

‘This is not about me’

EBOLA SURVIVOR *Dr. Kent Brantly thanks ‘our great, compassionate, merciful God’ as he speaks at ACU, urges believers to help West Africa.*

BY ERIK TRYGGESTAD | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

Dr. Kent Brantly had a message for all those inclined to panic about a possible Ebola outbreak in the U.S.

Don’t.
“There has been a lot of panic, a lot of — I hesitate to use the word hysteria — around the events in Dallas,” he said during a visit to his alma mater, Abilene Christian University. The medical missionary and Ebola survivor urged people of faith to spend time praying and seeking ways to help the people of West Africa, “not worrying that, because we live 100 miles from a hospital that treated a patient, that we are at risk.”

Two days before Brantly spoke, during ACU’s homecoming weekend, Thomas Eric Duncan died from Ebola at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas. Two days after Brantly’s visit, health officials announced that a second person — Nina Pham, a nurse who had treated Duncan — tested positive for the deadly virus.

“My heart is broken for his family,” Brantly said of Duncan, a native of Liberia, where Brantly served in a post-residency program with Samaritan’s Purse and contracted Ebola.

See **BRANTLY**, Page 19



JEREMY ENLOW, ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Dr. Kent Brantly speaks during an interview session at Abilene Christian University.



PHOTOS BY BOBBY ROSS JR.

Terry Davis, director of Corners Outreach in Norcross, Ga., helps a boy named Jhossan during an after-school homework club.

A ‘bus ministry kid’ gives back

IN A LATINO TRAILER PARK, Terry Davis pays his blessings forward. The ministry director thanks God for the Christians who shared Jesus with a boy in the Atlanta projects.

BY BOBBY ROSS JR. | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

NORCROSS, Ga.

Terry Davis found Jesus on a “JOY bus.”

Growing up in a housing project on Atlanta’s south side, Davis slept on the ground to avoid flying bullets.

“I still shake when it comes to bullets and sounds of the guns,” said Davis, now 43.

But the East Point Church of Christ’s bus ministry showed him hope and a better way of life, he said, recalling that “JOY” stood for putting Jesus first, others second and yourself last.

Now director of a faith-based nonprofit called Corners Outreach, Davis treasures memories of the faithful Christians who invested time and energy in him.

These days, he pays his blessings forward in this northern suburb of Atlanta — with a predominantly Hispanic trailer park serving as his mission field.

“What makes Corners Outreach incredible is the comprehensive way Terry Davis and his co-workers have immersed themselves in the community,” said Don McLaughlin, pulpit minister for the North Atlanta Church of Christ.

See **ATLANTA**, Page 12



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No complaints on Sunday night

OKLAHOMA CITY

I'm done complaining about Sunday nights — almost.

It's never made sense to me why, after a morning of Bible study and heartfelt worship, we pile our families back into the car, return to the church building and do a scaled-down version of the

Inside Story



Erik Tryggstad

same thing. I don't think Luke and Amy Carnagey feel that way.

The young couple and their two beautiful girls used to sit down the

pew from us. We don't see them there now. And, even in a congregation of 2,500 souls, we feel their absence.

For more than a year, Amy has battled an extremely rare form of cancer. Like so many cancer patients, she's had ups and downs, highs and lows. Recently, she began a new round of chemo.

The couple's attitude as they've faced the illness ... I can't even describe it. To see someone really put their faith in Christ is incredible. During the week I inevitably let the little, petty things get me down. Then, on Sundays, I see Amy's name on the prayer list — scribbled on the white boards in nearly every classroom — and I snap back to reality.

Amy loves being a part of the service — especially the "Wonder of Worship," or WOW class, led during the summer on Wednesday nights by our worship minister, Scott Young. We learn new songs and belt out old ones. It's amazing.

See **SUNDAY NIGHT**, Page 4



SCOTT DONALDSON, MOBILE PRESS-REGISTER

Newly crowned homecoming queen Emily Kendall gets a hug from last year's queen and close friend, Claire Collins, during homecoming at Mobile Christian School in Alabama.

Christian high school has a special homecoming queen

BY LAURA AKINS | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

When the message blared across the loudspeakers, naming Emily Kendall homecoming queen, no one was surprised.

No one except Emily Kendall, that is.

Friends of Kendall, a senior with Down syndrome at Mobile Christian School in Alabama, said that her mouth dropped open after she heard her name. Her classmates cheered wildly.

Soon, she was pumping her fist and taking a bow — lots of bows, actually.

"She deserved it," said Claire Collins, last year's queen and a close friend of Kendall, who proudly placed the queen's crown on her head. "You want your homecoming queen to be someone who talks to anyone, sits with anyone. Emily is definitely that girl."

Kendall's parents, Tony and Kathy Kendall, members of the Regency

Church of Christ in Mobile, wanted their daughter to experience high school — even if she couldn't meet the academic requirements to graduate.

They considered three public schools, but decided that Mobile Christian School "would be a tremendously positive experience" for their daughter, Kathy Kendall said. The private school, associated with Churches of Christ, could not give Emily Kendall a diploma, but agreed to take her as a student, promising to do their best to challenge her without frustrating her.

"The teachers have been very accommodating and willing to work with her," Kathy Kendall said. Her daughter walks the same halls, goes to the same classes and helps in the office.

At homecoming, after the shock wore off a little, Emily Kendall looked up at her father and said, "I'm so happy!"

He tearfully replied, "We are all happy tonight, Emily!"

OC sets record, but enrollment falls at some universities

FROM STAFF REPORTS | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

For the third straight year, **Oklahoma Christian University** in Oklahoma City set an enrollment record this fall. Oklahoma Christian's 2,479 students represent a 2.2 percent increase over last year.

"We're proud to have another record enrollment with students from all over," President John deSteiguer said.

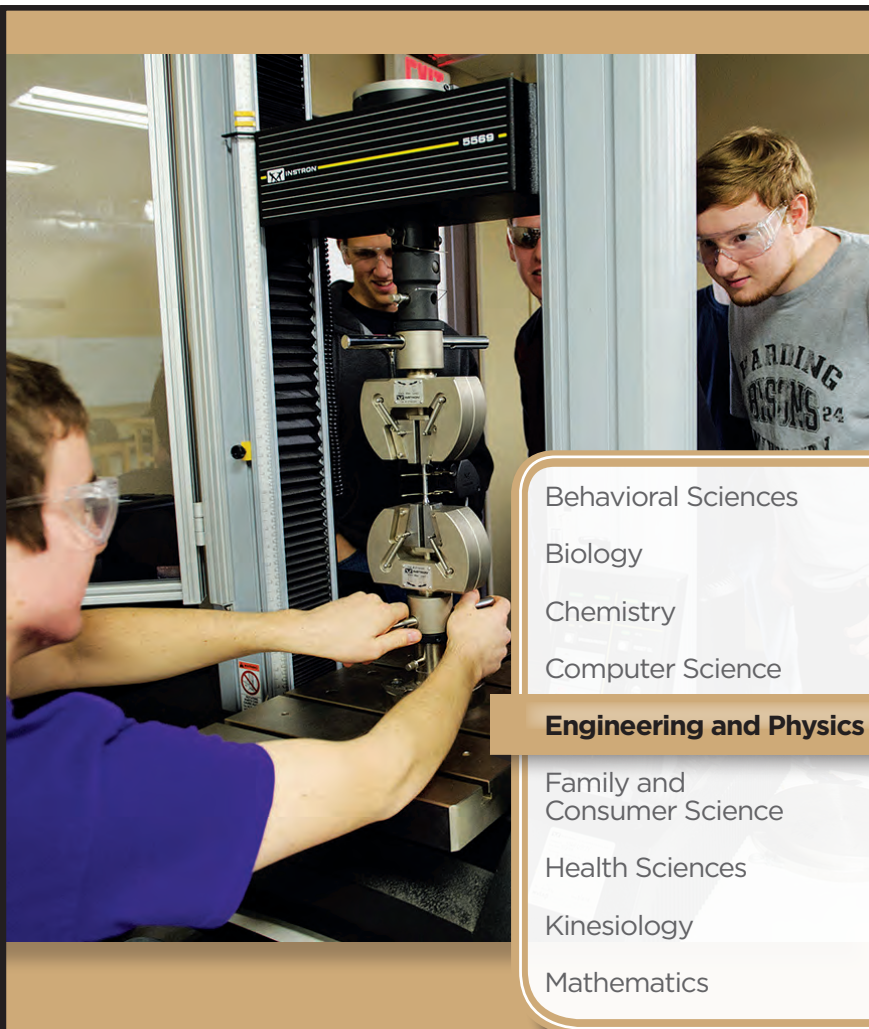
Harding University in Searcy, Ark., reported a record number of undergraduates: 4,492, up 1.4 percent. However, total enrollment fell to 6,075, down 3.5 percent, as the number of graduate students declined.

Overall, enrollment at colleges and universities associated with Churches of Christ declined 1.6 percent, according to figures provided to *The Christian Chronicle*. Specific figures for fall 2014:

- **Abilene Christian University, Texas:** 4,427, down 0.8 percent.
- **Crowley's Ridge College, Paragould, Ark.:** 223, up 14.4 percent.
- **Florida College, Temple Terrace, Fla.:** 555, down 0.6 percent from last year's record.
- **Freed-Hardeman University, Henderson, Tenn.:** 1,846, up 1.9 percent.
- **Heritage Christian University, Florence, Ala.:** 115, up 6.5 percent.
- **Lipscomb University, Nashville, Tenn.:** 4,526, down 1.5 percent from last year's record.
- **Lubbock Christian University, Texas:** 1,902, down 5 percent.
- **Ohio Valley University, Vienna, W.Va.:** 424, down 5.1 percent. (While the total headcount was down, full-time enrollment jumped 1 percent to 364.)
- **Rochester College, Rochester Hills, Mich.:** 1,134, up 0.4 percent.
- **Southwestern Christian College, Terrell, Texas:** 150, down 12.8 percent.
- **York College in Nebraska:** 400, down 12.9 percent.



deSteiguer



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Engineering is an evolving field. In the same way, Harding's department of engineering and physics changes and adapts to meet the needs of this growing career. With programs in computer, electrical, mechanical and — most recently — biomedical engineering, the department offers state-of-the-art equipment and skilled faculty members to help students prepare for in-demand jobs, which improve the quality of life for individuals and society. Students are given hands-on opportunities to put theory into motion and are equipped with the tools they need for success as Christian professionals after graduation.



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Auditorium (early) end zone. Bobby Ross Jr. explores faith, football and the frenzy caused by fans leaving church early to worship gridiron heroes.



A thousand sunrises. TV journalist Chellie Mills Ison finds God's beauty — even on mornings after terrible events.



Today's news and the Good News. Doug Poling, retired CBS News correspondent, shares stories of faith beyond the headlines.

SUNDAY NIGHT: Church takes devo on the road

FROM PAGE 3

During this summer's WOW, one of the Carnageys' friends, Britton, called them on his cell phone and placed it on the stage behind Scott so Amy could hear us and join in. (Praise God for unlimited mobile-to-mobile minutes.)

The Carnageys' Bible class wanted to do more, and pitched the idea of a devotional on their lawn. So, on a recent Sunday night, about 300 of us parked, with permission, at a nearby elementary school. Ministers and volunteers loaded us into church buses and drove us to the Carnageys' neighborhood.

It was drizzling, and I worried that my girls would get wet and that my littlest one would fuss. But the rain subsided and, as we waited for the buses

to finish unloading, a slight sliver of rainbow appeared, just behind the Carnageys' home.

On their lawn, in their driveway, on the street, we stood and sang hymns, from "Shout Hallelujah" to Chris Tomlin's "Our God" (*"Our God is healer, awesome in power"*).

Scott led the songs and struggled at times to get through them. We all did. Voices dropped in and out during the brief worship service. It was incredibly emotional.

For me, the hardest song to sing was Matt Redman's "10,000 reasons." Last year my mother died after a five-month battle with pancreatic cancer. At her funeral, we played Zoe Group's rendition of the song over a slide show of pictures of my mom.

