

SouthwesternNews

A PUBLICATION OF SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

SUMMER 2010 | VOLUME 68 NO. 4



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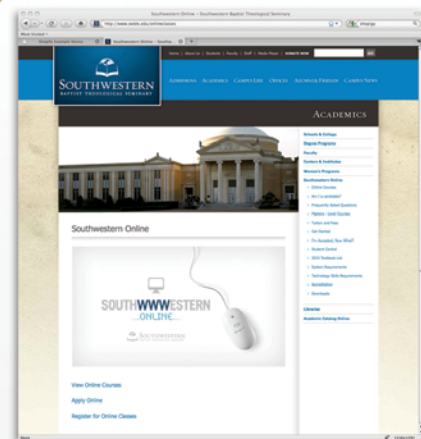
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SOUTHWESTERN
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FEATURES

Telling the Greatest Story in the World. From the East African bush to the western frontier, Southwestern students are some of the greatest students in the world, telling the greatest story in the world.

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ON THE COVER
One student and his family find inroads into the hearts of the Ngindo people of Africa by ministering each day to 50 children like this one.
Photo by Matthew Miller



CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, call 817.923.1921.

JULY »

5

Independence Day observed
Classes dismissed
Seminary offices closed

7-26

Chiang Mai, Thailand
World Missions Center

15-26

Oxford Study Trip
Center for Theological Research



AUGUST »

12-13

Faculty Workshop
Riley Center

16-18

New Student Orientation
Contact ext. 2700 or visit
www.swbts.edu/orientation

19

Fall semester begins
Fort Worth Convocation

23

Fall semester begins
Houston campus and all U.S. extensions

SEPTEMBER »

2

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6

Labor Day observed
All classes dismissed
Seminary offices closed



SouthwesternNews

SUMMER 2010
Volume 68, Number 4

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Theological Seminary.
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To comment on articles in
Southwestern News or to
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Southwestern News
(ISSN 0038-4917)

Published four times a year by the
SWBTS Communications Group
2001 W. Seminary Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76122
817.923.1921, ext. 4848
www.swbts.edu

To make mailing address changes,
write to friendsofsouthwestern@swbts.edu,
to the address below, or at
www.swbts.edu.

Issued quarterly.
Periodicals postage paid at
Fort Worth, Texas. Postmaster:
Please send address changes to
Southwestern News
P.O. Box 22500
Fort Worth, TX 76122



SOUTHWESTERN
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

a letter from THE PRESIDENT

Dear Southwesterner:

The current issue of *Southwestern News* focuses on just a few of our remarkable students. We faced an almost insurmountable problem in deciding who to feature because our communications leadership was overwhelmed with genuinely amazing stories of what God is doing with and through our students.

Of course, I am an advocate of education just because I believe that any individual who has expanded his horizons of knowledge is a stellar individual and more likely to be a contributor to the community in which he lives. But for all of that, I cannot begin to give adequate glory and thanksgiving to God for the privilege of working in a higher education institution where the ultimate concern is never education for education's sake but rather learning for the sake of ministering to others.

At the average university, graduates expect to enhance their ability to draw a larger income, and this goal should not be denigrated. Those who have become successful in business or in a hundred other areas contribute to the social order in a significant way. However, Southwestern Seminary is an upper-level educational institution where education will most likely not lead to recognition or to increased earnings. In fact, to come here and graduate probably will mean to have less.

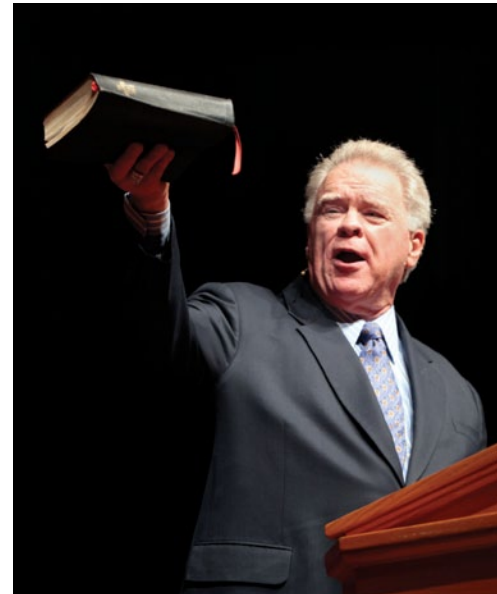
Nonetheless, the students featured in *Southwestern News*, as well as hundreds of others like them, will make an impact that cannot be scored on this world's scorecard. Our Lord will keep the record; and when they stand before Him, they will be recognized for unselfish service to the lost and to their fellow believers throughout the world.

So read and enjoy what God is doing in the lives of a few of our remarkable students. To pray for these students is to participate with them in what they accomplish for Christ. When God puts it on your heart to give to our scholarship funds or to sustain our Southwestern Annual Fund, you are not just giving to a school; but more important, you are investing in the precious lives of those whose commitment is to change the world.

Until He Comes,



Paige Patterson







COURAGE IN THE FACE OF FEAR

EMBRACING HARDSHIP FOR THE GREAT COMMISSION

STORY BY THOMAS WHITE | PHOTOGRAPHY BY MATTHEW MILLER

“I DIDN’T COME HERE TO BE A COWARD,” SAYS SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY INTERNATIONAL CHURCH PLANTING STUDENT NEAL*. WANTING TO MAKE AN ETERNAL DIFFERENCE, NEAL AND HIS FAMILY HAVE TAKEN A DIFFICULT EAST AFRICAN MISSIONARY JOB REQUEST THAT FOR NINE YEARS REMAINED UNFILLED. >>>



“I DID NOT COME HERE JUST TO EXIST,” NEAL SAYS. “I CAME HERE TO SHARE THE GOSPEL AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE. ... LIFESTYLE EVANGELISM ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH.”

Recalling days when he feared sharing his faith, Neal credits his studies at Southwestern’s Houston campus with giving him a passion for the Great Commission. Harvard School dean Denny Autrey’s Introduction to Evangelism class sparked his heart for the lost, and a lecture from Keith Eitel, dean of the Fish School of Evangelism and Missions, challenged him to consider missions. Eitel asked students “not to consider if they were called to missions but to consider what reason they had for believing they were not called to missions.”

With a Tilley hat shading his head and Teva sandals on his feet, Neal maps out remote villages and openly shares Christ among what he calls, “a cul-de-sac people.”

“You know with a cul-de-sac you don’t accidentally go there,” he explains. “You have to be intentional about it.”

This cul-de-sac people, however, do not live on paved streets in suburban neighborhoods. Even the “good roads” among the Ngindo people are two-track dirt roads with wooden bridges, deep ruts, and shallow river crossings. The main thoroughfares resemble hunting camp roads in rural Texas more than the center of commercial activity. During the rainy season, water and mud make the roads leading to major cities impassible.

The challenge excites Neal.

“It is amazing how God structured my past to equip me for what He has me doing now,” Neal says. Living on a farm and driving a 4x4 truck in the U.S. prepared him for the gardening and getting around required in his current assignment. His hunting experience also comes in handy since he has to hunt hartebeest and cape buffalo six months out of the year in order to provide food for his family.

Neal and his family have not only adapted to the adverse conditions, but they are also thriving in their ministry to one of the world’s remaining unreached people groups. They added water storage tanks, indoor plumbing, bars to secure the doors, and a bamboo privacy fence. With help from local *fundis* (craftsmen),

they built an open-air *banda* (pavilion) in the backyard. Their supervisor says he is amazed at their ability to gain access and acceptance in their home village in just six months.

Neal and his wife, Retha*, start each day by reading the Bible and praying together.

“It is a necessity in this environment to begin your day with the Word,” Neal says. “With so many people to help and so many different things you can do, you have to rely on the Holy Spirit to guide you each day to be as effective as possible.”

THE NGINDO: A PEOPLE OF FEAR

Mud huts with thatched roofs form villages that unexpectedly appear out of the African bush. Life for the Ngindo consists of constant battles with emptiness—empty wells, empty stomachs, empty promises, and empty lives.

Most villagers drink, bathe, and wash clothes from the same water supply, while residents of some villages must drink from potholes in the road. Few towns have a decent well, so Neal works alongside Living Water International and Baptist Global Response to bring clean water alongside the living water of the Gospel.

Pombe, the local alcoholic drink, enslaves many residents and ancestral worship is common. For example, one thirsty boy poured out half a bottle of rare clean water on the ground in reverence to ancestors before taking a drink.

Commonly referred to as “the forgotten people,” the Ngindo have a history of being deceived. When Germans began occupying the territory in the 1800s, these outsiders raped, plundered, exploited, and sold locals into slavery.

Fed up with the abuse, *mganga* (witch doctors) led a revolt against the Germans called the Maji Maji War. They convinced villagers to attack by giving them a special potion, which they claimed would turn bullets into water. The Germans mowed down the deceived attacking villagers with machine guns.

When asked what best describes the Ngindo people, Neal replies, “Fear!” A government official reinforces this, saying, “The people fear change; they fear outsiders; they fear witchcraft; and they fear the unknown.”

The last known missionaries to work specifically with the Ngindo people were German Catholic missionaries. Because of past abuse, a Ngindo family slaughtered the five missionaries with machetes on August, 14 1905.



The government official commented on the tragedy: “If the Ngindo people had accepted the help of missionaries, they would be far better off.” Having completed a Masters degree in the U.S., he understands the advantages of education, saying, “Other regions who accepted help have advanced much further. ... The Ngindo people are very uneducated. Almost no one can read, and thinking in abstract religious concepts is difficult.”

The Big Dipper is not the only thing that seems upside-down in this part of the Southern Hemisphere. With 500,000 people spread out across 18,000 square miles, Neal estimates that 99.9 percent of the Ngindo people claim Islam as their faith while less than .005 percent profess faith in Jesus Christ. Spiritual ignorance, witch doctors, satanic rituals, animism, and Islam all have deep roots.

Many village residents participate in two trips a year into the uninhabited 21,000-square-mile Selous Game Reserve in order to make sacrifices and force girls as young as 6 to participate in sexual exploitation. The government does not prohibit this activity. Instead they provide armed guards to protect participants from the lions.

Additionally, the lion population has the people living in fear and for good reason. The worst recorded lion killing comes from this region, with one lion reported to have killed almost 50 people. Several months ago, a lion attacked a local man working in his yard. Others report cheetahs sneaking into their homes at night through the cloth sheet that serves as the door and attacking family members.

Whether from physical or spiritual attack, fear pervades every aspect of Ngindo life. Neal and his family pray and work toward the day when the Ngindo people will put their trust in Christ and no longer be slaves to fear.







A FAMILY EFFORT

Neal, Retha, and their four children—Barrett, Josie, Colt, and Jamie*—prepare for the day as little heads peer over the fence in anticipation of playtime. Every afternoon, except Sunday, children from the village gather outside the house.

Barrett and Colt play soccer and tag with the older boys. Josie plays *readi* (filling a coke bottle with sand while dodging a ball being thrown from all sides), *achuela*, or other dancing games with older girls. Jamie plays *ukuti* (holding hands and jumping around in a circle) with the younger girls.

Meanwhile, Ngindo children of all ages run to Retha with any injury. She regularly washes feet, treats sores, bandages wounds, and encourages good hygiene. Different children show up with as many as 50 coming by each day. One cannot ride through town without hearing children call out “Josie” or “Jamie.”

While in town, a local man named Zebede said to Neal, “I have been keeping up with you through my daughter.” Later that day, Zebede invited Neal to his home. Neal says “this never would have happened this quickly were it not for the ministry of my children.” While there he met many of Zebede’s 15 children from his two wives.

“Having the entire family involved in ministry is essential,” Retha says. “God did not call just Neal and me to missions. He specifically placed our four children in our home at this time so that they, too, could minister to the Ngindo people. Everyone in our family has a special mission from God.”

Wearing a *kanga* (traditional wrap) and a comforting smile, Retha cooks almost every meal from scratch. She keeps the house, homeschools all four children, and deals with the regular interruptions as the call of *shida* (issue) comes from the fence. Retha must be flexible as each day brings new opportunities to minister to women and children. No matter where they go, crowds gather to see the *wazungu* (white people). Dull moments and routine days come as rarely as an October rain.

God continues to open doors for Neal, even allowing him to answer questions about Christianity from Muslim leaders for almost four hours in front of a crowd of 2,000 people. One trip downtown ended with Neal engaging 20 young men while sharing peanuts he had just purchased. The crowd continued to gather to look at the *mazungu* (white man) and to hear about Neal’s mission. He tells them, “I came to show the love of Christ and to help you with your most serious problem.”

“I have to be completely honest to overcome their natural fear of outsiders,” Neal says.

One young Ngindo man named Juma* joined the family in more than one way. Neal hired Juma to help with some projects, and as they worked, Neal shared repeatedly with him the stories from the Bible. Juma helped with virtually every home improvement project, including the *banda* where he knelt and asked Jesus Christ to forgive him of his sins.


“Juma has become a full member of my family,” Neal says as he watches him play with the family dog, Sharkey.

Juma was the first Ngindo Neal led to the Lord, and a small indigenous church baptized him in the local river. Neal wanted the local pastor to perform the baptism because he feels that for any spiritual advancement to last and be reproducible, he must stay in the shadows.

Neal’s time in Africa is not without challenges. The region contains the highly poisonous black mamba, *siafu* (relentless migratory ants) that attack by the thousands, the tsetse fly, mosquitoes which carry malaria, and countless dangerous plants and animals. The power goes out every night and periodically throughout the day as only one of the town’s three generators continues to work. Every member of the family has had malaria at least once despite sleeping under mosquito nets and wearing a permanent layer of Deep Woods Off. They catch rainwater from the roof but must still ration water, as the incoming supply is unreliable. Phone service is spotty, and the nearest help lives days away.

“Any discomfort pales in comparison to the importance of the task,” Neal says as he recalls the day he walked through his dirt front yard to learn that his close Ngindo friend Uдахjo had died. With tears in his eyes, Neal admitted, “I am having a difficult time letting him go. His death is for all eternity—an eternity in hell.”

Neal has only one regret: “I just wish we had been here 20 years ago so we could have 40 more years of ministry here instead of 20. God is truly faithful. I’ve gotten more by being here than I have ever given.”

Neal hopes that other believers will consider a call to missions and make sure they do not live their lives as spiritual cowards. 

*Names have been changed to protect identities.



Retha washes the feet of a 6-year-old Ngindo girl. The girl, who had been absent from playtime for several days, walked over to Retha with her head lowered, her expressionless face and demeanor indicating the trauma she had been through. Retha later learned that the young girl had been taken on a trip into the Selous Game Reserve. When she came back, she wore a brand new dress, new earrings, and make-up, but she would not talk with anyone for a few days. According to locals, this occurs regularly as men force young girls to participate in sexual exploitation. As the dirt came off her feet and her wounds were tended to, she began to interact a little, but she was not the same.





A BOOTLIKE FIT

Penetrating Lostness on the Western Frontier

Story by Keith Collier | Photography by Adam Covington



The city of Green River stands like an oasis in Wyoming's High Desert Country, where wild horses prance among stunning rock formations. Once a stop along the Oregon Trail, this county seat epitomizes the rugged and individualistic nature of the frontier, both culturally and spiritually.

