

# CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

UNIVERSAL

“LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS, THAT THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY UNTO HARVEST.” ---John 4:35

Volume 75

Oklahoma City, July 2018

Number 7

From  
The  
Editor's  
Desk



## Newspaper for Churches of Christ Celebrates Life, Legacy of 'The Missionary who Stayed Home'

With unbridled enthusiasm, Olan Hicks launched into the first front-page news story in *The Christian Chronicle*, a brand-new publication for Churches of Christ dated June 2, 1943.

“The most intensive campaign ever staged by members of the church is planned for the summer in Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah, bailiwick of the Mormon church,” Hicks wrote.

The preacher-turned-newspaper-founder highlighted the upcoming debate between Otis Gatewood, a renowned missionary in the fellowship, and Kenneth E. Farnsworth, a member of a Quorum of the Seventy in the Mormon church.

Paul Southern and Harvey Childress, ministers for Churches of Christ, would do two weeks of campaigning before the debate.

The topic was appropriate, perhaps, since the Latter-Day Saints played a small role in the *Chronicle's* genesis three-quarters of a century ago. Hicks, a native

(Continued on Page 8)



“This is the place!” Paul and Margaret Southern visit the spot in Salt Lake City where Brigham Young is thought to have spoken those words in 1847. The couple came to Utah in advance of a gospel campaign by Churches of Christ. This photo appeared on the front page of *The Christian Chronicle's* first issue, dated Wednesday, June 2, 1943.

## 75 YEARS AFTER FIRST ISSUE, CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE STRIVES TO HONOR VISION OF FOUNDER OLAN HICKS

*The Christian Chronicle* “was begun with the purpose of publishing all the news of the Churches of Christ that is worthy of being published,” editor Olan Hicks wrote in an editorial in the first issue 75 years ago.

“The reason for publishing this paper is to stir up missionary zeal

and activity among members of the church everywhere and to give all a broad vision of the opportunities and responsibilities of the church today.”

In 2018, the *Chronicle* remains committed to the biblical principles Hicks set out in issue No. 1. See more from

the newspaper’s first editorial on **Page 34**. We also offer a Dialogue with Hick’s daughter, Lavella McMillan, on **Page 10**.

Plan now to get every issue of the CHRONICLE and keep a file of them.

## IN MIDST OF WAR, PAPER SHOWED GREAT OPTIMISM

*Chronicle's* First Writers Predicted Churches' 'Growth Unparalleled'

By ERIK TRYGGESTAD  
Thumbing through the first issue of *The Christian Chronicle*, it’s hard to tell that America was fighting a massive war in Europe and the Pacific.

Nearly a year before the D-Day landings in France, the pages of the brand-new periodical are filled with news of gospel meetings and brimming with optimism about the future that awaits Churches of Christ.

“There are hopeful indications that we are now in the first stages of growth unparalleled in the history of the church since the Apostles turned the world upside down with the dynamite of the Gospel of Christ,” wrote Bonds Stocks, a preacher and the *Chronicle's* capital correspondent in Washington, in an editorial. He then noted “the tremendous responsibility of the church during and after this unprecedented global crisis.”

On Page 7 of the second issue, Margaret Upton wrote about Japanese Americans brought from Los Angeles to the Granada

(Continued on Page 9)



Tuskegee Airmen undertook their first combat mission in Europe on June 2, 1943.