And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come. Still my soul will sing your praise unending, 10,000 years and then forevermore.

Amy, Luke and their girls sat on their porch and sang along. She's immunocompromised, so we had to keep our distance. Before the final prayer, she stood, thanked us and said, "This is what church is about."

The next morning, Luke shared a video of the devo, shot by one of their neighbors across the street. We sounded better than I



ERIK TRYGGESTAD

A sliver of rainbow is visible near the Carnageys' home.

remember. The best part of the video was hearing their neighbor say, "I've never seen anything so wonderful."

Neither have I — but it pales in comparison to what's to come. Romans 8:18 tells us that our present sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory that, one day, will be revealed in us.

Until that day comes, I'll stop complaining about Sunday nights.

CONTACT: erik@christianchronicle.org

ARKANSAS

HARRISON — A YouTube video posted by Tara Willmott, a member of the Northside Church of Christ, went viral, topping 10 million views.

“I had no idea it was going to do what it did,” Tara Willmott said. “It started out as a cute video within my family — that’s why I posted it.”

The video features 3-year-old Ty Willmott and two young girls discussing the weather.

Ty is sure it’s sprinkling because that’s what his mom told him. One of his friends says it’s raining. After going back and forth for a while, the conversation quickly ends when Ty’s friend sticks her finger in his chest while making her point.

“You poked my heart,” he responds tearfully.



YOUTUBE.COM

Ty, 3, insists it’s sprinkling, not raining.

FLORIDA

FORT WALTON BEACH — Children, teens, singles, younger couples, older couples and even a dog — a golden Labrador retriever named Ziva — gathered for the Fort Walton Beach Church of Christ’s second annual family retreat.

In all, 55 (humans) traveled to Camp Wiregrass in Enterprise, Ala.

“It’s about bringing the family of Christ together and teaching our children that the family of God is about togetherness and unity,” said Daniel Coutinho, youth and family minister.

The retreat was the idea of Carissa Nevius, wife of Scott and mother of Kiley, 11, and Matthew, 5.

GEORGIA

DOUGLASVILLE — The Douglasville Church of Christ hosted the recent “Adult Caregiver Expo” to highlight community services for caregivers of disabled and elderly adults.

“We have about 150 members and pulled off a huge event,” church



PHOTO PROVIDED BY WITHAMSVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

‘Swote’ has double meaning for Ohio teens

In modern lingo, “swote” describes an extraordinary combination of greatness and awesomeness. “SWOTE” also is an acronym for the Southwestern Ohio Teen Event. In the photo, teens enjoy the recent gathering hosted by the Crosspointe Church of Christ in Middletown, Ohio. The event brought together young people from nearly a dozen Churches of Christ in the Cincinnati-Dayton area. “We played together, worshiped together and ate together,” said Jason Retherford, youth minister for the Northeast Church of Christ in Cincinnati.

member Chelsea Howard said.

Howard works with Adult Protective Services and said that, based on her job, she saw “a need for people to know what services were available.”

TENNESSEE

MEMPHIS — The Great Oaks Church of Christ recently celebrated its first anniversary as a bilingual church family with a joint assembly.

The morning worship service was translated into English and Spanish.

In the one-year period, the Spanish-speaking body has grown to average attendance of almost 70. About 425 members make up the English-speaking group.

Spanish minister Elias Rogue, a third-generation preacher from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, joined the church staff in September 2013.

VIRGINIA

RICHMOND — At the Three Chopt Road Church of Christ, Emogene Marshall teaches women’s Bible classes and uses her crocheting skills for a baby blanket ministry.

Her son David Marshall serves as an elder of the congregation.

Grandson B.J. Marshall is a deacon for children’s education, and great-grandson Sammy Marshall,



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JUDY MARSHALL

B.J., Sammy, Emogene and David Marshall

SPOTLIGHT

Cardboard for Christ

TINTON FALLS, N.J. — Nine-year-old Gideon Dowling slept outside on a recent Friday night.

“The experience taught me that the homeless would be very cold at night,” said Gideon, son of Monmouth Church of Christ preaching minister Matthew Dowling.

In all, 150 children and adults showed their support for helping the homeless by participating in “Cardboard Box City 2014,” hosted by the Monmouth church.

Church members slept in cardboard boxes and raised nearly \$15,000 to support Family Promise, a homeless family advocacy group. Five times a year, the Monmouth church also welcomes homeless people to live in its building for a week.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MATTHEW DOWLING

“Cardboard Box City 2014” raised \$15,000.

who has attended the church since his birth in 2003, was baptized earlier this year.

“This is four generations of baptized believers,” points out Judy Marshall, Emogene’s daughter-in-law — and all worship with the Three Chopt Road church each Sunday.

WISCONSIN

BLACK RIVER FALLS — The recent 51st annual Midwest Preachers Retreat drew 93 attendees from 12 states to Wisconsin Christian Youth Camp.

“We had wonderful fall weather and color,” said Jim Coehoorn, minister and elder of the Elkhorn Church of Christ in Wisconsin.

John Mark Hicks, professor of theology at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn., spoke on “Faithful Lament” from the Book of Job.

Meet

John Mark Hicks



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“I share their love of Scripture, their sense of how the whole story of Scripture shapes the church’s mission. I endorse the central place they gave to the Sermon on the Mount for discipleship, and their conviction of the finality of God’s revelation in Jesus.

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Minister Bill McGee and former ministers Bob Bliss, Harve Smeltzer, Dwight Smith and Ron Bever pose in front of a half-size replica of the original 1916 building front.

A New Jersey centennial

The recent 100th anniversary celebration of the Tabernacle Church of Christ in New Jersey drew a crowd of 300 — three times the normal Sunday attendance. The oldest Church of Christ in the Garden State worked for nine months to plan the event, which featured longtime members sharing memories and displays of hundreds of photos, memorabilia, historic documents, handwritten letters and archived church bulletins. Attendees received 50-page commemorative books filled with color photos and descriptions of the church’s past and present.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JOE GASIOR

The Tabernacle, N.J., church displays its original one-cup communion set.



Many of William Cutts’ descendants remain faithful to his vision of worshiping God in a restoration of the New Testament church. Ernest Joynes, the preacher who conducted Cutts’ 1914 funeral, formed the congregation in what was then a remote farming town.

MINISTER WANTED

The **Ypsilanti church of Christ**, located in Ypsilanti, Mich., is seeking to fill our vacant *minister position*; this includes pulpit, class and evangelistic duties. We are a diverse congregation with a current average Sunday a.m. attendance of 130.

If you desire to be considered for this position, please submit your resume with three sermons (audio and/or video) to:

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For further information contact:

Bob Bowen (elder) at (734) 482-6213.

PULPIT MINISTER POSITION

Holmes Road Church of Christ in Lansing, Mich., is a multicultural church that seeks a Bible-based pulpit minister to anchor and help facilitate a ministry team in encouraging spiritual and numerical growth. Holmes Road believes church exists to reach the lost and save souls. We have established elders and deacons, a youth ministry, and an active women's ministry.

Send cover letter, resume, two personal references, three professional references, and a recording of two lessons to:

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- Lamb Of God
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- By And By
- Come Share The Lord
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- Thank You, Lord
- Hear, O Isreal

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- I Need Thee Every Hour
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- In The Hour Of Trial
- There Is A Place Of Quiet Rest
- Sweet Will Of God
- He Lifted Me
- The Last Mile Of The Way
- In Heavenly Love Abiding
- God Be With You Till We Meet Again
- Nearer My God To Thee
- My Faith Looks Up To Thee
- Abide With Me
- Beneath The Cross Of Jesus
- Must Jesus Bear The Cross Alone
- When My Love To Christ Grows Weak

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- Help Me
- Everybody Ought To Know
- I Believe
- We Call On Him
- Come Praise The Lord
- So High
- Till The Storm Passes By
- I Know Who Holds Tomorrow
- He'll Understand And Say Well Done
- Religion In Glory
- Lord Be There
- How Long Has It Been?
- My God Is Real
- Faithful Love

And Many More Songs

4 WALKING ALONE AT EVE

- Walking Alone At Eve
- This Is My Father's World
- Wonderful Words Of Life
- I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say
- Ivory Palaces
- Rescue The Perishing
- I Love The Lord
- There's Power In The Blood
- Sweeter Than All
- Poor, Wayfaring Stranger
- O Sacred Head
- My Faith Looks Up To Thee
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- Burdens Are Lifted At Calvary
- Master The Tempest Is Raging
- As The Deer

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- Be With Me Lord
- He Leadeth Me
- Jesus, Savior Pilot Me
- Does Jesus Care?
- I Can Hear My Savior Calling
- Home
- Have Thine Own Way Lord
- Blest Be The Tie That Binds
- O God, Our Help In Ages Past
- Eternal Father, Strong To Save
- The Sands Of Time Are Sinking
- The Lord Bless You And Keep You
- Day Is Dying In The West
- How Great Thou Art
- Face To Face
- In The Land Of Fadeless Day
- Wonderful Words Of Life
- Yes, For Me He Careth
- O Jesus, I Have Promised
- Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind
- God's Family
- Because He Lives
- If That Isn't Love
- Morning Has Broken
- I Love The Lord

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BRAZIL

RECIFE — Six people were baptized during a “Let the Bible Speak” class hosted by the EBNESR Ministry Training School.

“The Bible uses words associated with baptism some 117 times,” said Randy Short, the school’s director. “If we talk a lot about it, we are in good company.”

Though the school’s students preach the Gospel and help plant new congregations, there are only about 150 Churches of Christ in northeastern Brazil, and many more are needed, Short said.

“We need to train thousands,” he added, “and that is exactly what we are trying to do.”

INDONESIA

NIAS — On this island in the Indian Ocean, preachers learn the Gospel and the art of motorcycle maintenance.

Dennis Cady, a longtime missionary to the region, has worked with the people of Nias since the devastating tsunami of 2004. Churches of Christ have grown rapidly on the island, and recently a ministry training school launched motorcycle repair and tailoring classes to help believers earn a living as they teach others about Jesus.

At least four recent graduates have launched motorcycle repair businesses, while others work in tailor shops, Cady said.

NEW ZEALAND

TOKOROA — Children in the South Pacific are getting in on the fun of Leadership Training for Christ — a staple among Church of Christ children in the U.S. since the 1990s.

Thirty-four participants attended a recent “Super Saturday” in order to prepare for the upcoming New Zealand Leadership Training for Christ, which assists young Christians in developing their God-given gifts and talents while also encouraging consistent time in the Bible, organizers said.

Participants from several New Zealand congregations practiced Bible



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A beautiful day to be born again

Members of the Mactzul II Church of Christ in the Central American nation of Guatemala gather along the banks of a river — about a 20-minute trek from their meeting place — to witness nine recent baptisms.

“Two of them were a couple who we had evangelized in clinic a few months ago and the church began visiting afterward,” said Kemmel Dunham, who serves with his wife, Dr. Lisa Dunham, with medical mission Health Talents International. “We are always honored to see fruit of the clinic work. This couple was formerly very active in the Mayan traditional religion and resistant to hearing the Gospel. But, as is frequently the case, illness and worries bring many people to look for spiritual truth.”

reading, song leading, drama and sermon delivery and received suggestions to help improve their work. This year’s theme is “Leading to Serve.”

NIGERIA

ABIA — While other Nigerians celebrated their independence day, missionary Friday Adima celebrated his freedom in Christ by preaching the Word in prison.

Seven prisoners were baptized, each receiving a Bible and certificate of baptism, said Adima, who uses the New Life Behavior Ministries curriculum.



Adima

“The chief welfare officer was so excited,” Adima said, “because each convert in the prison helps to ease their work.”

IGARRA — A recent flood devastated the town of Igarra, claiming lives and destroying homes, bridges, crops and livestock, said minister Sylvester Imogoh.

“It poured and poured for hours,” Imogoh said. “There is no doubt that this will have a serious negative impact on food, health and housing in the next few years.”

The 41st Street Church of Christ in Sioux Falls, S.D., along with other independent supporters, sent funds to help with relief.