Only 170 miles from Salt Lake City, the vast majority of Green River's 13,000 residents associate themselves with the Mormon Church; however, most are only nominally affiliated and rarely attend church. State convention representatives estimate lostness in the state of Wyoming exceeds 95 percent. Although Southern Baptists represent the largest evangelical denomination, they make up only 1.5 percent of the population.

Deane Graves, a Southwestern graduate, believes God has uniquely gifted and called him to minister in this land of cowboys and miners.

“I’m from Colorado, and so I really have a heart for the people out here,” Graves says. “The people of the West think differently from the people in the Bible Belt; Christianity is not really a priority at all.”



Graves wanted to be a cowboy from an early age and over the years has raised cattle and horses, competed in rodeos, and shod horses. Often called “Cowboy Deane” by his friends, Graves’ laid-back demeanor and cordial manner befit his cowboy persona.

Yet, another passion rivals his maverick spirit. As a young adult, shortly after becoming a Christian, Graves gained his first experience working with youth in a church setting while attending college in Missouri. He immediately knew that God was calling him into youth ministry,

and after graduation, he traveled south to Fort Worth to pursue a master’s degree at Southwestern.

Graves credits Southwestern with helping him wed biblical faithfulness with practical experience. He says his seminary studies helped him answer big ministry questions like “What’s the goal? How do I lead a youth group to be more focused on Christ? How do I stay more focused on Christ and keep my ministry focused on Christ rather than focused on numbers?”

Following his time at Southwestern, Graves served as a youth minister in Oklahoma for several years but carried a continual burden for churches in the West. Eventually, the Lord opened the door in 2005 for his family to move to Green River, where he became youth minister and associate pastor at HillTop Baptist Church. Along with the youth ministry, Graves also disciples men through accountability groups and the church’s weekly men’s group.

Southwestern continues to impact his ministry today. Each year, he returns to Fort Worth to attend Southwestern’s Youth Ministry Lab, which serves as a time for him to recharge and reconnect.

“The speakers that they have—Richard Ross, Wes Black, and Johnny Derouen—those guys have an insane wealth of knowledge,” Graves says. “To get to sit at the feet of guys who, in my mind, fathered youth ministry and hear what they have to say is such a blessing.”



What's the goal? How do I lead a youth group to be more focused on Christ?

HillTop Baptist Church sits at one of the highest points in Green River and overlooks the city as a beacon for the lost. Graves feels blessed to be able to work with young people and point them to Christ in this environment because he recognizes the relatively small sizes of the churches in Wyoming, which precludes most from being able to afford a youth minister. Until recently, he was the only youth minister in the county.

“It is interesting to me how God works,” Graves says, “because with a lot of guys, their desire is a big church. That’s not where my heart is. My heart is in these small churches. My heart is in these small towns. It just fits me.

“If you’re looking at youth ministry from a career aspect rather than from a ministry aspect, this is not a place you’re going to get well known.”

Graves’ humble spirit and friendly persistence have opened doors for him to minister in the community. Initially, the school district would not allow him to join his

youth for lunch. However, since his daughter was a student in the school, he went in as a parent. At the conclusion of each lunch, he began helping the custodian wipe down tables and eventually started bringing lunch for the school secretaries. His church even sponsored a cookout at the end of the year to express appreciation to the teachers.

Over time, the administration warmed to his presence and noticed the impact he had on the students. They gave him free lunch and even asked him to write an article in the school newspaper about the importance of parents eating with their kids. Even more impressive, the school selected him to serve on the search committee for a new principal.

Graves credits God for this complete turnaround. In a culture that generally comes off as distant, God has shown him that building relationships over time draws people in.

“You don’t see it, like in other countries, where people are knocking down your doors after somebody accepts Christ,” Graves says. “It’s a lot more difficult than that. You spend a lot more time for individual salvations because they’ve heard it all, and a lot of them are running from it. We have a lot of people here from the South. What I’ve seen is that they’ve heard it all and don’t want any part of it.”

Recently, in addition to his ministry responsibilities at the church, Graves was asked by Howard Daniel, the associational





director of missions, to lead the Baptist Student Ministry at Western Wyoming Community College in nearby Rock Springs as well as help get a cowboy church started. Through these three ministries, God has woven together Graves' passions for people in the West and for ministry to fit him like a well-worn pair of boots.

"I just think he's a perfect fit," says Daniel, a two-time graduate of Southwestern. "I've heard Deane's testimony, and I think God has uniquely prepared him over the course of the years for this time in his life and ministry." He says Graves' "tentacles of ministry" stretch in every direction.


Daniel notes the need in Wyoming for more pioneer pastors like Graves, including those with bilingual abilities in English and Spanish.

"You have to consider Wyoming like you would an international mission field to really understand it," Daniel says. "You have to understand that the progress sometimes is slow, and if you don't view it that way, I think it's a dis-

service to those who serve in the field of Wyoming here. That's not an excuse for not continually having vision, reaching people, sharing the Gospel, and doing more. It's just reality; the field is just harder here."

Mark Hensley, pastor of HillTop Baptist and also a two-time Southwestern graduate, appreciates Graves' pastoral heart and servant attitude. He, too, prays that God will call more ministers to Wyoming and other pioneer states.

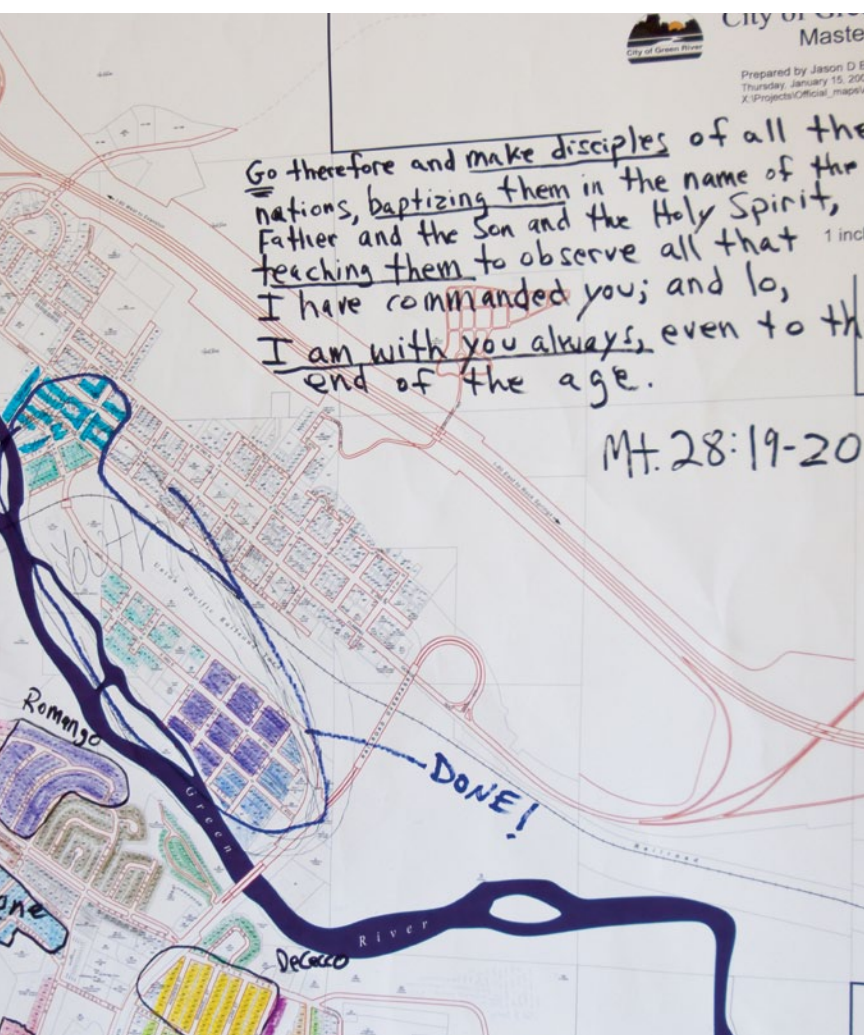
"Wyoming is an untapped frontier for missions and outreach," Hensley says. "We really need people who are willing to sacrifice, willing to come and realize the benefits outweigh the obstacles. We need more pastors who will come and stay. There's a tendency in the West for folks not to stay as long, and I would hope that they would come and stay because the need is great."

In the meantime, Southwesterners like Graves, Daniel, and Hensley continue to penetrate lostness one person at a time. From the former meth addict in Graves' accountability group to the couple he led to Christ through premarital counseling at the cowboy church, each person reflects the redemptive work of the Gospel in a dry and barren land. 









Walnut Springs
CITY LIMIT
POP. 755





Treasure Hunt

Searching for the lost in Walnut Springs

On the Texas map, Farm-to-Market Road 927 and Highway 144 converge in the small town of Walnut Springs to mark a rough “X” nearly 60 miles southwest of Fort Worth. Last year, Jason Sharp and his wife Miranda moved to Walnut Springs in search of lost treasure.

Story By **Benjamin Hawkins** Photography By **Nic Hervey**



“God doesn’t always have to send you to a large megachurch to fulfill your purpose for God’s glory. He wants to work everywhere. I just want to be obedient to serve Him and share His Word wherever I am.”

Jason and Miranda left their home in Kentucky to begin their ministry training at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in spring 2009. Soon afterward, they moved to Walnut Springs, where Jason was chosen to serve as pastor of Walnut Springs Baptist Church. This spring, Jason led his church through an exposition of Jesus’ parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son in Luke 15.

“It was the lost coin that really got my mind going,” Jason says. In this parable, a woman, with broom in hand, hunts through her house for a missing silver coin. After finding it, she calls her friends and neighbors together. “Rejoice with me,” she cries, “because I have found the silver coin I lost!” Christ, after relating this story, says, “I tell you, in the same way, there is joy in the presence of God’s angels over one sinner who repents” (Luke 15:8-10, HCSB).

“When we speak of ‘lostness,’” Jason says, “we need to speak of it in terms of worth. They’re lost because they’re worth something. I want people in the community to know that they’re worth something to God. They’re worth looking for. They’re worth being pursued.”

During the past year, Jason and Miranda have searched for the lost within Walnut Springs’ population of nearly 750 people. On the surface, the town might seem an unlikely site for this treasure hunt.

“It’s rural Texas,” Jason says, noting that most people in the town live below the poverty line and

many are out of work. With a substantial Hispanic population, many people in the town also come from a Catholic background.

“Sharing Christ in that dynamic a lot of times is like living on the mission field,” Jason says. “Texas is part of the Bible Belt, but a lot of times we feel like we’re in another country.”

Of course, international mission work is not unfamiliar to the Sharps, who have volunteered for independent, short-term mission work with the International Mission Board, most recently serving in West Africa in December 2009. But they do not hesitate to share the Gospel wherever God leads them, whether Africa, the inner city, or rural Texas.

“God doesn’t always have to send you to a large megachurch to fulfill your purpose for God’s glory,” Jason says. “He wants to work everywhere. I just want to be obedient to serve Him and share His Word wherever I am.”

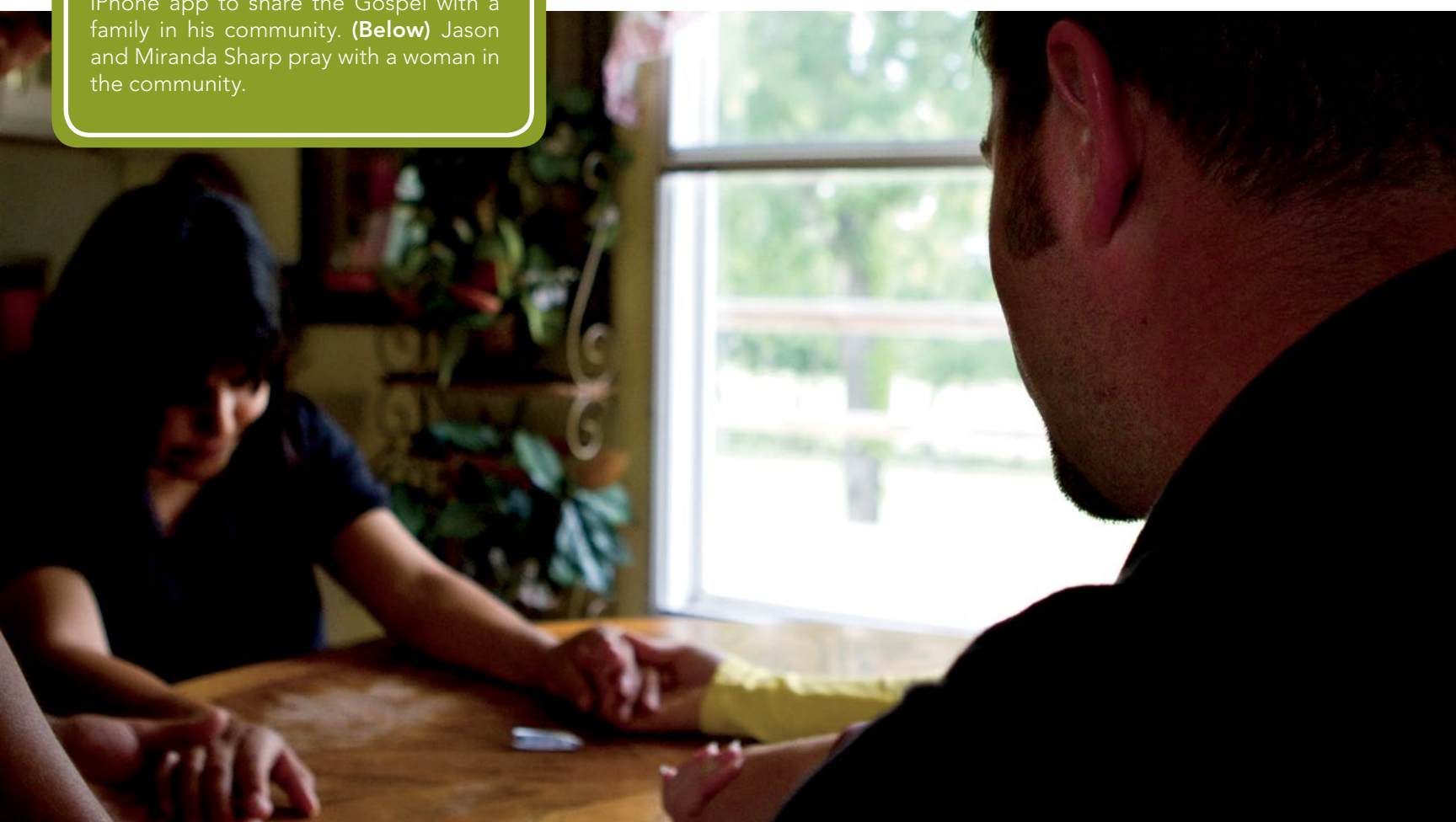
This passion for reaching people with the Gospel is what attracted the Sharps to Southwestern Seminary: “The reason we came to Southwestern,” Jason says, “was because of its evangelism and missions emphasis. ... The mantra at Southwestern is ‘As you go, preach. As we go, preach.’”