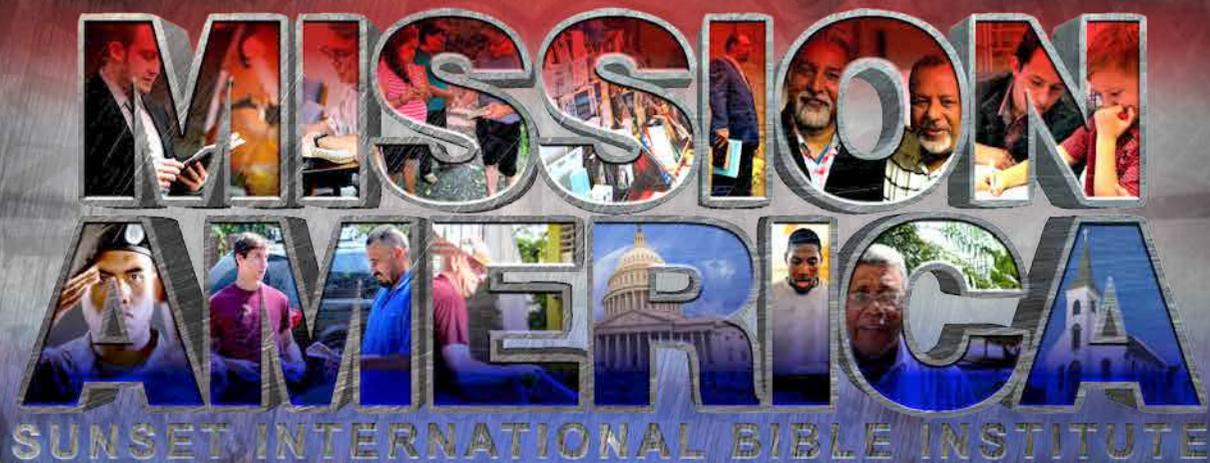
“Greetings to the readers of the first issue of *Christian Chronicle*. I am happy to assume the job of editor and publisher of the paper you now hold in your hand. Not that it is an easy task, by any means, for it is one of the most arduous and thankless tasks in all the world.”

Those brutally honest words from Olan Hicks graced the front page of the *Chronicle's* first issue 75 years ago. But the paper’s founder and first editor quickly added that “I am happy to tackle the job because I think it is the best means available today for stirring up missionary enthusiasm in the church.”

Hicks devoted much of his first front-page columns to introducing “the fine group of Christian men and women who have rallied to my side to help me.” Among them was John F. Wolfe of El Paso, Texas, a veteran missionary to Mexico who “will give you each week a well-written column on the status of things religious among Latin-American peoples,” Hicks wrote.

Homer Hailey, a Bible teacher at Abilene Christian College in Texas and minister for the Highland Church of Christ, agreed to help write editorials. Other early staffers included Hugo McCord, Jim Taggart and

(Continued on Page 9)



MISSION AMERICA  
SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE

For more than 55 years, Sunset has been dedicated to training preachers, teachers and Church leaders for ministry in the United States and around the world.

In recent years, Sunset has focused on and enlarged our mission to *strengthen congregations and congregational leaders, plant congregations and reach the lost of the nations*. While continuing this effort, it's become more and more obvious that *this same intensity and dedication is needed in this nation*.

**Mission America** is a multi-faceted approach to encouraging, equipping and energizing congregations and congregational leaders *across the USA and seeking to restore America to Christ*.

We are looking for partners to join us in this mission. Use the QR Code or visit [sunset.bible/mission-america](http://sunset.bible/mission-america).



Sunset International Bible Institute • 800.658.9553 • [www.sunset.bible](http://www.sunset.bible)



## My life in the pews, black and white

Covering the 50th anniversary of the Atlanta meeting on race relations in Churches of Christ has me thinking about my own history.

I've moved about our congregations — some black, some white, too few a mix of both. Some were welcoming. Some were not.

### Inside Story



Hamil R. Harris

When I was a boy, it seemed strange that I never heard instrumental music

coming out of the East Hill Church of Christ, which was across the street from the house in Pensacola, Fla., where I lived until I was 6. My mother was the organist for the Mount Olive Baptist Church, one block away.

Years later, on Dec. 3, 1978, I was baptized at the Call Street Church of Christ in Tallahassee after studying Bible with church members on the campus of Florida State University. My Bible study leader, Dean Farris, who was from Pensacola, told me I needed to worship with a Church of Christ when I went home.