SPOTLIGHT

A clinic on a hill

MANZINI, Swaziland — After more than two years of planning and construction — and more than a few delays — a church-supported clinic in this southern African kingdom is almost complete. And it’s attracting attention, said medical missionary Dr. Bob Whittaker.

“The clinic, situated on a hill, can be seen from miles around,” he said, “and word and excitement is spreading fast as the building is painted.”

The clinic includes a pharmacy and counseling rooms for HIV patients. Swaziland has the world’s highest estimated prevalence rate of HIV-infected adults, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A government health official visited the site recently and “gave nothing but praise for the clinic and the need for it in the area,” Whittaker said.



PHOTO PROVIDED

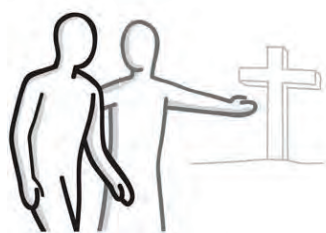
The nearly completed medical clinic.

PAKISTAN

SAHIWAL — The worst flooding in four years claimed lives and forced more than 700,000 villagers to evacuate their homes in Pakistan’s Punjab province, according to news reports.

“This is the worst flood we’ve ever had,” said Naeem Sabir, director of Sahiwal Bible College and minister among the region’s Churches of Christ. “Brethren lost each and every thing.”

As winter approaches, Sabir requests blankets and warm clothing for church members and their children. Christians in the United Kingdom have set up an account for donations. See www.christianchronicle.org.



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Sasha Prokopchuk preaches during the annual National Ukrainian Seminar, moved this year to Berdyansk from Crimea due to ongoing conflict and uncertainty in the region.

Ukrainians take 'a real step of faith' as they gather for national seminar

BERDYANSK, Ukraine — A lot of things at this year's National Ukrainian Seminar were the same as they've been for the past 10 years. There was gospel preaching, heartfelt worship, fellowship and baptisms.

The main difference this year was the location — Berdyansk, a port city on the Sea of Azov. In years past, Christians gathered on the Crimean Peninsula, which now flies the Russian flag.

The 72 participants — down from 300-plus in recent years — took "a real step of faith" by attending, said organizer Sasha Prokopchuk, "because we all met in a town that is 50 miles away from the place of military conflict."

Prokopchuk, minister for the Transfiguration Church of Christ in the besieged city of Donetsk, Ukraine, said that the purpose of this year's seminar was to "give Christians the opportunity to forget about war and troubles for four days — and find peace in God's Word, in prayers and in fellowship." Another purpose was "to inspire all church leaders and Christians to continue preaching the Gospel."

Because of the ongoing conflict between Ukrainian forces and pro-Russian separatists, many Christians in eastern Ukraine are in need of support — financially and spiritually,



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY VALERIY KACHUK

Valeriy Kachuk serves communion during the 2014 National Ukrainian Seminar.

Prokopchuk said.

Valeriy Kachuk is one of them. The native of Kazakhstan, who studied at the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver, has served as a missionary in Kharkov, a city in eastern Ukraine, since 2007 and has translated at the seminar for visitors from North America. Married with a 3-year-old daughter, he currently seeks additional support for his work.

Kachuk spoke at the seminar on Ephesians 2:8, *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."*

"Every session was packed full of great information," he said. "The wealth of knowledge in one room was priceless."



HARDING

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All candidates must be active members of the church of Christ and committed to Christian education.

CANNON-CLARY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION. Seeking full-time faculty member in the area of technology/educational generalist beginning fall 2015. The successful candidate will have an earned doctorate in instructional design and technology or closely related area and should have teaching experience in a K-12 school setting. Experience teaching in higher education with research and statistics is preferred. Experience working with accrediting agencies such as CAEP would be helpful. Candidates should hold a current teaching license. Responsibilities include advising, serving on committees and other assigned tasks. In addition, the successful candidate will also serve as technology facilitator.

Submit introductory letter, curriculum vitae, and contact information to Dr. Donny Lee, associate dean, at dlee@harding.edu or Box 12254, Harding University, Searcy, AR 72149.

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Seeking full-time faculty member for Master of Science in Nursing, family nurse practitioner track for spring 2015. The successful candidate should maintain an active, unencumbered nursing license; be eligible for RN and APRN licensing in the state of Arkansas; have a minimum of a graduate degree in nursing; be currently, nationally certified as a family nurse practitioner; and have work experience in a primary care practice. Teaching experience is preferred. A candidate with a Ph.D., D.N.P. or related doctoral degree is required, and an experienced, qualified applicant currently pursuing a doctoral degree will be considered. Responsibilities include teaching graduate nursing courses, working collaboratively in shared governance with administration and faculty, teaching online courses, and participating in program development and implementation.

For either position, contact Dr. Susan Kehl, dean, at skehl@harding.edu or Box 12265, Searcy, AR 72149, or 501-279-4941.

PAUL R. CARTER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION. Seeking full-time faculty member to serve as director of finance program. The successful candidate will possess a doctorate degree or have a clear plan to complete that degree. Work and teaching experience is preferred. Responsibilities include administrative duties and teaching undergraduate and graduate classes in finance.

Submit a letter of application and curriculum vitae to Dr. Bryan Burks, dean, at bburks@harding.edu or Box 10774, Searcy, AR 72149.

COLLEGE OF BIBLE AND MINISTRY. Seeking faculty member to teach youth and family ministry. An M.Div. and a Ph.D. in youth and family ministry or a related field is preferred. Candidates should also bring significant congregational experience in youth and family ministry. The faculty member in this position will also teach freshmen and sophomore textual Bible.

Submit applications to Dr. Monte Cox, dean, at mcox@harding.edu.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS. Seeking one full-time faculty member in mathematics and another position, pending funding, in statistics. The successful candidate for the mathematics position will possess a minimum of a doctorate in mathematics. The successful candidate in statistics will preferably have a doctorate in statistics, or related field, or will have a clear plan to complete that degree. Teaching experience is preferable. Responsibilities will include teaching general courses as well as upper-level courses in mathematics and statistics as they are available.

Submit a letter of application and curriculum vitae to Dr. Ronald Smith, chair, at rsmith@harding.edu or Box 10764, Searcy, AR 72149.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM. Seeking program director. The successful candidate will have a doctoral degree, eight years of clinical experience in the OT field, administrative experience, and three years in a full-time academic appointment at the post-secondary level. Responsibilities include program development and implementation under the guidelines of the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education.

Submit a letter of interest to Dr. Rebecca Weaver, dean of the College of Allied Health, at Box 12287, Searcy, AR 72149.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM. Seeking one full-time and one half-time faculty positions. The successful candidate should possess a minimum of a master's degree in physician assistant studies or similar field. Three years of clinical experience and one year of teaching experience preferred. PA applicants should be NCCPA certified and eligible for licensure as a physician assistant in the state of Arkansas. Applicants with other clinical training should have corresponding professional certification and be eligible for professional licensure in the state of Arkansas. Responsibilities include participating in the teaching of the program's core curriculum; advising and mentoring students; assisting with the hands-on practical training of students in various clinical skills needed in clinical practice; maintaining clinical competency through practice at the program's affiliated clinic site; conducting scholarly activity in the faculty's area of expertise; and engaging in service to the college, university and community.

Submit a personal statement of teaching philosophy, three letters of professional reference, a transcript of professional degree training along with any other graduate or professional degrees awarded, and curriculum vitae to Dr. Michael Murphy, chair, at mmurphy1@harding.edu or Box 12231, Searcy, AR 72149.

ADDITIONAL OPENINGS ANTICIPATED

Due to increasing enrollments and anticipated retirements, Harding expects to have additional openings in graphic design, mass communication and mechanical engineering. Graphic design candidates will have a background in print design with a strong emphasis in Web, mobile and app design. M.F.A. required with a minimum of five years studio/agency experience. Mass communication candidates will have skills in digital and visual communication including design, social media, photo and video production and editing, and motion graphics. A terminal degree is preferred, but applicants with strong professional experience or A.B.D. candidates will also be considered. A minimum of three years professional experience is preferred. Mechanical engineering candidates must have a Ph.D. Individuals interested in any of these positions should contact Dr. Larry Long, provost, at provost@harding.edu to obtain more information. These openings will be filled as funding is approved.

ATLANTA: Ministry builds relationships in Latino community



Eight-year-old Perry, left, makes a new friend named Carlos and helps him with his homework as her family volunteers with Corners Outreach in Norcross, Ga.

FROM PAGE 1

From a Vacation Bible School-style summer day camp to an after-school homework club, Corners Outreach seeks to serve as “salt and light in a dark world” — as referenced in Matthew 5, ministry leaders said.

“Terry just wants the kids to succeed in life,” said Ana Laura Solis, a mother of two and resident of the 207-unit Norcross Mobile Home Village. “There’s a lot of gang activity, drugs and stuff, and he doesn’t want our kids to go that way like most kids could.”

‘THIS IS REALLY FUN!’

On a weekday afternoon, children stepping off a yellow school bus spot Davis and immediately light up.

“Mr. Terry! Mr. Terry!” exclaim the boys and girls as they exchange high-fives and giant smiles with their friend. Minutes later, the children join Davis and a group of volunteers in the ministry’s storefront office, just a few doors down from *El Sol Carniceria Y Supermercado* — the Sun Butcher Shop and Supermarket.

As he reviews 7-year-old Augustine’s math paper, Davis teases the grinning boy over his Mohawk.

“He’s a soccer player, too,” Davis tells a visitor. “But I want him to be a linebacker for the Falcons.”

Along with the educational

benefits, Solis said the children — including her 12-year-old son, Fausto, and 7-year-old daughter, Mariana — enjoy the air-conditioned facility and snacks.

“It’s a nice time for them to be here instead of being outside and fighting with their other friends,” the mother said.

Fausto, a seventh-grader, put it more succinctly: “This is really fun!”

He served as a counselor for Corners Outreach’s 10-week summer day camp, mentoring younger children.

“You have reading, physical games and crafts, and at the end, we have lunch,”

Fausto said. “You can have fun, too, but you’re supposed to, like, mainly encourage the kids so they do good and stuff.”

His mother said she’s extremely grateful for Corners Outreach and its positive impact on her children and neighborhood.

“We had never had anything like this before,” said Solis, who is Roman Catholic.

The children’s parents are factory workers, restaurant cooks and landscapers. Most own their mobile homes, creating a relatively stable



Solis



A group of Corners Outreach’s homework club participants are all smiles as they pose for a photo with Terry Davis, the faith-based nonprofit’s director.

neighborhood.

But unlike Solis, many of the parents don’t speak English, so they can’t help with schoolwork.

At the request of parents, Corners Outreach started an English as a Second Language (ESL) program for adults.

“We birthed ESL because the parents said, ‘We want to learn English,’” Davis said. “I didn’t come in ... and say, ‘You are going to learn English.’ This is part of empowering the community.

“The Latinos see that they are not second-class citizens. This is theirs,” he added. “They clean this facility on Friday. It’s a little party. They said, ‘Don’t hire anybody; we’re going to clean here,’ which is great.”

‘THE REASON FOR THE HOPE’

According to its vision statement, Corners Outreach exists to be “a catalyst in our community to change lives by building meaningful relationships between individuals and families across all races, nationalities and socioeconomic classes” in Norcross and nearby Peachtree Corners, Berkeley Lake and Duluth.



Campbell

Here in Norcross, a suburb of 16,000, nearly half the residents were born outside the U.S. and almost two-thirds speak a language other than English at home, according to U.S. census data.

Corners Outreach grew out of a partnership between the Corners Church of Christ and Berkeley Lake Elementary School, a public school with a fast-growing Hispanic population. Sixty-two percent of Berkeley Lake’s students receive free or reduced-price lunches — an indicator of its high poverty level.

“Our partnership with the Corners Outreach homework club contributes to noticeable gains for students in both their reading level and math skills from the beginning to the end of the school year,” assistant principal Jim Carter said in an email.

Corners church elder Larry Campbell recruited Davis — a graduate of Harding University in Searcy, Ark., and a former chaplain for Greater Atlanta Christian School — to join the work.