“In his evangelism class, Dr. Mills (assistant professor of evangelism) made a comment that you should share the Gospel with everyone you have a conversation with.”

Jason and Miranda have tried to follow Mills’ advice, and, in recent months, they have seen God work among the people of Walnut Springs. Throughout



(Above) Jason Sharp uses Southwestern's iPhone app to share the Gospel with a family in his community. **(Below)** Jason and Miranda Sharp pray with a woman in the community.





Date	Name	Baptized	Name
10-4-09	Jennifer Reynolds	04-11-10	Vessie Phillips
10-25-09	Nicki Atkinson	04-11-10	Mariah Phillips
10-25-09	Hayden Shires	04-25-10	Nathan Maynard
10-25-09	Holden Shires	04-25-10	Seremiah Esquivel
11-08-09	Mark Summerix	04-25-10	Cloe Summerix
12-04-09	Deanna Clark	04-25-10	Christie Spear
12-06-09	Kaelynn Clark	05-02-10	Johnny (Juan) Hernandez
12-06-09	Leslie Clem	12-27-10	Bill Atkinson
03-28-10	Jordan Noyola		
03-28-10	Sylvia Muniz		
04-04-10	Chris Robertson		
04-04-10	Chalee Jones		
04-04-10	Jose Lynn Hernandez		
04-04-10	Tessica Howard		



The Lord has been gracious to answer Jason and Miranda Sharp's prayers for their community. They have seen people from all walks of life come to faith in Christ and the town is being transformed one person at a time. Jason writes names of newly baptized believers on a white board in his office (above) to remind him to continue to pray for and follow up with these church members.



the past year, they have made multiple evangelistic visits to every home in the community. They have also sought every opportunity to open their home to people and get out into the community. Their church has hosted events during holidays and after football games, and Jason has worked as a substitute teacher in the local school district in order to meet teachers, students, and their families. The church is also planning a local mission initiative for summer 2011, in which they will help their neighbors with needed renovations and maintenance on their homes and yards.

As a result of their efforts, nearly 30 people have professed faith in Christ and have been baptized at Walnut Springs Baptist Church during the past six months. Previously, the church had not baptized more than 28 people in one year, which had happened in 1993.

Among the new believers in Walnut Springs are Sylvia and her son, Jordan. While knocking on doors in the community, Miranda led Sylvia to Christ without the knowledge of her son. Soon afterward, Jason led Jordan to Christ, but Jordan hesitated to announce his newfound faith to his family because of their Catholic heritage. Jason encouraged him to stand firm in his faith and tell his family about this decision. When Jordan went home that night, his mom immediately told him about her decision to follow Christ. Only afterward did Jason and Miranda realize that Sylvia and Jordan were related.

“You shouldn’t set a limit on what God can do,” Jason says. “The more people we lead to Christ, it’s changing the dynamic of this town. You see a difference. It’s changing the culture, in a sense.”

The youth group at Walnut Springs Baptist Church is also changing. Shortly after the Sharps began their work in Walnut Springs, the church lost their youth minister. Since that time, several men and women from the church have worked with the youth group.

“There was a season right after our youth minister resigned,” Miranda says, “when I would go to the youth building and unlock it every Wednesday, and I would wait. Nobody would show up, and I would lock it back, and I would go to church. But then there

came a time when three or four of them trickled in, and that was the base that God used to really grow it, and now we have 20 coming every Wednesday night.”

The youth began by learning the basics of the Christian life: how to pray, how to study the Bible, and where to find verses and chapters in the Bible.


“These are kids who have not had a background in Christianity,” Miranda says. She and some other ladies from the church work with the girls in the youth group, teaching them especially about purity.

“We just did something with some of the girls that participated in True Love Waits,” Miranda says. “We did something that we called ‘Modest is Hottest.’ We took them to some retail shops, and we showed them how to be cute and trendy but also modest. That was a good day of just mentoring and fellowship.”

The youth are also learning how to share the message of Christ with their peers. They are discovering the nature of their identity in Christ, and they are excited about it, Jason and Miranda say.

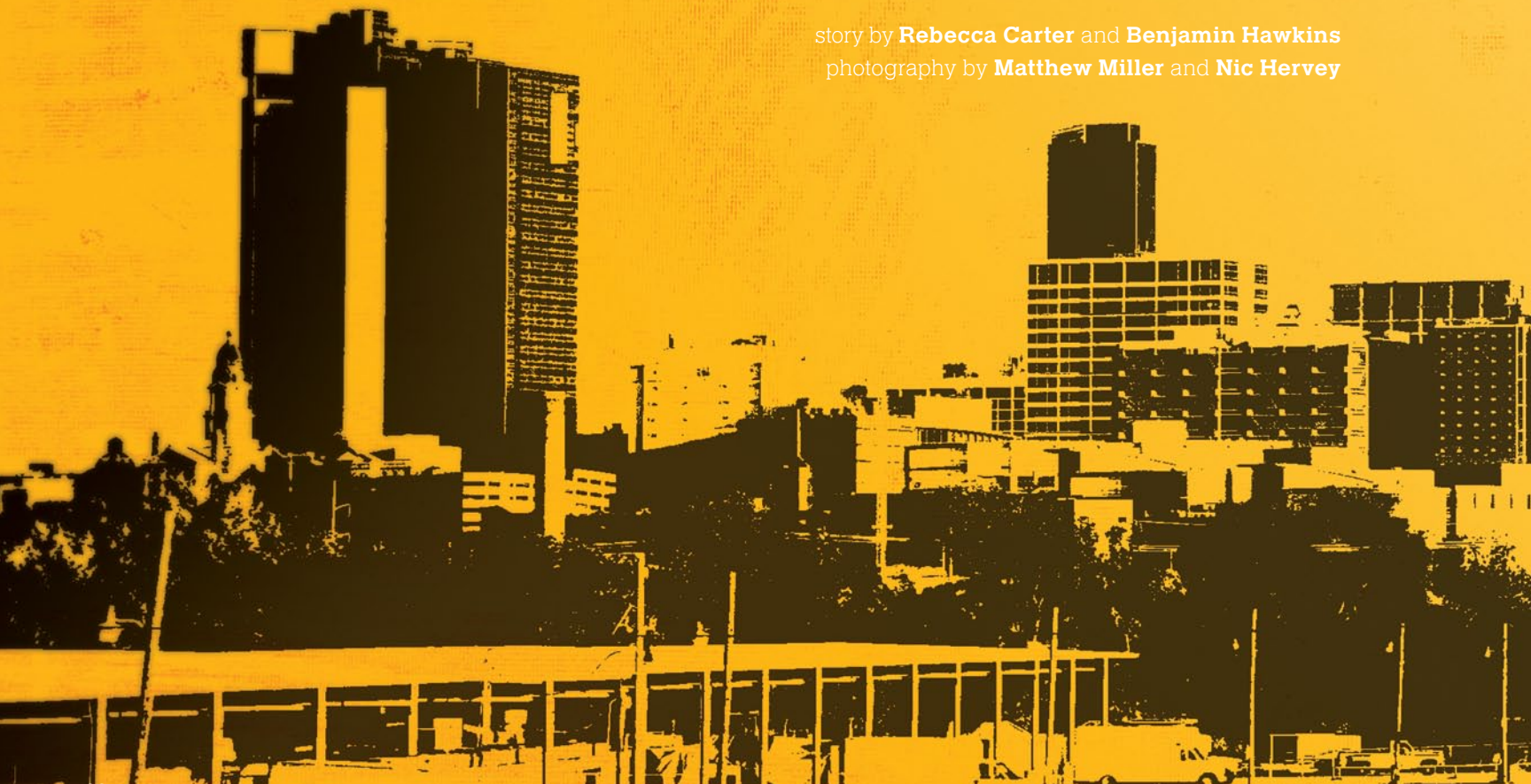
According to Jason, a growing evangelistic fervor has permeated the rest of the church as well. Church members have become more excited about evangelism and more active in sharing their faith with others. Jason has led the church in evangelism training, and he invited professor David Mills to lead in further evangelism training during one weekend. Jason and Miranda also make a point to take church members with them whenever they practice door-to-door evangelism.

Through their own evangelistic experiences in Walnut Springs, Jason and Miranda have discovered the importance of persistence. When they first began to share Christ’s love in the community, they visited dozens of houses only to find closed doors. “But God is opening them now,” Miranda says. “You just have to keep going back.”

“I think that God pursues us,” a truth Jason sees displayed in Christ’s parable of the lost coin. “And I think that we’ve got to take on the characteristic of God and pursue the lost, too.” In doing so, Jason and Miranda are seeing that persistence pays off, and they are discovering treasure one repentant sinner at a time. 

shine

story by **Rebecca Carter** and **Benjamin Hawkins**
photography by **Matthew Miller** and **Nic Hervey**





Illuminating the Darkness

Students at Southwestern Seminary are discovering the world at their doorstep. Shining the light of the Gospel in downtown Fort Worth, gathering to pray for the nations, and proclaiming Christ's love among Muslim refugees, these students are motivated by Christ's command to reach everyone and make disciples of all nations.

Moving a City to Faith

A movement that started as an evangelistic jam session on the streets of Fort Worth is changing the city one Friday night at a time. Move This City is a student-led, weekly gathering and outreach ministry that shares the Gospel with the downtown community.

Austin Crownover, a student in the College at Southwestern (CSW), and fellow Normandale Baptist Church member Mike Dye developed this idea after discovering a mutual desire to witness as well as a mutual talent for music.

Facilitated by local students, musicians, and church members, Move This City sets up every Friday evening outside a local Jamba Juice on a street corner near downtown Fort Worth's Sundance Square. As the sun sets, the group uses their musical abilities to draw a crowd in order to share the Gospel. They have talked with the homeless, struggling musicians, store owners, and other seekers while performing faithfully every week from 7:30 p.m. to the wee hours of the morning.

Crownover laughs as he relays that people think they are crazy, but he remembers his reason for going down there in the first place. "We're not going to leave that place until we've talked to people about God," he says. "It's a really cool tool to witness to people."

Crownover plays percussion, Dye leads worship on his guitar, and fellow members sing, play instruments, or just clap along, depending on their musical aptitude. Some passersby, often dressed up for performances at Bass Hall or for time in the nearby bars and nightclubs, glance over at the singing but continue walking. Others, however, pause and listen, and the musicians or their friends then engage them in conversation and seek to present the Gospel.

One night, the size of the crowd had grown to between 20 and 30 people. Crownover remembers looking up to see fellow CSW students Andrew Gombossy and Van Komatsu moving in and out of the crowd.

"Oh wow, this is amazing," he thought. "They're talking to people who don't have a real understanding of Christ, who don't really question whether they're going to heaven or hell or if there is an eternity or not."

Crownover says his classes have helped him and other CSW students with the ministry because the ideas that people downtown present to him about life, humanity, and God are actually recycled from old philosophies and religions, about which he has already been studying and reading at length. In answer to these futile philosophies, he shares the unique hope of Jesus Christ as the Savior from sins.

"Being able to go downtown and talk to these people through Move This City has been really beneficial," Crownover says. "I feel we're supposed to do evangelism, that we're supposed to do missions wherever we are, and for me that's with homeless people or random people downtown."



“It is incredible to see what God is doing all over the world...”

KEVIN SHEPPARD

Student in the College at Southwestern

Reaching the World

Move This City, however, is only one way that students at Southwestern are taking the initiative to shine for Christ in their city and in their world—without even stepping outside of Fort Worth. In another display of their One Magnificent Obsession—that is, their passion for the Great Commission—as many as 85 students have gathered in the seminary’s World Mission Center on Friday nights throughout the semester to learn about the nations and pray for them.

During One Magnificent Obsession, student volunteers, many of whom have served on the mission field, lead in worship and prayer for nations such as China, Germany, the Arabian Peninsula, Zimbabwe, and Israel. They feature a specific nation or people group for prayer during each gathering, and they listen to missionaries, who, either in person or through Skype, report on God’s work among the nations.

“It is incredible to see what God is doing all over the world,” Kevin Sheppard, a student in the College at Southwestern, says. He was especially blessed to hear about what God is doing in Afghanistan.

“My heart was broken for those people as I saw pictures of them,” Sheppard says. He was moved by the continuing need in Afghanistan, “realizing their lostness and just the difficulty of reaching them.”

According to seminary student Ayman Ibrahim, One Magnificent Obsession was one of the most successful on-campus events at Southwestern during the spring semester. Ibrahim often attended One Magnificent Obsession, and he was glad to see students “praying and prais-

ing God, eager to hear about different nations.”

Ibrahim, however, believes that seminary students in Fort Worth have many opportunities to put their passion for worldwide missions into practice without even leaving the city. “We have great opportunities to reach out to Muslims here,” says Ibrahim, who works with Muslims living in Fort Worth’s many refugee camps, where thousands of families from around the world have fled for shelter.

“God has given us an opportunity to be a refugee city, ... but they don’t need only shelter. They need the Gospel.”

Born to a Coptic Orthodox family in Cairo, Egypt, and saved in an evangelical church service at age 10, Ibrahim has traveled throughout the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe, witnessing the power of God’s Word to transform lives. In January 2007, Ibrahim moved to Fort Worth to begin his Master of Divinity degree at Southwestern. Having graduated with his M.Div. this May, he will begin his Ph.D. in Islamic Studies in the Fish School of Evangelism and Missions this fall.

This summer, Ibrahim is teaching a class on the history of Islam in the College at Southwestern. Ever since he moved to Fort Worth, he has endeavored to help Christians better understand Islamic culture and know how to reach out to them with the love of Christ.


“Since I came to America, I have been hearing different views on Muslims and Islam,” Ibrahim says. “Some views are relational, friendship-based, and some views are just confrontational.” Ibrahim emphasizes the importance of befriending Muslims and learning about their culture and religion.





“Muslims are also people, and we need not be scared of listening to them, of communicating the Gospel with them,” Ibrahim says. “We need to know that we are called to understand their mindset and their worldview.

“It is about how to understand properly, so that we will communicate in a proper way, knowing that God has called us to reach everyone.”

Like Ibrahim, students at Southwestern Seminary want to gain knowledge and experience that will enable them to take the Gospel to all people. Even while completing their degrees, they have taken the initiative to fulfill the Great Commission by bringing Christ’s light to their community and to the world. 



→ **Nearly 7 billion people** live in the world. 1.6 billion have never heard the name of Jesus, and billions more will perish without faith in Christ.

→ **During One Magnificent Obsession**, Southwestern students have intensely prayed for: Thailand, Ukraine, the Arabian peninsula, Georgia, Germany, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Japan, Israel, India, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, China, and Tibet.

→ **The Fort Worth area** has a population of nearly 600,000 residents. Every year, 5.5 million people visit the city’s Sundance Square and other downtown destinations.

→ **20,000 refugees** reportedly find shelter in Fort Worth. They come from 45 ethnic groups.

→ **Southwestern students** are praying and sharing the Gospel so that His light will shine throughout their city and throughout the world.



