

ECHO

LANCASTER BIBLE COLLEGE
CAPITAL SEMINARY & GRADUATE SCHOOL

Serving Christ

In The Church & Society

Ranked **#3** in the U.S. for Career Preparation

ECHO

This magazine is produced three times a year to provide students, alumni, parents, friends and donors with news from the institution, articles connecting our readers with our community and features on relevant Christian thought.

MISSION STATEMENT

Lancaster Bible College exists to educate Christian students to think and live a biblical worldview and to proclaim Christ by serving Him in the Church and society.

VISION

Lancaster Bible College will be a premier learning community that intentionally develops the head, heart and hands of servant ministry leaders for global impact.

ACCREDITATION

Accredited through the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and the Association for Biblical Higher Education Commission on Accreditation, LBC is also approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Association of Christian Schools International. LBC is approved to operate in Pennsylvania, Florida, Maryland and Tennessee. LBC is authorized to offer online programs in all states where our online students reside.

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COVER: Student Tanya Cooper-Johnson pauses to pose in the classroom. Read her inspirational story on page 19.

The Wall Street Journal Ranks LBC 3rd in the Nation for Career Prep

Lancaster Bible College took second and third place in 2018 college rankings published by The Wall Street Journal, edging out two Ivy League institutions for the top spots.

LBC grabbed second place on a list of Top Schools for Right Choice, placing ahead of Duke University and Brown University. The college also earned third place on a list of Students' Top Schools for Career Preparation, ranking ahead of Drexel University and Dartmouth College.

The Wall Street Journal surveyed students and asked them a series of questions to determine each institution's ranking. For the Right Choice category,

students were asked, "If you could start over, would you still choose this college?" LBC earned a score of 9.46 out of 10. For the college's placement of the Career Preparation listing, those surveyed were asked, "Is your college effective in helping you to secure valuable internships that prepare you for your chosen career?" The answers of LBC students gave the college a score of 9.6 out of 10.

"It never ceases to amaze me when these accolades, unpursued nor sought after, seemingly show up out of the blue," said Dr. Peter W. Teague, president of LBC. "It's a testimony to what God is doing on our campus in and through the lives of LBC students!"



2018
COLLEGE
RANKINGS



The President Speaks

BY PETER W. TEAGUE, Ed.D
president@lbc.edu



The Bible Still Speaks Today

My wife Paulette and I recently joined a bus full of friends to attend the grand opening of the Museum of the Bible in Washington D.C. To get straight to the point, this is a world-class museum and a most worthwhile destination. Prominently located two blocks off the National Mall, three blocks from the U.S. Capitol and near the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum and National Museum of the American Indian, the Museum of the Bible has the greatest private biblical collections ever assembled and on display for the public, coupled with proprietary technology that is turning heads at the Smithsonian Institute.

This eight-floor, 430,000 square-foot museum allows people to engage with the Bible by viewing historic treasures that provide tangible evidence of the impact the Bible has made around the world. Literally, the second-floor "Impact of the Bible" gallery presents exhibits of how the Bible has influenced nearly every aspect of life and cultures around the world, from arts and entertainment to government policy, education and everything in between. Washington Revelations is a flying theater that takes guests on an amazing flight through Washington, D.C., revealing the Bible's presence in inscriptions, place names and monuments in our nation's capital.

The Museum collection of over 3,000 artifacts includes pieces from the Dead Sea Scrolls, the only display of Israeli Antiquities Authorities outside of Israel's borders, an entrance flanked by 40-foot tall towering bronze gates inscribed with text from the Gutenberg Bible and a soundscape of the Ten Plagues of Egypt. A section dedicated to the Bible's modern-day influence includes a replica of the Liberty Bell inscribed with scripture, and exhibitions dealing with slavery, abolition and the civil rights movement. Our guide said it would take the average visitor nine, eight-hour days to see all the exhibits!

The stated purpose of the museum is to invite people to engage with the history, narrative and impact of the Bible. It has been referred to as one of the biggest, most creative and technologically advanced museums in the world dealing with the history of the Bible, the stories of the Bible and the impact of the Bible. One of the world's most prestigious museums, the Louvre, visited just a week before our visit, and declared this museum would join its prestigious ranks within just a few years.

Throughout the centuries countless attempts have been made to suppress the Bible, but none have succeeded. It may seem strange in a day when Bibles are readily available in bookstores, hotel rooms and on the internet that five hundred years ago William Tyndale was burned at the stake for the crime of publishing the New Testament of the Bible in English.

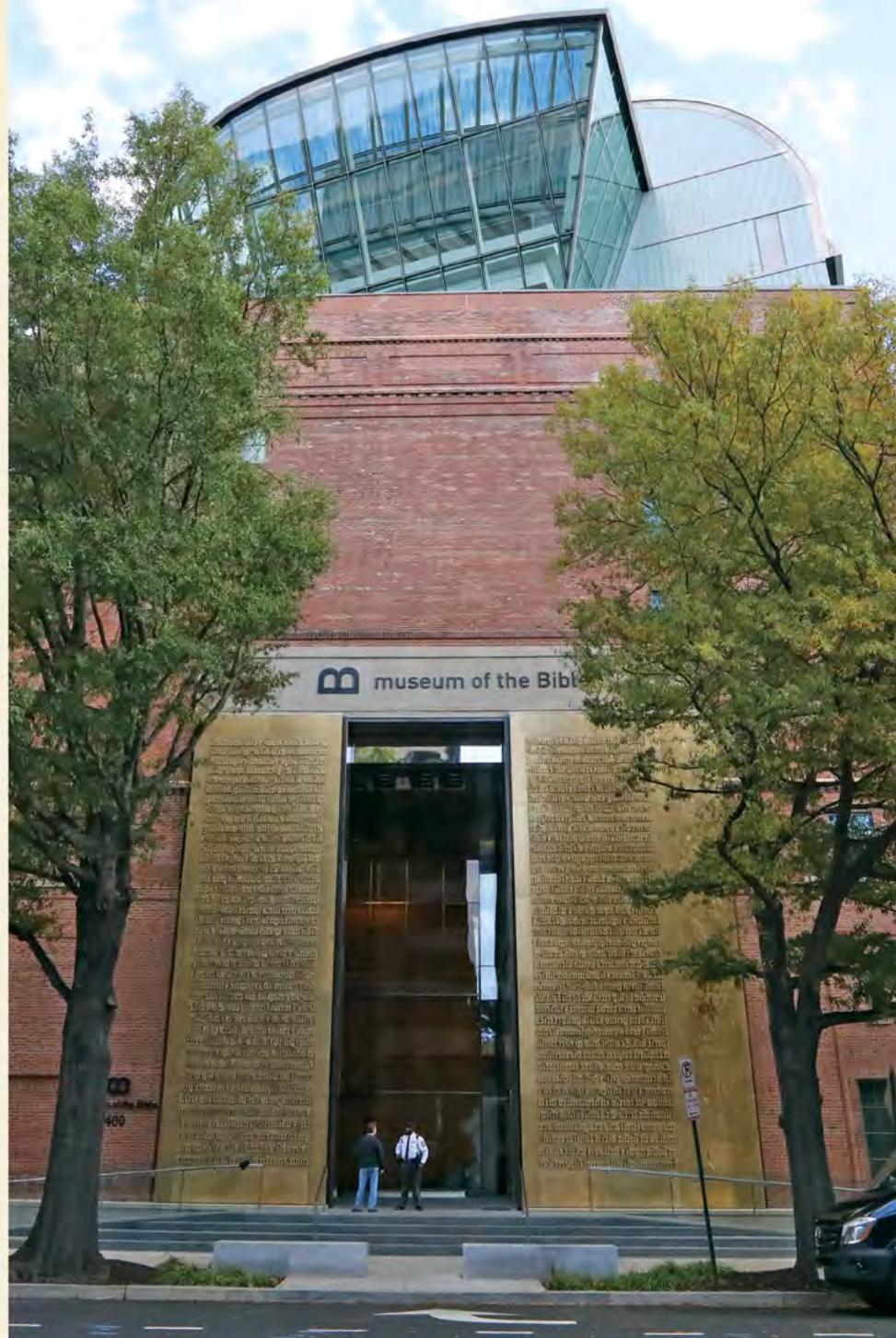
The history of the Bible's writings, preservation and translation is a riveting story filled with intrigue and adventure. In the end, though, Tyndale's dream (and that of St. Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin and Greek, and of Cameron Townsend, who founded Wycliffe Bible Translators) of the Bible being accessible to everyone was a dream that changed the world! It was a dream that had a transforming effect on England and the English language. And it has had an effect on societies around the globe, from the most advanced to the most primitive where people have been taught to read in their own language so that they can read the one book available to them — the Bible!

The Museum of the Bible is a worthy inclusion in any day trip to Washington D.C. It has something of interest for everyone, but if you are an adherent of Jesus Christ, as I am, it is a must-see bonus. As I wandered through the exhibits and displays, I was vividly reminded that the most widely read and most frequently published book in the world is remarkably different from any other book. It has been disputed, banned and burned, yet its content has been overwhelmingly documented throughout history and in different cultures, generating major social change, shaping ideals and teaching us how to love God and our fellow man. For me, the significance of this museum grows out of the significance of its subject - the Bible. And it will speak for itself, if you listen.

In Christ,

Peter W. Teague

Peter W. Teague, EdD
President of LBC | Capital



Share your update by emailing alumni@lbc.edu or online at lbcalumni.com
 Photos are encouraged. Minimum resolution of 800 x 600 pixels at 72 dpi.
 We want to hear from you!

1960s

Emily (Kreider '67) and James Gordley ('68) are serving in a Hispanic ministry called Camino Global in Georgetown, Del. Emily and James both previously served in Mexico, Costa Rica and Panama.

1970s



Anthony Badger ('76) published a new book called "Free Grace Theology on Trial: A Refutation of 'Historical Protestant' Soteriology."

1980s



Paul Barreca ('84) serves as the General Director of Fellowship International Mission. He wrote two books on discipleship in 2017: "Follow the

Master: How Jesus Made Disciples" and "Follow the Master: A Discipleship Course for Growing Christians." Paul and Kim live in Vineland, N.J., where he pastored for the past 15 years.

Kenton Kreider ('87) is now retired after serving as the assistant pastor of Elizabethtown Alliance Church in Elizabethtown, Pa.

Robin (WBC '87) and Bruce Walton ('86) have recently changed their organizations of service and continue to serve the West African area.

2000s

Scott Boyer ('05) and his wife, Lindsey (Grubb '06) have moved to West Chester, Pa. where Scott serves as the new Director of Community Groups and Men at Christ Community Church.

April ('03) and Nathan Elliott ('00) began the ministry known as The KnightLights, with Danielle Reider, in 2002. Serving across the US and internationally, they conduct Bible schools, crusades, camps and teacher training seminars.

Arnold Cerezo ('05) and his wife, Monica, both previously worked for UrbanPromise Ministry serving the urban youth of Wilmington. In 2013, they moved to Wilmington, Del. to start a church plant; however, in June 2017, Arnold and Monica were appointed and installed as the lead pastors of TriLife Church in Worcester, Mass.

Lauren (Otto '08) Beer and her husband, Craig, joyfully introduce their son, Silas Craig Beer, who was born on August 22, 2017.



Jared Pitt ('08) and his wife, Courtney, want to announce the birth of their son, Jared David "J.D." Pitt, Jr. on December 2, 2017.

2010s

Faithe (Heuser '12) Dancey married Keith Dancey, of Co. Cavan, Ireland, on September 23, 2017 in Curwensville, Pa.



Morris Guiendon ('13) graduated from Northwest University with a master's degree in 2016 and is now the lead pastor at Calvary Assembly

of God in Warrenton, Ore. Morris has since returned to school to work towards his doctorate degree.



Alex Ko ('14) currently lives in Waco, Texas and recently got married.



Jared Yoder ('14) and his wife Meredith, are excited to welcome their third child on December 20, 2017.



Mary (Nickle '15) Summers and Brad Summers married on October 7, 2017.



Hannah (Tamblin '15) and her husband, **Andrew Brown ('13)**, welcomed their daughter to the world on November 19, 2017.



Michelle (Gonzalez-Navarrete '15) and **Josue Bosque ('16)** were married on October 21, 2017.



Hannah (Metzler '16) and her husband, **Garrett Derr ('13)**, welcomed twin girls into their family on December 11, 2017.

RESTING IN HIS PRESENCE



Jay Hoerr ('16) and his wife, Blythe, welcomed their baby boy on May 15, 2017.



Hannah (Graham) '16 Miller married Jonathan Miller on November 5, 2017.



Tony Villafane ('16) married his college sweetheart, **Mary Beth (Dodson) '17** on October 8, 2017.



Aubree (Poole) '17 and **Stephen Fahringer ('16)** were married on October 14, 2017.



Caleb Bogia-Curles ('17) and **Phyllis Jean Lehman** were married on December 16, 2017 in Lancaster, Pa and are both excited to serve the Lord together as former students of LBC in Lancaster, Pa.



Rev. David D. Allen Jr.