I didn't want to disappoint him or my family, so my only option was to sneak out of the choir stand at Mount Olive, slip out the back door and run up the street to the East Hill church on Sunday.

At East Hill, I was surprised to see theater seats and about 60 white souls — and they were even more surprised

See **PEWS**, Page 4



PHOTO PROVIDED BY DWAIN EVANS

Black and white ministers pose for a group photo during the 1968 Atlanta meeting on race relations in Churches of Christ.

## 'We still have two brotherhoods'

**FIFTY YEARS AFTER** historic meeting, Churches of Christ remain split along racial lines.

BY **BOBBY ROSS JR. AND HAMIL R. HARRIS**  
THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

In the summer of tumultuous 1968, more than 40 black and white ministers gathered to discuss ways to improve race relations in Churches of Christ.

The two-day meeting — held 50 years ago at a hotel near the Atlanta airport — came less than three months after the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. and at the height of the unpopular Vietnam War.

One of its organizers, a black preacher named Eugene Lawton, got

right to the point in describing his view of racial discrimination.

"It's paved streets on one side of town and unpaved streets on the other side," Lawton told the group, according to a July 5, 1968, article in *The Christian Chronicle*. "It's wall-to-wall carpet on one side of town and wall-to-wall rats on the other. It's having to sleep in the car beside the road because there's no place in the inn.

"It's being a member of the Church

of Christ and being unable to attend a Christian college without going to Southwestern Christian College or 1,500 miles to Pepperdine," the long-time minister of the Newark Church of Christ in New Jersey added. "It's attending worship service and being sent to the basement. It's a preacher being dismissed on Monday because he prayed, 'Lord, bless the King family.'"

In recent interviews with the *Chronicle*, the 80-year-old Lawton and three other surviving attendees recalled the circumstances leading to the historic meeting, the personal

See **BROTHERHOODS**, Page 6



Lawton

## Generation Z is plugged in, but do they spiritually contribute?

BY **CHELLIE ISON** | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

**OKLAHOMA CITY** — If the phrase "Generation Z" makes you think of teenagers plugged into their iPhones, disconnected from the world, get to know Anna Kate Armstrong.

Less than 48 hours after returning from Africa, the 17-year-old stood on a stage at Oklahoma Christian University and talked about the work she does to empower young women by

providing them with something people in her country take for granted — feminine hygiene products.

"Going there and teaching them — looking into the faces of girls my age and seeing they don't have access to these things and how easy of a thing it is to provide — that's really close

to my heart," Armstrong told *The Christian Chronicle*.

She and three of her classmates at Friendship Christian School in Lebanon, Tenn., were recognized for their service during the first Contribute Conference, sponsored by Oklahoma Christian Academy, a pre-K through high school associated with Churches of Christ.

Brandon Tatum, the school's president, said the purpose of the conference

See **GEN Z**, Page 24



Armstrong

# PEWS: Some churches *accept* diversity, others *pursue* it

FROM PAGE 3

to see me. Then I spotted a husky, silver-haired man in a brown suit, one of the elders. I told him I was the little boy from across the street who had just been baptized. He welcomed and introduced me to others. (East Hill eventually closed and became the funeral home that prepared my grandmother for burial.)

I haven't always been received so kindly. Once I visited a Church of Christ that had about 500 in attendance — 20 of them black. Even so, one of the deacons suggested I might be more comfortable at the black congregation across town. I ignored him. The church's ministers and elders, it turns out, were nice.

I will say, however, that one of the elders, when I told him about the church I attended back home, suggested that I attend a nearby Church of Christ that was in the non-institutional branch of our fellowship.

Our divisions aren't only racial.

Back at Florida State, one of my fellow football walk-ons, Undra Griggs, who is black, studied the Bible and obeyed the Gospel. My roommate, Jeff Hughbright, who is white, insisted that we find him a church to attend in his hometown, Century, in the Florida panhandle. The closest Church of Christ we could find was an all-white congregation just across the state line in Flomaton, Ala.

