical scholars but with a heart for the local church, evangelism, and missions. We believe that Castle Hills can serve as a platform where this kind of passion is on display."

Shupp, pastor of Castle Hills and a graduate of the seminary, said, "Whatever I can do to help Southwestern achieve its dreams is a personal joy to me."

Southwestern's extension center in San Antonio began in 1977 as a cooperative venture of the seminary and the Southwestern Baptist Correlation Committee, composed of representatives from a number of regional Baptist associations. The center has been located at San Antonio's Parkhills Baptist Church since 2001.

"Words cannot express adequately the gratitude that I personally have toward Parkhills Baptist Church," González said. "Everyone, from the pastor, Robert Welch, to the staff and church members, has made the seminary extension feel welcomed on their campus."



Dr. Rudy González, dean of Southwestern's San Antonio extension center.

#### Southwestern Seminary President Washes Student's Feet

During the fall convocation service at Southwestern, President Paige Patterson washed the feet of Master of Theology student Anthony Moore, exemplifying Christ's admonition to service in John 13. Patterson urged students and faculty members to "wash the feet of the saints."

"If you have come to Southwestern ... with anything other in mind than to learn the ways of servanthood, to learn to be a slave to our Lord and to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, which he bought with his own blood, then you have misunderstood the calling," Patterson said in his convocation message, Aug. 21.

While the service of the saints is essential, Patterson noted that Christ also calls ministers to serve the unbeliever.

"He washed the feet of Judas," Patterson said. "He washed the feet of the man who in a short time was going to betray him. ... All your life, you are going to minister to churches. In those churches, there are many of the saved, the saints of God. But in those churches there will also be lost people, many who think that they are OK with God, but in fact they have never been born again. ... May I remind you, sweet student, that it doesn't matter what they are in their hearts or how they act. You are still called to wash their feet."

To view an exclusive Convocation video, visit www.swbts.edu/convocation08.

"If you have come to

Southwestern ... with anything other in mind than to learn the ways of servanthood, to learn to be a slave to our Lord and to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, which he bought with his own blood, then you have misunderstood the calling," Patterson said.



By Keith Collier



Emerson Bolton shares the Gospel with Hungarian couple atop Arthur's seat.

## In the Footsteps of British Baptists

Walking in the footsteps and standing in the pulpits of historic British Baptists such as Charles Spurgeon and Andrew Fuller, students and faculty from Southwestern traveled throughout Great Britain during the Oxford Study Tour, July 7-28. Classes were offered in ecclesiology, Baptist history, and church administration as part of the study tour.

"It was unlike anything I've experienced at seminary so far," said Emerson Bolton. Bolton, an advanced Master of Divinity student, said the onsite lectures enhanced his learning experience while also convicting him of the prevailing lostness in the region.

"I'm reminded of how our mighty God does indeed use seemingly small people and situations to work through to do mighty things for His Glory. We only need to make ourselves available." "There are people sitting at the foot of a martyr's memorial, and they have no clue what they are sitting on the steps of," said Bolton. "It escapes their notice; it's just another spire in their town."

Bolton and others on the trip not only visited historic sites and studied for classes; they also took opportunities to share the Gospel and minister to people wherever they went. The team used preaching, street witnessing, and a dramatic presentation from the book of Matthew to open evangelistic conversations.

Another opportunity occurred at the peak of Arthur's Seat, which is a hill overlooking Edinburgh, Scotland. When a group from the seminary climbed to the top, Bolton decided to read Psalm 19 aloud in order to promote worship from the team as well as to evoke interest from the other tourists.

As he finished reading, a couple from Hungary who were on a bike tour stopped Bolton to ask him what he was reading. He began sharing the Gospel with the man while other team members shared with his girlfriend.

The encounter caused Bolton to marvel at the providence of God. "I think about all of the things that had to happen for me to meet that person." He considered the number of decisions he made throughout the day and the decisions the couple had made that concluded in this "divine appointment."

The annual Oxford trip also had a profound impact on Larry Brown, a Master of Arts student on Southwestern's Houston campus. Visiting places such as William Carey's church showed Brown the many ways God works.