Rev. David D. Allen Jr. (1940–2017) entered into eternal rest on November 7, 2017 at the age of 77. He is survived by his loving wife and ministry partner of 55 years, Grace, and their four children. Allen served on the pastoral staff of Calvary Church of Lancaster and was a corporation member of LBC | Capital. A graduate of Philadelphia College of the Bible (Cairn University) and Dallas Theological Seminary, he spent many years of his life planting churches around the United States. Allen will be remembered for his loving personality and is greatly missed.



William Hershey

Joyce Hershey (1938–2017) went home to be with her Lord and Savior on September 12, 2017 at the age of 79. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Donald, and their two daughters. Hershey had a heart for ministry and spent many years serving with Stone Croft Ministries, at LCBC and as a board member at LBC | Capital. She will be remembered for her servant's heart and the joy she spread to everyone who knew her.



Lois Jane Heckman

William Hershey ('69) spent Christmas with his Savior, Jesus, after passing away on December 24 at the age of 91. Bill enlisted in the Army Air Corps after graduating high school in 1945. He worked as a pressman for 42 years when he retired in 1992. As a graduate of LBC's 1969 class, Bill served as a lay minister at Boehm's United Methodist Church and later as an elder at Grace Baptist Church of Millersville in Pa.



John B. Lapp

Lois Jane Heckman ('86) passed away on December 25 from health complications at the age of 82. Throughout her life, Lois cared for others through her career in nursing. She also served as a counselor for 17 years, before becoming director of women and children's services at Water Street Rescue Mission in Lancaster, Pa. Lois also helped to open the Lydia Center at Grace Plateau in Wrightsville, Pa.

John B. Lapp (1929–2017) passed away on July 13, 2017. He studied at LBC from 1963 to 1965 and spent 25 years on our Lancaster campus working as a bookkeeper. Lapp was married to Dorothy S. Metzler Lapp for 68 wonderful years and was a member of Grace Brethren Church in Rohrerstown. He will be deeply missed, but we rejoice that he is with the Lord.



Kevin Rupert

Kevin Rupert ('89) passed away November 22, 2016. He graduated from LBC in 1989 and taught in LBC's Plus 20 Program. He served in many capacities as a student at LBC and was awarded Student of the Year in 1988. Kevin pastored at Eden Mennonite Church in Schwenksville, Pa and Lighthouse Bible Church in Bangor, Pa. Most recently, he worked in subrogation for Allstate and Farmers Insurance companies. He is survived by his wife, Annette ('90), and daughter, Hanna.

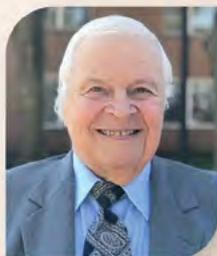
Cora E. Trago (1911–2017) at the age of 106, came face to face with her Savior on November 22, 2017. She is survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Trago was the wife of the late Norman W. Trago who passed away in 1998. She attended the Evangelical United Methodist Church in New Holland and enjoyed gardening, reading, quilting and also spent many years hunting alongside her husband. She is missed but will be remembered for her loving spirit.

LBC | Capital Alumni Association Announces New Leadership

Since 1948, the Office of Alumni Relations has served the graduates of Lancaster Bible College | Capital Seminary & Graduate School. After three years of revamping our program to better serve our alumni, we took the next step on September 23, 2017 by appointing 10 alumni to join the LBC | Capital Alumni Association Board. The board exists to serve as an advisory council for the leadership of the college's Alumni Association, and to assist the Office of Alumni Relations in enriching the alumni experience. "We are excited to see how the board will provide strategic direction for the Alumni Association and the college on all matters related to our graduates," said Rev. Rodney L. Carter, Jr. ('15), director of alumni relations, "Because even after graduation, your journey is still our focus."

Meet Our Alumni Association Board Members:

Rev. Jere Brubaker ('58)
 Monique Burge ('15)
 Doug Condran ('16)
 Meredith Dahl ('12)
 Carl Edwards ('10)
 Dr. Stephen Grusendorf ('16)
 Rev. Rod Hairston ('15)
 Nancy (Sebastian) Kuch ('84)
 Betty Pompell ('14)
 Bob McMichael ('93)



Rev. Jere Brubaker



Dr. Stephen Grusendorf



Monique Burge



Rev. Rod Hairston



Doug Condran



Nancy (Sebastian) Kuch



Meredith Dahl



Betty Pompell



Carl Edwards



Bob McMichael

Become a Prayer Partner with LBC | Capital

By Rev. Rodney Carter Jr. ('14), Director of Alumni Relations

"I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now..."

- PHILIPPIANS 1:4-5

Lancaster Bible College | Capital Seminary & Graduate School has been a faith venture since its very beginning. In the words of 1936 alumna Mildred (Landis) Peters, "The school began by faith; [founder and first president] Rev. Heydt had no backing but looked to the Lord for all needs, including his own, and the Lord did supply!" Many people have walked with us in our 85-year history, and we are who we are today because prayer warriors faithfully lifted us up before God.

Would you consider joining other devoted intercessors on behalf of LBC | Capital? Each quarter, we publish and distribute a prayer calendar listing a specific prayer request for each day of each month. Join us in daily praying for God to work in and through our students, alumni, faculty, staff and our administration. If you would like to receive this publication, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at **717.560.8206** or email alumni@lbc.edu.



God's Love in Unlikely Places

She's 24, the Deputy Press Secretary for a Major U.S. Government Agency – And an LBC Grad

Evelyn Stauffer ('14) has always had a heart for serving the Lord and for missions. "My dream has always been to enter the corporate mission field and spread God's love in unlikely places," explained Stauffer, a graduate of Lancaster Bible College's communication program. So when 24-year-old Stauffer landed a job as the Deputy Press Secretary for a U.S. government agency just a few years after she graduated, it felt like a God-send – and perhaps, a bit overwhelming.

Being in a mid-level position at such a young age comes with a lot of responsibility. "On a daily basis, I'm dodging potential land mines and hoping I don't accidentally touch one," said Stauffer. Day-to-day, her job seems a lot like a typical public relations gig – she fields media inquiries, writes press releases, develops social media content and explains the communication strategy to senior level staff. But Stauffer says that living out her life as a Christian in secular workplace – especially among the political elite in Washington D.C. – can be challenging. "The biblical education I received at LBC helped me to form and cling to my beliefs in the workplace," said Stauffer of her experience at the college. "Without that biblical foundation, it's easy to lose sight of what is most important in this life."

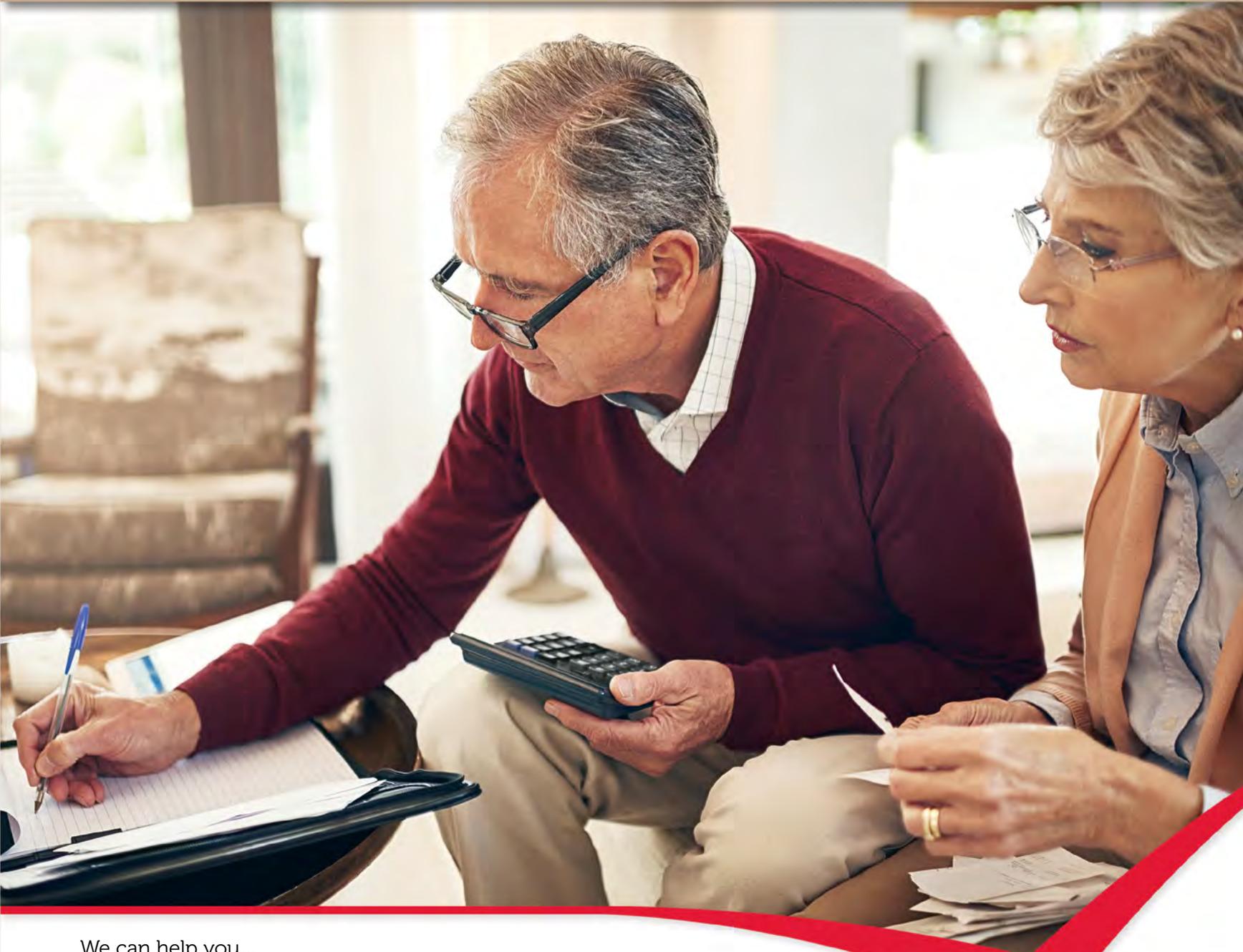
According to Stauffer, her studies in communication were critical to her success as a PR professional. "The communication degree at Lancaster Bible College taught me real life skills, like how to write a press release and how to interact with the media," she explained. "But most importantly, my education gave me critical thinking skills - a trait every supervisor is looking for."

But her time at LBC went beyond just teaching her skills for a career. "One of the most impactful parts of my studies at LBC was going on missions trips," she explained. "I went to South Africa and the Philippines on Journey Teams to teach at soccer camps and Vacation Bible Schools. Those experiences gave me the opportunity to disciple and make lifelong friendships."

Most of all, says Stauffer, she remembers LBC as a place where she was cared for and invested in by others. "When I think of Lancaster Bible College, I think of a place filled with love," she said. "Love for education, love for people, and most importantly, a lasting-love for Christ."

Want to work in marketing, advertising, journalism, public relations or broadcasting? Check out our bachelor's degree in communication by visiting lbc.edu/communication

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Finding Hope

The Inspiring Story of One Social Work Student at LBC

“My mom cried, my sister cried, and I had to be the strong one.”



Olga Delarosa ('19) is a junior in Lancaster Bible College's social work program. She's hard-working, determined and smart. But at the tender age of 20, she's already been on the receiving end of social work programs.

Instability is one word that sums up much of Olga's young life. "Throughout my life, there have been times when my parents were together and other times they just weren't," she explained. After a series of moves around New York and Pennsylvania from second to eighth grade, her family finally landed in a spacious townhouse in the Keystone state. "Unfortunately, that didn't last very long," said Olga. The day after Christmas in 2011, her dad moved back to New York once more. Shortly after, a death in the family required her mother, Sandra, to fly to the Dominican Republic. Not long after that, the family was evicted from the place they called home – forcing them to look for temporary housing in a shelter.

"I remember my dad leaving. I remember the news of my grandfather's passing. I remember the phone call on the bus that my mom was already on her way to the airport, and I remember the eviction notice on our door," said Olga. "But the thing I remember most was walking into that shelter."

Thankfully, their stint at the shelter was short-lived. A family friend opened up their home to the Delarosas before they needed to stay the night at the shelter, and they quickly accepted the offer. "Our couches became their couches, our belongings went in the basement, and we were given a room," recalled Olga. "We stuffed three girls into one room and laid down two mattresses on the floor, side by side. As you can imagine, we were grateful – I'm sure my mom was too – but my gratitude quickly turned to bitterness and anger when I had no space, privacy or room to express myself. My mom cried, my sister cried, and I had to be the strong one."

Olga and her family stayed in that home for about seven months. But things didn't get much better. "Homelessness affects more than just not having a roof over your head," she explained. "It affects everything else – education

included." Olga ended up missing several weeks of classes, and finding transportation to school became difficult. Still, her mothered soldiered on, determined to provide for her family.

Sandra eventually learned about Bridge of Hope, a social services organization located in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and reached out to them for help. After much persistence, the family was accepted into its program for single homeless mothers. The organization helped the family to move out on their own and educated them on budgeting, family communication, finding resources and more. "Bridge of Hope worked with my family for over a year and a half. They provided emotional, spiritual and financial support and so many other little things along the way," said Olga. "We are immensely grateful for them. Eventually, we graduated from the program and overcame obstacles we never thought we'd be able to overcome."