RIPE FOR THE HARVEST

STORY BY BENJAMIN HAWKINS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JONATHAN BLAIR

SOWING GOSPEL
SEED SOUTH OF
THE BORDER

THE KINGDOM OF GOD, JESUS SAID, IS LIKE A SOWER SCATTERING SEED. THE SEED IS GOD'S WORD. AT TIMES THE SEED IS PLUCKED FROM THE GROUND, SCORCHED BY THE SUN, OR STRANGLERED BY THORNS AND THISTLES BEFORE IT CAN BEAR FRUIT. PLANTED IN WELL-TENDED SOIL, THE SEED BEARS A RICH HARVEST.

Traveling to the city of Monclova, Mexico, Jan. 2-9, students from Southwestern Seminary and the College at Southwestern scattered the seed of God's Word, witnessing the power of the Gospel to change lives. Through door-to-door and market evangelism, they handed out 23,000 tracts and other evangelistic materials, made 1,614 contacts, and shared the Gospel with 1,129 people. During the trip, the Gospel produced the fruit of 179 Mexicans who professed faith in Christ and whose lives were transformed.

Southwestern Seminary student Nelson Fonseca praised God after one woman escaped from the occult through the power of the Gospel. Nelson and his teammates met Nancy Saenz while working in the small town of Sacramento, only 30 minutes away from Monclova. As they shared the Gospel with Nancy, she began to chant and clung to a medallion that hung around her neck. She then cried, trembled, and passed out.

When this happened, some Southwestern students began to pray, while other students cared for Nancy. Nelson, who served as a translator during the trip, spoke with Nancy's sister, discovering that Nancy had been involved in the worship of *Santa Muerte* (Holy Death), a syncretistic cult advocated by drug traffickers and many others who look for protection amid violence. Nelson learned that Nancy prayed to a headless image that was in her house.

When she woke, Nancy could not remember what had happened to her. As other Southwestern students prayed, Nelson shared the Gospel with her once more, and this time she accepted the message of Christ's love and made a profession of faith. The following day, Nelson could see a change even in Nancy's face when she attended a church service with the group. Since his return from Mexico, Nelson has stayed in touch with Nancy through e-mail.

"She says that she no longer fears for her life and that God is working in her life," Nelson says. "I advised her to continue reading her Bible and to tell her story to other people in town so that they would know the power of the Gospel.

"I thank the Lord because He is still the same yesterday and today

and wants to save lost individuals like Nancy."

In another suburb of Monclova, Justin Howe, a student in the College at Southwestern, reaped an unexpected harvest. Justin and his team were driving back from a suburb called La Madrid, where they had been serving at a mission church that another area church had planted. Unexpectedly the pastor of the parent church, whom they were following, pulled off the road for a short stop. As the team waited to get back on the road, Justin met a 15-year-old boy who passed by on his bike. Justin gave him a tract and they spoke for a few minutes, but Justin was not able to take the conversation very far before they had to leave.

The following day, the team unexpectedly changed their plans and decided to hand out tracts and witness within the local market. As they did so, Justin saw the boy



that he met the previous day. He felt compelled to share the Gospel with this boy, who soon professed faith in Christ.

"It was just amazing to see God move—step by step, moment by moment—to reach this one young man," Justin says. As he reflects on this experience, he is reminded that God has a plan even when nothing seems to go according to human plans.

"Christ and His Gospel are powerful," Preston Atwood says, reflecting on the transformation of lives and the spiritual harvest he witnessed in Monclova. A graduate of the College at Southwestern and currently a Master of Divinity student, Preston helped organize the trip to Monclova. Prior to the trip, Preston spent hundreds of hours in administrative work in order to prepare the Southwestern team to scatter the seed of God's Word throughout Monclova.

"Having worked with all the students for such a long time to get them ready for this trip, I had a deep love for everybody on the trip," Preston says. "So it was neat to see so many of them experience such

true and deep change in just a matter of a week.” Students who attended the trip, he says, went home with a renewed sense of passion for sharing the Gospel.

Despite the fruit that was produced as the Southwestern team shared God’s word in Monclova, Preston and his wife, Emily, also learned that sometimes the Gospel is planted in hard, unforgiving soil. As they shared the Gospel in Monclova, they witnessed to an elderly man who refused to profess faith in Christ despite the costs.

“This had a really potent impact on me,” Emily, a graduate of the College at Southwestern, says. Emily explains that this man said he wanted to believe the Gospel, but he refused to forgive a man who had attempted to kill him earlier in life. Preston and Emily told him about Christ’s parable of the unmerciful servant in Matthew 18:22-35.



They told him about the importance of forgiveness and said that Christ would give him the power to forgive.

“After that, the man said, ‘Well, if those are my options, then I’m going to have to go to hell because I will not forgive him,’” Emily recounts. “So it was like he even knew what he was doing, and he still rejected the Gospel.


“I sometimes still shudder to think about it, and we just hope and pray that the Lord would soften his heart. There is always still hope that the Lord would soften his heart and call to mind the things that we told him.”

Both through this disappointment and through evangelistic success, Preston and Emily were re-energized to share the Gospel not only in Mexico but also in Fort Worth.

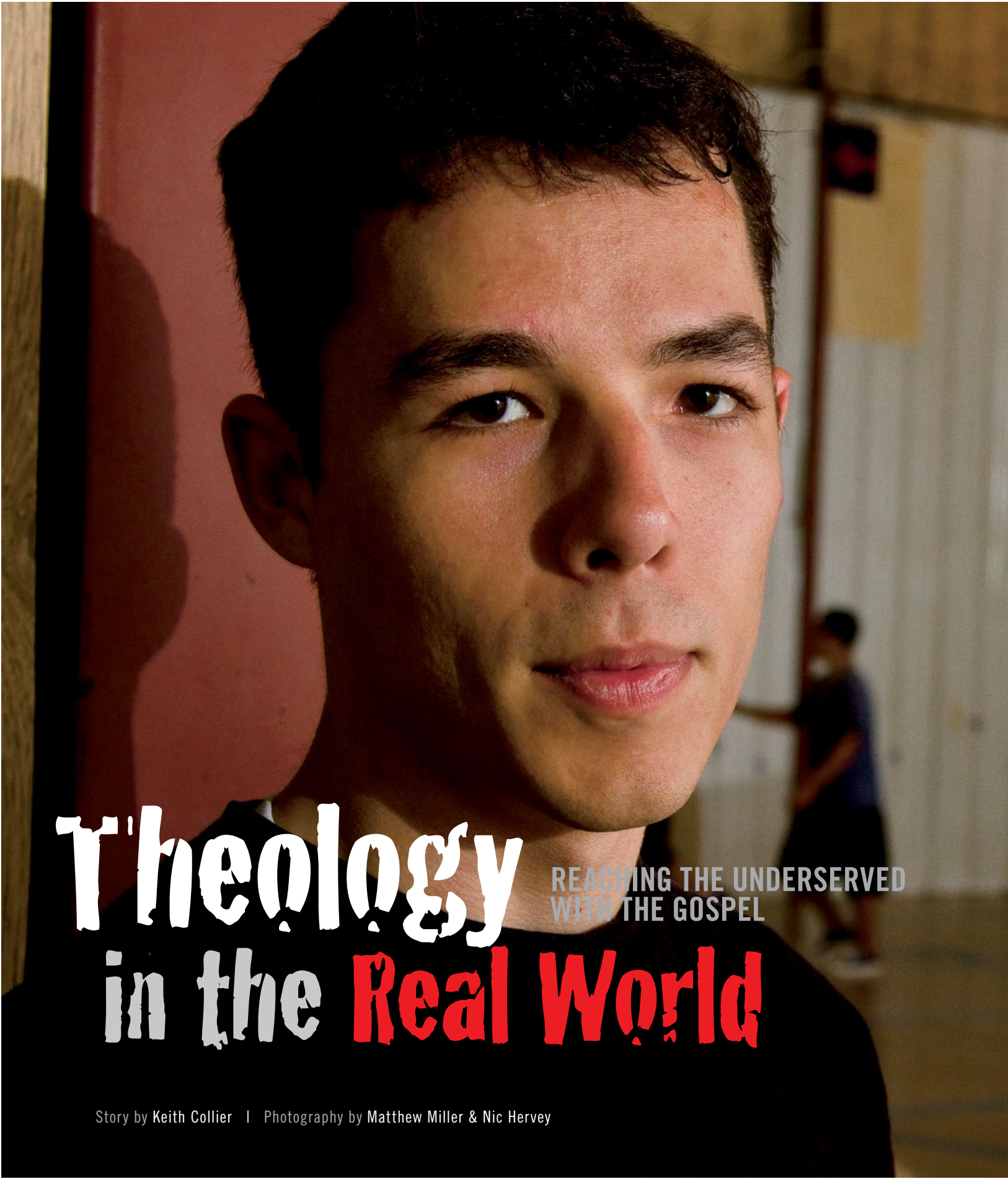
“The trip made us more aware of our former lack of intentionality in doing evangelism,” Emily says. While it is easy to share the Gospel during a mission trip or for a class assignment, it is also easy to put

evangelism aside when at home. “It is humbling and ironic to think how lame our human flesh is in excusing us from our responsibility to share the Gospel all the time. And it is neat to see how the mission trip encouraged both of us to be better at fulfilling our honor and our responsibility to do that every day.”

Since they returned to Fort Worth, Preston and Emily have renewed their efforts to reach the community that surrounds them. They have witnessed at La Gran Plaza, a mall located only a few miles from the seminary, and they have shared the Gospel with people from the community who walk around the seminary’s campus each evening. They have also participated in Taking the Hill, Southwestern’s initiative to reach people within the mile-radius of the seminary.

“You don’t have to travel 800 miles to share the Gospel with people,” Preston says. While scattering the seed of God’s Word throughout the city of Monclova, he and Emily remembered the importance of working in fields that are ripe for the harvest in their own community. 





Theology

REACHING THE UNDERSERVED
WITH THE GOSPEL

in the **Real World**

Story by Keith Collier | Photography by Matthew Miller & Nic Hervey

WHEN BLAYNE OWENS SIGNED UP FOR A ONE-YEAR APPRENTICESHIP WITH A PASTOR IN HOUSTON, HE NEVER IMAGINED IT WOULD LEAD TO PLAYING BASKETBALL AND SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH DRUG DEALERS. HOWEVER, WHEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH PEOPLE AT A MISSION IN HOUSTON'S NOTORIOUS FIFTH WARD, A DISTRICT RIDDLED WITH POVERTY, DRUG ABUSE, AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, OWENS ROSE TO THE CHALLENGE.

"The purpose of the apprenticeship is to take someone from the classroom who is getting a theological education, who is called to be a pastor and has that God-placed call and desire in his heart and to get him from the head knowledge in the classroom to the experiential knowledge outside in the real world," Owens, a student in the College at Southwestern, says.

The apprenticeship, which Owens describes as six years of experience wrapped in one, includes accompanying the pastor on pastoral visits and meetings, participating in church mission trips, serving in assorted ministries at the church, and preaching and teaching in various venues. Owens expected all of this when he began the internship in the fall of 2009, but when Northeast Houston Baptist Church was blessed with the opportunity to acquire a mission close to the heart of the city, his eyes were opened to a new aspect of the real world he is called to reach.

Farrington Mission sits along U.S. Highway 59, just north of the I-610 loop around Houston. An estimated 10,000 people live within a one-mile radius of the mission, and the area boasts an eclectic mix of residents: elderly couples rooted in the community, families striving to survive and escape to a better life, and those struggling in poverty and debauchery. During a police ride-along, Owens saw brothels, drug dealers, crack houses, and transvestite prostitutes within walking distance of the mission.

Since January, Owens has joined men from the church as they open the mission for basketball outreach to young men in the community. They shoot hoops in the gym for a while and then break for a time of Bible study before continuing to play.

"It's a way to go out there and create some camaraderie for the purpose of sharing the Gospel and winning them to Jesus," Owens says.

Owens' eyes were opened to the desperate need for the Gospel one night when they were taking prayer requests.

"The guys spoke up and said, 'You know José who was here last week? He got shot, and he's dead. His funeral was yesterday, so we need to pray for his family,'" Owens recalls.

"It's something that's normal down there. The guys didn't really blink at it, but for us, it was shocking. It really gives us a sense of urgency."

Most of the guys' hearts are as hard as the concrete they dribble on when it comes to the Gospel, yet Owens continues to share with them. One man was recently released from prison and wants to follow Christ. Owens and others have encouraged and disciplined him in what a biblical marriage looks like and what it means to live the Christian life.

In addition to the weekly basketball outreach, Owens occasionally serves in the mission's food pantry and looks for ways to share the Gospel with those who are picking up food for their families. Similar to Jesus' approach with the woman at the well in John 4, he likes to transition the conversation from physical to spiritual needs.

Owens asks how long the food they are getting will last them and follows


their answer with, "Wouldn't it be great to have food that lasts us forever?" This simple statement helps him turn the conversation toward their need for a Savior. Some are receptive, while others simply want the food.

"This has been a phenomenal opportunity to get me out with unchurched people who have no interest in what you're saying about God and the Bible," Owens says. "I'm learning how to begin conversations about God and about salvation. It's also helped me understand the importance of the local church."



Owens has gained an incredible amount of experience through these outreach opportunities and spiritual conversations at Farrington Mission, and he believes his studies in the College at Southwestern have helped prepare him for such ministry.

"It is the History of Ideas degree applied to real life," Owens says. "The way the History of Ideas is set up gives you insight into how people think and teaches you to think."

Because the undergraduate program at Southwestern explores worldviews and equips students to defend a Christian worldview, Owens feels confident discussing spiritual matters with people from all walks of life. Coupling this knowledge with a genuine spirit and compassion, Owens encourages others to reach out to underserved communities. 

Unleashing the power of the Gospel

By Keith Collier

Little did Clif and JoAn Hale know that the untimely death of their only child would eventually bear fruit in seeing the Gospel preached across North America.

After a time of uncertainty about what to do next, their friend and former pastor, Bob Rich, a Southwestern graduate, encouraged them to consider investing in eternity through giving to the seminary.

"When our only child passed away, it changed everything," says JoAn. "Bob knew we were struggling with this, and he suggested that we talk to the seminary about making a bequest."

After speaking with representatives at the seminary, the Hales decided to create a planned gift toward the Spring Revival Evangelism Practicum, a yearly program that sends Southwestern students outside of the Bible Belt to preach revivals.

They experienced firsthand the need for the Gospel outside the Bible Belt when they lived in Maryland, where Clif worked for the Atomic Energy Commission.

"One of the things that attracted us to the spring practicum was that when we got to Maryland, we realized how few people up there even get the true Gospel," JoAn says.

"When you think of missionaries," Clif adds, "you don't think of them in your home. You think of foreign missionaries going to China and Tanzania and places like that, and that's what missions always meant to me. But, good grief, look at all the mission opportunities there are within our own boundaries, and it seems like they get overlooked."

Following their time in Maryland, the Hales returned to Texas, where Clif worked for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as the senior project manager in licensing during the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant construction.

Today, they are members of First Baptist Church in Lakeside, Texas. Clif teaches a large Sunday school class, and the Hales lead the seniors group at the church.

"We've been teaching for a long time, and as we've gotten older, they've gotten older with us, so we've kind of evolved into working with seniors," Clif says.