"I'm reminded of how our mighty God does indeed use seemingly small people and situations to work through to do mighty things for His Glory. We only need to make ourselves available."

The Oxford Study Program occurs every summer, offering up to six hours of credit to on-campus and off-campus students. "Any student who goes on this trip is going to come back with a greater sense of what it means to be a Baptist (by seeing) the sacrifices that people made to formulate the beliefs that we hold today," said Bolton. For more information about the program and updates on next year's classes, visit www.swbts.edu/oxford.

## Students from Southwestern Gain a 'Vision' of China

All eyes in the Western world turned toward China as athletes from all nations gathered in Beijing to compete in the Olympic games this summer. In the College at Southwestern, however, both eyes and hearts were opened to the diverse people groups of China and to their need for the Gospel.

A team of 10 students, faculty members, and a seminary alumnus traveled to Kunming, China, May 15-31. They shared the Gospel with university students and learned about the 54 minority groups that make up 10 percent of the nation's population.

The Southwestern "Vision Trip" to China has a 15-year history at the seminary: In 1994, it was initiated to give Korean students an opportunity to share the Gospel in China. Ten years later, the seminary opened the trip to all students, and Jonathan Kim led a group to Kunming for the first time in 2005.

According to Kim, associate professor of education in the College at Southwestern, the school will return to Kunming, May 14-June 1, 2009. Details about upcoming Southwestern Seminary mission trips will be posted on the seminary's Web site at www.swbts.edu/wmc.

## Southwesterners Contribute to SBC Church Membership Resolution

Several individuals from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary made significant contributions to the resolution on regenerate church membership adopted at the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting, June 11.

One of the contributors to the resolution was Bart Barber, pastor of First Baptist Church of Farmersville, Texas, and an alumnus of Southwestern. Barber's submission was taken from a resolution

approved by the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention in November 2007, which was originally drafted by Malcolm Yarnell, associate professor of systematic theology at Southwestern.

Yarnell was also responsible for helping amend the final resolution adopted by the SBC. Yarnell co-edited the book Restoring Integrity in Baptist Churches, which addresses the need for regenerate church membership and church discipline.

## Students Boldly Proclaim Gospel on Two Wheels

As more than 500,000 motorcycles descended on South Dakota's Black Hills for the 68th Annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, staff and students from Southwestern spread the Gospel and ministered to those in need in South Dakota, Aug. 1-10. The mission trip was led by Greg Kingry, vice president for business administration at Southwestern.

During the week, small teams of three to four students went on motorcycle rides around the area to places like Mount Rushmore and Devils Tower, strategically making stops along the way to pass out

Gospel tracts and Bibles as well as engage in evangelistic conversations.

The group's headquarters for the week was The Mission at the Cross, a ministry center run by Hellfighters Motorcycle Ministry. A 60-foot white cross in front of the building beckoned bikers and vendors to come if they needed physical or spiritual help.

As students were sharing the Gospel, they invited people to the mission for free food and a concert each evening. The mission also served as a drop-off location for the police at night if they had individuals who were intoxicated or displaced.

## Seminary Students **Display Missionary** Passion in Thailand

For the third year in a row, Southwestern Seminary and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary joined forces to take the Gospel to Chiang Mai Thailand, July 9-28. Students and faculty members from both seminaries hit the streets, mosques, and temples to witness to the Muslims and Buddhists of the city.

Justin Perry, a Southwestern Master of Divinity student, and his wife Amy traveled to Chiang Mai alongside other Southwesterners. "It is the first context that I have ever worked where people didn't already have a concept of Christianity and who Jesus Christ is," Justin said. "So it is an opportunity to introduce Him, who He is, and what He has done to fresh ears."

The trip was Amy's first time to serve overseas. Since her husband is training to be an international church planter, she was excited to catch a glimpse of the work overseas: "Now that I've experienced it, I have a passion of my own."