Here's where things come full circle. Olga became an intern at Good Samaritan Shelter in the fall of 2017 – an organization currently undergoing a merger with Bridge of Hope, the same place that helped her family find stability. "Five years later, I'm a junior in college, practicing social work and completing my practicum under the same organization that gave so much to my family and me!" said Olga excitedly. "In that same amount of time, we got our own apartment, and our rent, electricity, and all other bills are paid every single month on time."

So, why is Olga studying social work at LBC today? "My experience helped me to understand that support systems are important. They're the only way people can create effective changes in their life, especially when they are going through a crisis," explained Olga. "Through deeply studying God's Word at LBC, I have learned that everything we went through was part of a process that needed to happen so that I could be a stronger version me – to glorify Him."

To learn more about our social work program, visit lbc.edu/social-work

Why Doctoral

Florida Pastor and Doctoral Student Shares about Life-Changing and Ministry-Shaping Research

Casey Cleveland ('18) is the lead pastor of The Avenue Church in Delray Beach, Florida. On top of his ministry as a pastor, he's also a husband, father of four children - and a graduate student in the throes of his dissertation research. As a doctoral candidate in our Doctor of Ministry program with a concentration in strategic leadership, he spends a lot of time thinking about the church, its strengths, weaknesses and how to expand its reach.

While he now pastors a church he helped to plant, church planting wasn't something he was initially interested in - at all. But God had different plans for Cleveland. He first served in Florida at a church well-known for its love of church planting. "When I first came to work for Spanish River Church, I specifically told them I was not going to plant a church," he said. "And then four years later, I was off planting The Avenue Church through their support."

So what changed? "I came to Delray Beach and began to develop relationships with real people who needed to experience the real love of Jesus," Cleveland explained. "That changed everything." Many consider Delray Beach to be the recovery capital of America, due in part to the high concentration of drug and alcohol rehabilitation

Dissertations Matter

facilities in the area. Seeing the need, Cleveland knew that God had a special plan and purpose for bringing him there. "It became the launching pad for a whole new move of God that eventually became our church," he said.

Cleveland's experience with the recovering addicts in Delray Beach provided the perfect case study for his dissertation research - and a chance to prove the worth of the church in supporting those on the long road to recovery. "My research was a phenomenological study of how The Avenue Church helped to support sustained sobriety within the recovery community," he explained. "We learned four important things about people experiencing sustained sobriety at The Avenue Church that were important to their sobriety: first, they had a place to belong before they believed. Second, they were equipped and enabled to experience Jesus in their brokenness. Third, they needed a safe place to be weak. And fourth, they experienced healing in a mixed community."

Cleveland shared about one such man who experienced that kind of healing and support in the Florida church. "When Shane came to our church over 4 years ago, he was recently clean from a heroin addiction and living in a half-way house," he explained. "Shane is now deeply in love with Jesus. He leads a group of other recovering addicts in their discipleship journey and is a key leader and culture shaper at The Avenue. So what happened to him? It was Jesus and his local church! God gave Shane a place to belong and be equipped - all in the context of a safe and diverse family."

Because of our seminary and graduate school's blended delivery of courses, Cleveland is able to continue pastoring in Florida while earning his doctorate. He says the data on recovery he's uncovered in his dissertation research has shaped

his ministry and the church's mission as a whole. "These unique findings really make us who we are," he explained. "And as such, it can help us in the future remain true to who God has called us, as the church, to be." He also noted that his education at Lancaster Bible College | Capital Seminary & Graduate School pushed him to achieve more than he thought was possible. "The most impactful part of my education at LBC was what I experienced at the edge of my capabilities: the very real presence of Jesus and his grace to flourish," said Cleveland. "Becoming an official learner once again was refreshingly humbling and exciting at the same time."

As Cleveland reflects back on when he first arrived in Delray Beach to begin ministry, he notes how God has worked - both in lives of his congregation and in his own heart. "Here is the beautiful thing: we thought our impact might be significant for this community. But it has really been the recovery community who has impacted the church," he explained, "Jesus has used the marriage of the two worlds to bring about something we love dearly and now call our church family."

Want to learn more about our Doctor of Ministry program? For more information, visit lbc.edu/dmin

"Becoming an official learner once again was refreshingly humbling and exciting at the same time."



The Body of Christ at Work

Grace Church at Willow Valley is situated just outside of Lancaster City in Pennsylvania. It's a mid-sized congregation that holds a traditional and blended service, houses a thriving preschool, a growing youth ministry program and offers many ways for their members to engage in service. From the outside, it looks like many of the other churches in the area. But one thing makes it unique: it has a surprising amount of connections to Lancaster Bible College.

Many former students, current students, alumni and even faculty members of LBC claim Grace as their home church and even employer. Recently, we talked with them to ask them just what makes this church and its ministries so important to them – and how LBC had a part in shaping their work and faith.

LBC: What do you love about your church?

Adam Swift ('15) – Alumnus & Associate Pastor: I love my church because they have faithfully disciplined me. When I came to Grace Church, I was eleven years old and a nominal Christian. Through the gospel ministry of Grace, God brought me to salvation! The church then gave me meaningful opportunities to serve and practice leadership. Today, I am a pastor in the church I grew up in! It's a picture of what I believe every church should do with their young people. Grace Church really is a part of my family.

Caleb Brussel ('19) – Intern at Grace & Current Student: I love Grace Church because it is a place where love for God, His Word and love for others is very evident in the singing, preaching, and times of fellowship. It feels like a family!

Charles Hirschy ('16) – Alumnus & Student Ministry and Community Outreach: Family and opportunity. Grace Church is my family and I love them dearly. They have welcomed my wife and I with open arms, and they encourage us and support in so many ways. This church gave me the opportunity to learn about life and ministry. They have disciplined me well and encouraged my gifts. I would not be who I am today without opportunities Grace Church gave while I was at LBC and now as I serve on the staff.

LBC: How did your education at LBC influence your ministry?

Adam Swift – Lancaster Bible College did a great job at unfolding key ministry models and ideas that helped me process aspects of my ministry today.

Bethany Hirschy – Former Student & Director of Children's Ministry at Grace: God used the classes that I took at LBC to reveal to me a passion for ministry I didn't know I had. I left my ministry classes more motivated and passionate to make a change in people lives. I typically have a page for notes and a page full of practical ideas of how I could apply what I learned in a ministry setting.



Back row: Adam Swift, John F. Smith, Bethany Hirschy and Charles Hirschy.
Front row: Caleb Brussel.
Not pictured: Joshua Brussel.



Caleb Brussel – I'm very thankful for the internship at Grace Church that allows me to put what I am learning in my classes at LBC into practice. The pastoral and Bible classes have been insightful and helpful in forming practical theology and diving into the Word so that I might grow spiritually and know more about the God of the Bible. Yet, I've learned that ministry is not always stereotypical, according to the books. I'm grateful for the combination of in-class learning and hands-on learning that LBC provides so I become equipped to serve Christ in the Church.

Joshua Brussel ('18) – Intern at Grace & Current Student: I believe that the blessing of being able to combine a ministry with biblical education has benefited both settings. Not only am I able to put into practice what I have been learning, but serving at Grace has also added a deeper dimension to my education. A good example of this was taking what I learned in homiletics classes and putting into practice in the youth group. Lastly, often throughout my time at LBC, I was reminded that to serve the local church you must love the local church. God has used Grace to give me a passion to serve His people in the setting of the local church.

LBC: What was the most impactful part of your education at LBC?

Adam Swift – The most important aspect of my education at Lancaster Bible College today is the relationships I made while on campus, both with students and professors. These are relationships I still profit from today in ministry partnership.

Bethany Hirschy – The most impactful part of my education at LBC was how much the teachers cared about me as an individual. Even though they may have several hundred students, they were always willing to meet with me if I needed help or advice.

Charles Hirschy – The professors. It was amazing to get to know many of my professors and have them pour into to me and share with me their own experiences in ministry and life. It was great learn from them. Another important aspect for me was being a part of resident life. Being a community advisor and resident advisor taught me so much about how to disciple people and deal with conflict in healthy ways.

LBC: How do you see the missions of LBC and Grace working together?

John F. Smith, Grace Church Lead Pastor & Adjunct Professor at LBC – LBC is all about helping students to adopt a biblical worldview. We do much the same here at Grace Church. One of our four core values is The Bible, Our Authority. All that to say we, LBC and Grace Church, are on the same page. Over the years, a number of LBC students have served here in internships and in other capacities. We see this as a win-win. It's a win for the students in giving them ministry opportunities, and a win for the church in being able to mentor them and help them become better equipped for present and future ministry.

LBC: Why do you think biblical education is still important?

John F. Smith – If we believe what we say about the Bible - that it is indeed God's word - then getting grounded in it could not be more important or relevant. After all, it is God who has made both us and the world in which we live. His word must be our Polaris - the ultimate point of reference - as we seek to navigate through the moral confusion of our day.

To learn more about LBC's commitment to biblical education, visit lbc.edu

Triumphing Over Tragedy

Tanya Cooper-Johnson ('17) is a woman of strength. She's overcome many obstacles in her life, and God has been with her every step of the way.

Among other things, Tanya is a mother of five children. But her youngest son, Andre' Eugene Johnson, Sr. was, in her own words, "the light of our lives." Johnson described him as a real take-charge kind of kid. "He enjoyed telling his older siblings what to do," she said slyly. A devoted believer, Tanya passed on her love of the Lord to her children. "Andre' believed in God and was one



A portrait of Tanya's late son, Andre'.

of my first children to give his life to Christ at the age of 10," she said. "He enjoyed attending church and participating in youth programs."

Andre' also loved to spend time with his family. When he became a father at the young age of 17, Tanya said he shouldered the responsibility well. "Andre' Jr. [his son] was the most important thing in his life." She affectionately described her son as "a momma's boy," and said, "He didn't stray far from

me or home."

Then, in 2007, she got a phone call that changed everything. Andre' had been shot in a senseless act of violence. Tragically, he passed away on September 2. "He was just 20 days from his nineteenth birthday," said Tanya.

While processing the unexpected and tragic loss of a loved one is never easy, Tanya looked to the Lord for strength – and her son's own beliefs.

"Andre believed that everyone deserved a second chance in life and saw people for the good in them," she explained. "He was big on forgiveness."

During that difficult time, Tanya felt she needed to do something. "What pushed me back to school was the burning desire to feel whole," she explained. "After the loss of my son at the hands of another, I knew something was missing in my life." So, she prayed. "After prayer and spending time with God, I promised Him that I would live my life with purpose. My first task was to complete my college education."

And she did. Tanya enrolled at the Greenbelt location of LBC | Capital and earned her undergraduate degree in biblical studies. She said the staff and faculty and LBC inspired her immensely and pushed her to excel. "My undergraduate advisor, Ms. Martea Pitts was the angel who came along side me and encouraged me to soar," she said. "If it had not been for Ms. Pitts' words of wisdom, guidance and compassion for someone she didn't know, I don't think I would have soared the way I did. Because she took the time to listen to me and pour into my life, it made my stay at LBC so rewarding."

Starting or completing a degree can be difficult, especially with a demanding schedule, – but Tanya was up for the challenge. "I kept going because I refused to give up or drop out of college again," she said determinedly. "I made it by prayer, the love of God, His grace upon my life, Him leading my path and placing His shepherds along the way."

While she was studying at LBC, God gave Tanya a vision for a ministry of people who would be the "first responders" for the families of homicide victims. So she founded Weeping Mothers in

TANYA Cooper-Johnson

“Because of LBC,
I’m inspired to
go beyond the
beyond!”

2016. “There are many mothers on our advisory committee, all of whom have lost their children to street violence,” explained Tanya. “Ten lost children to homicides 2016. Currently, we meet twice a month for grief counseling, testimonials and more.” The organization, which became Weeping Mothers Inc. in 2017, reaches out to families of homicide victims in Annapolis City, Maryland and surrounding communities and provides emotional and spiritual support for them. For Tanya, this ministry has helped her to heal and allows her to bring some of that healing to others.

Today, Tanya has her bachelor’s degree and is going back for more. She’s enrolled in two graduate

programs at LBC and is working toward earning a Master of Arts in Christian care and a Master of Divinity. She hopes to become a licensed chaplain in the near future. “When I look back at my first night of class and where I am today, I thank God for opening the doors of LBC and placing me where I needed to be to learn His word,” said Tanya. “I thank LBC and its staff for standing in the gap and guiding me on my journey to be educated in God’s word. Because of LBC, I’m inspired to go beyond the beyond!”

To learn more about our accelerated undergraduate degree in biblical studies, visit lbc.edu/accelerated-bible

Embracing Change

When a sudden layoff left Sharon Taliaferro ('17) jobless, she capitalized on the opportunity to make a change and return to school.

Sharon Taliaferro's transition back to school came quite unexpectedly. She had a longstanding career as a banking officer at one of the nation's largest banks. "I worked there for 22 years," she said. One day, she and her colleagues received word that their department would be shut down. "My whole job site received a layoff because the bank decided to transfer the work to a Southern state," she said. Instead of allowing this news to shake her, she took advantage of the sudden shift in her life. "I decided it was time for a career change."