The Hales are members of the Naylor Society and Distinguished Life members of the President's Club at Southwestern. They feel blessed to have recently seen the impact their planned gift will have on reaching people with the Gospel.

"We were invited to a luncheon at the seminary, and we had the privilege of being in chapel when they had prayer for the young men who were going out on the spring practicum," JoAn says. "It was just great to see those men lined up along the stage and have prayer for them. It brings it closer to home when you have a privilege of putting a face with that name."

Noting the desperate need for believers to support the work of Gospel-centered seminaries, Clif says, "I wish there was some way to get that message across to the general population of Christians. I know there's got to be a dozen people facing the same problem we were faced with: What are we going to do with our estate? We only had one child and the Lord took him home long before us, so now, what are we going to do?"

"That's when we started thinking, 'It's God's work that's going to go on, and we can have a part in that.'"

"It doesn't matter if they remember who put it there," JoAn adds. "It just matters if they can spread the light."

Southwestern is grateful for the investment of Christians like Clif and JoAn Hale, which advances the Gospel to North America and to the ends of the earth.



By Keith Collier

Dead Sea Scrolls acquired by Southwestern Seminary

Pieces from what many scholars argue is the greatest archaeological discovery of the 20th century have found a permanent residence in North Texas. Southwestern Seminary announced the acquisition of three biblical fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls, Jan. 20.

Southwestern trustee Gary Loveless presented President Paige Patterson with the collection during the seminary's chapel service. Loveless, founder and CEO of Square Mile Energy in Houston, provided the lead gift for the purchase of the fragments, which were acquired from a private collector in Europe. The collection makes Southwestern one of only a handful of institutions of higher education in the United States that possess pieces of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

"It is my earnest belief that these scrolls, which contain God's holy word, need to be secured in a place where they will be revered and respected for exactly what they are," said Loveless with his wife Stephanie by his side.

"Although one can't deny or ignore the historical or archaeological value of these fragments, it is most important to me and Stephanie that they are in the hands of those that will acknowledge and honor their Christian and Jewish heritage and significance. It is for that reason that there's no

better institution than Southwestern in our opinion to secure these for the glory of God."

Patterson expressed his greatest appreciation on behalf of the seminary for the Lovelesses' extraordinary generosity. Early analysis shows the fragments owned by Southwestern include portions of Exodus 23, Leviticus 18, and Daniel 6, although the seminary will conduct further study on the pieces. A pen made from a palm tree, which was found with the Dead Sea Scrolls and presumably used by the scribes who wrote them, was also gifted to the seminary as part of the collection. It is only one of three pens known to exist from the Dead Sea Scroll discoveries.

"I am particularly grateful for having the Daniel fragments," Patterson said. "Daniel is one of the most attacked books in the Bible."

Patterson said the discovery of Daniel fragments in the Dead Sea Scrolls showed that "it was clear that these were copies of copies of copies so that it established the certainty that Daniel was written when it claims to have been written."

The Dead Sea Scrolls have made a profound impact on biblical studies, especially in the area of scribal transmission. Dating back to the time of Christ, these documents

pre-date the Masoretic Text of Hebrew Scriptures by 1,000 years.

"Any piece of the Dead Sea Scrolls is significant because it shows us what the state of the Hebrew text of the Bible was 2,000 years ago, which gives us a way to measure whether or not they've been faithfully transmitted over the last 2,000 years," Weston Fields, executive director of the Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation, said in a phone interview. The Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation is an organization dedicated to the publication, conservation, and preservation of the scrolls.

"And what they do tell us is that there has been very little change," Fields said. "They show how faithfully the Bible has been transmitted."

Steven Ortiz, associate professor of archaeology and biblical backgrounds and director of the Charles D. Tandy Archaeology Museum at Southwestern, believes the collection will provide students with the opportunity for a rare type of scholarship.

Construction plans for Southwestern's new 3,500-seat chapel include a state-of-the-art library to house the Dead Sea Scroll fragments as well as other ancient documents, such as several cuneiform tablets, which are currently housed in Southwestern's Tandy Archaeological Museum. Named in honor of Loveless' grandmother, Ira Leeta Phillips, the new library will provide a secure, climate-controlled environment for these rare treasures to be preserved and displayed.

Southwestern plans to have the three fragments studied further by professional textual scholars and archaeologists, who will work closely with students and faculty in Southwestern's archaeology department.

Southwestern's Dead Sea Scrolls collection may eventually travel on occasional museum exhibits to educate the public about the historic nature of these precious treasures, but no definitive plans or agreements have yet been made.



Press conference panelists hold up fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls and an ancient stylus.

Southwestern Seminary preserves the legacy of Lottie Moon



Paige Patterson (above) and Louie Lou (below) discuss Lottie Moon's legacy during the unveiling of remnants from her home that have come to Southwestern.

Southwestern Seminary unveiled a shipment from China, Dec. 16, containing remnants from the Chinese home and belongings of Lottie Moon. Southwestern plans to display the items in order to preserve Moon's legacy and edify Southern Baptists, who have collected a Christmas missions offering in the name of this devoted missionary since 1918.

President Paige Patterson, first lady Dorothy Patterson, and other seminary officials opened crates containing some of Moon's furniture, such as chairs and a stove, as well as shingles, bricks, and other remains from her house in P'ingtu, China. The crates—carrying 35,000 pounds of material—also held antiques from 19th-century P'ingtu City that will help Baptists understand the Chinese culture and the people to whom Moon devoted her life. According to Patterson, the seminary is currently evaluating the best way for displaying Moon's home and belongings.

Despite severe challenges, Lottie Moon immersed herself in the Chinese culture and succeeded in winning the respect of the Chinese people. For this reason, Patterson said, Southern Baptists named their Christmas missions offering after Lottie Moon in honor of her diligent and sacrificial service.

"Just imagine," Patterson said, "how many people have come to Christ all over the

world as a result of her witness. The incredible investment of millions of dollars given by Southern Baptists has accelerated the advance of world missions."

The antique furniture and architectural structures that are now housed at Southwestern Seminary show the degree to which Lottie Moon immersed herself in this culture. In P'ingtu she rented her house—a four-room structure with dirt floors and clay shingles that covered a thatched roof and bare rafters—for \$24 a year. She adapted one room as a kitchen, one as a storeroom, and another as a passageway. She lived, prayed, entertained guests, and rested in the fourth room, sleeping on a Chinese kang—a traditional bed made from mud bricks and covered with a thatched, straw mat. From here she set out into the city of P'ingtu, dressed in traditional Chinese garb, to share the love of Christ.

Patterson also expressed thanks to Southwestern alumnus Paul Kim, pastor of Berkland Baptist Church in Cambridge, Mass., and former president of the seminary's National Alumni Association, and Louie Lu, president of Yangtze International Inc. Through their efforts, Lottie Moon's belongings were purchased and transported by boat, train, and automobile to Southwestern Seminary, where they were received with excitement.

Mother and two sons saved during Taking the Hill

James Henry, an advanced Master of Divinity student, had participated in the Taking the Hill evangelism initiative before, but this was the first time he was ever able to see lives immediately changed by the message he carried.

Henry, with classmate Nelson Fonseca, knocked on the door of one house and was greeted by a mother and her two young sons. The students shared the Gospel with the group and each of the three family members prayed to receive Christ.

Henry was particularly touched because the boys, 10 and 8, are the same ages as his two oldest sons. Henry encouraged the two young boys to share with other family members—an older brother and a younger sister. The boys' mother said she would keep the Spanish New Testament the students gave to her in order to share the Gospel with her husband.

"It's just an amazing experience when you allow yourself to be open and to be used by God," said Henry.

He also said this was a great way to wrap up his undergraduate time at Southwestern. In December, he and Fonseca received their degrees from the College at Southwestern.

Visit www.swbts.edu/takingthehill for more information about the evangelism initiative. 🍷

By Benjamin Hawkins

Survivor says cancer was a godsend

Thousands of men, women, and children know the pain of cancer—the wondering, the surgeries, the treatments followed by weariness, the death of family members. For Christians and non-believers alike, the term “cancer” conjures up images of evil, grief, and loss. Preachers often remind their congregations that sin, like cancer, wreaks death.

But for Jason Galloway, a cancer survivor and student in the College at Southwestern, cancer was a godsend.

“God allowed that cancer to come into me because he knew that it was what it would take for me to wake up,” Galloway said. “It is that same love that put Jesus on the cross. When you experience that, you have nothing else to do but follow.”

Although he decided to follow Christ as a teenager, Galloway was not disciplined, and he lived for more than a dozen years without recognizing Christ’s place in his life. He pursued his own plans and desires. But when he discovered that he had cancer at the age of 30, he realized how far he had strayed from God’s call. Through all his experiences, he learned that, as Proverbs 20:24 states, “A man’s steps are determined by the Lord, so how can anyone understand his own way?” (HCSB)

When he found out he had cancer, Galloway had been enduring stomach pains for three or four months, expecting that he suffered only from ulcers. After performing tests on Galloway, his doctor informed him that his situation was much worse than he thought.

“I’ll never forget it, his face,” Galloway said. “He was extremely white. He was emotionless.”

His doctor insisted that he, his wife, and his mother sit down. He then informed them that Galloway had a 10-inch, malignant tumor. The following evening, Galloway wept before God.

“I was to the breaking point,” he recounted. “I just cried out to God and said, ‘God, I don’t want to die. I don’t want to die. But if I have to ... forgive me of the things I’ve done.’” After surrendering to God, he felt a peace and assurance that he would survive his cancer.

After he completed months of treatment, Galloway began a six-month discipleship process. During this process, he accepted God’s call into ministry.

“I’ll never forget that moment either,” he said. “It was another moment that you can’t put into any words ... but you know it’s real because you experienced it. You experience God in a way that is powerful and moving, and it just changes your life.”

“When He revealed to me what He wanted me to do, I was like, ‘I don’t know. That’s not what I had planned,’” Galloway added. Although he developed a passion for adult ministry through his discipleship process, Galloway felt God was directing his steps toward children’s ministry. “But I am glad I followed, because it has been the most rewarding, the most blessed time of my life.”

Galloway then quit his job as a chef and followed God’s call to children’s ministry, until he once again sensed that God was

redirecting his steps—this time to ministry training. In 2008 Galloway moved to Fort Worth, along with his wife, Billie, and their two daughters, Danielle and Samantha.

Galloway is now working toward his Bachelor of Arts in Humanities degree in the College at Southwestern. He uses his ministry calling as a children’s minister at Springdale Baptist Church and his culinary expertise as a chef in the Southwestern Seminary Grill. Coming to Southwestern’s Dining Services with an associate’s degree in culinary arts from Oklahoma State University and with experience as co-owner of a restaurant and as executive chef at a five-star resort, Galloway is intent on helping Southwestern serve the next generation of Christian ministers.

“I don’t understand sometimes what God does, what He has for me,” Galloway said. “So I am just taking it day by day. That’s the best way to do it, by the way. For the first 20 or 30 years of my life, I did it my way. ... He has been so faithful. It’s unbelievable. Even when I’m not faithful, He’s faithful, and it blows me away. I’m not going back to that. I’m going to keep following God.”



Galloway shares his experience with cancer during a video interview. To watch it, visit www.swbts.edu/galloway.

Graduates reminded to rejoice

One hundred years after Southwestern Seminary moved from Waco to Fort Worth, its graduates were exhorted to continue to walk in integrity through life and ministry regardless of the result.

Such faithfulness will show that “you are exactly what you claim to be,” President Paige Patterson said during Southwestern’s spring commencement, May 8. “And if you will be faithful to the assignment you have, then God will maintain your work.”

Preaching about the apostles’ imprisonment in Acts 5, Patterson reminded graduates that the presence of God will be with them wherever they may serve—something that enabled the early church to continue their ministry, “rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name” (Acts 5:41, NASB).

“That is the key to the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. You will suffer,” Patterson said. “You have a choice at that point. You may either become bitter ... or you can choose to rejoice.”

During the commencement ceremony, Southwestern conferred 214 degrees.

Katie Frugé (M.Div. 2010) said her time at Southwestern “has been one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. ... I have grown spiritually, seen my marriage flourish, made lifelong friends, and been stretched academically.”

John Wohlgemuth (M.Div. 2010) also appreciates the intangible benefits he gained: “I feel that one of the best aspects of seminary is the common bond that students and their families share as we walk through this experience together.”

Emily Felts Atwood (B.A. Humanities 2010) was the first graduate with a concentration in homemaking from the College at Southwestern. Atwood said her coursework prepared her by integrating hands-on culinary and clothing construction courses with challenging coursework that gives her a strong biblical paradigm for womanhood.



(Above) College at Southwestern graduates gather for a picture after commencement. (Below) Patterson commissions graduates before they receive their degrees.

Trustees discuss student housing, counseling program

Southwestern’s board of trustees gathered on campus for their spring meeting, April 7.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Paige Patterson gave his presidential address to the trustees, highlighting the evangelistic atmosphere on campus, recent faculty publications, and the most pressing needs of the seminary. Patterson said, “A deep missions consciousness is beginning to grip the whole campus.”

STUDENT HOUSING

Several committees voiced agreement and support with the president and administration on student housing needs. Institutional advancement committee chairman Steven James said his committee supports the initiative to pursue student housing.

“We’ve made that a priority,” James told trustees. “We’re taking a strong look at that and how we can help move that along.”

Student Services committee chairman Hance Dilbeck agreed, saying, “We also talked about the importance of improved student housing and how that will help with student recruitment.”

UNIFIED COUNSELING PROGRAM

Speaking on behalf of the academic administration committee, trustee Van McClain updated trustees on the seminary’s progress in combining its two counseling programs, saying the faculty committee evaluating the project needs more time.

“Dr. Blaising reported on the progress that is taking place with the unified Southwestern Counseling program model,” said McClain.

“A report or a program proposal will be brought to the meeting in October.”

After the committee’s report, the entire board unanimously voted to adopt the sentiments of the committee as its own.

NEW FACULTY ELECTED

Trustees elected the following faculty:

- **Thomas Davis** as professor of archaeology and biblical backgrounds
- **Ira “Mack” Jones** as associate professor of Christian education in the Harvard School
- **Donald Kim** as an assistant professor in the College at Southwestern
- **Matthew McKellar** as associate professor of preaching
- **John Michael Morris** as assistant professor of missions
- **Matthew Queen** as assistant professor of evangelism

Pauleys and Jimenezes honored with L.R. Scarborough Awards

Southwestern honored Edward and Shirley Pauley and Ruben and Stella Jimenez, March 11, as L.R. Scarborough Award recipients. The L.R. Scarborough Awards recognize those uniquely used by the Lord to influence others to bring donor support to Southwestern.

Edward Pauley serves as vice provost for academic programs and professor of philosophy at Southwestern. An avid churchman, he and his wife, Shirley, have been members of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, for more than 20 years, teaching Sunday school and apologetics classes throughout that time.

“There are only two things that last forever ... the Word of God, which lives and abides forever, and people last forever in one place or another,” Pauley said.

“Can you imagine the privilege of being part of a ministry in which you invest that which is eternal into those who are eternal? Therefore, every single effort has eternal value and consequence.”