## **Conference Highlights** Effectiveness of **Outdoors** Ministry

Connecting the creation with the Creator, Southwestern kicked off the fall semester with the first-ever Trail to Adventure Conference, Aug. 22-23. The conference addressed the impact and evangelistic success of outdoors ministries such as hunting, fishing, archery, and cowboy churches.

"The church has told outdoorsmen that they must leave their interests, hobbies, pastimes, passions, and accomplishments at the door of the church," said Bill Brown, associate professor of evangelism and church planting at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. As a result, Brown said, "Men have left the church."

Engaging men with the Gospel through outdoors ministry reaches individuals who would never attend church otherwise. Gerry Caillouet, president of God's Great Outdoors, recognized that outdoors ministry also connects with a growing number of women.



# **November 6-7** at First Baptist Church Woodstock, GA

A Biblical and Theological Assessment of and Response to 5-Point Calvinism

# Did Jesus die on the cross for every person? Are believers eternally secure? Can grace be resisted?

These and many other questions will be addressed. Sessions presented by the following distinguished guests:

#### **Conference Cost:**

\$95 per person (Conference Only) \$110 per person (Conference with 2 meals)

For more information or to register, visit:

#### www.jerryvines.com

#### **Registration Form:**

Online Registration available or mail this form to:

John 3:16 Conference c/o Jerry Vines Ministries 2295 Towne Lake Parkway, Suite 116 #249 Woodstock, GA 30189

Check payment option preferred:

□ \$95 per person (Conference Only)

□ \$110 per person (Conference with 2 meals, Dinner on Thursday (before Session 1) and Friday breakfast

Name:			
Church Name:			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Daytime Phone: ( )			
Email:			
Number of Attendees: Total Pa	yment Enclosed:		

John 3:16 Dr. Jerry Vines Pastor Emeritus, FBC Jacksonville

**Dr.** Paige Patterson President, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

## **Unconditional Election**

Dr. Richard Land President, The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

#### Limited Atonement

Dr. David Allen Dean, School of Theology, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

#### rresistible Grace

Dr. Steve Lemke Provost, Professor of Philosophy and Ethics, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

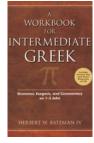
# Perseverance of the Saints

Dr. Ken Keathley Senior Associate Dean and Professor of Theology, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

#### John 3:16 to the entire world

Dr. Charles Stanley Pastor Emeritus, FBC Atlanta and founder of In Touch Ministries

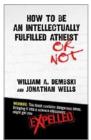
# **FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**



HERBERT W. BATEMAN IV A WORKBOOK FOR INTERMEDIATE GREEK: GRAMMAR, EXEGESIS, AND COMMENTARY ON 1-3 JOHN Kregel, July 2008



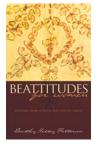
WILLIAM DEMBSKI THE PATRISTIC UNDERSTANDING OF CREATION: AN ANTHOLOGY OF WRITINGS BY THE CHURCH FATHERS ON CREATION AND DESIGN (EDITED COLLECTION) Erasmus Press, June 2008



WILLIAM DEMBSKI HOW TO BE AN INTELLECTUALLY FULFILLED ATHEIST (OR NOT) Dallas Foundation for Thought and Ethics, June 2008







DOROTHY KELLEY PATTERSON BEATTITUDES OF WOMEN: WISDOM FROM HEAVEN FOR LIFE ON EARTH Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2008



DANIEL R. SANCHEZ WITH J.O. TERRY, LAN-ETTE THOMPSON BIBLE STORYING FOR CHURCH PLANTING August 2008



WILLIAM DEMBSKI UNDERSTANDING INTELLIGENT DESIGN: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW IN PLAIN LANGUAGE Harvest House, July 2008

WILLIAM A. DEMBSKI SEAN McDOWELL



FANG-LAN HSIEH CHINESE TRANSLATION OF TERRY YORK'S OBSERVING THE RESTS: 52 PERSONAL DEVOTIONS FOR THE CHOIR MEMBER Grace Publishing House, 2008



WILLIAM RICK YOUNT, ED., WITH 13 FACULTY FROM SCHOOL OF EDUCATION TEACHING MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH, 2ND EDITION B&H Publishers, August 2008

# **ALUMNI & FACULTY NEWS**

By Michelle Myers

## Cullen Receives Willie Turner Dawson Award at SBC

Joy Cullen was selected as the 2008 Willie Turner Dawson Award recipient, an award given to a minister's wife who has made a significant denominational contribution, at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in June.