And she certainly did change her career. She immediately enrolled in the human services program at Lancaster Bible College's Philadelphia location. "My layoff took place on a Thursday, and I was sitting in my first class the very next Tuesday!" she said excitedly while recalling the start of her academic career. Sharon's husband, Urbano, graduated from LBC | Capital – Philadelphia. Previously, she attended a class with him to get a feel for the institution. That, coupled with her burgeoning interest in ministry and service was enough to convince her to enroll. "My husband and I had been working with a youth group for about four years," she explained. "And I thought it would be nice to touch hearts instead of pockets. My plan was to work full-time helping young people."

Her education at LBC | Capital – Philadelphia was a pivotal part of that plan. "The curriculum in the human services provided me with the academic and spiritual training that is essential to meeting the needs of the community," she said. While she loved her classes, she told us that the faculty really made a difference in her life – especially Dr. Patricia Wright, the program director of the human services degree. "Dr. Wright always reminded us that we were social change agents and we were called to serve as

ambassadors of Christ," said Sharon thoughtfully. "Our professors had a way of pulling and stretching you out of your comfort zone and producing or finding skills in you that you weren't aware you had. I loved that my professors were experienced in their fields and taught from a Christian worldview."

Of course, going back to school at any point has its challenges – especially when balancing a busy schedule and caring for a family. One point during Sharon's educational career was especially difficult. "My last two years were more difficult because I was dealing with some family challenges that included my mother's declining health due to Alzheimer's," she explained. "One thing that definitely helped was a personal prayer life and the prayers shared at the beginning and at the end of each class. My spiritual support came from home, church and school. Despite the challenges, I feel blessed to know the Lord gives all that we need to be successful and live our life for Him."

Today, Sharon is a graduate student at the Counseling and Psychology Graduate School of Professional Studies at Rosemont College, working toward a master's degree in clinical counseling. She just completed her first semester with a 4.0 grade point average. What does she want to do once she's completed her graduate education? "My plan is to become a family counselor and to follow the path God is leading me on," she said.

Although she graduated from LBC in 2017, Sharon said the things she learned in her human services and Bible classes still affect her today. "My life was most impacted by the Christian perspectives taught to me by professionals in the human services field," she said. "God ordered my footsteps and theirs. All of this was not just for an education and a degree but to be used for God's purpose to serve a world that is desperately in need of Him."

To learn more about our human services program, visit lbc.edu/human-services

SHARON Taliaferro



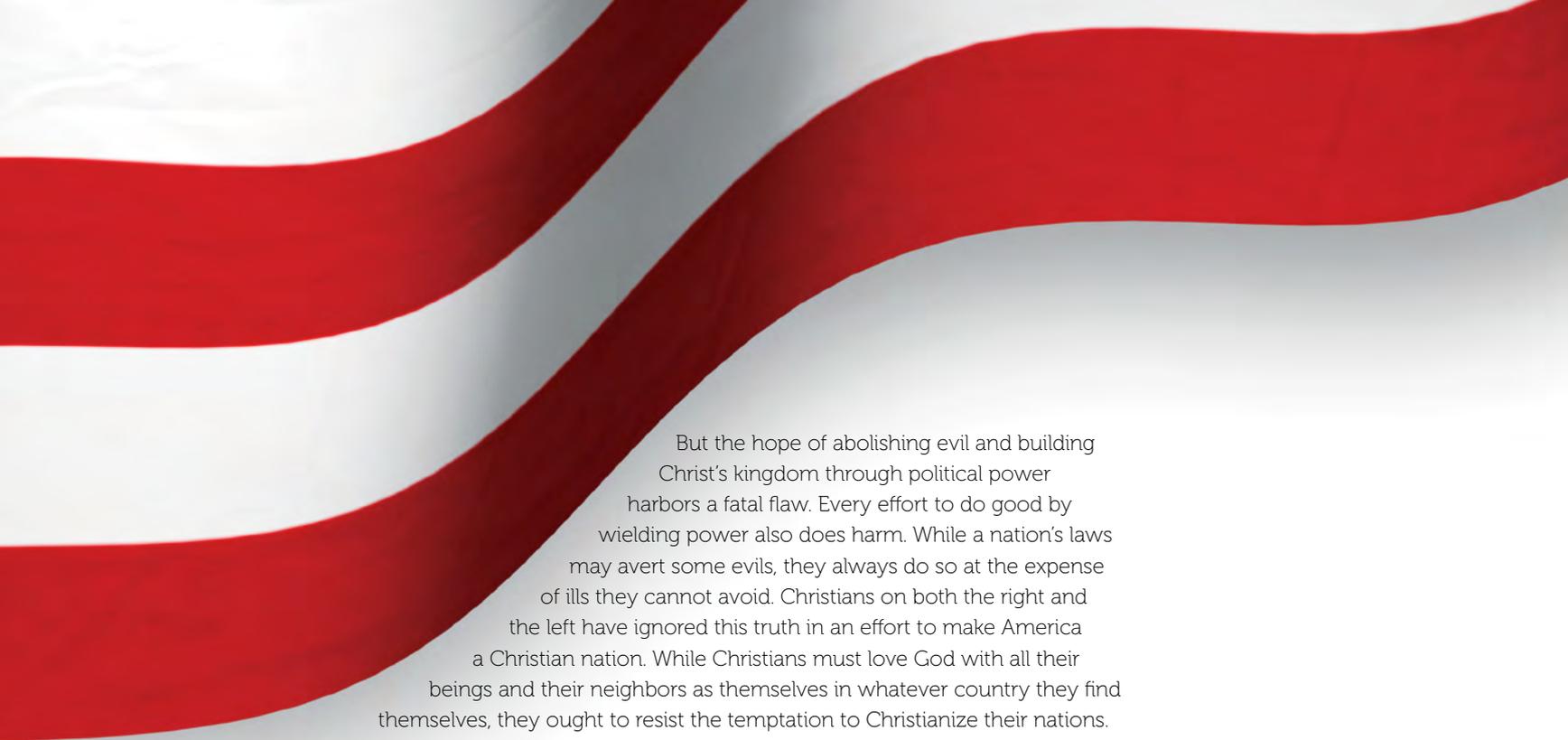
Sharon hugs Dr. Patricia Wright at graduation, her mentor and the program director of human services degree.



Is America a Christian Nation?

By Dr. Daniel Spanjer, Chair of the Arts & Sciences Department

American Christians are passionate about politics. We know people suffer the ravages of sin, either their own or that of others, so the power of government to change human society draws us. The Puritans hoped to build a just society in 1629; Abolitionists fought to end a social evil in 1861; Cold Warriors resisted a global communism in the 1950's that killed over 200 million people. Christians are not content for Christ to be king of Sunday mornings only. In the words of Abraham Kuyper, "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine!"



But the hope of abolishing evil and building Christ's kingdom through political power harbors a fatal flaw. Every effort to do good by wielding power also does harm. While a nation's laws may avert some evils, they always do so at the expense of ills they cannot avoid. Christians on both the right and the left have ignored this truth in an effort to make America a Christian nation. While Christians must love God with all their beings and their neighbors as themselves in whatever country they find themselves, they ought to resist the temptation to Christianize their nations.

The fact that Christ gave us no clear threshold for when a nation becomes Christian is the most benign obstacle to building a Christian nation. Laws can agree with theological precepts and can outlaw evil behaviors, but laws do not change people's hearts. As John Churchville, director of the criminal justice program at LBC, explains, "Laws turn human behavior into crimes," which may stop some bad things from happening but does not make people better; Christ alone resurrects dead hearts.

Christianizing a nation is impossible this side of Christ's return, and the effort can prove dangerous. It tempts Christians to confuse the tool for the finished product. Policies and platforms do good but always do harm at the same time. Economic policies engineered to help certain classes of people hamper the economic growth necessary to employ large numbers of people. And policies meant to energize the economy insulate certain groups from its benefits. Rather than treat governmental power as a practical tool that we should use only when helpful, we become loyal to tax policies or social safety nets. As a result, we neglect love of neighbor in service to political theories. We forget that laws are terribly complicated things – they may appear morally right but are only ever valuable when and where they work.

While using political power to Christianize a nation is dangerous, we cannot abandon the arena of policy as a means of addressing evil. Christians must learn to do good and avoid doing evil while trying to do good. Government power is useful, but to what degree? As a way of thinking about the use of politics, I offer a metaphor. My wife and I have two diametrically opposed definitions of "messy." I think of a room as clean if everything in that room belongs there. My wife, however, defines messy as a state of affairs less than perfectly ordered, sanitized and aesthetically balanced. A room is not clean until it is perfect, which means that our house has not been clean since we moved into it.

The degree to which we use governmental power is equivalent to our understanding of how we define the world's messiness. If we think that our society is merely out of order, then we will place more hope in politics than we ought. A government can certainly move things around. It can put money where it belongs or stop certain behaviors from happening. And yet, no matter how much the government rearranges the things in the room, it can not make the room clean. In order to clean any society or person, Christ must recreate it. Suffering and pain are not the result of poor organization but rather from a profound crisis at humanity's core. The mess goes to the heart of the rich and the poor, the government official and the CEO. So, we use power to put right what is simply out of place, but, as my dear friend, Michael Cromartie, once said, "Politics cannot raise the dead." We work while it is still day with the humility to realize that Christ alone will reign over the only truly Christian nation in eternity.

Sacred Scripture or Cultural Icon?

The Bible in American Life Today

By Eric T. Brandt ('07), Instructional Designer & Assistant Professor

The Bible has always held a special, if complicated, place in America. The earliest colonists from Europe endeavored to form a society grounded in its teachings. Christian patriots and Americans who supported the British used it to preach both liberty and loyalty. During the Civil War, North and South read their own convictions into its pages. Civil rights activists and segregationists appealed to it. Republicans and Democrats express their admiration for it.

What is the relationship between the Bible and America? How has the Bible influenced American culture and society? What is happening to that influence? Church leaders, public officials, analysts and scholars spend considerable effort trying to answer these questions. As American Christians, those called by God to live under His word in this particular time and place in His world, such questions ought to concern us as well.

Finding answers may never have been so important. Most Americans have great respect for the Bible, read it at least on occasion and have easy access to it - the average household has at least four copies. And yet its influence is in decline. How can we reconcile this disparity? What does it mean? What should we do about it?



How Americans Engage the Bible

The annual State of the Bible report, produced by the American Bible Society and the Barna Group, offers some insight into American attitudes toward and engagement with the Bible. According to their findings in 2017, four in five adults in the U.S. claim to believe the Bible is in some way a divine book. Nearly three in five Americans believe the Bible is divinely inspired and inerrant and read it at least occasionally. One in five read it at least four times per week. The State of Theology report, produced by LifeWay Research and Ligonier Ministries, similarly found in 2016 that half of Americans surveyed either somewhat or strongly agreed with these statements: "The Bible alone is the written word of God" and "The Bible is 100% accurate in all that it teaches."

Positive attitudes toward and engagement with the Bible in the U.S. have certainly diminished over the last several decades, but the pace of decline is much slower than elsewhere in the West. So why does it seem so apparent that biblical precepts have been sidelined in American life? If this question resonates with you, you are not alone. The ABS/Barna study found that half of all U.S. adults think the Bible has too little influence on American society. Among churchgoing Protestants, four in five agree. All the reverence for and reading of the Bible does not seem to be making a proportional impact.

What Americans Know about the Bible

Biblical influence is not the only concern. Biblical literacy, or knowledge about what the Bible contains, is shockingly low among Americans. The Pew Research Center's U.S. Religious Knowledge Survey, conducted in 2010, offers some insight. Two in five adults surveyed could not name Genesis as the first book of the Bible. Nearly half thought that the Golden Rule ("Do unto others...") is one of the Ten Commandments. Slightly fewer than half could name all four Gospels. An earlier Barna study found that four in five Americans think that the phrase "God helps those who help themselves" is in the Bible. Given the historical significance of the Bible to America, this is a sorry state of affairs. It has led pollster George Gallup Jr. to call ours "a nation of biblical illiterates."

Knowledge about basic biblical teachings fares no better. Consider, for example, what Americans think about the Bible's message of salvation. More than three in five of those surveyed for the 2016 LifeWay/Ligonier

study somewhat or strongly agreed with the statement "Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature." Only one in five agreed in any way that "Even the smallest sin deserves eternal damnation." And yet just over half agreed that "Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God's free gift of eternal salvation." Most Americans may think that the Bible is a divine book, but there is deep confusion - even contradictory notions - about the good news it teaches.

Cultural Icon vs. Sacred Scripture

But ignorance and misunderstandings about what the Bible contains are only symptoms of a bigger problem. Biblical precepts are absent from so much of American life because most Americans do not see the Bible for what it really is. Three in five Americans may claim to believe that the Bible is divinely inspired and inerrant, but it is evident that many of them do not understand what that means.

For most Americans, the Bible is mainly a cultural icon. The "Good Book" occupies coffee tables, hotel nightstands and country songs. It is a symbol of veneration for most, ridicule for some. It has come to represent traditional values, moral living, ideal family life, even patriotism. The Bible as a cultural icon signifies American ideals more than divine revelation. This is a bleak picture, but it should not be entirely incomprehensible to Christians.