“From coming here and getting to know these people who are primarily Latinos, what we recognized was the need was very great,” said Campbell, Corners Outreach’s board chairman. “Many of them felt unloved.

“Amazingly enough, if you serve people and truly show them Jesus,



Terry Davis goofs around with a girl named Jazmine, stepping off her school bus at the Norcross Mobile Home Village, a trailer park served by Corners Outreach.

they always ask you why, and then we would say, '1 Peter 3:15,'" he added, referring to a Scripture that describes being prepared "to give the reason for the hope that you have."

'EVERYTHING IN COMMON'

At the Corners church three miles from the ministry's storefront, English and Spanish speakers gather together for worship each Sunday.

In just a few years, the congregation has grown to about 165 members — up fivefold from 30, Campbell said. More than one-third of the members are Hispanic.

Davis leads a mix of hymns in both languages — from "Our God, He Is Alive" in English to "*Alabaré a mi Señor*" in Spanish. He speaks *poquito* — as in "little" — Spanish, but he loves the songs.

"We have everyone together all the way through communion," Campbell said. "Then, if you are predominantly Spanish-speaking and you feel it's better, you can go hear the text preached to you in Spanish.

"If you're bilingual, you might stay," he added. "Sometimes, we'll do live

full translation. We want to be one church with everything in common."

Corners Outreach doesn't believe in letting anyone go hungry, said Campbell, a technology company president.

But neither does the ministry focus on giving away items such as

groceries or clothing, the church elder said.

"We talk all the time about the fact that we really are relationship evangelists," Campbell said. "We don't shortcut that. ... The most tempting thing we could do ... is to give somebody something, but it's temporary.

"What we want is to give them water so that they'll never thirst again," he added. "To do that, you have to build a relationship."

Davis, the middle of five children raised by a single mother, still remembers the Kool-Aid, cookies and candy offered by the East Point bus ministry's volunteers.

However, none of those treats changed his life.

Love did.

The self-described "bus ministry kid" never forgot that.



Georgia

Population: 9,992,167

Racial/ethnic groups: 56 percent white, 31 percent black, 9 percent Hispanic, 3 percent Asian and less than 1 percent American Indian.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

'THE NEW CULTURE IS THE LANGUAGE OF CHRIST'

In Atlanta, technology helps bring together Spanish, English speakers

BY BOBBY ROSS JR. | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

ATLANTA — Spanish-speaking members of the North Atlanta Church of Christ pick up wireless headsets on their way into the worship assembly each Sunday.

As pulpit minister Don McLaughlin preaches in English, Latino minister Nelson Galarraga — stationed in a control room near the auditorium — translates the sermon "live."

Or at least Galarraga tries.

"Don speaks very fast," the native Venezuelan said with a chuckle, joking that he has learned to anticipate what McLaughlin will say before he says it.

After the worship service, an adult Bible class in Spanish gives Latino members an opportunity to discuss the message and ask questions about any Anglo cultural examples that did not make sense.

At one time, the North Atlanta church had separate assemblies for English and Spanish speakers, said elder Fernando Nasmyth, who immigrated to the U.S. from Haiti when he was a boy and speaks both languages.

"What we are trying to do ... is to have an integrated ministry within the body as opposed to a separate group," said Nasmyth, who often attends the Spanish class.

Member Loren Visaez, who leads a Wednesday night tutoring program for Hispanic children from a low-income apartment complex, said she has worshiped in other churches where the Spanish-speaking group seemed isolated.

"I think it's very important for the Latino member to feel a part of the whole church, not just a section," Visaez said. "By being there (with the full church on Sunday), they feel more like a part of a congregation. They know what's going on, even if it's translated."

When Galarraga and his wife,



PHOTOS BY BOBBY ROSS JR.

Latino minister Nelson Galarraga, pictured with his wife, Mariela, translates the Sunday sermons at North Atlanta.

Mariela, came to Atlanta two decades ago to plant churches, the model was to start separate Spanish-speaking congregations — even if they used English-speaking groups' facilities.

But bringing everyone together creates a richer, multicultural worship experience, the couple said.

"We really believe it is the biblical way to do it," Nelson Galarraga said. "The new culture is the language of Christ, and that's what's going to unite us."

Revelation 7:9 speaks of "*a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.*"

"We believe that if every tribe and language is gathered around the throne in heaven, then they should be gathered around the table of God on Earth," McLaughlin said.

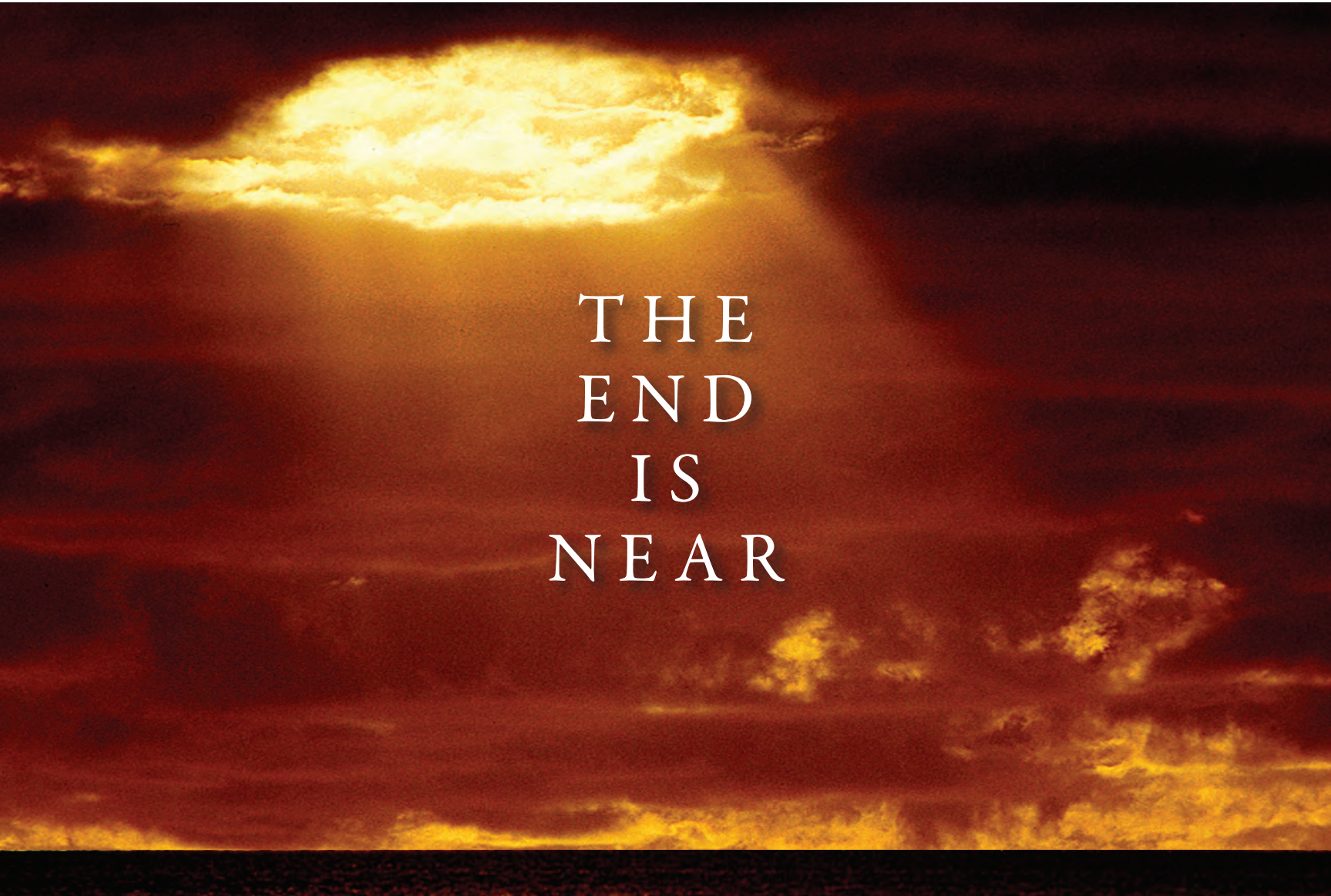
The North Atlanta church translates the Sunday assembly "live" in Spanish so that everyone can participate, the pulpit minister said.

"We sing, pray, commune and learn together as one," McLaughlin said. "This includes sometimes doing the prayers, communion, readings or songs in Spanish first and then translating them into English.

"Everyone has an equal place at the table," he stressed. "No one is more important or has more of a right to be present because of the language they speak."



Visaez



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'ULTRAMARATHONER' *Greg Armstrong practices spiritual discipline on the long, long road.*

BY KEN BECK | FOR THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE



KEN BECK

'Ultramarathoner' Greg Armstrong runs 100-plus miles per week on the back roads of Wilson County in Tennessee as he trains for a 24-hour run.

LEBANON, Tenn.

Greg Armstrong has run through green pastures and beside still waters.

His long distance dreams carried him through deserts and up and down the Rocky Mountains, among other grueling locations.

Armstrong, who attends the Berea Church of Christ in Lebanon with his family, runs "ultramarathons," races of a distance greater than the traditional marathon's 26.2 miles — sometimes *much* greater. He dreams of making the U.S. National 24-Hour Running Team as it takes on the

world next year in Italy.

In July, he took a step — many steps, actually — toward that goal, winning a 314-mile race. He knocks out from 100 to 200 miles per week while teaching, coaching and helping provide clean water for communities around the globe.

"Running built my character at a very young age — mentally, physically and spiritually," said Armstrong, 40, who has taught for the past 10 years at Friendship Christian School in Lebanon. "It provides a time for prayer and for applying disciplines to your spiritual life."

He hopes to give children in

the U.S. those same character-building opportunities — and children around the world the chance to drink clean water. Recently he helped organize a "Run Around the World" event at a middle school, involving hundreds of students who were challenged to a "26-day marathon" — committing to run one mile a day for 26 days.

The event raised funds for Run4Water, a nonprofit that strives to provide solutions for the global water crisis. Armstrong started Run4Water in 2010.

"I was thinking about how to combine the two passions in my life

— running and the water crisis — to give God glory," he said.

To launch the nonprofit, he attempted to run 120.5 miles of U.S. 231, from Alabama through Tennessee and into Kentucky.

"I made it in 23 hours and 11 minutes," he said. "Then I spent three days in the hospital. I made my goal but it was pretty challenging."

RUNNING ON GOD'S STRENGTH

Armstrong traces his running ambition back 25 years — to the day when he didn't make the freshman basketball team at Riverdale High

CONTINUED

Christian athlete competes in Youth Olympics in China

BY ANTHONY RHODES | FOR THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

JONESBORO, Ga. — Swift feet carried Jeffrey Uzzell halfway around the world, but a humble spirit keeps him anchored firmly to the ground. Uzzell, a 16-year-old member of the Jonesboro Church of Christ in this Atlanta suburb, competed in the 100-meter dash in the 2014 Summer Youth Olympics in Nanjing, China.

It was the second such event — designed as an international sports, education and cultural festival for teenagers by the International Olympic Committee. “It was great, and I was honored to be able to compete internationally,” said Uzzell, a sophomore at Eagle’s Landing Christian Academy in McDonough, Ga. Though he struggled early in Nanjing, he won his final heat with a time of 11.04 seconds. The overall winner finished in 10.54 seconds — a time Uzzell had beaten during the 2014 season at his school, said athletic director and track coach Scott Queen.

Uzzell’s best time was 10.5 seconds, the fastest of any freshman in the country, Queen said. “God has blessed Jeffrey with an amazing talent,” his coach added. “I’m excited about what God has in store for Jeffrey in the next couple of years.”

Nathaniel Collum, assistant minister for the Jonesboro church, described Uzzell as “wise beyond his years” and “a hard worker, and he wants to do his best.”

At first, it appeared that Uzzell wouldn’t make it to China. Recovering from an injury, he finished second at the U.S. Youth Olympic Trials.

Then the winner of the trials suffered an injury and was unable to compete.