Because of her short time as a pastor's wife, Cullen felt she was not qualified to receive the honor. At the Ministers' Wives Luncheon, Cullen asked missionary wives to stand and accept the award with her "on behalf of Mrs. William Carey and all those missionary wives who served before me and are serving now."

Cullen and her husband, Bob, served in Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Malaysia with the International Mission Board (IMB) for 36 years. Joy says her greatest accomplishment on the mission field was raising four God-fearing children. "I think that if you lead 1,000 children to Christ overseas, but you neglect your own, I don't see how God is pleased by that." Two of their children are now missionaries in Indonesia, and the other two are in Christian leadership roles in the United States.

They retired from the IMB in 2004 and began teaching as adjunct faculty at Southwestern Seminary. In 2005, Joy accepted the position as the director of the Naylor Children's Center on campus. Shortly after, Bob accepted his first pastoral position at Bear Creek Baptist Church in Glenn Heights. Joy teaches the "Senior Saints" Sunday school class and sings in the choir.

"Just like being a missionary, pastors are still on call 24 hours a day and seven days a week. I sometimes feel the burden of the pastorate, but I never wish we did anything else. When God puts you where he wants you, I don't think you desire to be somewhere else," she advises.



Homemaking professor Laura Zettler stands in the new Horner Homemaking House, which is scheduled to be completed this fall.

## Southwestern Introduces Laura Zettler as Director of Homemaking Concentration

Laura Zettler was raised in a Christian home, complete with loving parents, an older sister, and a younger brother. She feels so blessed that she experienced Christ's love within the walls of her home. Even as a child, she recognized how much harder life would be without God. That determined and gracious little girl has not changed much over the past 20 years. Zettler is every bit as dedicated to the Lord and brings vibrant energy to Southwestern as she begins her role as the director of the homemaking concentration.

Zettler completed her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Alabama. After completing her degree in consumer sciences with a minor in biology, she earned a Master of Science in consumer economics. She left Alabama to begin doctoral studies at the University of Missouri, where she earned a doctor of philosophy in consumer and family economics.

Zettler made plans to move to Fort Worth in the summer of 2007 when Zach Zettler, the children's pastor at Glenview Baptist Church, proposed last January. Though she loved her job as a professor at the University of Alabama, she was willing to leave to be with the man God had placed in her life. At the same time, she also felt called to teach.

Zettler visited Southwestern to brainstorm with Terri Stovall, dean of women's programs,

and first lady Dorothy Patterson about the Lord's vision for the homemaking program He had placed on their hearts.

Along with meeting the needs of women who feel called to minister within their homes in America, this concentration will also strengthen families on the mission field. "Other countries may not have the same abundance of resources that we have in the United States. We will be able to teach these students practical skills that will be useful in preparing nutritious meals for their family, regardless of their location," Zettler said.

Patterson believes that Zettler is exactly what Southwestern needs to enter the next phase of the homemaking program. She brings the academic credentials, coupled with college teaching experience. "These basic qualifications are enhanced with a heart for service and ministry, as well as enthusiasm that is both winsome and contagious," Patterson said.

Zettler is excited about the opportunity to build relationships with the girls in the program and provide education that has the potential to restore the American family. "My life verse is Colossians 3:23," Zettler said. "Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men.' And that's exactly what I plan to do at Southwestern."

#### www.swbts.edu | FALL 2008 SouthwesternNews 45

# **ALUMNI & FACULTY NEWS**

#### By Staff

## Houston Graduate Recognizes God's Unthinkable Ways

Jesse McMillan, a recent Master of Divinity graduate from Southwestern's Havard School, has experienced God do the unthinkable in his life. McMillan formerly lived in Sulphur, La., where he was a youth pastor until Hurricane Rita destroyed his home in 2005.