The Bible cannot be seen for what it really is without the eyes of faith, without the illumination that only the indwelling Spirit gives. Consider, for example, how Scripture defines itself through the familiar words of the apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 3: "All Scripture is breathed out by God" (v. 16), not in some vague or mythological sense of being associated with the divine, but truly and fully the very Word of God faithfully communicated through the words of His prophets and apostles. As such, the Bible must be correct and accurate in all that it teaches and so it is completely trustworthy.

What happens when we faithfully read this trustworthy Word? Paul tells us that it is "profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." This Word is not given merely that we may feel good, but that we may be good. It does not reinforce our human opinions and prejudices or give divine sanction to what we already believe and do. This Word forms in us the truth as it really is, rebukes our conscious and unconscious sinfulness, sets right

Sacred Scripture or Cultural Icon?

Continued

our wrong thoughts and actions, and makes us holy. To what end? So that we “may be complete, equipped for every good work” (v. 17). To truly believe that the Bible is inspired and inerrant is to embrace what God has said his Word is and does in those who submit to it in faith.

Despite Americans’ high view of the Bible’s inspiration and inerrancy, our society does not bear the marks of a people taught, reprovéd, corrected, or trained in righteousness. Our culture, the product and producer of our American identity, is not characterized by completeness or good works as the Bible defines these qualities.

The Bible is primarily engaged as a cultural icon, not as sacred Scripture. Assenting to its inspiration and inerrancy and reading it, even daily, do not alone accomplish the transformation Paul mentions in 2 Timothy. The Bible is not a talisman that magically changes anyone who reads it. Scripture does its work through the Spirit who illuminates and applies its words to those who are in Christ.

We should not expect those who are without Christ to rightly comprehend or conform to the Word of God. In the Gospel of John, Jesus told His Jewish opponents that they did not have God’s word abiding in them because they did not believe Him whom

the Father had sent. For all their reading and study of Scripture, they missed its message: “You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life” (5:39-40). This is true for anyone, Jew or Gentile. The Word of God only abides in — takes hold of and transforms — those who have faith in Christ, the one about whom Scripture testifies. Within this biblical framework, we can understand how the Bible’s influence in America can be diminishing despite the respect and attention it receives.

Cause for Hope

The LBC | Capital family is well acquainted with our college verse, which is the apostle Peter’s paraphrase of the words of Isaiah, “The word of the Lord endures forever” (1 Peter 1:25). What we do not quote quite as often is the rest of the verse, which is Peter’s explanation: “And this word is the good news that was preached to you.” The Bible is the means to another end, the kingship of Jesus Christ. The Bible itself is not the redeemer of cultures and societies; Jesus is. He is the one who is making a people from every nation, tribe and language (Revelation 7:9), who is renewing all things (Revelation 21:5) and to whom all will someday bow and call Lord (Philippians 2:10-11).

This should give us hope. It is not our responsibility to build a biblical society or Christian nation. As those who have been graciously given life in Christ, we are called to faithfully submit to God’s Word and joyously proclaim Christ. God will establish his kingdom.





By Sean McDowell

Do Christian Kids Really Understand the Gospel?

Sean McDowell, Ph.D. is a professor of Christian Apologetics at Biola University, best-selling author, popular speaker, part-time high school teacher, and the Resident Scholar for Summit Ministries, California. Summit is coming to LBC in 2018! To learn more, visit summit.org/lancaaster

The longer I interact with Christian young people, the more I wonder how many truly understand the gospel. Of course, many know the story of Jesus, but this is far different from grasping the nature of the gospel. Let me explain.

One of the most common messages I give to students is called "True For You, But Not True For Me." In this talk, I define truth, discuss why it is so important, dismantle common objections against the existence and knowability of truth, and then help students understand the difference between subjective and objective claims.

Simply put, subjective claims are matters of personal opinion, such as ice cream flavor preference. You can have your favorite (which is true for you) and I can have mine (which is true for me) because the basis of the claim is the subject merely believing something. Subjective claims are internal and thus relative to the individual who holds them.

Objective claims, on the other hand, are about the external world. People can have different opinions about reality, but our beliefs don't change it. Here are a few obvious examples of objective claims:

- $2 + 2 = 4$ (math)
- George Washington was the first president of the United States (history)
- A water molecule is made up of two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom (science)

When I ask for participation from the audience, students rarely have trouble identifying these three claims as objective truths. But everything

changes when I introduce an ethical issue, such as abortion. In fact, when I ask students to respond as to whether the morality of abortion is subjective or objective, typically 70-90% of Christian kids will say that it is subjective, like choosing an ice cream flavor. I have done this with other moral issues and the response is typically the same. What does this tell us?

For one, it tells us that our kids have been deeply influenced by our relativistic and individualistic culture. Students have imbibed non-judgmentalism and are reluctant to tell others that they are wrong about moral issues. They have no problem making judgments about mathematical and scientific issues, but when it comes to morality, it's all a matter of preference.

But with this said, I don't believe students are actually relativists. In fact, I never believe someone who tells me he or she is a relativist. Why not? As C.S. Lewis observed in *Mere Christianity*, no one is really a relativist. People may claim to be relativists, but their lives will betray them. And further, the apostle Paul tells us that even people without the Law still know moral truth because it is written on their hearts (Rom. 2:14-16).

While Christian students do believe in objective morality, their confused response about moral issues being subjective leads me to wonder how many young Christians today actually understand the gospel. Do they really understand what it means to sin against a Holy God (whose character is the basis of the universal moral law)? Christian young people are not relativists, but I do wonder how many apply relativist thinking to their faith.

“...our kids have been deeply influenced by our relativistic and individualistic culture.”

Do Christian Kids Really Understand the Gospel?

Continued

Think about what subjective morality would mean for the gospel: If morality is subjective, then there is no objective moral law. If there is no objective moral law, then there can be no sin. And if there is no sin, then there is no reason for Jesus to die as our savior. The gospel story rests upon the reality of an objective moral law, which we have all broken, and thus need redemption (Rom 3:23). If morality is subjective, the Christian story crumbles.

We must keep sharing the gospel with students today. But let's not assume they

really grasp it just because they respond with the right words. Rather, let's help them see through the foolishness of moral relativism and clearly comprehend the reality of the objective moral law that is written on their hearts and rooted in God's character. When students understand the objectivity of morality, then sin makes sense. And when they understand (and experience) the reality of their own sinfulness, they are in position to grasp God's saving grace, which is the good news at the heart of the gospel.



FIVE QUESTIONS

By Dr. Krish Kandiah

Every Christian Has to Face about Creation

He didn't even blink. But in a small coffee shop half way around the world, the missionary bluntly told me that those who believed in the six literal days of Creation tended to be more godly than those who didn't. Unusually for me, I was lost for words. I have many friends with differing views on how much water to use in baptism, whether wives should work or stay at home, and even on the existence of hell. But despite the debates and disagreements, nobody had ever before suggested that we had anything but an equal standing in front of our heavenly Father. This particular missionary evidently felt passionate about this one doctrine. Perhaps he was inspired by Ken Ham, who argues: "If we allow our children to doubt the days of creation, when the language speaks so plainly, they are likely to then doubt Christ's Virgin Birth, and that He really rose from the dead." It's a slippery slope argument – if we don't draw a line here at the origins of our faith, then we have no hope in helping people to believe the rest of the Bible.

So to what extent was the missionary correct? Should we believe in the literal six-day account? Does it really affect our godliness? And does our whole theology rest or fall on the side we choose to take?

Here are five questions Christians should ask themselves as they tackle this issue:

1) Are we willing for the Bible to change our minds?

Christians believe that Bible has more authority than any other source because they want to honor God in their lives and their thinking. This means when there is a conflict between our views and the Bible, Scripture wins. We don't get to choose whether we like Jesus' challenge about hypocrisy or God's passionate concern for the orphan and the widow. What is there is there and we have no right to edit.

But equally that doesn't mean we have to be naive about how to read the Bible. When I was a teenager I had friends who were adamant that it was wrong to catch airplanes on Sundays because of a verse in Matthew's Gospel that said: "Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath." They wanted to honor Scripture, but by reading it woodenly they were doing the opposite. They had a sincere heart, but that did not stop them misinterpreting the Bible.

In the Psalms we read: "In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth." (Psalm 19:5-6) The plain reading of this is that the sun rises and travels across the sky from one horizon to the other. However, the psalms are poetic – using metaphors and personification. There is clearly no intention for us to think that the sun is literally a bridegroom leaving a tent, or that the Psalmist is trying to teach us a lesson in astrophysics. Rather he is celebrating the powerful way that God speaks through his creation, and uses the understanding of the time and poetic language to convey that.

I believe something similar is going on in the Genesis account. What if the repeated pictures of day and night, and the pattern of separations and fillings, were to be seen as poetic devices that point not to how God created the world, but who the God who created the world is? What if the ordering is less about which came first, and more about which came last – the humans at the pinnacle of God's creation? What if the seventh day has no end because it is a picture of the rest that God created for us to enjoy, as the letter to the Hebrews clearly teaches? Ernest Lucas argues that these first two chapters of Genesis "should be read as a theological text expressed in symbolic stories addressed to ancient Hebrews, and not as a scientific text."



Dr. Krish Kandiah is an author, speaker, former president of the London School of Theology, founder and director of Home for Good and an adjunct professor at LBC | Capital.

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FIVE QUESTIONS

Every Christian Has to Face about Creation

Continued

Just as I ask my friends and students to keep their minds open, and be prepared to change them should the weight of Bible evidence suggest, so I too offer my views here lightly. There are many things I have had to learn and relearn in Scripture and I too must be willing and prepared to have my mind changed. The Genesis debate reminds me to be humble when listening to the different opinions of others – they might be right.

2) Does timeline really matter?

Our earliest Christian ancestors thought that the gospel was worth living and even dying for. They held some core beliefs that they refused to recant even if that meant certain death. They also held some other beliefs that were not life and death issues, but certainly caused grief within the Church. Paul's warning to avoid foolish arguments over these matters was born from his experience and expectation that there would be some legitimate differences of opinion, and that Christians could agree to disagree without falling out. The historic creeds of the Church helped to distinguish between the core beliefs and the secondary issues. One of the oldest and most widely accepted confessions of the Christian Church is the Nicene Creed which dates back to 381 AD. The opening sentence is: "We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen." Then there's the ancient baptismal creed that became in its final fixed form the Apostles' Creed, which states in its opening line: "I believe in God the Father, Almighty, maker of heaven and earth." It seems fair to conclude from these two creeds that since the earliest confessions of the Church it has been fundamental to our faith to believe in God as Creator, but not to specify how God created the world or how long it took. In my opinion, whether God created it instantaneously, in six literal days or over millions or billions of years is not worth falling out over. The Genesis debate reminds us to unite in worship of the One who made it all.

3) Is your view a compromise to the spirit of the age?

Someone might reasonably respond by saying that of course the ancient creeds didn't specify the age of the earth, because everyone who read Genesis would naturally understand it to mean that God created the world in six literal days. They may suggest that it was only as a result of Darwin's theories of origins (or perhaps Lyell's geology in the the 19th century) that anyone even saw an alternative view in the Genesis account. In this case any non-literal views would just be a compromise with the prevailing culture. Some even argue that these new views were formed by Christians who didn't have the moral courage to stand against public opinion.

However some 1,654 years before Darwin penned his Origin of the Species, a Greek theologian called Origen opposed the idea that the Creation story should be interpreted as a literal and historical account of how God created the world. He wrote:

"What person of intelligence, I ask, will consider as a reasonable statement that the first and the second and the third day, in which there are said to be both morning and evening, existed without sun and moon and stars, while the first day was even without a heaven?... I do not think anyone will doubt that these are figurative expressions which indicate certain mysteries through a semblance of history."

Second, the fourth century bishop Augustine also argued in his work The Literal Meaning of Genesis that the six days of Creation should not be understood as a chronological account but instead as a way of categorizing God's work. Alister McGrath notes: "Augustine was deeply concerned that biblical interpreters might get locked into reading the Bible according to the scientific assumptions of the age." This is a fascinating observation. Augustine wanted to preserve the integrity of the text over the commonly

held views of his day and that was what led him to try and read the text on its own terms. How can we walk in the footsteps of this great father of the faith? Perhaps reading the Bible with greater attention to the language, genre and intention of the text will help us. Perhaps also reading Scripture with the help of the global and historic Church through greater dialogue and a willingness to interact with ancient interpreters could help too.

Third, these theologians did not come to their conclusions because they were trying to fit in with contemporary thought. McGrath again notes “many contemporary thinkers regarded the Christian view of Creation ex nihilo as utter nonsense. Claudius Galenus (AD 129–200), physician to the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius, dismissed it as a logical and metaphysical absurdity.” It seems that both literal and non-literal views date way back.

When deciding which view we should hold for ourselves, it is important to give all perspectives a fair hearing, and make an informed decision. The Genesis debate reminds us not to blindly follow popular opinion whether inside or outside the Church, and not to be afraid to ask the tough questions.

4) Am I allowing the text to speak for itself?