Ruben and Stella Jimenez have been married for more than 40 years and are active in the local church. Stella owns a hairdressing

business and serves as a children’s Sunday school teacher at Birchman Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. Ruben serves as a deacon at Birchman and is the former chairman of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly (2004-2007).

The Jimenezes became friends of Southwestern through meeting Drew and Inez Clifton in the 1960s. Widowed through the death of her husband in 1988, Inez was

grateful for the influence and deepening friendship of Stella, who was able to help her with daily responsibilities as well as care for her in her old age. Inez went to be with the Lord in 2003, and Stella served as executrix of her estate.

“Inez and I enjoyed studying God’s Word and serving others,” Stella said. “The seminary was the best place to make sure that God’s blessings would be spread.”



Edward and Shirley Pauley



Ruben and Stella Jimenez

Student follows God from medicine to ministry

In recent years, Micaela Mercer has taken a spiritual journey, leading her from medical school in the Midwest to Southwestern Seminary, where she is now preparing to serve the Great Physician.

A 2007 graduate from Texas Christian University with her bachelor’s degree in biology, Mercer professed faith in Christ at a church camp when she was a child.

As a college student, however, she struggled with doubts about the truth of Christianity and the existence of God. But as she worked at a camp near Huntsville, Texas, God drew Mercer back to Himself, and she

“realized for the first time what it meant to have a passionate relationship with Jesus.”

After graduating from TCU, Mercer was accepted into medical school at Des Moines University-Osteopathic Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

“It was in that part of my life that the Lord planted a seed for a desire to do ministry, but I had already committed to medical school,” Mercer said. The summer before beginning medical school, she began to feel anxious about the situation. That fall, she knew she needed to return to Fort Worth to attend seminary.

“In my heart, I knew I wanted to do seminary, but it seemed like a selfish choice at that time,” Mercer said. “I wanted to learn a lot about the Bible, but I was ... studying for a career that was all about giving back to people. And how would I give back if I went to seminary?”

Mercer enrolled as a MACE student at Southwestern in fall 2009.

“Now that I’m here,” she said, “I feel like it is not about me at all. ... I’m seeing doors open where I am able to serve and just able to pour into others all the time.”

Platt, Gaines, Vines discuss the future of expository preaching

Three generations of Southern Baptist pastors joined the preaching faculty at Southwestern Seminary to examine the future need and roles of text-driven preaching within the church. During the seminary's sixth annual Expository Preaching Workshop, March 8-9, pastors David Platt, Steve Gaines, and Jerry Vines spoke on the topic during their plenary sessions and also fielded questions during a candid Q&A panel discussion.

Platt, pastor of The Church at Brookhills in Birmingham, Ala., challenged the more than 250 pastors and students in attendance to preach for radical obedience with radical urgency.

"We do not have time to waste our lives or our ministries living out a nice, comfortable, Christian spin on the American Dream," Platt said.

During the Q&A panel, Vines, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., responded to a question about the younger generation's hunger for expository preaching: "I'm encouraged by what I see. I'm finding a real receptivity to the Word."

Gaines, the 52-year-old pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn., spoke about how to make the Gospel culturally accessible without compromise. Gaines said Christians must "take the never-changing Gospel to an ever-changing world."

In addition to main sessions, the workshop offered breakout sessions by seminary preaching faculty. Steven Smith spoke on the history of Southern Baptist preaching. Matthew McKellar led a breakout session on the preaching of W.A. Criswell. David Allen

taught how to match one's sermon structure to the structure of the genre of the text. Calvin Pearson discussed how to bring texts of Scripture to life through first person narrative sermons.



David Allen moderates a panel discussion with Platt, Gaines, and Vines.

Seminary hosts first family ministry conference

Southwestern Seminary hosted its first family ministry conference, Feb. 26-27. The conference encouraged ministers to consider the central role of the family within the mission of the church.

"I do believe that what is happening in this room is historically important because the church really is now beginning to wake up to families," Richard Ross, professor of student ministry, said.

According to Ross, the family exists primarily for the glory and adoration of God. Spouses are responsible to encourage each other to love God, and parents have the

responsibility of raising their kids to love God. They should also encourage their children to allow Christ to live through them.

Scripture exhorts parents to tell their children about God's truth. If this does not happen, however, this truth can be lost. Ross recounted how the Israelites fell from the Lord only one generation after the death of Joshua and all those who had seen God bring the Israelites into the Promised Land.

"In the absence of faith at home," Ross said, "do we really think church programs can make up the difference?"

The family ministry conference also featured June Hunt, founder of Hope for the Heart Ministries. She performed some music during lunch on the first day of the conference and led a breakout session, titled "How to Forgive ... When You Don't Feel Like It."

During another presentation, President Paige Patterson claimed that the family was established by God as the "basic unit of the social order."

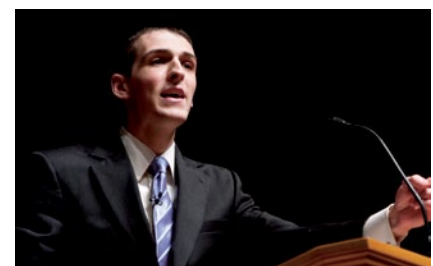
Other speakers at the conference included Waylan Owens, dean of the Terry School of Church and Family Ministries; Brian Haynes, associate pastor at Kingsland Baptist Church in Katy, Texas; Steve Hunter, executive director of counseling ministries at Hope for the Heart; and Ken Lasater of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention.

Knowing the end changes everything

What the Bible says about the end of time should influence how Christians live today, Rickey Primrose told fellow students and faculty during chapel at Southwestern, April 22. Primrose, who was selected by faculty to deliver the message for Student Preaching Day, demonstrated the training he has received in his Master of Divinity studies during the past three years as he preached about the eschatological wedding feast described in Revelation 19.

In addition to being honored with the Student Preaching Day award, Primrose was also presented the LifeWay Pastoral Leadership Award by Tommy Hellams, vice president of executive communications and relations at LifeWay.

"I was struck by the humility of this young man," Hellams said of Primrose. "A Christlike spirit is evident, and, Rickey, that will serve you well as you continue in ministry."



Rickey Primrose



June Hunt leads a breakout session on forgiveness.

Ground is fertile for church planting

Students at Southwestern Seminary were challenged with the expansive lostness of the United States and Canada during the seminary's North American Church Planting Week, March 29-April 1.

"We are in a changing world that is rapidly moving," said Harry Lewis, vice president for partnership missions & mobilization at the North American Mission Board (NAMB), during a chapel service.

Lewis spoke of NAMB's strategic focus on major cities in North America. Following the message, Southwestern president Paige Patterson said the seminary is in the preliminary stages of developing a plan to help plant 50 churches in a North American metropolitan city.

John Edwards, a master's student who graduated in May, is a Southwesterner who feels called to church planting. For a little

more than a year, he and his team have been laying groundwork for a new church plant in Strafford, Mo., a suburb of Springfield.

"We need to be more involved in evangelism and drawing people to church," Edwards said. "Since the church attendance rates are declining and the populations are growing, I believe that there need to be more churches to reach those growing populations."

Gala presents Gospel, seminary talent

The Gala Concert of Sacred Music, held on Feb. 18, showcased the musical talents of Southwesterners and their professors—one of many enjoyable elements of the evening.

Southwestern's Gala concert, in its seventh year, was held this year on campus in Truett Auditorium. A custom-built Wegner acoustical shell was installed on the stage roughly a week before, dramatically enriching the sound of Southwestern Seminary's Master Chorale and orchestra.

Stephen Johnson's *Libera Me* was a highlight of the night in both performance and composition. Johnson, who serves as the dean of Southwestern's School of Church Music, took a moment before the

performance to share how restoration and redemption comes through placing one's faith in Jesus Christ to save him from his sins. This hope is reflected in *Libera Me*, Johnson said.

Professional bass-baritone Jeffrey Wells, a principal artist with the New York Metropolitan Opera, was the honored guest for the evening. Gala conductor and Southwestern professor David Thye led Wells in medleys of beloved hymns ("There is a Redeemer;" "You'll Never Walk Alone/It is Well With My Soul") and classic selections from musicals ("Bring Him Home," *Les Miserables*; "Toreador Song," *Carmen*).



Professional bass-baritone Jeffrey Wells, a principal artist with the New York Metropolitan Opera, performs during the Gala Concert of Sacred Music, Feb. 18.

The Gospel: A phone call away

The Evangelism Response Center (ERC) ministry of the North American Mission Board gives Southwesterners a whole new reason to say, "Excuse me, I have to take this call."

ERC volunteers receive routed phone calls sent to their home or cell phones from those wanting more information about Christianity, providing the volunteers a chance to share the Gospel with the men and women on the other line.

Southwestern Master of Divinity student and regional ERC coordinator Beau Brewer spoke with a seeker named Fred when the man called an evangelistic hotline featured in a TV commercial. Fred's call was anonymously routed through the ERC's database to Brewer's cell phone, and Brewer was able to explain Christianity to him.

When Fred made a profession of faith, Brewer—who lives in Fort Worth, Texas—was

able to pass on his information to a local church in California, Fred's home state.

This is an important next step of the ERC ministry, explains Brewer. Churches like the one in California act as covenant churches, pledging to follow up with callers who make professions of faith within 72 hours.

For more information, visit the ERC website at www.eronline.net.

Grindstone: Heresy is necessary

How to cultivate a church that welcomes inquiry and offers real, objective answers was addressed in the March 26 Grindstone titled “Ministry and Culture: A Discussion on the Emerging Church.”

Panel members David Bertch, Steven Smith, Paige Patterson, and John Mark Yeats gave the definition of Emergent thought; the leaders’ reliance (if any) on the authority of Scripture; the importance of being

relevant to the Bible, not culture; and the necessity of context and defining terms when dialoging with this branch of liberal, non-orthodox Christianity.

Bertch, professor of humanities for the College at Southwestern, advised reading avidly to help form a biblical basis for belief.

“In the college here, we read some very strange books,” he said. “We read some of the worst books, written very well, but some

of the worst books and ideas in all of history. Both Augustine and Aquinas taught that heresy is necessary. Heresy drives us back to orthodoxy, drives us to Jesus.”

“Be ready, be prepared with the Word of God,” said Yeats, professor of church history. “It’s fantastic to watch your people grow into a culture where they can ask questions, and you get a chance to direct them back to the Word of God.”

Prayer empowers Youth Lab

The 59 student volunteers for Youth Ministry Lab 2010 knew they needed God’s blessing for any of their efforts to have lasting results. Volunteers prayed for the 1,310 conference participants—the second-highest attendance in the event’s 42-year history—during the days and weeks leading up to the April 9-10 conference, and maintained that prayer intensity throughout the weekend.

“We know people come, not just because it’s a good conference and not just because they’ll hear good speakers, but because of the ways their lives are changed and the way the kingdom is impacted,” says Wes Black, professor of student ministry. “While we did extensive planning and efforts at promoting, we give full credit to God’s movement.”

A 24-hour prayer room was available during the weekend, with YML leadership holding vigil and welcoming students and ministers for intercessory prayer and contemplation. The weekend before YML, student volunteers were jolted awake at all hours of the night by text messages from other YML workers as part of an unbroken, 36-hour cell phone prayer chain. They pulled themselves out of bed, kneeled, and committed an hour of prayer for the YML event, the speakers, the attendees, and for God’s movement in the hearts of those involved.

This focus was echoed by the event’s speakers. Wes Hamilton, a pastor and Southwestern alumnus, exhorted the large

crowd of ministers and youth leaders, addressing the need for perspective when seeking to grow in influence. Hamilton said success is good, but it has the potential to dull one’s appetite for giving God glory and pursuing Him, which results in hypocrisy as the life and message of a minister cease to match up.

J.R. Vassar, pastor of Apostle’s Church in New York City, led a plenary session on the importance of Holy Spirit-driven leadership.

Anthony Moore, a Southwestern Ph.D. student, taught volunteer youth leaders an overview class on hermeneutics, saying it is essential that they learn how to study the Bible and teach it to others. Jason Lee, associate professor of historical theology, taught an expanded course during the pre-conference sessions.

Similar exhortation was given to the youth during their breakout sessions. Paige Patterson, David Allen, and Malcolm Yarnell participated in an open forum to address difficult Bible questions, with students bringing up topics such as the security of the believer, eschatology, and whether or not there was a literal, seven-day creation.



J.R. Vassar, a Southwestern graduate, preaches during a plenary session at YML.

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TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Here are the latest opportunities from the World Missions Center to earn class credit while taking the gospel to the nations! Credit is available for both seminary and college students, so don't miss your chance to get involved in 2010-2011.

OXFORD STUDY PROGRAM 2010

- Dates: JULY 5-26, 2010
- Travel to historic touchstones of Baptist History
- 6 credit hours available in each of 2 sets of classes.
- Contact 817.923.1921, ext. 4488 or email oxford@swbts.edu

CHIANG MAI, THAILAND

- JULY 7 - JULY 26, 2010
- Cost: \$2,200 (includes scholarship but not tuition, evening/weekend meals, or the extra weekend activities)
- Up to 6 credit hours available
- Contact: Daeyoung Lee Ext. 7500 or email wmc@swbts.edu

ISRAEL & JORDAN

- December 26, 2010 - January 9, 2011
- Travel to historic locations throughout Israel & Jordan
- Preaching Jesus' Parables (3hrs)
- Hosted by Dr. Steven Smith
- \$3,700
- Contact the Traveling Scholar Office at 817.923.1921, ext. 6832

MISSION MEXICO 2011

- JANUARY 2011
- Evangelism in strategic Mexican communities
- Contact the Scarborough Institute for more information, 817.923.1921 x6679



SOUTHWESTERN
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



Snow Day: Students enjoy record-setting snowfall

Blankets of snow provided entertainment and fun for students at Southwestern as snow forts and snowmen dotted the campus and areas outside of student housing, Feb. 11-12. More than a foot of snow fell within a 24-hour period, setting a Dallas-Fort Worth record and shutting down businesses and schools, including Southwestern. Watch a snow day video at www.swbts.edu/snowday.



Eggstravaganza

Southwestern kids and their families delighted in a mild, sunny morning, March 28, for Eggstravaganza, a community-building event that helps introduce children to the meaning of Easter. Besides having a cute free-for-all for the children to pursue candy-filled eggs, Southwesterners gathered children and their families on the lawn of Pecan Manor to share the resurrection story.



McCoy wins research award

During Southwestern Seminary's third annual Baptist Theology Research Award Symposium, April 28, Katie McCoy was selected as winner from among five presenters for her essay, "Anchored Against the Tide: Female Pastors in the SBC and Contemporary Drifts toward Compromise." McCoy's paper will be published as a White Paper on www.baptisttheology.org.



Southwestern library ranks third among theological schools

According to *In Trust* magazine, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's library system ranks third in book holdings among freestanding theological schools in North America. Only Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey and Union Theological Seminary in New York ranked higher.



Southwestern Seminary celebrates Radical Reformation Day

Southwestern observed Radical Reformation Day, Jan. 21, by serving sausage and hosting presentations by Emir Caner and President Paige Patterson concerning the Radical Reformation. Patterson explained that the Reformation in Zurich, Switzerland, was instigated when certain men broke papal law by eating sausages during Lent.