Having commuted two hours to class at the Houston campus since 2003, McMillan and his family moved to Houston in obedience to the Lord's call. "I loved the Houston campus because of my interaction there," he says.

McMillan is grateful for the passion for evangelism he has developed during his studies at Southwestern. "There are a lot of places where you can go and get a theological education, and things like death and hell and judgment are so rationalized away that the impetus for evangelism just isn't there. That's definitely not the case here.

"Havard is a place of theological learning that God has allowed to develop in Houston that meets the needs of people around here who feel called into full-time ministry."

### Southwestern Music Professor Honored by Guild

Gerald Aultman, professor of music theory at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, earned the distinguished title of Fellow of the American Guild of Organists in June. This is the premier honor that can be earned by American Guild of Organists members.

To achieve this award, Aultman completed two days of extensive performances and written examinations. Demonstrating proficiency in sacred and secular compositions as well as extensive knowledge in the musical field led to this specialized accolade.

Aultman currently holds the Dick Baker Chair of Music Missions and Evangelism. Additionally, he is the acting chair of the music theory and composition department at Southwestern. Aultman also serves as the organist of the First Baptist Church of Dallas.



## Welch Inducted into Church Management Hall of Fame

The National Association of Church Business Administration (NACBA) inducted Robert Welch into its Church Management Hall of Fame as the "Significant Contributor to Church Management" for 2008. Welch, who retired as dean of the School of Educational Ministries at Southwestern in July, was recognized during the association's annual meeting in Nashville.

For more than two decades, Welch has served as a seminar instructor with the NACBA certification program. His book *The Church Organization Manual* has been the standard reference book for the certification program since 1992. Proceeds from the book are put back into the program for scholarships and subsidizing the training centers.

Welch's Church Administration: Excellence and Efficiency in Ministry is recommended by the NACBA and is a course textbook for classes at Southwestern Seminary. The royalties from that book are used to fund a scholarship for disabled students at Southwestern.

Welch has served as professor of administration at Southwestern since 1991 and will remain on faculty as professor of administration emeritus. Prior to Southwestern, he taught at the University of Oklahoma as well as Liberty University and Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary in Lynchburg, Va.

He served as a church business administrator in Norman, Okla., after retiring from 22 years of service in the Navy. Welch has also contributed to numerous books, journals, and magazines.

### Southwestern Contributes to World Congress of Families

Dorothy Patterson, professor of theology in women's studies and first lady at Southwestern Seminary, was part of a committee that chose the location of the fifth World Congress of Families. Meeting in Washington, D.C., the selection committee set the next gathering of the congress to be in Amsterdam on Aug. 10-12, 2009.

"We would have no stable homes without the natural family ties and protections of those ties. We would have no churches without the families that undergird their work; we would have no communities without the backbone of families that serve their needs; and we will have no future generations without willing wombs and nurturing care of offspring."

"The World Congress of Families is the only organization successfully addressing the importance of the natural family in an international setting," Mrs. Patterson said. She and President Paige Patterson have been involved with the congress for several years. President Patterson presented a message, titled *Messages of Hope: The Phenomenon of Spiritual Renewal and Dynamics of Transformation*, during the congress last May. His message is posted on www.paigepatterson.info.

The Pattersons noted the special significance of the family for church and society: "We would have no stable homes without the natural family ties and protections of those ties," Mrs. Patterson said. "We would have no churches without the families that undergird their work; we would have no communities without the backbone of families that serve their needs; and we will have no future generations without willing wombs and nurturing care of offspring."

# NAMB & IMB APPOINTMENTS



**ROBERT (EXRE) & KERRI HAMILTON** South America







JAMES R. (MDIV, 1991) & KAREN S. TURNBO Gallup, N.M.

Photo Unavailable ANDREW (MA, 2008) & STACIE (MACE, 2004) WOOD Marin County, Calif.



TREVOR (MDIV, 1997) & KIMBERLY YOAKUM West Africa



TIMOTHY M. (MDIV, 1994) & PAMELA J. WOLFE Atlanta, Ga.