Many of us will know the story of the man who asked God what he should do and opened the Bible at random to read “Judas hung himself”. Worried whether he might have misheard God he turned over a page and read, “What you are about to do, do quickly.” It’s a silly story designed to warn Christians about reading the Bible out of context. We know that the account of Judas’ death is not a general instruction to all Christians: it is reporting the historical fact. In the same way, we must be careful when we look at any part of the Bible to try and hear it on its own terms. I studied Chemistry at university, and I still have lots of scientific questions about our world: why the forces that hold our universe are so finely balanced, why we have appendixes, what is making up most of the mass of the universe,

whether there really is such a thing as dark matter. I don’t expect the Bible to have answers to these questions because it has more important things to teach over the thousands of years of Christian heritage. Rather than impose my questions on the text, I need to work hard to listen.

We need to take care when we approach Scripture not to come at the text with the questions we want answered, but instead to allow the text to define the questions it will answer. The Genesis debate can remind us of God’s command to love him with all of our mind, and that rigorously puzzling over these issues is therefore a good use of the gifts God has given us.

5) Is there more we agree on than disagree on?

However old or young the earth is, there are Christians on both sides of the debate who want to honour and obey God. In this respect the debate does affect our godliness. Both sides can display the humility to have their minds changed by what the word of God says. We can all celebrate that God created the universe on his timing and for his purposes. We can agree that we want to avoid being driven by the most popular opinions or the loudest voices. We can agree that we are part of the family of God together and that sometimes agreeing to disagree is not only OK, but can be a powerful witness. We can agree to speak well of each other and believe the best about each other’s positions and interpretation of Scripture. We can agree that we don’t want to put a stumbling block in front of people becoming Christians and make a bigger deal of this issue than it is. We can agree that one day we will know for sure. We can agree that love should dominate our attitude to one another.

The Genesis debate reminds us that there is more to agree on than disagree on, and for that we will be eternally grateful.



Baggage or Luggage?

WHICH DO YOU CARRY?

Eleanor Isaacson Shares Life Lessons

By Dr. E. Penny Clawson, Professor Emerita



Those words of question characterize the personal thinking of Dr. Eleanor Isaacson, World War II survivor, mentor and daughter of the King. Her story of abandonment, war, poverty, immigration, searching, dancing and teaching is filled with accounts of God's grace and mercy. Yet, her outlook on life is evident in every word she utters. It can be summarized in Eleanor's question: "What are you carrying, baggage or luggage? Luggage is what you pack to move forward while baggage is what is loaded from the past." Eleanor clearly carries luggage!

Eleanor was born in the United States and at the age of two was taken to Germany by her mother and left there with her widowed aunt. She lived there throughout Hitler's regime where she experienced bombings, invasions, starvation and all the details of the war. Following those years, she survived by smuggling contraband in and out of Germany and Czechoslovakia (now the Czech Republic and Slovakia). At the age of thirteen, her mother arranged for her to travel to the U.S. alone to be reunited together, but with no English language skills, no relationship with her parents, and baggage that had the potential to weigh her down.

During those years, Eleanor had known there was someone, a friend, who was with her, yet without a name. That nameless friend became her savior, Jesus Christ, on February 25, 1954. This relationship changed her life and enabled her to leave the baggage behind and pack her luggage for the years to come. It was not always an easy journey, as any immigrant will tell you, but Eleanor had the friend who walked with her every step of the way. She completed school, worked professionally, lost and regained her hearing,

married Bob Isaacson, was widowed eighteen years later and found the Lord had a plan for her life. Eleanor's story is told in a personal and colorful way in her book and memoir, "Dancing from Darkness: A World War II Survivor's Journey to Light, Life and Redemption." She declares this book was 60 years in the making, but written in three months with the assistance of Jeanette Windle.

On December 15, 2017 Eleanor was awarded the honorary Doctor of Letters by Lancaster Bible College | Capital Seminary & Graduate School in recognition of her service and ministry to the church and her community. This was a fitting tribute to a woman who has learned much and taught many. In 2002, she moved from New Jersey to Lancaster and currently resides at Willow Valley Communities. It has never been about retirement, but rather about moving forward with her luggage well packed. This has become a season of celebration of the life given to her by Jesus Christ. "I thank God every single day for another day He gives me," said Eleanor. "I try not to live in the past, and when Satan reminds me of my past, I remind him of his future, which is a very hot place!" Her sense of humor and her choice to celebrate comes through loud and clear!

In her new community, Eleanor has chosen to be involved rather than retreat. Her involvement includes mentoring young people at McCaskey High School where she engages with them on a weekly basis, helping them to release their pasts and their baggage. In addition, she teaches Bible studies. One is a Jewish focus group in Quarryville, Pennsylvania where she teaches about the Tabernacle from a three-foot replica her husband Bob built years ago,



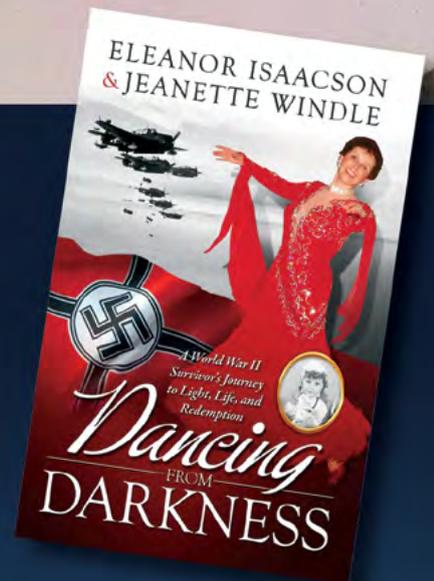
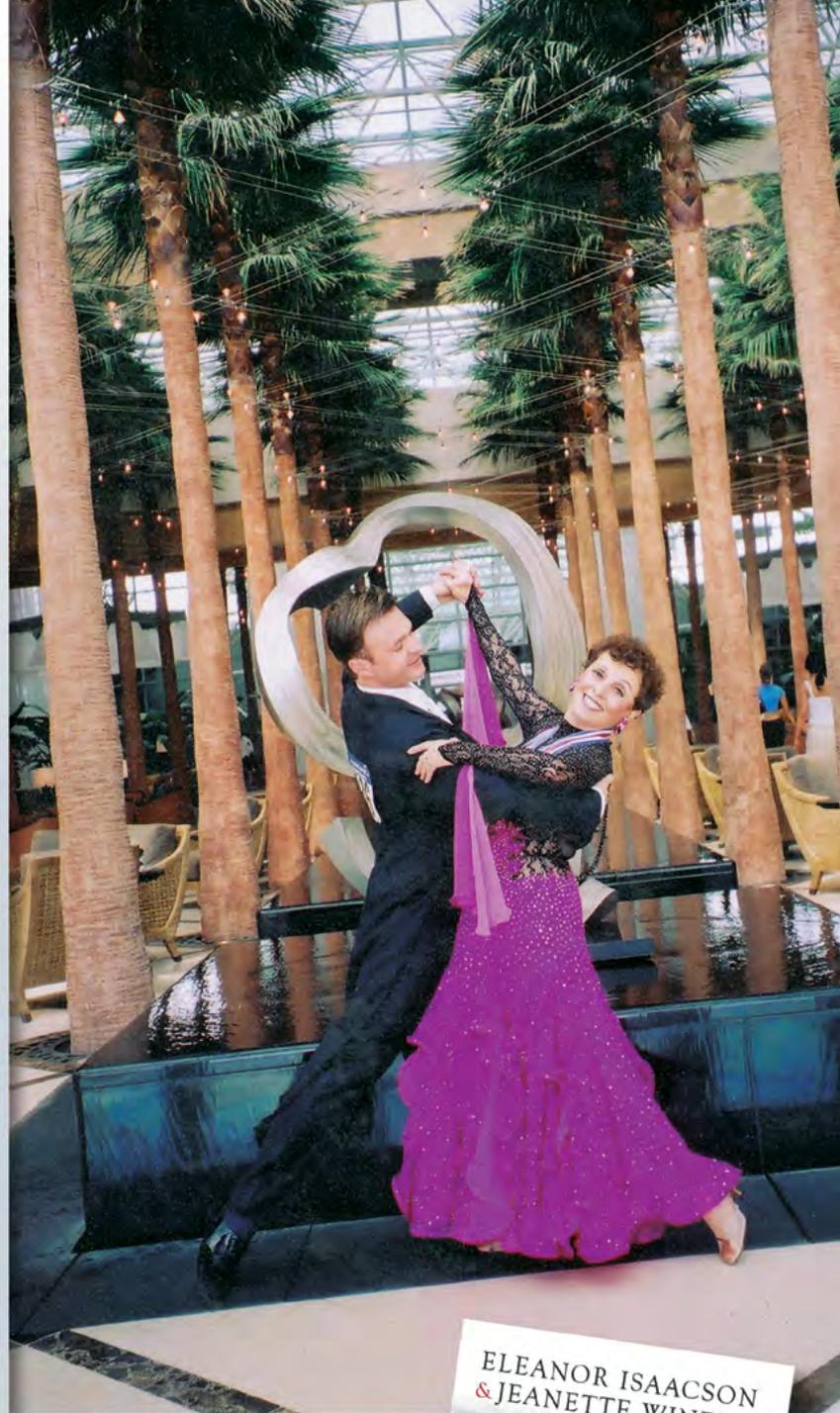
showing them the picture of Christ as the Redeemer. The other is in Manheim, Pennsylvania for a group of women learning to "Be the Best You Can Be from the Inside Out." Sprinkled throughout her days are committee meetings around the community where Eleanor seeks to be light in the darkness and claims "Don't tie me into a pew with a seat belt!"

Among Eleanor's other activities is her competitive ballroom dancing. She shared the story of a teacher she had who was from Moscow. In her first lesson, he asked her to "get in frame and follow me." She responded with "That sounds like what Jesus told his disciples and me, 'Follow me!'" She then proceeded to share the Gospel and lead that gentleman to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Over the years, she has shared these truths with many young dancers from Europe and found receptive hearts and minds with those she befriends.

"Don't waste one day on negative thoughts or activities," shares Eleanor. "Live each day as if it is the only day you have. Look for the good and avoid the negative thinkers. When you read the newspaper, and don't find your name in the obituary, it is a good day. Never be a victim of your circumstances, but rather live victoriously! Be an ambassador for Jesus. Don't waste the day!" She certainly doesn't waste a one.

One of the more significant events for Eleanor was facing the fact that her mother had abandoned her. Even after her return to the U.S. and to her mother, there remained a wall between them. Eleanor had to face that giant in her life and knew God had prepared her to do that. Today she can say "I have really forgiven my mother." She is confident God gave her that kind of woman as her mother to make Eleanor the kind of woman she is today. It is her belief that the people who hurt us in the past are those God uses to spur us on to become who God wants us to be. That is how we can unpack the baggage and then load our luggage.

As Eleanor looks to the future her word is "More!" More celebrations, more books, more dancing, more speaking, more young people! She would echo the words of Paul in Philippians 3:13, "...But this one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward to goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Eleanor wants to be used by God every day until He calls her home, and she's saving that as her last journey. She's not in a hurry, there is much yet to be done. And there's no luggage needed for that trip!



Eleanor Isaacson's story is told in a personal and colorful way in her book and memoir, Dancing From Darkness.



Doug Logan Jr. (16) is an author, pastor, teacher and much more. A graduate of LBC | Capital's Master of Arts in Ministry program and a member of the college's Board of Trustees, he has more than 20 years of experience in church planting and urban ministry. He currently serves at the Acts 29 Network as the Co-Director of Church in Hard Places and Director of Diversity.

DON'T MISS THE REAL MISSION:

Making Room for God's Plan in Yours

By Doug Logan Jr. (16)

Recently on a very, very early morning, my wife, Angel, and I were on the highway rushing to the airport. We were pressed for time and didn't have a whole lot of margin in our schedule. Suddenly, we noticed the traffic slow down. A car crashed into the median, spun out of control and landed on the side of the road. Even from our distance, it looked bad.

Knowing the clock was ticking and that my flight would take off whether or not I was there, my instinct told me to keep driving. I couldn't risk missing the flight to my preaching engagement. This was for ministry, after all. I was going to preach the gospel.

But as we kept driving, I observed all the other cars passing by the wreck, ignoring the person stuck in his totaled Honda Civic – just like me. The whole scenario was starting to remind me of a certain parable in the New Testament.

I suddenly felt God telling me to pull over.

As I slowed down my car, preparing to stop, Angel looked at me. "Doug, you're going to miss the flight," she said. I knew it was true, but I did it anyway. I finally realized it was necessary for me to pull over and check on the driver. He could have been seriously injured. I hopped out of my car to find him calling for help on his cell phone. Mercifully, he was unhurt. He was very thankful and appreciative that I had taken the time to stop and help. We paused to pray together. When I finished, he told me about how many other people had just driven past him, ignoring his dire situation.

More often than not, we tend to drive by missional opportunities with the mindset that we only have one mission to meet. We set our agenda, establish our goals and pursue them at all costs because we are on a mission. Consequently, we pass by real people in real need. We expect someone else to stop and help.

That's the problem with this mentality: everyone depends on a mystical "someone else" who will do the thing we don't want to do. Someone else will pull over to help out the man sitting by the side of the road. Someone else will give a dollar to the homeless woman we pass every day. Someone else will get help for the domestic violence victim.

What I experienced was just like the all-too-familiar story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10. In it, Jesus challenges us to reevaluate our own mission and consider what God's greater mission might be – even if it doesn't conveniently align with our own well-constructed plans.