“I was the youngest one competing,” Uzzell said, “and I honestly didn’t think I would make it.”

This school year he hopes to win the state championship and improve his times in the 200- and 100-meter dashes. In the summer, he hopes to compete in the International Association of Athletics Federations World Youth Championships in Cali, Columbia. He hopes to compete in college — and, eventually, in the Summer Olympics.

Ron Edwards, the Jonesboro church’s minister, prays that the young athlete “will use his God-given talent to give God the glory.”

“He’s thoughtful, humble, polite,” Edwards said. “He’s not the typical, chest-pumping, swag athlete. There’s an air of humility around him.”

“I think everyone sees that in Jeffrey. He’s the kind of kid you would want as a son.”



PHOTO PROVIDED

Jeffrey Uzzell competed in the 100-meter dash at the 2014 Summer Youth Olympics.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Greg Armstrong, right, and two other runners brave cold temperatures and grueling hills during the Yellowstone-Teton 100 Miler in October 2013.

24-hour races help runner ‘recognize God’s strength’

CONTINUED

School in Murfreesboro, Tenn. Undeterred, he turned his sights to the cross-country team.

“Running was my fallback, I guess,” he said.

He took classes at Harding University in Searcy, Ark., before transferring to Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, where he earned a degree in wildlife biology. He coaches cross-country and teaches anatomy, physiology, botany, environmental science and Bible at Friendship Christian, a pre-kindergarten through 12th grade school launched in 1973 by members of the College Street Church of Christ in Lebanon.

The sun-burnished Armstrong, who carries 160 pounds on his 5-foot-11 frame, runs at least 100 miles a week and sometimes reaches 200. About one morning each week he runs the 10 miles from his home, a farm on the Cumberland River, to school.

He has completed 14 races of 100 miles or more. His best time for running 100 miles is 15 hours, 34 minutes. In the Badger 24-Hour

Run in Wisconsin this summer, he covered 138.96 miles in 24 hours.

“Throughout the 24-hour period, you don’t feel strong,” he said of the races. “You feel weak — physically and mentally — and when you get worn down, you have doubts.”

“I have a lot of time for prayer and recognize God’s strength even more in my life. Hopefully, it’s time I can grow as a person.”

A FAMILY THAT RUNS TOGETHER

His wife of 18 years, Shelley, is a marathoner who recently completed her first ultramarathon of 31 miles. Still, she raises her eyebrows when her husband talks about running distances of 100-plus miles.

“Greg is like a free spirit, pretty unique in his ideals and determination,” she said. “I’ve kind of gotten accustomed to the extraordinary being the ordinary in his life.”

“He often tells me he wishes he had five more lifetimes to live because there’s so much more he wants to get accomplished and not enough time to do it. ... He just has a passion for living life to its fullest and helping



KEN BECK

Greg Armstrong shares a laugh with Friendship Christian School’s cross-country team members before they begin their afternoon workout.

others sort of find out what their passions are and encouraging them to do the same.”

As for the rest of the family, Anna Kate, 13, enjoys serving on his crew during the long runs and also plays on the school volleyball team. Lily Grace, 11, recently ran her final mile in the “26 miles in 26 days” event.

CLEAN WATER IN HONDURAS, TENNESSEE

Greg Armstrong has traveled with students to Honduras, Haiti and Nicaragua to serve communities where the lack of clean water is a health hazard. His nonprofit helps drill clean-water wells.

One weekend per month, he and high school students make the four-hour drive to Sneedville in East Tennessee to help residents in impoverished communities get clean water. A driller digs wells and students do the manual labor. The group works with the county health department to make sure the water they find is clean.



Heronimus

INSPIRING RUNNERS

As he makes strides in helping the less fortunate in Central America and Tennessee, Greg Armstrong also strives to inspire future generations of runners.

“My passion is to get young people involved,” he said.

One of his students, 17-year-old Rachel Heronimus, recently completed her first half-iron man event and plans to run a marathon in early 2015.

“He’s not only a good example through his running, but also through his love for others and the encouragement he gives to others,” she said. “He has inspired me in more ways than just physical conditioning and self-discipline.”

Greg Armstrong plans to tackle his next 24-hour run in Arizona in December as he attempts to qualify for the U.S. national team, which will take its top six male and female runners to the world championships in Torino, Italy, next April. Currently, Armstrong ranks fifth in the nation. “That’s what I’m shooting for,” he said, “but it’s OK if it is not God’s will.”



KEN BECK

Greg Armstrong logs thousands of miles each year wearing Teva sandals. He began his running career as a freshman at Riverdale High School in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

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BRANTLY: ACU helped physician hear God's call

FROM PAGE 1

"The truth is Ebola is a very serious disease," Brantly said in an interview with *ACU Today* editor Ron Hadfield while on campus. "But I want to be very clear that — for someone who is not in contact with a person who is sick with Ebola — there is no risk."

Brantly's photo appeared on TV sets across the U.S. as the physician battled the virus. Around the world, people prayed for him by name — and for Nancy Writebol, another American who contracted Ebola while serving in Liberia. Both were treated and recovered from the virus at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta.

Since his recovery, Brantly has spoken about his ordeal in an interview with NBC's Matt Lauer and written a piece for *Time* magazine.

En route to Abilene, he received a phone call from the Nebraska hospital treating photojournalist Ashoka Mukpo, also diagnosed with Ebola in Liberia. The two men have the same blood type, so healthcare workers asked Brantly to donate blood, hoping that the antibodies he acquired would help Mukpo in his fight. Brantly stopped at a nearby hospital and made the donation.

"This is not about me," Brantly said, repeatedly, as he spoke at ACU. "This is about our great, compassionate, merciful God and our neighbors who need our help."

PRAY FOR AFRICA LIKE YOU PRAYED FOR ME

Brantly, who grew up in the pews of the Southeastern Church of Christ in Indianapolis, came to ACU in 1999, "unsure of what I wanted to major in," he told a capacity crowd in the university's Moody Coliseum.

"It was here that I first began to feel the Lord's calling on my life to serve as a missionary," he said, adding that the university "helped me learn what it means to be a disciple of Christ."

He graduated in 2003 with a degree in biblical studies but returned for an additional year of science courses after he decided to pursue medicine.

That year, during a medical mission trip to Central America, he met his future wife, Amber, a pre-nursing student at ACU. The couple and their two children worshiped with the Southside Church of Christ in Fort Worth, Texas, before moving



EMILY GUJARDO, THE OPTIMIST

ACU President Phil Schubert presents Dr. Kent Brantly and his wife, Amber, with a bound book of prayers for the family that people posted on social media.

to Liberia in late 2013.

"I want people to know we are just regular folks seeking the Lord's will for our lives," Amber Brantly said in an interview with *ACU Today*. "We only did what we felt he asked us to do, and because we had already died to ourselves in order to follow him, we didn't think much of it when he called us to Africa."

Her husband's voice cracked with emotion as he talked about the people they served. He noted that, when he was interviewed on NBC, the network reported the number of Ebola cases in West Africa at about 4,000. A few weeks later, the death toll exceeded that number.

"I assure you that the reality on the ground in West Africa is worse than the worst report you've seen," he said. "And our attention and our efforts need to be on loving the people there, on praying for them the way that so many of you prayed for me."

He urged followers of Christ to use their money and talents to raise awareness of the problem, advocate for the people of Africa and "end the hysteria here." He also urged students at ACU to put God first as they prepare for the future.

"Besides the degrees you're earning," he said, "the goal of everything you're doing in this place (is) to become a disciple of Jesus Christ."

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Family, friendship, trust and faith

JOSÉ 'GOYO' NIETO describes the elements that contribute to a thriving Spanish-language ministry in North Carolina

BY LYNN McMILLON | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

All José Nieto could surrender to Christ was his life. Men with knives and shotguns had taken everything else. Hiking to a lagoon near San Cristobol, Venezuela, in 1994 for his baptism, Nieto, known as "Goyo," and his friends were ambushed by robbers.

"They took everything we had — except our shorts and socks," Nieto said. Despite the hardship, they continued to the lagoon, where Nieto was immersed.

Raised Catholic, the 19-year-old was in turmoil after the death of his grandfather when a friend invited him to a Church of Christ.

"I was touched by what I heard, not by what I saw," he said. "It was the very first time I had attended a worship service where people were holding Bibles."

Four years later, he met his future wife, Sarah, who traveled to Venezuela with a mission team from Harding University in Searcy, Ark. She inspired him to learn English and enroll at Harding.

Now the couple serves Latinos in Winston-Salem, N.C. The Brewer Road Church of Christ, where José Nieto co-ministers with Gustavo Prato, is a Spanish-speaking congregation attended by 280 souls. The church offers a campus ministry, parenting and marriage classes, one-on-one Bible studies, translation assistance and a reading club.

José Nieto also reaches out to his community through soccer, playing weekly in a city league and coaching in a children's league.

How did you get into ministry?

I preached my first sermon two years after being baptized. After that, I started to share Bible lessons more frequently with the youth group and at home Bible studies. I also taught personal Bible studies with non-Christians.



PHOTO PROVIDED

José "Goyo" Nieto coaches youth league soccer as part of his community outreach.

A year later, a group from one of our U.S. sponsoring congregations came for a visit. They asked our ministers about the church's biggest need and wondered if they could be of help. Our major need at the moment was another evangelist.

The ministers decided I was the best candidate they had and presented the idea to the congregation. At the time, I was attending college, and even though I was not planning to become a preacher, something inside told me that I needed to say yes to this proposal. I started working part time with the church in San Cristobol, but soon I realized that ministry was my real vocation.

Why, in your opinion, has the Hispanic church grown so rapidly in Winston-Salem?

The Hispanic population in Winston-Salem is close to 40,000 people — about 15 percent of the total popula-

tion. About 80 percent of our Hispanic immigrants are from the state of Guerrero, Mexico. Over the past 15 to 20 years, many family members, friends and relatives have migrated to the area. Even people who originally settled in California and Texas have gradually moved to Winston-Salem, trying to keep their kids away from gangs and to be closer to family members.

Thus, many people know each other, and those who don't became friends at work or in their neighborhoods.

I strongly believe this familiarity has been a key factor in our congregation's growth, because gaining people's trust is important when evangelizing Hispanics.

Another crucial factor is that we meet some of our community's basic family and individual needs.

How does your congregation evangelize?

At the beginning of our ministry, I spent most of my time helping church members and visitors navigate the school system, translate documents, learn about the home-buying process. I felt more like a social worker than a preacher.

Then our sponsoring congregation, South Fork Church of Christ in Winston-Salem, came to the rescue and hired Gustavo Prato as a full-time marriage and family therapist. That added a new dimension to our service to the community.

We have used soccer as an evangelistic tool. Several visitors who initially came to play soccer have since been baptized and are active members. We also have children's and women's soccer teams.

We have partnered with the local community college to provide English as a Second Language classes. We have offered summer tutoring camps in partnership with the YMCA. We have a few members who have the gift of evangelism and have been very helpful in sharing their faith.

Since many of our members bring visitors regularly, we try to provide solid, Christ-centered preaching. Gustavo and I make efforts to use local agencies such as Family Services to meet different types of needs. I've been leading a campus ministry at a local high school for six years, serving both students and parents.

Can English-speaking churches without Hispanic members effectively reach out to Hispanics?

As I mentioned before, trust is very important when trying to reach the Hispanic community, because there

'I spent most of my time helping church members and visitors navigate the school system, translate documents, learn about the home-buying process. I felt more like a social worker than a preacher.'

José 'Goyo' Nieto

**One Nación
Under God**
Reaching Hispanics in the U.S.

is a certain degree of mistrust due to language, cultural and social barriers. This is true of non-Christians and Christians alike at some level.

Sadly, not everybody is open and willing to accept people who are different from them. For those reasons I believe that churches without any Hispanic members are more likely to attract second- and third-generation Hispanics. These two specific groups are more comfortable with the U.S. culture, and there is no language barrier.

Socioeconomic differences create another barrier to overcome — regardless of language.

What issues must churches consider as they strive to reach young second- and third-generation Hispanics?