GARY (EXTH) & SUE (MACSS, 1994) SMITH Montreal, Quebec



MERRELL K. (MDIV, 1975) & CLAIR H. (MACE, 1975) WILLIAMS Santa Fe, N.M.



JARROD & JESSICA E. (MAMISS, 2008) WATTS Mobile, Ala.



MAX (BA) & SARAH STABENOW





MARK A. (MARE, 1976) & VIRGINIA LANGLEY Billings, Mont.



Additionally, seven 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.

# Degree Opportunities Announced for SBC Missionaries

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has released a document explaining the various degree opportunities available to current SBC missionaries. Degree programs are available for master's and doctoral studies, and scholarships for Journeyman or ISC missionaries are offered. Within the master's programs, students can choose from several concentrations, including international or North American church planting, evangelism, missions, or Islamic studies. Students may also pursue Doctor of Philosophy or Doctor of Ministry degrees. To view the full document, complete with pricing for tuition and fees, visit www.swbts.edu/evangelism. Implicit and the several concentration and the severa

#### 1950

Bruce A. Russell (BD 1955, MRG 1955, MDiv 1973) to Green Pond Baptist Church, Woodruff, S.C., as interim pastor.

#### 1960

Jimmy Millikin (BD 1961, ThD 1967) to Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Cordova, Tenn., as Academic Vice President.

#### 1970

**Robert F. Curtis (MDiv 1977)** to New Prospect Baptist Church, Olive Branch, Miss., as pastor.

**Dianne Ford Lawton (MRE 1975)** to Troy University, Brunswick, Ga., as professor/education program coordinator.

Thomas Marberry (MDiv 1973) to Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Moore, Okla., as vice president for academic affairs.

#### 1980

J. Samuel Crouch (MDiv 1980, DMin 1984) to Calvary Baptist Church, Elko, Nev., as pastor.

Joe Godfrey (MDiv 1980) to the Alabama Citizens Action Program, Birmingham, Ala., as executive director.

Ronald Hall (MM 1987, DMA 1999) to the First United Methodist Church, Hot Springs, Ark., as Senior Minister of Music, and to National Park Community College, Hot Springs, Ark., as professor.

Barry Thompson (MRE 1980) to Eastside Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga., as pastor.

Tammy Winnett (MM 88, MRE 94) to East Newton School District, Triway Elementary and Junior High, Stella, Mo., as special education teacher.

#### 1990

**Barry Klempnauer (MDiv 1992)** to Spring Baptist Church, Spring, Texas, as associate pastor/campus pastor.

William Michael Tisdal (MRE 1991) to Deermeadows Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., as minister of education.

#### 2000

**Robert B. Bailey (MDiv 2000)** to Norfolk Naval Base, Chesapeake, Va., as naval chaplain. **Dawn Bradley (MM 2003)** to Heritage Baptist Church, Farmville, Va., as minister of music and ministries.

Shane Garrison (MDiv 2002, MACE 2003) to assistant professor of educational ministries, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, Ky.

**Brad Johnson (MDiv 2001)** to Highland Baptist Church, Molino Fla., as minister of youth.

**Casey Jones (MDivBL 2006)** to Worthside Baptist Church, Talladega, Ala.

Frederick J. Wilson (MDiv BL 2001) to Taylor Memorial Baptist Church, Hobbs, N.M.

## Births

John Alexander, May 13, 2008, to Shannon (MM 1998) and Randall Horton.

Ethan Cade Garrison, Oct. 29, 2007, to **Shane (MDiv 2002, MACE 2003)** and **Jennifer Garrison (MMBE 2003, MACE 2003)**.

#### Marriages

Sharon J. Kelly to **Donald Thomas** Blackmon (MDiv 1994).

### Memorials

#### FACULTY

John Allen C.W. Brister

**1930** Doris Monroe (ExCM 1938).

Marie Tatum Cunningham Sutton (MRE 1938).