Nigerian native receives award for evangelism practicum

Nigerian native Yakubu Bakfwash received the Todd Brooks Riza Memorial Award, March 25. Bakfwash was one of 56 students who preached revivals in 23 states, March 14-17. The award was named for Riza, who died in 1995 two days before embarking on his first Spring Evangelism Practicum assignment.

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DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS PROFILE

By Rebecca Carter

Gil Stricklin

Alumnus Gil Stricklin has seasoned advice for current Southwestern students: Your time here is valuable, so persevere.

“Having a seminary degree is laying a foundation for God to build on,” Stricklin says. “Look at it long term: How is God going use my life over the next 40 years? Will a seminary degree give God a base on which to build? ... If God chooses to build high on that base, that’s wonderful. If he chooses not to, well, that’s OK, too.”

In 1957, Stricklin was a layman who wanted to serve God. “I felt we were all called to do Christian service and Christian work, but I wasn’t going to earn my living that way. I got a degree in business at Baylor, and I was going to be a businessman,” he says.

Although initially denied enrollment at Southwestern because he couldn’t articulate a call to full-time ministry, Stricklin explained his heart to learn and serve to his former interim pastor, homiletics professor H.C. Brown, and seminary president J. Howard Williams. Stricklin is still touched by the memory of standing in the president’s office and being personally admitted as a student by the warm-hearted administrator.

Stricklin followed through on his plans to study homiletics and the Bible for a year as well as to marry his college sweetheart, Ann. After promising her parents to wait until she graduated from Baylor in 1958—which he did, until the evening after her college commencement when they had their wedding—Stricklin took his new bride with him and served in the Air Force.

Living in South Carolina, one of various posts during enlistment, gave the new couple connections with evangelist Billy Graham. After they returned to Southwestern to finish Stricklin’s Bachelor of Divinity (1965), he served and traveled extensively with Graham for five years as his special assistant in the area of media relations.



Gil Stricklin

Stricklin earned his B.A. in Journalism from TCU and wrote for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and *Southwestern News* before he set out with Graham, and he was also chosen as one of the first three seniors to preach during student preaching week in spring 1965.

Bookending his time with Billy Graham was another degree from Southwestern, this time a Master of Divinity in 1983, and ministry with the BGCT. A year later, Stricklin started Marketplace Ministries, which today has grown into four separate non-profit organizations that serve the secular workforce through chaplaincies and humanitarian care for workers.

Stricklin is grateful for the influence Southwestern has had on his life and ministry.

“God will bring people across your path that will be your mentors, your encouragers, your fellow co-laborers for a lifetime,” he said.

One of these current connections is Steven Smith, dean of the College at Southwestern. Stricklin says he asks Smith for help with writing talks and sermons for his various speaking engagements and says that, like a good friend and fellow Southwesterner, Smith happily obliges.

Mike Howard

Seeing 230 churches started in the Zambian bush during his time as a field missionary, Mike Howard (M.Div. 1983) quickly credits it to the movement of God, not human effort.

"It wasn't about me, it wasn't about anybody, it was about the Lord," he told students during a Feb. 16 chapel service at Southwestern.

Howard and his wife, Lindy, have worked for the past 20 years trusting the "Lord of the Harvest" for work in the African nation of Zambia. The couple seeks to "train Zambians to train other Zambians" and equip the local people through discipleship and local Bible schools, planting thriving communities of believers as a result.

"This ministry is centered on a growing relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and His inerrant and infallible Word," said Howard. "I want these Christian brothers and sisters to impact and influence their communities for Christ."

Following his graduation from Southwestern, Howard served as pastor of two churches: Garner Baptist Church in Weatherford, Texas, and Bounds Baptist Church in Powderly, Texas. In 1988, he followed God's call overseas as a church planter with the International Mission Board (IMB) in Chongwe, Zambia, less than 30 miles from the border of Zimbabwe.

As an IMB strategy facilitator (2001–09) in nearby Lusaka, the Howards switched gears and became mobilizers for missionary efforts. The missionaries he mentored and encouraged baptized 6,000 new believers and planted 1,400 new churches during those eight years.

"Mike and Lindy were the first missionaries in Zambia to take us to a church in the village," said James Adair, a Southwestern



Mike and Lindy Howard

graduate, who, with his family, was one of these missionaries served by the Howards.

"We were very green as young missionaries to Zambia, but I remember being very impressed with how at home the Howards were in that setting," Adair said. "Mike preached that day in the local language, and it fueled the fire for me to dive into my language study. About a year later, Mike and Lindy came to visit us in our rural town and shared with us the first baptism we had among our people group."

The next stage of ministry for the Howards is a move from administrative leadership back to on-the-ground church planting, this time in an urban setting, where they will use their years of experience in cross-cultural work to serve the people of Lusaka, Zambia, the capital city with a population of more than 3 million people.

Charles Stanley

Charles F. Stanley, senior pastor of the First Baptist Church of Atlanta and founder and president of In Touch Ministries, demonstrates a keen awareness of people's needs by providing practical biblical truths for everyday life. Modeling his ministry after the apostle Paul, Dr. Stanley believes that: "Life is worth nothing unless I use it for doing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about God's mighty kindness and love" (Acts 20:24, TLB).

"In Touch with Dr. Charles Stanley" can be heard around the world via radio and television broadcasts, the hand-held In Touch Messenger, and the ministry's website, www.InTouch.org. "In Touch" programs are seen and heard domestically and internationally on nearly 1800 radio and television outlets in more than 50 languages. The ministry continues to produce CDs, DVDs, books, and other Christian resource materials, including its award-winning, monthly devotional magazine, *In Touch*.

In 1988, Dr. Stanley was inducted into the National Religious Broadcaster's (NRB) Hall of Fame for the consistent excellence of his broadcasts and his leadership in the realm of Christian television and radio. Religious Heritage of America named him Clergyman of the Year in 1989, an award that recognizes pastors who strive to make Judeo-Christian principles part of America's daily life. In 1993, the NRB honored "In Touch" with the Television Producer of the Year award; and in 1999, with the Radio Program of the Year award. Thomas Nelson Publishing recognized Dr. Stanley for selling more than 6.5 million copies of his books.

Dr. Stanley has also served two terms as president of the Southern Baptist Convention (1984-86) and first joined the NRB's board of directors in 1982.

Dr. Stanley is also a New York Times best-selling author who has written more



Charles Stanley

than 35 books, including: *How to Reach Your Full Potential for God*, *Landmines in the Path of the Believer*, *How To Listen To God*, *Eternal Security: Can You Be Sure?*, *The Gift of Forgiveness*, *How to Keep Your Kids On Your Team*, *The Wonderful Spirit-Filled Life*, *Finding Peace*, *The Blessings of Brokenness*, *Success God's Way*, *The Handbook for Christian Living*, and *When Tragedy Strikes*.

At the age of 14, Dr. Stanley received a clear call to the ministry, which later led him to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Richmond in Richmond, Va., and a Bachelor of Divinity degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth,

Texas. He earned his master's degree and doctorate from Luther Rice Seminary.

The goal of Dr. Charles Stanley is best represented by In Touch's mission statement: to lead people worldwide into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and to strengthen the local church. Dr. Stanley's heart's desire is to get the Gospel to "as many people as possible, as quickly as possible, as clearly as possible, as irresistibly as possible, through the power of the Holy Spirit to the glory of God."

Renowned New Testament scholar, professor E. Earle Ellis dies at 83

Southwestern Seminary grieved the loss of world-renowned New Testament scholar E. Earle Ellis, research professor of theology emeritus, March 2.

Ellis served at Southwestern Seminary from 1985 until his death, which came only two weeks before his 84th birthday. Flags around the seminary campus were lowered to half-staff in Ellis' honor, and his funeral was held during chapel, March 10.

"Dr. Earle Ellis distinguished himself as a classroom teacher, scholar, author, and true friend to thousands," Paige Patterson, president of Southwestern Seminary, said.

"Until the last 30 days of his life, he worked diligently to complete a commentary on 1 Corinthians. He is more a part of Southwestern than Fort Worth Hall—the venerable, original building on campus. We will all miss him profoundly."

According to Sang-Won "Aaron" Son, professor of New Testament and one of Ellis' former doctoral students, Ellis challenged the skepticism of modern scholars and stood for the truths of Christianity throughout his career.

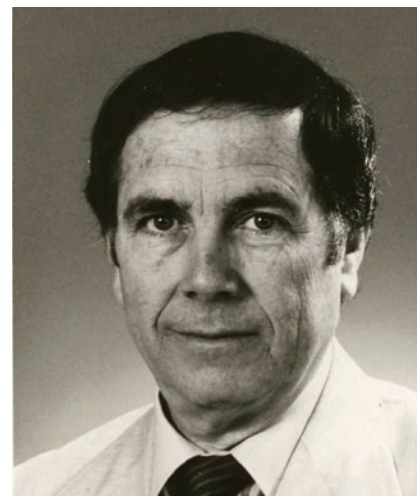
Son testified that Ellis was known throughout the world as an "evangelical scholar" who trusted God's Word without yielding "his faith commitment to anyone, even to the most eminent of scholars or to the most vocal of power groups."

Berry Driver Jr., dean of libraries, regards Ellis as not only an excellent scholar, but also as a devoted churchman and apologist for the Baptist faith. Ellis' concern for the church was reflected in his works, as can be seen in the last sentence in the preface to his magnum opus, *The Making of the New Testament Documents*: "It is my prayer that the volume will glorify God and further illumine His Word to His church."

In early 2009, Southwestern Seminary placed a display in Ellis' honor on the second floor of its A. Webb Roberts Library. The display includes a portrait of Ellis in his Edinburgh doctoral regalia, hanging above a case containing several of Ellis' books alongside three well-worn critical editions of the Greek New Testament that Ellis used over the years.

Ellis invested in Southwestern Seminary until the time of his death, bequeathing to

the seminary many books from his personal library as well as some manuscripts and papers. A fund honoring the work of Ellis has been established in the School of Theology. Gifts honoring the life and ministry of Ellis may be made to the School of Theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, P. O. Box 22596, Fort Worth, TX 76122.



E. Earle Ellis

Goldia Naylor leaves a golden legacy of faith

Born exactly one year after the founding of the seminary her family would later serve and cherish, Goldia Dalton Naylor defined the wife's role as a co-laborer and helpmate. Goldia Naylor, wife of former pastor and Southwestern Seminary president Robert E. Naylor, died Jan. 31 at the age of 100.

The seminary cancelled chapel and closed offices to allow students, faculty, and staff to attend funeral services at Travis Avenue Baptist Church.

Born Goldia Geneva Dalton on March 14, 1909, in Virginia, she came to Southwestern as a student in 1928 and eventually earned a Diploma in Religious Education. She married Robert Naylor in 1930, and the two enjoyed 68 years of marriage together.

Goldia served faithfully alongside her husband as a pastor's wife for more than 30 years at several churches, including six years at Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort

Worth. In 1958, Robert Naylor was elected the fifth president of Southwestern Seminary.

Drawing from her own experiences, she taught a class for seminary students' wives designed to prepare them for a life of ministry alongside their husbands. With a heart for hospitality, Goldia was intricately involved in the design and decoration of three buildings: the Naylor Student Center, the Goldia and Robert Naylor Children's Center, and the President's Home on campus.

As important as ministry was to her, Goldia believed her primary calling was that of wife and mother. She left a golden legacy of faith for her children and grandchildren.

The Naylor family retired in 1978, staying in Fort Worth and continuing ministry in churches and at the seminary. The seminary awarded Goldia the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1977, and in 1989, she and her husband became recipients of

Southwestern's B.H. Carroll Founders Award. In 2001, she was honored with the Mrs. J.M. Dawson Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Minister's Wife by the Southern Baptist Ministers' Wives organization.



Goldia Naylor

By Benjamin Hawkins

Professor's neighbor now brother in Christ

As Kevin Kennedy approached his neighbor three days before Easter, he remembered that God must drag a person to hell before leading him to heaven.

"Martin Luther was of the opinion that God can't bring you to heaven until He's carried you to the brink of hell," Kennedy, assistant professor of theology at Southwestern, said. "God has to bring us low so that we come to the realization that our only hope lies in Him. And only from that position is a person capable of crying out to the Lord, 'Have mercy on me, a sinner.'"

The week before Easter, Kennedy was driving home after work, and when he pulled into his driveway, he noticed that one of his neighbors was cleaning out his garage in preparation for moving out of the area. As he waved to his neighbor, Kennedy felt a sudden compulsion to share the Gospel with him.

It was not Kennedy's first time to witness to this neighbor. In fact, when Southwestern announced an evangelistic initiative called "100 Days of Evangelism" in 2008, Kennedy intensified his efforts to speak with all of his neighbors about Christ. During the evangelism initiative, he spent time each afternoon and on the weekends to build relationships and share the Gospel in his community.

Kennedy spoke often with this particular neighbor, who in previous conversations had claimed both to believe in God and in the spiritual power of nature. Due to some personal and family problems, he had left his home for several months, and Kennedy had lost contact with him.

For this reason, Kennedy was surprised to see him at home and realized that he might not have much time to share the Gospel. He also knew that God may have been working

through this man's trials in order to bring him to Christ.

Kennedy's neighbor immediately confessed that he felt like God was doing something in his life. After 45 minutes of discussion, Kennedy's neighbor prayed to receive Christ. Over the next few days, he and Kennedy spoke about the importance of baptism and joining a local church.

"I had a three-day window to talk to him," said Kennedy, who was thankful that he heeded God's call before his neighbor had finished packing his bags to move out of the area permanently. By Easter Sunday his house was empty, and he was gone.

Seminary professors contest global warming alarmism

Two Southwestern professors weighed in on the debate surrounding the U.S. Senate's consideration of cap-and-trade legislation and the United Nations' summit on climate change in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Professors Craig Mitchell and Benjamin Phillips contributed to a document criticizing global warming alarmism.

The document, titled "A Renewed Call to Truth, Prudence, and Protection of the Poor," was published by the Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation and released during a meeting of evangelical scholars at the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Mitchell, assistant professor of ethics and lead author of the theology, worldview, and ethics portion of the document, participated in the panel discussion at the Heritage Foundation. He insisted that worldviews inform the alarmists' stance on climate change by determining what data they accept as valid, as well as their interpretation of that data.

According to the worldview of many global warming alarmists, the earth stands in a delicate balance that humans can easily upset, Mitchell said. They often consider humans to be parasites on the earth. On the contrary,

the Christian worldview teaches that the earth's climate and ecosystems are "robust."

"God created the earth to support life in general and human life in particular," and God endowed humankind with "authority over this earth," Mitchell said. It is not "some weak, delicate thing that man can destroy, because this earth is going to be here as long as God wants it to be here, not one second less. It is going to serve His purposes."

In the theology, worldview, and ethics chapter of "A Renewed Call to Truth," evangelical scholars insist that, "while laws should protect the environment, they should never do so at the expense of human life and well-being." The document then notes that energy reductions "would consign about two-thirds of the human population to added decades or even generations of severe poverty and the attendant high rates of disease and premature mortality."