In the parable in Luke, three men of God walked by a half-dead man and had very different reactions to the opportunity God placed before them. The priest and the Levite, two men who were called to be spiritual shepherds, "passed by on the other side" (10:31). They didn't see a person. They only saw an obstacle in their path on their mission for God.

But the Samaritan didn't just see the man suffering. And he didn't ignore it. Instead, he responded in love. We too must learn to love our neighbors by cultivating compassion for their lost souls as well as physical circumstances. We must weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice.

The Samaritan was obedient to the divine appointment blocking his path. He demonstrated a faithful commitment to God's leading, despite his personal objections, ethnic and cultural differences and the great cost. Likewise, we must be committed to God's mission by being prepared to serve wherever, whenever, regardless of the cost. This is our God-given calling.

There will be interruptions to our plans but not to God's. These interruptions don't end His mission. They ARE His mission. He has sovereignly ordained all encounters for us to be instruments of His grace and messengers of His gospel.

Faculty & Staff Updates

Dr. James Ayers



Dr. James Ayers ('80), a professor in the Church & Ministry Leadership Department, added three new series of messages to his ever-growing collection. The messages, *Close Encounters with Jesus*, *Rethinking Authentic Worship* and *Ruth: A Legacy of Commitment*, are available on his website, jamesayers.org

Dr. Tim Barksdale



Dr. Tim Barksdale is an adjunct professor in the Counseling & Social Work Department. On January 30, he provided the nation's first trainer course to certify clinicians to treat adults with intellectual disability and co-occurring mental illness using the five competencies (medical assessment, psychological assessment, positive behavior supports, psychotherapy and psychopharmacology intervention).

Dr. Mark Farnham



Dr. Mark Farnham was promoted from associate professor to professor. He serves as a professor in our Bible & Theology Department.

Dr. Gary Troxell



Dr. Gary Troxell was promoted from associate professor to professor. He serves as a professor in our Counseling & Social Work Department.

Dr. Chris VanBuskirk was promoted to the position of associate provost for academic resources. VanBuskirk has

David Fry ('05), an adjunct professor in the Bible & Theology Department, became the senior pastor of Salem Bible Church in New Holland, Pa. on January 1.

Keli Gentzler, assistant professor in the Business Administration Department, earned her Master of Science in curriculum design and instruction from Western Governors University in October 2017.

Doris Hall-Gulati is an adjunct professor in the Worship & Performing Arts Department. In 2017, she recorded Lansing McLoskey's, "Zealot Canticles" with the Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble, The Crossing. She also spent time as a volunteer in Bermuda and Cuba where she taught clarinet students.

Dr. Krish Kandiah, an adjunct professor in the Church & Ministry Leadership Department, published a new book with Intervarsity Press on December 5, 2017 called, "God is Stranger: Finding God in Unexpected Places."

Promotions

effectively led our online education initiatives for several years. Moving forward, he will continue to provide leadership in the Digital Learning Department and will also provide leadership over the library and Ally Center.

Mrs. Tricia Wilson was promoted to the position of director of institutional effectiveness. Prior to this, Tricia served as the director of student services at LBC | Capital.

New Hires

Mr. Tony Bruno is the new Bible & Theology Program Coordinator at our Philadelphia location. Prior to joining LBC, Bruno co-pastored at Crossover Community Church in Tampa, Florida. He earned his Master of Arts degree from Biblical Theological Seminary.

Rev. Matt Lynskey ('04) is the new Pastoral Ministry Program Director in our Church & Ministry Leadership Department. Lynskey is a graduate of LBC and is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of South Africa. He has been a church planter in Tanzania, Africa, a youth pastor and preaching pastor in Pennsylvania and is currently a church planter in York, Pa.



Keli Gentzler



Doris Hall-Gulati



Trials & Triumph

By Zach Freeman, Director
of Athletic Communications

Lancaster Bible College women's basketball senior Kirsten Webster is having the best season of her collegiate career during the 2017-18 campaign. But six years ago, the idea of Webster having a season like this one would have seemed impossible.



Webster was diagnosed with Lyme's Disease in 2007. After one year of antibiotics and other treatments, she felt better. She believed everything was under control. Feeling more like herself, Webster participated in both soccer and basketball at Mount Airy Christian Academy in Mount Airy, Maryland. Though she felt some pain from playing two sports over the course of the school year, she maintained her overall health.

Webster was set to play soccer for McDaniel College in the fall of 2012, but one morning she woke up and couldn't move. Webster was re-tested for Lyme's Disease and discovered it had returned. Rounds of doctor's visit and trips to see Lyme's Disease specialists began, forcing her to leave McDaniel College for the semester. After more rounds of treatment, she began to feel better. Eventually, her health improved.

Ready to try collegiate sports again, she enrolled at Lancaster Bible College in the fall semester of 2013. Webster played soccer in the fall. Just before the basketball season, she began to feel the effects of the Lyme disease again. After two basketball games, she withdrew from school and took off the spring 2014 semester.

"I only had so much energy to give every day and by the end of each day, I was just completely drained," said Webster of her fall 2013 semester. "I had a lot of neurological trouble, specifically with sound and light. [Everyone in the college's academic mentoring services department] really helped me through that semester with test-taking and my school-work."

Webster returned to LBC in the fall of 2014, after undergoing more treatment at various facilities in the United States. She played just one soccer game that year, but she enjoyed a successful women's basketball season that saw the Chargers go 24-6. Webster played a full soccer season in the fall of 2015 and led the team in scoring with 14 goals, as she continued to deal with the effects of Lyme's Disease.

After the soccer season, Webster once again played well for the women's basketball team as the Chargers enjoyed another productive season, winning 24 games during the 2015-16 season. Over the summer of 2016, Webster had to make a difficult decision regarding her two-sport status, as she realized just how much she was draining herself each academic year.

"I decided to give up playing soccer, which was extremely tough to do," explained Webster. "One of the reasons I came to LBC was because I could play two sports, but it just got to be too much."

With a full tank of energy, Webster helped the Chargers to 20 more wins during the 2016-17 campaign and could only imagine what her 2017-18 senior season would look like.

What it has become is brilliance on the court and a new outlook for life off the court. Webster started all 26 of Lancaster Bible's games in 2017-18, averaging a team-best 17.7 points per game. She set a career-mark for points in a game with 28 in a loss to Juniata on January 3, and was named to the NEAC All-Conference First Team following the season.

"I am very thankful for so many things," said Webster. "I wasn't even sure I was going to be able to play this season. After getting clearance from the NCAA to play a fifth season, I just wanted to take advantage of one more season playing with my teammates."

Webster explained that it's no secret how all of these trials have translated into triumph and success for her and her teammates.

"It's so amazing to have God's hand on my life," explained Webster. "I've gone from bed-bound a few years ago to playing 40 minutes a game. I have learned to trust God with being in the moment as much as possible. I have learned how to use the time I have and just see what God is going to do with my life - He has become very real."

Webster isn't sure what's next after she leaves LBC, but she would like to return home to Maryland and attain her certification in personal training and work with high school athletes. Whatever the future holds for Webster, it's clear she has learned through her trials to trust God, and that His hand on her life has led to many triumphs at LBC.

To learn more about our teams, visit lbcchargers.com



LBC & SUMMIT MINISTRIES PARTNER TO HOST Christian Worldview Conferences

Colorado-based organization Summit Ministries and LBC | Capital announced a partnership to bring Summit's renowned Christian worldview conferences to Pennsylvania in 2018.

The conferences, designed for high schoolers and college students alike, help individuals to strengthen their Christian faith and understand what it means to live out a biblical worldview in a society that grows increasingly hostile toward Christian beliefs. Each conference brings in top-tier speakers and teachers, with names like Sean McDowell and John Stonestreet on the roster of past events.

"After 25 years, Summit Ministries' impact on my life is still fresh in my mind," said Robert Blanks, assistant professor at LBC | Capital. "I can recall so many of the experiences and even the names of some of the instructors. I am overjoyed

that Summit Ministries is coming all the way from Colorado to partner with LBC! This ministry is passionate about transformation and helping us love God with all of our minds. My view of ministry was - and remains - shaped by my Summit experience."

Student conferences are two weeks long and can be taken for college credit. Conferences in the Keystone state will be held July 1 through 14 and July 15 through 28.

"We are thrilled to partner with Summit to offer young people in the Northeast an opportunity to examine why their faith matters," said John Zeswitz, Executive Vice President of LBC | Capital. "And we look forward to welcoming them to our beautiful campus this summer."

For more information about the conferences and to register to attend, visit summit.org/programs

Get an Extra \$100 Off Registration

Friends of LBC can get an extra \$100 off, in addition to group discounts and the early bird rate, by using the code **CHAMP2018HS** when you register!

Save on Group Discounts

Get \$100 of the regular per student rate with a group of five or more by registering by May 14.





Sport Management Program Receives COSMA Accreditation

Lancaster Bible College's sport management program was granted accreditation through the Commission on Sport Management Accreditation on September 29, 2017.

COSMA is a specialized accrediting body whose purpose is to promote and recognize excellence in sport management education worldwide in colleges and universities at the baccalaureate and master's levels through specialized accreditation.

"We could not be more thrilled to receive this hard-earned accreditation," said Tom Randolph, chair of Lancaster Bible College's Health & Physical Education Department. "We are one of 20-plus sport management programs in colleges and universities nationwide to receive this accreditation. The process of achieving COSMA accreditation helped construct a fully-integrated curriculum to meet the present and future needs of the sport industry."

To learn more about our sport management program, visit lbc.edu/sport-management



LBC Now Offers Golf & Field Hockey

By Zach Freeman, Director of Athletic Communications

Lancaster Bible College is pleased to announce the addition of three NCAA sports for the 2018-19 academic year. The Chargers will add field hockey, men's golf and women's golf next year, bringing the total number of athletic offerings at Lancaster Bible to 16.

It has been 32 years since the college offered field hockey as a varsity sport. The Chargers dropped the program after the 1985 season to begin the women's volleyball team. An immediate national search is occurring for a field hockey head coach and the timing of the hire, as well as the construction of the team, will determine whether the Chargers will play a full or abbreviated schedule during the 2018 season. The Chargers will be one of four North Eastern Athletic Conference schools in 2018-19 with field hockey, and the Chargers will look to play a full NEAC schedule and compete for a NEAC Championship during the 2019-20 academic year. The NEAC currently has an agreement with the North Atlantic Conference (NAC) and the two conference champions compete for the NCAA automatic bid to the NCAA Division III National Tournament.

The additions of both men's and women's golf will be new offerings for the Chargers, and a search for a part-time head coach will begin immediately. Golf is played in both the fall and spring, and the Chargers will look to play a full schedule during the 2018-19 academic year.

Senior vice president for student experience, Josh Beers believes the addition of these three sports will not only benefit LBC's Athletic Department but the entire college as well. "I am thrilled we are adding additional sports that reflect our ongoing commitment to recruit mission fit student athletes who make a difference inside and outside the classroom," said Beers. "These additional sports provide added opportunities for students who want athletics to be a vital part of their collegiate experience."

To learn more, visit lbcchargers.com

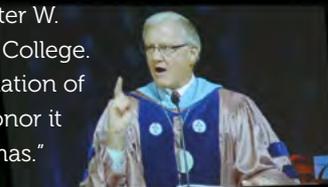


LBC | Capital Celebrates December 2017 Commencement

Lancaster Bible College | Capital Seminary & Graduate School celebrated the graduation of over 120 students from its undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs with a commencement ceremony at its Lancaster campus on December 15, 2017.

The keynote address was given by author and speaker Eleanor Isaacson, a World War II survivor. Her autobiography, "Dancing from Darkness," describes a harrowing journey as an abandoned toddler in Nazi Germany who survived bombings, starvation, Russian occupation and a stint as a child smuggler - all before reaching her teens. Today, Isaacson spends her time mentoring women, speaking and writing. You can read more about her story on page 31.

"We look forward to celebrating this special occasion with our graduates each year," said Dr. Peter W. Teague, president of Lancaster Bible College. "Commencement is truly the culmination of our students' efforts, and what an honor it is to award their hard-earned diplomas."



May 4 - Commencement in Memphis, TN
May 10 - Awards Luncheon in Greenbelt, MD
May 11 - Commencement in Lancaster, PA
May 12 - Commencement in Greenbelt, MD
May 26 - Commencement in Uganda
June 21 - Awards Dinner in Philadelphia, PA
June 23 - Commencement in Philadelphia, PA





REMEMBERING
Scott Fetterolf
1964 – 2017

By Dr. Peter W. Teague

Rev. Scott Fetterolf ('96) was taken home to heaven unexpectedly on December 12, 2017. A trusted member of our Board of Trustees and honored as LBC's 2015 Alumnus of the Year, Scott was a true servant leader in his community and committed to the belief that everyone's life would be better if Jesus was invited in, a belief he consistently phrased as "an outrageous love of another kind." Although his professional title was teaching pastor at Lives Changed By Christ church at the Columbia-Montour campus in Pennsylvania, he fulfilled other important roles as a son to trustee Jim and Rhoda Fetterolf, a husband to Brenda, father to Jacob, Seth, and Caleb, a brother to Ken, a church planter, mentor, friend and many other things to those who loved him so dearly. It is with heavy hearts that all of us grieve his passing.

And yet, we grieve with hope. For we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him – and Scott was certainly one of those.