#### 1940

Victor C. Halsey (MRE 1947). Doris Beatrice Hayes (ExRE 1944). Lynn Lemon (Ex 1945). Gwen Segler (ExRE 1944). Doris J. Taylor (ExCM 1942). Gilbert R. Thornton (BTH 1947). Vester Eugene Wolber (ThM 1945, ThD 1950).

Ann M. Wollerman (MRE 1942).

#### 1950

Ola Baker (ExRE 1950). Milton B. Baldwin (DIPTH 1954). Donald E. Bergeron (BD 1955). Doris I. Bowman-Puckett (ARE 1955). William J. Crawford (BD 1953). Frank Delrose Jr. (DIPSM 1953, BRE 1955). Robert H. Flegal (MRE 1955). William F. Fleming Jr. (BD 1952). Robert B. Green (BD 1955). Anne R. Hitchcock (ARE 1952). Dan Kent (BD 1959, ThD 1965). Lois C. Long (BRE 1955). Olimae E Orrick (ExTh 1956). Samuel W. Pace (ExTH 1959). Edward R. Seanor (BD 1952, MRE 1954). T. S. Smith (MRE 1954; 1983, BSM 1954). Shirley Shields Wright (MRE 1959).

#### 1960

Norman Burgess (MRE 1965, 1989). Bobby Lee Gregory (BD 1967, MDiv 1973). Dwight Hester (BD 1961, MDiv 1968). Ollie Dean Oliver (BD 1961). Robert E. Stapleton (BD 1968). Allen N. Stickney (BD 1967). David B. Warren (BD 1961).

#### 1970

Charles A. Barnett (DIPTH 1977). Calvin L. Crouch (ExRe 1974). James C. Farrand (MACM 1978). James T. Luck (ExTh 1971). Derek Mpinga (MRE 1976, EDD 1979). Holbert Leon Rideout (EDD 1974). Douglas Edwin Wood (MDiv 1975).

#### 1980

Joe R. Stutts (MDiv 1980). Clifford D. Wheeler (ADiv 1986, ExRE 1992). David E. Wright (ExRE 1980).

#### 1990

Forrest Pollock (MDiv 1994, DMin 1998). Donald V. Stephens Jr. (ExRE 1990). Richard J. Thomson (MRE 1992).

# AROUND THE WORLD

By Michelle Myers

AST WORD

# Women's Ministry: A Church-wide Endeavor



When I first felt called to the ministry, I remember reading Proverbs 31. I felt overwhelmed and unqualified. However, Mrs. Patterson pointed something out to me during my first semester in seminary that drastically changed my perspective. This passage was not just the figment in a man's

imagination of the perfect woman. God orchestrated Proverbs 31 to be a word given by King Lemuel's mother (Prov. 31:1). This God-breathed advice speaks to the hearts of women straight from the heart of a biblical woman. God knew and understood the need for women to influence one another; He created His daughters to be this way. Men can be spiritual influences in our lives, but only godly women can model how to be godly women.

Escalating divorce rates show that Satan is attacking the home. Young women need to be equipped with the knowledge and experience of godly older women to boldly conquer spiritual warfare that occurs within her own home. These mentoring relationships of older and younger women occur throughout Scripture, such as Naomi's advice to Ruth in the Old Testament and Elizabeth's guidance to Mary in the New Testament (Ruth 3:5, Luke 1:41-45). This woman-to-woman godly counsel also takes place daily on this campus, inside and outside of the classroom.

With feminism continuing to rise in today's society, women tend to focus on passages in

Scripture that place limitations on women's roles in the church. The woman described in Proverbs 31 does not have time to complain about such things. Looking at her to-do list, she is probably relieved there are tasks she doesn't have responsibility over. My fear is that too many women today are focusing so much on the roles they are not called to fulfill that they are neglecting the ministries He has called them to do.

In this magazine, you have read about God using Southwestern's women everywhere from a beauty pageant to boot camp. You have met women ranging on the hierarchy of education from college students to published scholars. That is only the beginning. We have more than 1,000 female students. No matter the route we took to arrive on Seminary Hill, the women here are united by our intense desire for an intimate relationship with the Lord and the urgency of sharing the Gospel with others, particularly with other women.