Many have an identity crisis that intensifies with the normal struggle of teens in their search for meaning and their place in this world. They may look Hispanic, may speak English, but don't see themselves as Mexicans, Salvadorans, etc. Many have never visited their parents' homeland. I believe this feeling of not belonging neither here nor there creates a fertile environment for the development of neighborhood gangs that offer acceptance and security that society — and in many cases, churches — fail to provide. That is what they need — the security Jesus and the church provide.

What approaches do you find to be especially effective in reaching Hispanics?

I don't believe there is one approach that fits any evangelistic outreach program — no matter what culture we may try to reach.

Congregations must adapt to the specific needs of that particular community. First-, second- and third-generation immigrants have different needs and struggles, and even people from specific countries or geographical areas have different needs than those that speak their same language. In the same way Australians and Americans are not the same, Colombians and Mexicans are two different cultures.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Goyo Nieto met his wife, Sarah, when she traveled to Venezuela on a mission trip. The couple has a daughter, Gisele.

As a general rule, I could say that a servant-minded ministry is essential when reaching out to Hispanics. Congregations need to focus on meeting specific needs that will create a trusting environment. That will eventually open hearts and minds for the planting of the Gospel.

Can English-speaking and Hispanic members be effectively integrated?

Yes, definitely!

There is, of course, a need to prepare congregations through deep Bible study on the importance of welcoming strangers and offering them the opportunity to hear the Gospel. Also, congregations need to be educated and informed regarding the main differences in the cultures and world views of groups that will be targeted. This goes for educating both the non-

Hispanic and the Hispanic groups.

Church leadership needs to be shared, and both groups should be encouraged to be involved in various activities together.

We can't ignore the fact that Hispanics are the second-largest ethnic group in this country. The mission field is right in our backyard.



North Carolina

Population: 9,848,060
Racial/ethnic groups: 64 percent white, 22 percent black, 9 percent Hispanic, 3 percent Asian, 2 percent American Indian.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



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College of Arts and Sciences

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The **Department of Art and Design** invites applications for a nine-month, tenure-track position as assistant or associate professor beginning August 2015 to serve as program director and teach in its CIDA-accredited interior design program. Candidates are expected to have a terminal degree in interior design or architecture. Proficiency in computer design technology and demonstrated potential for teaching and scholarly endeavors is expected. Applicants must have strong communication skills and interest in the development of students. Preference will be given to applicants who have professional design experience, involvement in professional organizations, and who are NCIDQ credentialed. A portfolio of student and/or professional work may be requested. Applications are encouraged by Dec. 15, 2014. Information about the department is available at acu.edu/art and blogs.acu.edu/artanddesign.

College of Biblical Studies

Dr. Ken Cukrowski, Dean • ACU Box 29400, Abilene, Texas 79699-9400

The **Department of Marriage and Family Studies** invites applications and nominations in writing for a tenure-track faculty position as assistant or associate professor of marriage and family therapy, beginning in Fall 2015. The M.M.F.T. program at ACU has held continuous COAMFTE-accreditation since 1983. The candidate will be expected to teach courses relative to couples therapy, research methods in MFT, and others assigned by the chair; supervise graduate interns; mentor student research; and accept departmental, college and university committee assignments. The candidate should possess a well-defined program of research as evidenced by peer-reviewed publications and presentations; demonstrate competence in the integration of theological and spiritual issues with therapy; must hold the Ph.D. in marriage and family therapy or a closely related mental health discipline; exhibit competence as a classroom teacher; demonstrate eligibility for licensure as an LMFT in the State of Texas; and hold Clinical Membership and Approved Supervisor or Supervisor Candidate status with the AAMFT. Information about the department is available at acu.edu/mft.

College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Donnie Snider • ACU Box 28276, Abilene, Texas 79699-8276

The **School of Social Work** invites applications and/or nominations for a tenure-track position in the Master of Science in Social Work program. Rank is open, depending on the qualifications and experience of the candidate. Although the position is designated as primarily to the graduate program, the successful candidate will be expected to teach at the graduate and undergraduate levels. ACU's School of Social Work offers the B.S. in Social Work (B.S.S.W.) and the M.S. in Social Work (M.S.S.W.) degrees. The graduate program has a single concentration, Advanced Generalist Practice with an Evidence-Based Practice emphasis. Both programs utilize a capstone experience emphasizing social work research, with the M.S.S.W. requiring a thesis. The successful candidate should hold the master's degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited or internationally recognized social work program, and a doctorate in social work or a related field. ABD or MSW with outstanding practice experience (including teaching) may be considered. Review of applications will begin Nov. 1, 2014, and continue until the position is filled. Information about the school is available at acu.edu/socialwork.

The **graduate Department of Occupational Therapy** is seeking faculty members for two nine-month, tenure-track positions to join the innovative and service-oriented M.S. in occupational therapy (MSOT) faculty team. The entry-level MSOT program at ACU currently has Candidacy Status towards accreditation from ACOTE and admitted its first class of students in Fall 2014. The department is looking for faculty with experience in teaching, research and clinical skills, preferably in the areas of pediatrics, mental health and adult populations. Candidates must hold a post-professional degree in occupational therapy or a related field. The credential of a completed doctorate is preferred. Requirements include demonstration of at least five years of practice experience. Additionally, current NBCOT certification and Texas OT license (or eligibility) are required. Academic rank, salary and tenure status are commensurate with credentials and experience. Information about the department is available at acu.edu/occupationaltherapy.

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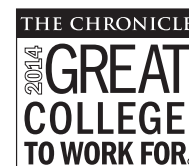
Dr. John Weaver, Dean • ACU Box 29208, Abilene, Texas 79699-9208

ACU Press invites applications for the position of director of ACU Press. This administrative staff position reports to the dean of the library and oversees six staff in the planning and operation of ACU Press and its trade imprint, Leafwood Publishing. ACU Press is a leading publisher of scholarly and other expert works supporting Christian service and leadership throughout the world. Ideal candidates will have a Ph.D. or other terminal degree, with academic publishing and editing experience. Candidates with a master's degree also will be considered. Candidates should have a compelling vision for the use of new media and innovative business models in academic and trade publishing. A full job description and complete list of qualifications are available at acu.edu/hr. Information about ACU Press is available at acu.edu/acupress.

See acu.edu/academics/provost/positions.html for complete descriptions of these positions. In a letter to the appropriate dean or chair, applicants should address their qualifications for the position. They should include in the application a statement of how faith informs their teaching; a discussion of their spiritual journey; a curriculum vita; transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work; and names, addresses and phone numbers of five references. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Nominations of and applications from qualified women and minorities are especially encouraged.

ACU is affiliated with the fellowship of the Churches of Christ. All applicants must be professing Christians and be active, faithful members of a congregation of the Churches of Christ and deeply committed to service in Christian higher education. The mission of ACU is to educate students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world.

ACU does not unlawfully discriminate in employment opportunities.



SPOTLIGHT

Preserving the present

HENDERSON, Tenn. — Future Freed-Hardeman University students may have a glimpse of the university as it was in 2014, thanks to items preserved in the cornerstone of a newly erected campus bell tower.

Former FHU presidents E. Claude Gardner and Milton Sewell, along with current president Joe Wiley, wrote messages to future members of the Christian university's family.

Other items range from social service club pennants to a brochure announcing FHU's 50th annual benefit dinner. "With the inclusion of these artifacts, folks a hundred years from now will have an understanding of the university in 2014," Wiley said.



PHOTO PROVIDED

FHU collected items such as club pennants.



BRUCE BATES

At an Arkansas church, a special prayer for Kairos church planters

Couples trained by the Kairos church-planting ministry gather for a special prayer at the Southwest Church of Christ in Jonesboro, Ark. The church hosted a recent "Strategy Lab," an interactive seminar that instructs planters on growing their teams and sharing their faith, leading to a public launch in two years. Participants included Jared and Laura King (Seattle), Molly and Jeremy Schopper (Memphis, Tenn.), Brandon and Heidi Baker (Temple, Texas), Michael and Emily Chaffin (Phoenix) and Morgan and Lacey Hines (University of Arkansas at Little Rock).

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

ALBUQUERQUE CHILDREN'S HOME

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Boys and girls served by the Albuquerque Christian Children's Home are enjoying a new park.

A mission group came from the Memorial Road Church of Christ in Oklahoma City to work on the project.

"They dug trenches for the sprinkler system, put in the sprinklers, laid sod and planted trees," children's home development assistant Diane Steinle said. "Our kids are already enjoying it daily."



PHOTO PROVIDED BY DIANE STEINLE

The mission team installs sprinklers.

HIGHER EDUCATION

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

ABILENE, Texas — ACU has appointed Carson Reed as vice president for church relations and executive director of the Siburt Institute for Church Ministry.

Carson joined the ACU faculty in 2012 after a 30-year career in congregational ministry in Tennessee, Oklahoma, Indiana and Georgia. He teaches ministry courses in the Graduate School of Theology and directs the Doctor of Ministry program.

Former ACU President Royce Money will continue to serve as founding director of the institute, named in memory of the late Charles Siburt, who died in 2012.



Reed

LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Music City has a new aspiring star.

Lipscomb's board of trustees has approved the formation of the College of Entertainment and the Arts.

Building on Lipscomb's strong liberal arts foundation, the college will combine the university's art, music and theater programs with its fashion merchandising program and its graduate film and creative media program, officials said.

The university will add new programs to prepare students for careers in contemporary music, digital entertainment, film, design, gaming and animation.

"Not only do we have a strong foundation to build on, but we are located in Nashville, which along with its reputation as Music City is quickly becoming a hub of film, theater and interactive arts," said Mike Fernandez, the newly appointed dean.

YORK COLLEGE

YORK, Neb. — York has raised \$8.5 million toward a total goal of \$10.7 million to support scholarships, programs and campus facilities, President Steve Eckman said.

The Christian college recently announced the launch of the two-year "Beyond 125" campaign, coinciding with York's 125th anniversary in 2015.

The centerpiece of the campaign is a \$3.5 million performing arts center, which will house York's music and theater programs.

"Celebrating our history is great, but our charge is to look forward, plan and build," Eckman said. "Our efforts were jump-started by a \$2 million gift for the performing arts center from an anonymous donor."

"That gift represented an opportunity not only for the performing arts," he added, "but for the entire campus to take an important step forward during our anniversary year."

Milestones

Showcasing the moments of your life and the lives of loved ones.

Anniversaries

Rebecca and Herman Stubblefield, 70th



The marriage of Miss Rebecca Watson and Herman Hall Stubblefield occurred 70 years ago on Oct. 6, 1944. They met at David Lipscomb College in 1941 where Becky was a student and Herman was attending an alumni function. They courted mostly by mail, as he was in the Army Air Corps including overseas duty as a fighter pilot. This turned into a lifelong love of flying which became his occupation. He retired as chief pilot and aviation manager from Vulcan Materials Company.

Together they have served as a Christian example to many people including their three children and three grandchildren. Becky taught fourth grade Sunday school for many years and served as secretary at the Homewood church of Christ for more than 20 years. Stubby served as a deacon and an elder at Homewood. They were both active in several areas of ministry, including missions and worship.

Alfred and Doris Morris, 65th
Richmond, Ky.

Glen and Barbara Little, 55th
Greenville, Texas

Don and Linda Young, 50th
Newcastle, Okla.

Memorials

Weldon Hatcher

Dr. Weldon Hatcher departed this earth the morning of Sept. 12 at the age of 81, after a long and difficult struggle with Parkinson's Disease. He is preceded in death by his father, Lewis C. Hatcher, and mother, Edna Cope Hatcher, of Heber Springs, Ark., his son Gary Norris Hatcher of Haughton, La., his first wife Betty Norris Hatcher, and son-in-law Ralph Payne.

He is survived by his loving wife Joyce Hardcastle Hatcher of Ridgeland, Miss., his daughter Donna Hatcher Payne of Minden, La., his son Jim Weldon Hatcher of Plain Dealing, La., granddaughters Ashley Davis and her husband Clint Davis, Catherin Payne and Laura Payne, and his sister Esther Hatcher Smith of Omaha, Neb.