Despite his skepticism toward cap-and-trade legislation and human-caused climate change, Mitchell said that Christians must not ignore the environment. The biblical worldview requires that humans responsibly and productively care for creation.



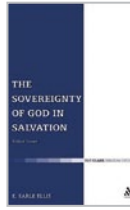
Ben Phillips



Craig Mitchell



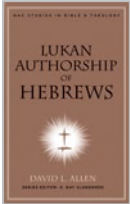
David L. Allen (editor)
WHOSOEVER WILL: A BIBLICAL-
THEOLOGICAL CRITIQUE OF
FIVE-POINT CALVINISM



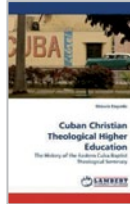
E. Earle Ellis
THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD IN
SALVATION: BIBLICAL ESSAYS



Scott Preissler (editor)
THE STEWARDSHIP STUDY BIBLE



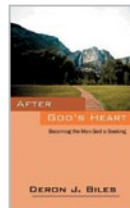
David L. Allen
THE LUKAN AUTHORSHIP OF
HEBREWS



Octavio Esqueda
CUBAN CHRISTIAN
THEOLOGICAL HIGHER
EDUCATION: THE HISTORY OF
THE EASTERN CUBA BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



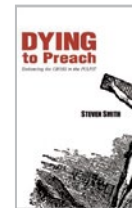
Richard Ross
STUDENT MINISTRY AND THE
SUPREMACY OF CHRIST



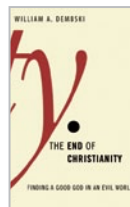
Deron J. Biles
AFTER GOD'S HEART: BECOMING
THE MAN GOD IS SEEKING



Paul Hoskins
THAT SCRIPTURE MIGHT BE
FULFILLED: TYPOLOGY AND THE
DEATH OF CHRIST



Steven Smith
DYING TO PREACH: EMBRACING
THE CROSS IN THE PULPIT



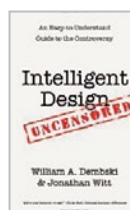
William Dembski
THE END OF CHRISTIANITY:
FINDING A GOOD GOD IN AN
EVIL WORLD



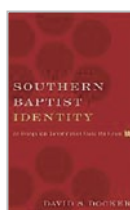
John D. Laing
IN JESUS' NAME: EVANGELICALS
AND MILITARY CHAPLAINCY



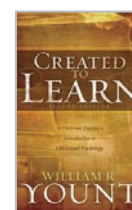
John Mark Yeats
'THE TIME IS COME': THE RISE OF
BRITISH MISSIONS TO THE JEWS,
1808-1818



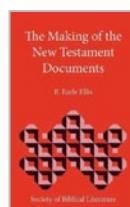
William Dembski
INTELLIGENT DESIGN
UNCENSORED: AN EASY-TO-
UNDERSTAND GUIDE TO THE
CONTROVERSY



Paige Patterson (Contributor)
SOUTHERN BAPTIST
IDENTITY: AN EVANGELICAL
DENOMINATION FACES THE
FUTURE



William R. Yount
CREATED TO LEARN: A
CHRISTIAN TEACHER'S
INTRODUCTION TO
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
(2ND ED.)

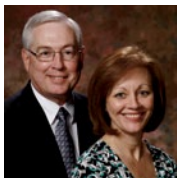


E. Earle Ellis
THE MAKING OF THE NEW
TESTAMENT DOCUMENTS (U.S.
REPRINT, PAPERBACK)

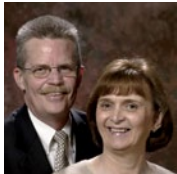


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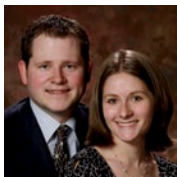
NAMB & IMB APPOINTMENTS



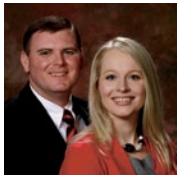
BILL (MARE, 1992) AND PAMELA AGEE
Church Planting Missionary
Phoenix, Ariz.



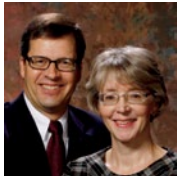
MICHAEL (MACE, 2009) AND DEBBIE BISHOP
Church Planting Missionary
Florence, Ariz.



JOHN R. (MDIV, 2010) AND ALAINA EDWARDS
Church Planting Missionary Pastor
Strafford, Mo.



ZACHARY (MDIV, 2009) AND AMBER EDWARDS
Church Planting Missionary Pastor
Cheyenne, Wyo.



JOHN M. (MARE, 1984) AND CHERYL HANSEN
Urban Strategist Church Planting Missionary
Omaha, Neb.



JAMES (MDIV, 1979; DMIN, 1983)
AND LINDA HASKELL
Church Planting Missionary
Atlanta, Ga.



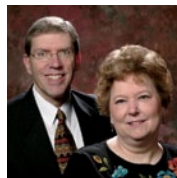
ROBERT (MAMISS, 2009) AND
CATHRYN "KELLI" HIGGINBOTHAM
Church Planting Missionary Pastor
Snoqualmie, Wash.



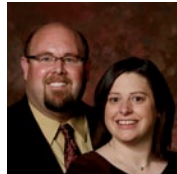
JAY YOU (MDIV, 2009) AND MIRAN KIM
Church Planting Missionary Pastor
Winnipeg, Manitoba



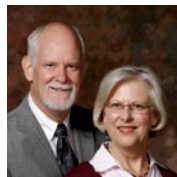
NATHAN (MAMISS, IN PROGRESS)
AND AMY LAUGHLIN
Church Planting Missionary Pastor
Vancouver, B.C.



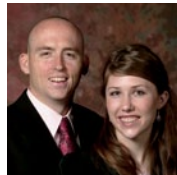
MARVIN (MDIV, 1985; DMIN, 1991)
AND SUE OWEN
Leadership Development
Casper, Wyo.



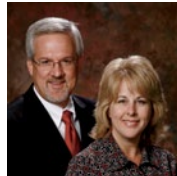
TIMOTHY (EXTH) AND MICHELE SADLER
State Director of Evangelism
Springfield, Ill.



JON (DMIN, 1995) AND PRISCILLA SAPP
State Evangelism and Collegiate Ministries
Director
Topeka, Kan.



MAX (BA, 2008) AND SARAH STABENOW
Church Planting Team Missionary
Goodyear, Ariz.



DAVID (MDIV, 1997) AND NANCY WHITEHEAD
Director of Mission/Church Planting
and Church Planting Missionary
Hilo, Hawaii



JUSTIN (MDIV, 2007; THM, 2009)
AND TERA WOODS
Local Collegiate Evangelism Missionary
Columbia, Md.



TRAVIS (MDIV, 2007) AND
BETH BURKHALTER
Evangelism and Church
Planting
The Americas



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

1970

Robert W. Timmons (MDiv 1973) as transitional interim pastor to Orchards Baptist Church, Loveland, Colo., with wife, **Sherry L. Johnson Timmons (MRE 1972)**.

Tommy J. Weems (MDiv 1976) as senior pastor to First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mo.

Kent C. Crockett (MDiv 1978) as senior pastor to Church of Living Water, Prattville, Ala.

1980

Joe D. Saffle (MDiv 1980) as pastor to Richards Baptist Church, Richards, Texas.

Darrel G. Beggs (ExTH 1985, MACE 2007) as pastor to Central Baptist Church, Hillsboro, Texas.

Albert L. Reyes (MDiv 1989, DMin 1995) as president to Buckner International, Dallas, Texas.

Mark E. Denison (MDiv 1989, DMin 2003) as pastor to First Baptist Church, Conroe, Texas, with wife, **Elizabeth Solomon Denison (CERTWS 2004)**.

1990

Ronald "Scott" Wiley (MARE 1990) as pastor to First Baptist Church, Frankston, Texas.

2000

Keith L. Michaelis (MDivBL 2003) as pastor to First Baptist Church, Nixon, Texas, with wife, **Jill Majors Michaelis (MACE 2003)**.

Retirement

Bill J. Merritt (ExRE 1950) with wife, **LaDelle Merritt (ExRE 1950)**, living in Brownwood, Texas.

Delbert W. Vest (MRE 1969), living in Denison, Texas.

Susan Hudson Womack (MRE 1972), living in McGregor, Texas.

Births

Joshua James, March 17, 2009, to **Kimberly Bowen Kwah (MDiv 1997)** and **James K. Kwah (MDivBL 1997)**.

Marriages

James K. Kwah (MDivBL 1997) to **Kimberly L. Bowen (MDiv 1997)** in June 2008.

Charles "Daniel" Eggleston (MAW 2009) to Amy Quesinberry.

Jeffrey A. Hampton (MDiv 2009) to Sarah E. Babler.

Bradley R. O'Dell (MDiv 2009) to Crystal Pankratz.

Kristen M. Tonissen (MACE 2009) to Christopher B. "Chris" Miller.

Anniversaries

James F. Eaves (BD 1955, ThD 1962, MDiv 1973) and Jeane Hillman Eaves, 65th wedding anniversary (March).

Memorials

1930

Goldia G. Dalton Naylor (DIPRE 1930).

1940

Inez Tatum Webb (MRE 1941).

Annie Lois Nelson (ExRE 1942).

W.C. Bryant (MRE 1946).

William "Bill" McDaniel (ExTH 1947).

Marie Louise Meharg Lum (BD 1948).

Bo Baker Jr. (BD 1949).

1950

Tom J. Logue (BD 1950, ThD 1954, PhD 1983).

Robert S. Cook (MRE 1950, DRE 1958, EdD 1977).

Albert Frederick "Ted" Manzke (MRE 1951).

Ervin E. Hastey (BD 1952).

Charles Billy "Bill" Hogue (BD 1952).

George Marshall Slayton Sr. (BD 1952).

Richard A. Long (BD 1953).

Cecil E. Sherman (BD 1953, ThD 1960).

Ruby Lee Hill (MRE 1954).

Donald R. Potts (MDiv 1955, ThD 1959).

Frances Luella Bayne Asbury (ExRE 1957).

Gene Lewis McCoy (ExTH 1957).

Loeen Bushman (ExRE 1958).

Norman Everett Diehl (ExTH 1958).

Joe Wayne Howington, (BD 1958).

William H. "Brother Bill" Smith (BD 1958).

1960

Troy Burton Corzine (MRE 1960).

J. Albert Warnken (ExTH 1960).

Robert C. Noland Jr. (MRE 1961).

Maurice E. "Skip" Dodson (BD 1962).

Silas L. Johnson (DIPCM 1962, ARE 1962).

Trozy Ray Barker (BD 1963, MDiv 1987).

Erman Fay Bennett (ThD 1963, PhD 1976).

Robert Daniel Cavitt (ExTH 1963).

Charles Gordon Conner (BD 1963).

Robert A. Graham (BD 1963, MDiv 1973).

William L. "Bill" Hancock (MDiv 1963).

Wallace Woodrow Scott (BD 1964).

Irene Laverne Dobey Diswood (ARE 1965).

Barney Lynwood Porter (BD 1965, MDiv 1970).

David "Scott" Manley (ExTH 1966).

Warren G. McCrummen (ExTH 1966).

Harry Burton Garvin Sr. (BD 1969).

1970

Ben W. Tomlinson (ExTH 1970).

Ellis Merrill Camp (DIPTh 1971).

M. Judson "Jud" Cook (MRE 1975).

Joe Paul Richmond (ExTH 1975).

Edgar G. "Gill" Mroczkowski (ExRE 1977).

Mary E. Wieneke Tiefel (MARE 1978).

1980

Ronald E. Carroll (MRE 1980).

Bob F. Mayfield (MDiv 1980).

Larry Wayne Lindsey (MDiv 1980).

Don E. Lane (ExTH 1982).

Gary E. Laird (MDiv 1983).

Jeffrey W. Storie (ExTH 1984).

Morris D. Seay (MDiv 1986).

1990

Paul L. Pierce (MDivBL 1991).

2000

Gary L. Morey (MACOMM 2003).

MISSIONS IN THE HARD PLACES: THE GREATEST STUDENTS SHARING THE GREATEST STORY



I watched as a 6-year-old African girl walked through the gate and over to Retha with her head lowered. This girl had been unusually absent from playtime for several days. I later learned that she had been taken on a trip into the Selous Game Reserve.

When she came back, she wore a brand new dress, new earrings, and makeup, but she would not tell anyone exactly what happened. According to locals, this occurs regularly as men force young girls to participate in rituals that include sexual exploitation.

Retha washed the girl's feet in a bowl of newly poured water. The little girl seemed different. All the other children laughed and played, running in the sand. This girl sat with no expression on her face. Her once-bright eyes seemed to wander off into the darkness of another dimension. As the dirt came off her feet and her wounds were tended to, she began to interact some, but she was not the same.

The depravity of mankind had shown itself through rituals reminiscent of the days of Sodom and Gomorrah, but the light of Jesus Christ can penetrate even darkness this deep.

Too often, the comforts of life make me complacent, and I, like many, cannot fathom that such atrocities still occur. But they do—and not just in a far away country. Child molestation, abortion, rape, and murder all occur within the walls of our “civilized society.”

In this issue of the *Southwestern News*, we wanted to focus on our students who are daily carrying the light of Jesus Christ into a dark world. Some of them live in Fort Worth—some on the other side of the globe. By focusing on the Great Commission, all of them are making a difference. I hope that, by reading about a few of the greatest students in the world who are sharing the greatest story in the world, you will be encouraged to share your faith more diligently.

One Southwestern student and his family helped a little girl recovering from the torturous effects of her sinful society learn about the One who can cleanse not only her feet but also her heart. All over the world, others need to hear that true hope can be

found only in Jesus Christ. How will they hear if we are not faithful to go? (Rom. 10:14-15)

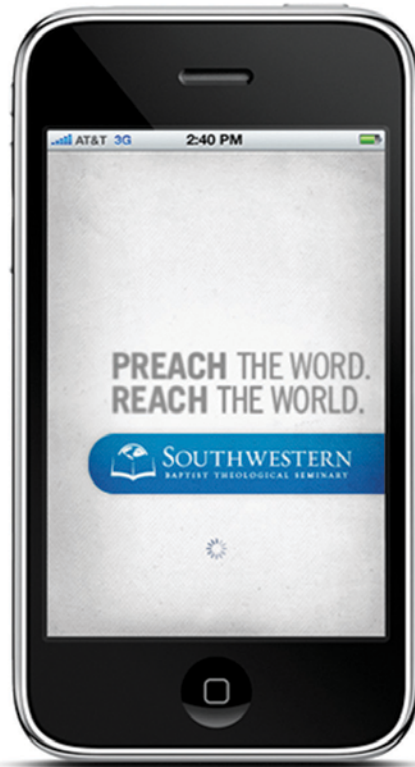
Will you join me in committing to pray for each of these students, and many more, who are traveling to the hard places of the world to share the greatest story ever told?

Will you join me in strengthening our efforts to preach the Word and reach the world?

The eternal destinies of over six billion people depend on it.



Thomas White is vice president for student services and communications as well as associate professor of systematic theology at Southwestern.



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