The Lord blessed Scott with both strong leadership capacity and a pastor's heart. As evidenced by his 35 years of pastoring, he cared deeply about the body of Christ. While the end to his journey on earth might have seemed untimely to us, we celebrate the fact that today Scott is in the presence of the Savior he loved and served so well.

A scholarship fund has been set up in Scott's honor to benefit students from LCBC church who are pursuing a ministry education at LBC. To make a gift to the Scott Fetterolf Scholarship Fund, visit lbc.edu/pastorscott

Remembering Pastor Johnson Enamu

By Robert Blanks, Partnership Liaison for LBC|Capital and Pastors Discipleship Network

Over the Christmas holiday, one of my students in Uganda died in a car accident. The day after Christmas, Pastor Johnson Enamu, 44, was traveling with his wife, mother and a young girl from church. All four passed away in the car accident.

Johnson's only daughter, Delight, was traveling in a different car. Delight is only 12. Please join me in praying for this young girl as she now faces a difficult future.

Johnson's departure is felt in many different ways and contexts. He had a passionate faith in God that transformed his life. Johnson passed through a time earlier in life where he believed in Christ but struggled with understanding how God interacts, communicates with and leads men and women who follow Him. This struggle left Johnson deeply confused and discouraged. Sometime after this, he encountered a group that helped him understand the Bible more clearly through an emphasis on sound biblical interpretation and orthodox Bible doctrine. Through this journey, God burned within Johnson's heart a deep passion for biblical truth and correct Bible doctrine. The pursuit of truth and proper biblical interpretation marked his life.

Johnson said that his, "Goals are basically glued to one purpose, 'more true disciples of Jesus Christ' in all spheres of influence." Transformation in Christ was his pastoral vision. Pastor Johnson Enamu was the pastor of Truth Fountain West Cathedral Lira, located in northern Uganda and his ministry influence was wide-ranging.

One of our current students, Pastor Christopher, is an associate pastor who served under Johnson. Christopher started the M.A. program one year before Johnson. Johnson started our program this past May. In Africa, I have seen and heard of many cases when older senior pastors are threatened when a younger, subordinate pastor gains more education and understanding. Many insecure older pastors see this as a threat and respond by attacking the young pastor and biblical education in general. Pastor Johnson, however, did not do this. He was secure enough in his ministry to appreciate this and pursue deeper Bible study himself. In my opinion, this speaks volumes of the depth of Johnson's leadership, character and personal relationship with Christ. His death is a great loss for Uganda, Africa and the world.



It troubles and saddens my heart as I reflect upon the man Johnson was. It leaves me wondering, "Why, Lord, would you take him home now? Why would you leave Delight here without her father, mother and grandmother?"

In Johnson's passing, I am reminded again that God is infinite and we are finite. God has His plans, and his plans are not our plans. May we continue to believe, know and confess that God is sovereign over all creation and completely good and faithful.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher

than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." - Isaiah 55:8-9

In a paper Johnson submitted on God's providence, he wrote, "No matter what happens in the world, God is in control and He is providentially working through all happening to bring His perfect will to be done. This should build courage and faith in us to trust in God and rejoice in all things that we find ourselves engulfed in."

In the midst of grieving our loss, may we remember that Johnson is not lost but is home at last!





CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
Richard W. Good

October 25, 1935 - November 20, 2017

Walking with the Good Shepherd:

RICHARD WEAVER GOOD

By Dr. Peter W. Teague

Richard W. Good entered heaven to meet his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on November 20, 2017. He is survived by his loving wife of 29 years, Annetta, two sons, a daughter, two step-daughters and a large extended family.

Richard joined his parents' business, Good's Furniture in New Holland, Pennsylvania in 1962 and spent 33 years with the company, 15 of them as president, expanding it to an operation ranked 49th on Furniture Today's national list. People mattered to Richard as evidenced in his keen interest in the welfare of his 650 Good's Furniture associates in 18 stores and a logistics center. He retired in 2009.

To say Richard was a generous man is an understatement. He firmly believed God blessed him to be a blessing to others. As president of Good's Furniture & Carpet and later Richard's Floor Covering, Richard provided furnishings for Olewine Dining Commons in the 80s, flooring for the married student apartments in the 90s and flooring in our Esbenshade Enrollment Management Center in the 2000s.

Early in Richard's involvement with Lancaster Bible College, he said over and over again: "I just can't imagine a Bible college without a chapel." His vision became a reality when he and his wife, Annetta, gave the lead gift to build a chapel. Dr. Peterson, LBC's president at the time, suggested naming it the "Good Chapel," but Richard didn't want that notoriety so they compromised by agreeing on the "Good Shepherd Chapel," the name it bears today.

Richard joined the LBC Corporation in 1988 and was elected to our Board of Trustees in 1990. He served as a member of our Development Committee, treasurer of our Executive Committee and chair of our Finance committee. In 1997 and 1998 Richard served as vice chair of the Board and from 1999 to 2006, as Board chair.

He remained actively involved with us until the very end. His love for the college made such a difference in the lives of our students preparing for ministry.

Richard knew the blessing of great resources and he practiced radical generosity to God and others. Over and over again, we saw him living out the words of Jesus in Matthew 6:21, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Richard realized his resources were seeds and the only way for them to turn into



real, eternal riches was by giving away what he had in remarkable proportions. He was all about compassion to heal and repair lives, those in need, the lonely, the hungry, the poor, those who didn't know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

A widely recognized and beloved community leader in both Pennsylvania and Florida, Richard consistently placed great value on people and relationships. His heart for others led him to leadership roles in Lancaster Area Habitat for Humanity, National Home Furnishings Association and the Lancaster General Hospital board. He was a member of Grace Baptist Church

in Lancaster and First Baptist Church of Naples, and was President of the Board of Directors for Amazing Grace Adoptions & Orphan Care from 2003 until he entered heaven. Today, scores of children in Uganda and Panama have hope because of Richard's direct involvement in the construction of three orphanages and a Christian school.

We can rest assured that Richard's appointment with the Lord on Monday, November 20, 2017 went just fine because of a decision he made at age 12 to trust Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. We grieve Richard's parting, but not as those who have no hope, for Scripture tells us that although Richard is absent from the body, he is present with the Lord. In remembering Richard, we exalt the name of Jesus Christ who was his Savior and Lord throughout his long and fruitful 82-year life.

Upcoming Events

AT LBC | CAPITAL & THE TRUST PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

For more information regarding these events or to purchase tickets, visit lbc.edu/events
To contact the LBC Box Office, call 717-560-8241 or email events@lbc.edu

ARTS & CULTURE

Thursday, April 19 at 7 p.m.

BALLET MAGNIFICAT!

LBC | Capital – Lancaster Campus

America's premiere Christian ballet company takes the stage in the Good Shepherd Chapel for their Lancaster debut. Made possible by the Melva S. McIlwaine concert and masterclass endowment.

Adults: \$15

Students with ID: \$10

lbc.edu/events

Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28

MAGIC FLUTE

LBC | Capital - Lancaster Campus

Mozart's iconic opera performed in English by LBC students accompanied by a full orchestra.

General Admission: \$10

Children/Students: \$5

lbc.edu/events

Monday, April 30

WIND, JAZZ & PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

LBC | Capital – Lancaster Campus

Join us for this concert performed by LBC's own talented students.

Admission: Complimentary

lbc.edu/events

Thursday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m.

AMERICAN STRING QUARTET WITH CHRISTOPHER SHIH

The Trust Performing Arts Center

Internationally recognized as one of the world's foremost quartets, the American String Quartet will collaborate with one of Lancaster's favorite pianists, Christopher Shih.

General Admission: \$25

Seniors and Veterans: \$20

Students with ID: \$12.50

lancastertrust.com

Saturday, May 5

MICHAEL W. SMITH IN CONCERT

LBC | Capital - Lancaster Campus

Grammy-winning musician Michael W. Smith is set to perform at Lancaster Bible College on May 5 as a part of his "Surrounded by a Million Lights World Tour." Joining the Smith on the tour as a special guest is Australian singer-songwriter Nathan Tasker. Doors open at 6 p.m., concert starts at 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$25 - \$55

itickets.com

Tuesday through Saturday, June 12–16

TOTAL PERCUSSION SEMINAR

LBC | Capital - Lancaster Campus

Our Total Percussion Seminar is designed for percussionists and features hands-on and small group instruction on the drum set, mallet percussion, orchestral percussion, world

Wind, Jazz and Percussion Ensemble



American String Quartet with Christopher Shih



Michael W. Smith in Concert



drumming and audition preparation. The camp also includes full ensemble rehearsals, including drumline techniques and percussion ensemble. The workshops are held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily and include lunches, clinic materials and door prizes. The students will perform in a showcase performance open to the public at the end of the workshop.

Early Registration Fee: \$195 if registered by April 16

Late Registration Fee: \$250 if registered in June

lbc.edu/events

ATHLETICS

Saturday, May 5

SHADEY'S RUGGED RUN

LBC | Capital – Lancaster Campus

3.5 miles worth of mud, sludge and lots of fun! All proceeds raised from the race will be donated to LBC Athletics and Penn State Hershey Children's Miracle Network.

shadeysruggedrun.com

Monday, June 18

CHARGER CHALLENGE

Unlike most tournaments, final scores don't determine the winner here. Whether you win or lose the Charger Challenge Golf Tournament, you're helping to raise funds for LBC's athletic programs and scholarship program. Now that's a win-win.

lbc.edu/golf

SUMMER ATHLETIC CAMPS

Sharpen your skills in soccer, volleyball, lacrosse or basketball at LBC's athletic camps! Our sports camps offer student athletes the chance to have one-on-one interaction with college coaches, allows them to get a taste of student life at LBC and much more.

lbc.edu/camps

Dates	Sport	Camper Ages
June 18-21	Women's Basketball	Grades 4-12
June 25-28	Men's Basketball	Grades 6-12
July 9-12	Women's Basketball	Grades 1-3
July 12-14	Men's Soccer	Grades 9-12
July 16-19	Women's Volleyball	Grades 6-8
July 20-21	Women's Soccer	Grades 7-12
July 20-21	Men's Volleyball	Grades 9-12
July 23-25	Men's Soccer	Grades 5-7
July 25-27	Men's Basketball	Grades 10-12
July 27-28	Women's Soccer	Grades 7-12
July 30-31	Women's Volleyball	Grades 9-12
July 31-Aug 3	Women's Volleyball	Grades 9-12
August 3-4	Men's Soccer	Grades 9-12
August 5-7	Women's Lacrosse	Grades 8-12



Summer Athletic Camps



Upcoming Events

RECRUITING

Thursday and Friday, April 12 and April 13

PREVIEW DAYS

LBC | Capital - Lancaster Campus

Preview Days at LBC | Capital give prospective students the chance to get a taste of student life on our Lancaster campus! Guests can choose to stay overnight in our dormitories, interact with current students and faculty, worship in chapel, tour the campus, learn more about our undergraduate programs and participate in other fun activities.

Admission: Complimentary

lbc.edu/previewday

Saturday, June 9

EXPERIENCE DAY

LBC | Capital - Greenbelt Location

Want to experience what it's like to be a student at our Greenbelt, Maryland site? Now you can! Join us to preview classes, chat with professors and get more information on LBC | Capital's accelerated undergraduate, graduate and seminary programs.

Admission: Complimentary

lbc.edu/infosession

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Saturday, April 14

CONNECT CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE

LBC | Capital - Lancaster Campus

The children's ministry conference is designed to encourage and equip children's ministry leaders and volunteers. CONNECT 2018 will feature Brian Dembowczyk, managing editor of The Gospel Project curriculum and author of "Gospel-Centered Ministry," as the main speaker. Following the opening session, participants will attend two workshops of their choice from a variety of tracks including Outreach, Spiritual Formation, Preschoolers, Tweens, Special Needs, Caring for Families and others. Workshops will focus on practical ways to minister effectively with children and their families.

Admission: \$25 individual or \$20 group rate

lbc.edu/events

Saturday, July 14

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

LBC | Capital - Lancaster Campus

Come to our campus to see, touch and learn about fire trucks, earth movers and more! With a host of family-friendly activities for everyone to enjoy and all proceeds benefiting LBC Athletics and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Pennsylvania, you won't want to miss it.

lbc.edu/events

Friday and Saturday, September 28 and 29

HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND

LBC | Capital - Lancaster Campus

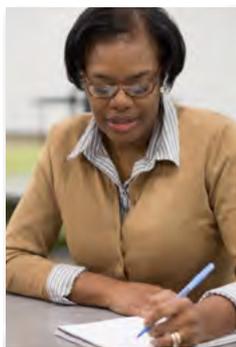
Join us for our annual Homecoming & Family Weekend on September 28 and 29. Enjoy a fun-filled weekend as alumni, students, parents, families and friends gather together. There's something for everyone, so bring the entire family!

lbc.edu/homecoming

Preview Days



Experience Day



Connect Children's
Ministry Conference



Touch-A-Truck





An Inspirational Moment

Student Caleb Greiner ('21) bows his head in prayer during a particularly impactful session at the college's annual Missions Conference.



LANCASTER BIBLE COLLEGE

CAPITAL SEMINARY & GRADUATE SCHOOL

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lbc.edu/sponsor