He completed his undergraduate studies at David Lipscomb College in Nashville, Tenn., and Harding College in Searcy, Ark., and received his master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Between his undergraduate and graduate work, he served in the United States Air Force.

He was a minister for the Church of Christ and preached at churches in Plain Dealing and Blanchard in Louisiana and Hattiesburg and Ellisville in Mississippi. He was also a campus minister at LSU, Baton Rouge, and at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

He served as psychologist at the Mississippi State Hospital at Whitfield and also as a voluntary



chaplain at Sunnybrook Estates in Madison, Miss.

Weldon had been the director of several children homes in the past: Evergreen Presbyterian Vocational School in Minden, La., Southern Christian Home in Morrilton, Ark., and Sunnybrook Children's Home in Madison, Miss.

Weldon devoted all of his personal and professional life to providing emotional and spiritual aid and direction to underprivileged and mentally and emotionally challenged youth and adults.

The grateful recipient of a heart transplant in 1998, becoming one of the longest-surviving heart transplant patients, Weldon then developed Parkinson's in 2006, which finally took him from us.

Weldon was a gentle and caring man who always thought of others more than himself. His graceful smile and sweet disposition will be greatly missed by all those he touched.

George Robert Lyles, Sr.

George Robert Lyles, Sr., passed from this life on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2014, in Baton Rouge, La.

A member of the Goodwood Boulevard Church of Christ, George served as an elder there for more than three decades.

He was a dedicated Christian throughout his life.

In 2005, when south Louisiana was ravaged by Hurricane Katrina, George led a ministry to visit and support the many Churches of Christ throughout the area that were devastated by the storm.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Ann Lyles.



NEWSMAKERS

AWARDED: Dana Chamblee Carpenter, associate professor of English at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn., with the Claymore Award at the Killer Nashville Writer's Conference, which honors writers of thriller, mystery and historical thriller novels. Carpenter's "Bohemian Gospel" is slated for release in fall 2015.



Carpenter

HONORED: James Cail, for 31 years of teaching psychology at Oklahoma Christian University in Oklahoma City. The university dedicated Cail Auditorium in his honor.



Cail

his honor. Sherri Coale, women's basketball coach for the University of Oklahoma, and assistant coach Jan Ross, with the Lee Allan Smith Spirit of Oklahoma Award from Oklahoma Christian University.

NAMED: Bryon Bhagwandin to the board of directors of the Malawi Project, based in Indianapolis. Bhagwandin attends the Westover Church of Christ in Austin, Texas. Gail Heiderich, director of student advising at NationsUniversity, a distance-learning program based in Nashville, Tenn. Jeff Bingham, vice president of operations at Oklahoma Christian Academy in Edmond, Okla.

NEW MINISTERS: Lamont Ross, senior minister for the Marsalis Avenue Church of Christ in Dallas.

Dylan Fabrizio, youth minister for the Fairmont Church of Christ in Midland, Texas.

Collin Packer, lead minister for the Greenville Oaks Church of Christ in Allen, Texas. Ben

Pickett, discipleship minister for the Highland Church of Christ in Abilene, Texas.



Ross

Entries should be submitted to milestones@christianchronicle.org or call (405) 425-5070.

Rates and guidelines are available upon request (credit card preferred).

Oct. 25 Teen Lifeline Sixth Annual 5K. The Hills Church of Christ, North Richland Hills, Texas. www.lifelivedbetter.org/tl5k2014.

Oct. 30 Cambodian Christian Ministries First Annual Golf Tournament. Farmers Branch, Texas. www.cambodianministries.org/GolfTournament.html; (214) 351-3731.

Nov. 2 Orphan Sunday. Various locations. For more information, contact Christian Relief Fund, www.christianrelieffund.org/orphan-sunday.

Nov. 7-8 Conference on Marriage and Family. Northeast Church of Christ, Cincinnati, Ohio. www.northeastchurch.com; (513) 489-4659.

Nov. 7-8 Dallas ElderLink Workshop and Forum. Highland Oaks Church of Christ, Dallas. elderlink@acu.edu, www.acu.edu/elderlink; (325) 674-3732.

Nov. 8 Potter Children's Home and Family Ministries 100th Anniversary. Bowling Green, Ky. www.potterministries.org; (270) 843-3038.

Nov. 9 50th Anniversary Celebration, Pine Tree Church of Christ. Longview, Texas. www.pinetreechurch.org; (903) 759-9562.

Jan. 5 Teen Lifeline Training at National Conference on Youth Ministries. Arlington, Texas. www.ncym.org, www.lifelivedbetter.org/ncymtraining; (817) 281-9900.

Jan. 5-8 National Conference on Youth Ministries. Arlington, Texas. www.ncym.org.

Jan. 18-23 Quartzsite Church of Christ Gospel Meeting. Quartzsite, Ariz. www.quartzsitechurchofchrist.com; (559) 299-2002.

Jan. 21-24 Sunset Vision Workshop 2015. Sunset International Bible Institute, Lubbock, Texas. www.sibi.cc/workshop.

Feb. 19-21 National Urban Ministry Conference. Capitol Hill Church of Christ, Oklahoma City. www.nationalurbanministryassociation.org.

Feb. 28 Lubbock ElderLink Seminar. South Plains Church of Christ, Lubbock, Texas. www.acu.edu/elderlink.

FULL CALENDAR, www.christianchronicle.org

Milestones *continued.*

Michael L. Landon

Dr. Michael L. Landon, 57, of Groton, Conn., passed away on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2014, after a short illness. Mike was born on Nov. 7, 1956, in Enid, Okla., to Frank Landon of East Tawas, Mich., and the late Eleanor McCord Landon.

Mike was privileged to grow up in a Christian family and gave his life to Jesus through baptism at the young age of 8. He attended Oklahoma Christian College, where he met Susan McFarland. They married on April 12, 1979, in Edmond, Okla.

Mike is survived by his wife, Susan (McFarland) Landon, his father, Frank Landon, and three children: daughter Angela Howard and her husband Wesley, daughter Cynthia Tankersley and her husband Glen, and son Michael Landon; sister Terri Hart; grandson Zachary Tankersley; three step-brothers — Doug, Doyle, and Darrin Miller; and his in-laws, Bud and Sarah McFarland. He was preceded in death by his mother Eleanor Landon, a brother, Gregory Landon, and his step-mother JoAnn Landon.

After attending Oklahoma Christian College, Mike graduated with an M.A. from Harding University Graduate School of Religion and later from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School with a Ph.D.

During his 30 years of ministry, Mike and Susan first worked on the mission field in São Paulo, Brazil, for eight years, where their children were born. He then preached for churches in Louisiana and Kansas before beginning to teach missions and Bible full time. He taught at Barclay College, Southwestern Christian College and the Center for Christian Education before moving to Groton, Conn., to minister there nine years ago.



Mike has published a book with University Press of America on poverty and several articles on the Bible in *Restoration Quarterly*. He presented scholarly papers on the Bible and missions at numerous professional meetings.

Mike's passion for ministry, teaching and missions led him to higher learning yet humbled him. His heart for the poor was evidenced through his continued studies and eventual publication of his dissertation on poverty. Through the years, he used his gifts and compassion through involvement with a day school for underprivileged children in São Paulo and in numerous organizations, including Habitat for Humanity and CareNet Crisis Pregnancy Center.

He delighted in one-on-one relationships and friendship and often mentored Coast Guard cadets and numerous Navy individuals.

He had an unwavering respect for truth, and his conviction that preaching is useless without personal integrity motivated him.

His family has requested that donations in his memory be made to the Groton Church of Christ, 1018 Route 12, Groton, CT 06340.

Tom Locklear

Tom Locklear, graduate of Sunset School of Preaching in 1966, died after heart surgery with complications, and passed on to his reward on Aug. 18, 2014. Over the years he ministered to Churches of Christ in Brazos, Texas; Eufaula, Ala.; Balboa, Panama Canal Zone; and Sanger, Texas. To the best of Tom's and Nancy's knowledge, they were the first American missionaries for the Church of Christ to be granted visas to live and work in Spanish in the Republic of Panama. There Tom taught in the Pan American Bible School and did other work for the Lord from 1974 to 1978. In 1972, before returning to Panama, they both graduated from the Sunset School of Missions.

Since 1978, Tom and Nancy have lived in Denton, Texas. Tom began working for the Red Wing Shoe Store in 1978 and was the owner, together with Nancy and daughter, Penny, until the time of his death. Tom and Nancy were members of Singing Oaks Church of Christ since 1981. At one point during that time, Tom served as an elder, but in these later years he did many different works for the church, including serving as director of an ever-expanding World Bible School prison ministry.

Tom is survived by his wife Nancy of almost 54 years, three children, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.



George Rogendorff, 80
Georgetown, Texas

Stanley Sayers, 81
Mustang, Okla.

Birthdays

Catherine Masengale, 100th
Norman, Okla.

Willie Mae Massey, 100th
Slaton, Texas

Betty (Isenberg) Lehnan, 95th
Kapaa, Hawaii

Audra Martin, 95th
Plano, Texas

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The *Chronicle* appreciates and acknowledges generous gifts donated in memory of Jack Greenwood, Mrs. Elderdean Morris, Ed Latham, Mary L. Washam, and Curlera Evington.

Entries should be submitted to milestones@christianchronicle.org or call (405) 425-5070. Rates and guidelines are available upon request (credit card preferred).

EDITORIAL

A case for not making sense

Flip through the pages of this issue and you'll see stories about people who do things that don't make a lot of sense. (And we're not just talking about the guy on Page 17 who runs 100-plus miles at a time.)

Most of us know about Dr. Kent Brantly, featured on Page 1. The Christian physician received criticism from those who failed to understand why he put himself at risk to serve those suffering from a deadly virus.

He's not alone. The main photo on Page 9 features Dr. Lisa Dunham, who left the comforts of home to

We pray that more believers will step out in faith and do things that don't make sense ...

treat the underserved people of Guatemala through Health Talents International. Also on Page 9 is a news brief about Dr. Bob Whittaker, a British-born, Christian physician who served for a quarter-century at Nigerian Christian Hospital. In 2009, Whittaker was shot in the arm as kidnappers abducted him from his home and held him for ransom.

No one would have blamed

Whittaker and his wife, Annette, for leaving Africa. But now the couple is hard at work in Swaziland, building a clinic to treat patients, including those with HIV and AIDS, which kills more than 1 million people in Africa each year. They are advocates of mosquito nets to protect Africans from malaria, which claims more than a half-million lives each year — many of them children under age 5.

We pray that more believers will step out in faith and do things that don't make sense to the rest of the world.

That can mean forsaking a lucrative medical career to serve the less fortunate. It can mean running hundreds of miles to raise money for clean water wells. It can mean serving the people in need in our own communities. (See our Page 1 story about Corners Outreach in Atlanta.)

Christ calls us to be the light of the world, *"that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."* (Matthew 5:16) In that light, the actions of these souls make all the sense in the world.



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Italian artist Giovanni Paolo Panini painted "Apostle Paul Preaching on the Ruins," oil on canvas, in 1744.

Forgiveness can change Sauls to Pauls

"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

— **Philippians 3:13-14**

There are a lot of things in life to forget, including our judgments of the past.

Not only are we to forget our own past, but we should also forget the past of others — those who have wronged us, those who we think have sinned against us.

Those who persecute us.

God forgives us. He also commands us to forgive others.

The disciples forgave Saul, a man who had presided over the murder of Jews because they followed Jesus. He witnessed the brutal stoning of Stephen and gave his approval, as we read in Acts 8.

But the early Christians still forgave him.

Please don't misunderstand. This is not an easy discipline. After Saul's conversion, those

who once stood by his side and shared his former beliefs tried to kill him.

The disciples initially were afraid of Saul, not believing in his conversion. But in Acts 9 we see that Barnabas went to him and brought him to the disciples. They witnessed Saul's bold declaration of Jesus.