Anyone can be involved in women's ministry. As a pastor, that may mean prioritizing women's ministry by equipping female leaders to teach other women in the local church. Maybe you are a retired grandmother who desires to serve your local church. You can mentor young mothers who are where you were in life 40 years ago. Maybe you are a husband who can take care of your children one night each week so your wife can participate in a ladies' Bible study.

You may be a woman who knows God is calling you to do more. I encourage you to consider furthering your education here in women's programs. If you desire advanced theological studies and want to examine issues like feminist hermeneutics and women in missions, a concentration is offered in women's studies within our Master of Divinity. If your passion is the local church, we have a Master of Arts in Christian Education with a concentration in women's ministry. If you seek to learn ways to raise your children grounded in biblical truth while maintaining a healthy home environment, we offer a concentration in Homemaking within the Bachelor of Arts in Humanities at the College at Southwestern. You have the flexibility to study here, no matter what God's call is on your life.

I still feel overwhelmed and unqualified when I read Proverbs 31. However, I now realize that I am only incompetent on my own. If I make myself available to be used by God, He will supply the strength and resources I need. As exemplified by the women who teach and study here, "Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised" (Prov. 31:30 NASB). It is what we do for Christ that is our legacy and what lasts.

*Michelle Myers* is a Master of Divinity student and a writer in the Office of Communications at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.







SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



*The Women's Cuviliary* brings evangelical women together who love and support Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. These women are especially focused on encouraging female students and student wives as well as providing prayer and funding for seminary programs specifically designed for women.

# Dressed for Service

This program provides for selected graduating female students or student wives an outfit appropriate for search committee interviews, graduation, and church services.

# Scholarship Funds for Students/Seminary Wives

These scholarships help women grow strong in their walk with the Lord and teach others to do the same.

# Southwestern Widows' Might

This prayer ministry is made up of widows across the United States who are committed to pray for the seminary. Widows receive a newsletter filled with prayer requests for the institution, and biannual meetings are held on the seminary campus to encourage fellowship.

# Endowed Priscilla Scholarships

Endowed Priscilla Scholarships provide mentoring and tuition assistance for wives of ministers.

# Southwestern

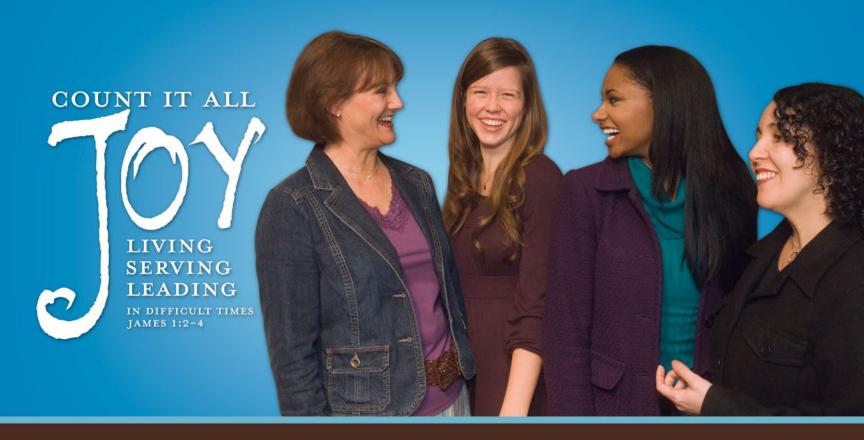
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Southwestern Women's Auxiliary, Office of Institutional Advancement Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

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> Main Campus Phone: 817.923.1921 ext. 7200 Toll free: 1.877.GO.SWBTS (1.877.467.9287)

> > www.swbts.edu/womensauxiliary



# WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONSULTATION FEBRUARY 5-7, 2009 | FORT WORTH, TEXAS

The Women's Leadership Consultation provides a forum for leaders of women's ministry in the local church to network as well as to learn and apply biblical truth. The 2009 event will be hosted by Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.



For more information or to register, visit www.swbts.edu/wlc09 or call 817-923-1921, ext. 2159.