What if Barnabas had not allowed God to soften his heart? Saul might never have become Paul. His missionary journeys — which helped the church grow around the world — might never have happened.

How often am I like the disciples, suspicious of — and even conspiring against — someone who I feel has done wrong to me?

I pray daily that God will soften my heart to be like Barnabas, to help me forgive those in my past, present and future.

In the Word



Tammy Taylor

TAMMY TAYLOR is a longtime member of the Rural Hill Church of Christ in Antioch, Tenn., and the mother of one grown son, Clay.



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LETTERS

Introverts speak out ... quietly

It is true that I become exhausted after preaching two services and teaching a class on Sunday morning. (See "The introvert behind the pulpit," Page 3, November.) To this day, I do not completely understand why I do not feel recovered until Monday afternoon.

Still, I could not be a compassionate counselor to others if I did not adopt an accepting attitude toward my own introversion. The elders and the church where I currently serve are supportive of my need to recharge periodically. They do not require that I be the life of the party but instead appreciate the calling of God to the type of ministry I have.

Steve Kenney | Indianapolis

Yes, it matters whether a minister is an extrovert or introvert — like it matters in all fields of work.

As the daughter of a minister who is very successful but undeniably an introvert, I have seen firsthand that there are distinct benefits to having an introvert serve as minister in a congregation.

I'm now married to someone who is an introvert and has interviewed for several ministry jobs where he has been made to feel as if he *must* be extroverted. Wow.

Surely there is room for all types in our church at all levels.

Stefanie Wheat-Johnson | Waco, Texas

This article is sure to open people's eyes — to the benefit of many on *both* sides of the pulpit — although it's no surprise to lots of us preachers. It's also nice to be introduced to some of my fellow introverts-in-ministry. Mahalo!

Steve Byrne | Honolulu

Thoughts on immigration, cultural barriers

All citizens in the Kingdom of God are illegal aliens. (See Views, Page 31, November.) We never had to stand in line or work to get the necessary papers. It is by the grace of God that Jesus granted us amnesty through his death on the cross.

We didn't earn the right to be a citizen, nor were we physically born into the Kingdom. When I realize this basic gospel fact, my comprehension of the Bible's teaching of welcoming

the alien (legal or not) is enhanced.

Charles Stelding | Abilene, Texas

This is what we have to do among congregations in Zimbabwe. (See "In Houston, churches cross cultural divide," Page 13, November.) Our motto must be to break the tribal barriers and build one universal church.

This is a wonderful example.

Jonathan Chuma | Durban, South Africa

TO OUR READERS

Laura Akins joins staff of *Christian Chronicle*

Laura Akins is the newest addition to the staff of *The Christian Chronicle*, serving as editorial assistant. She assists in our mission to inform, inspire and unite Churches of Christ worldwide by writing news and features and assisting in the production of content for our print and online editions.



Akins

Akins earned a degree in journalism and mass communication from Abilene Christian University in Texas and has interned for *Fort Worth Weekly*. She has served as ministerial and office assistant for Churches of Christ in Arlington, Texas, and Winters, Texas. She attends the Memorial Road Church of Christ in Oklahoma City where her husband, Travis, serves as young adults minister. They have two daughters and a son.



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Books on community have lessons for all ages

As a mother of five, I have read books for children and young adults — classic and new — for the past 25 years.

These books, when written well, can provide parents with a means of addressing difficult topics with their children.

Children's literature can give us insight into dealing with life's universal problems — and sometimes can help us understand the mindset children bring to these problems.

That's the case with four recent offerings, each exploring the theme of community. How can God's people work together? What impact might we have when seek to put others first?

"City on the Hill," by Mark Hall, Matthew West and illustrator Tatío Viana, is based on Casting Crowns' hit song of the same name.

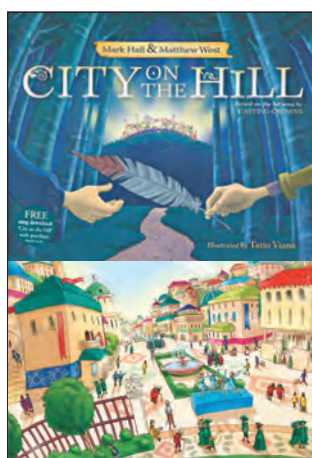
This small volume, a picture book best suited for pre-readers and readers age 4 to 8, features a beautifully illustrated version of words penned by lead vocalist Hall. Pre-readers can explore the visual aspect and will see the gradual contrast between a vibrant and colorful community where all work together and the drab, monochromatic appearance of groups that choose to isolate themselves.

Parents could use the story as a springboard to reinforce that we are all given talents and abilities which can be used to serve others and honor God. Our gifts work best when they are used together rather than in isolation.

In **"Bash and the Chicken Coop Caper,"** Pulitzer-Prize-winning humorist Burton Cole gives us another in his series of "Bash" books — tales of a city boy, Ray, facing life on a farm with his cousin, Sebastian "Bash" Hinglehobb.

Perfect for readers between 8 and 12, the short chapters, lively language and colorful characters draw the reader in and give an entertaining and thoughtful experience.

Bash, with his developing faith, is determined to add each of the Fruits of the Spirit to his life, and these often



★★★★★

Mark Hall, Matthew West, and Tatío Viana (illustrator). **City on the Hill.** Nashville, Tenn: B&H Publishing Group, 2014. 32 pages. \$14.55.



★★★★★

Burton W. Cole and Tom Bancroft (illustrator). **Bash and the Chicken Coop Caper.** Nashville, Tenn: B&H Kids, 2014. 220 pages. \$12.99.



★★★★★

S.J. Dahlstrom. **The Adventures of Wilder Good: Texas Grit.** Philadelphia: Paul Dry Books, 2014. 141 pages. \$7.95.



★★★★★

Nancy Rue. **Mean Girl Makeover Series: So Not Okay.** Nashville, Tenn: Thomas Nelson 2014. 312 pages. \$8.99.

are the source of his misadventures. Ray is a new believer and is skeptical, but goes along with Bash's plans, which never seem to quite pan out.

Along the way, the boys discover mysterious happenings in their chicken coop and meet a new family that is learning to cope with tragedy. Will Bash be able to demonstrate the entire list of spiritual fruit? Will Ray recover from having his underwear used as a catapult in front of the girls?

The "Chicken Coop Caper" provides parents and children an opportunity to laugh but also gives an opening to discuss spiritual growth. The book isn't preachy, and reinforces that our relationship with God is a part of who we are. The book does not avoid sadness and tragedy — a common part of the childhood experience — and readers see a beautiful example of trusting God even when it is hard.

S.J. Dahlstrom, a member of the Quaker Avenue Church of Christ in Lubbock, Texas, spins another of his cowboy tales in **"The Adventures of Wilder Good: Texas Grit,"** best suited for readers age 9 and up. Wilder is 12 and his mother has cancer. While she undergoes chemotherapy, Wilder spends his

summer with his grandfather in Texas. In sharp contrast to the childishness in Cole's "Bash" series, Wilder Good is a calm, introspective and thoughtful young man. He hurts for his mother and longs to please his rugged, cowboy grandfather.

Wilder wants to excel in all things cowboy. His quiet, thoughtful personality is a reflection of his Papa. Life on the ranch is slow and intentional. Deer hunting, cattle driving and a face-to-face encounter with rattlesnakes all make for a time of bonding between a grandfather and grandson.

Wilder also meets his Papa's friends and is able to see the camaraderie among a group of men with a shared history and purpose — men who have spent long years surviving the uncertain life of a rancher. Wilder notes that, although his Papa isn't much of a churchgoer, he lives his life by the Word of God, which he reads daily.

Family, friendships and faith converge to provide a thoughtful story for independent readers or for parents reading with their children.

"So Not Okay" is the first in a new series about bullying by best-selling author Nancy Rue. It's a tale of a group of girls, led by Queen Bee Kylie, who begin to single out class members with undesired attention.

Initially, the narrator Tori and her friends are thankful that Kylie focuses her bullying on newcomer Ginger. When Ginger becomes part of their group project for science class, their friendship is challenged. Tori must ask herself if it's possible to be neutral or if it's necessary to take a stand and befriend Ginger.

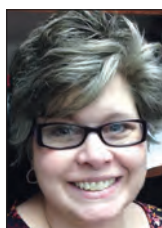
The pressures come not only from the bullies, but from Tori's friends, who don't want to become new targets. Rue covers all the angles — intentional bullying, emotional pressure to conform, adults' tendency not to see the issues playing out in front of their eyes.

Although the publisher lists the target audience as ages 8 to 12, the length of the book and the age of the protagonists lend it to somewhat older readers. The vocabulary is not difficult and the story is engaging.

Family time is a precious commodity, and reading together during that time creates treasured memories. A trip to the children's fiction section of your nearest Christian bookstore can yield great family discussions about faith, woven into the fabric of our lives together.

LISA BURLEY serves Harding University in Searcy, Ark., as E-Learning and instruction librarian and as an adjunct English instructor.

In Print



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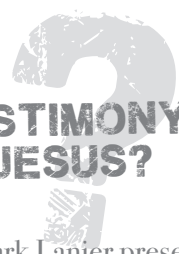
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Sister Johnson: An amazing Bible teacher who helped shape my faith

The seventh grade was a turning point in my life.

That was when I studied the Bible in sister Johnson's Sunday school class. She was a widow who seemed about the age of Methuselah to the seventh and eighth graders she taught. Looking back, I realize now she was probably in her early 60s, but she had gray hair, wore glasses and was the grandmother of one girl in the class — all of which branded her as "old."

She had taught the seventh and eighth graders at our church in San Leandro, Calif., since shortly after she was widowed and came from Tennessee to live with her daughter and son-in-law. I had heard about her class from parents of my friends. They were all telling my mother or me how much I was going to learn.

I was not skeptical but was certainly not convinced that I was going to have a great experience.

The first Sunday with sister Johnson as my teacher was a shock. She was such a marvelous storyteller. She drew me into the lives and events of the Bible in a way that had never happened before.

I should explain that my mother loved God, read her Bible every day, had been baptized when she was 12 and considered herself a faithful member of the Church of Christ. She read the entire Bible aloud to me before I attended the first day of school. Even when I was a senior in high school, she often would read me long passages from whatever book of the Bible she was exploring.

But my mother felt no special attraction to the church — probably owing to her shy and introverted nature. So my experiences with Sunday morning Bible class had been limited to those times when our family was living near my mother's dearest sister, Claudia Phillips. In the waning days of World War II, the McBrides and Phillipses shared a house and went to church together in San Leandro.

Sister Johnson taught that period of Hebrew history almost unknown to most in the church — from the dividing of Solomon's kingdom through the captivity of the 10

northern tribes. She began each class with a vivid and engaging account of some aspect of the history we would be reading about through the coming week.

We had homework — long passages for each day of the week.

Insight



Bailey McBride

Amazingly, we read them — and loved them. My best friend, Ricky Bendio, and I used to spend our Saturdays rereading the most interesting parts of the assignment. We even played games, taking on the roles of characters like Ahab or Elijah.

Sister Johnson knew how to capitalize on the competitive spirit of adolescents and she motivated us to read, think and be prepared to talk about the meaning of what we read.

At the same time, she pushed us to understand that God's way was marked by humility and service.

I sensed that her love for the Bible made her closer to God. She inspired in her students a desire to know God and to be as close to him as she was.

Although she taught me more than 60 years ago, for only for one short year, I can still see her animation and passion as she talked about God and how he dealt with people like me.

It was during her class that I made the decision to be baptized. I kept for many years the letter she wrote me. Loving and approving — but always the teacher — she sent me great passages to study from Paul about maturing in Christ and perseverance throughout life, no matter what the outward circumstances.

My encounter with sister Johnson was wonderfully significant. I learned from her that faith in God really finds its fullest expression through service to the church and service to mankind.

Great Bible teachers make a difference and change the lives of their students.

CONTACT bailey.mcbride@christianchronicle.org.

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- 1. Psalm 69:29-
- 2. Micah 6:8
- 3. Matthew 23
- 4. Ephesians 4:
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- 6. James 1:19-2
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