I will never forget walking into that church building with Undra and Jeff. We were two blacks and a white guy. Just two hours up the road

was Selma, and on my mind were all of the college students who were beaten or lynched during those years of integration in the South.

"Do you remember what happened?" Jeff asked me just the other day as we reminisced about that visit. "We got stares, but then one man asked Undra, 'Didn't you play football for Century High?' When Undra said yes, we were welcomed.

"God worked through football."

Now Jeff and his wife, Sherry, who worship with the Campus Church of Christ in Norcross, Ga., have four children, one of which is African-American. They're blessed to be part of a diverse church family.

There's a difference, Sherry says, between churches that *accept* diversity and churches that *pursue* diversity.

"At the Campus church, we are actively striving to be the church that Jesus died for," Jeff said, "a church that has the attitude that we are glad you are here."

In 2014, I went back to that church in Alabama. There still were no people of color in the pews. To my surprise, one man knew my mother. She had been his music teacher at Century High. That connection warmed things up.

As I get older, I hang on to the hope that the church can be the diverse movement it should be. I remember the annual Florida Evangelism Seminars of more than 20 years ago, where I listened to African-American speakers such as Humphrey Foutz and Richard Barclay. And there were inspiring

white evangelists at those meetings: Marvin Phillips, Terry Rush, Richard Rodgers, Chuck Lucas. They made me believe we really *can* be united — and take the world for Christ. But in the years that have followed it seems like fighting, fracturing and splitting have plagued our fellowship.

There's hope, however. The University Park Church of Christ in Hyattsville, Md., where I preach once a month, is a thriving, diverse congregation. I've been inspired by the great men who have preached for the Simpson Street church in Atlanta, the Schrader Lane and Jackson Street churches in Nashville, Tenn., and the nearby Madison Church of Christ.

Despite the racial divisions that seem to be set like theological concrete in Memphis, Tenn., I was welcomed by brethren black and white alike when I studied there at Harding School of Theology. One of the professors, Edward Robinson, had us look at two racially charged movies — "Birth of a Nation" from 1915 and "Amistad" from 1997. It was fascinating how the black and white ministers in the room viewed these films differently.

Fifty years after the Atlanta race meetings, I think we need to recognize that we *are* different. But we're the same in all the ways that matter to Jesus, and he wants us to pursue diversity as we pursue him.

**HAMIL R. HARRIS** preaches for the Glenarden Church of Christ in Maryland. He was a longtime writer for *The Washington Post* and now freelances and teaches at Morgan State University in Baltimore.

## About our front page



*The Christian Chronicle* was born June 2, 1943, at eight pages, 17 inches tall, 11 inches wide. In honor of the publication's 75th anniversary, we gave this month's front page a distinctly "retro" look, including justified columns separated by hairlines and fonts that approximate those used by old linotype machines. Special thanks to Kim Walden for her work cleaning up and digitizing the *Chronicle's* first masthead logo, which includes a globe — the symbol of the publication ever since. Look for additional features celebrating 75 years of Christian journalism at [christianchronicle.org](http://christianchronicle.org).



A subsidiary of Oklahoma Christian University

[christianchronicle.org](http://christianchronicle.org)

Phone: (405) 425-5070; Fax (405) 425-5076

Mail: P.O. Box 11000, Oklahoma City, OK 73136-1100  
Delivery: 2801 E. Memorial Road, Edmond, OK 73013

facebook.com/ChristianChronicle  
twitter.com/CofCNews

President and CEO: Lynn A McMillon  
lynn.mcmillon@christianchronicle.org

Editor in Chief: Erik Tryggstad  
erik@christianchronicle.org

Chief Correspondent: Bobby Ross Jr.  
bobby.ross@christianchronicle.org

Digital News Editor: Chellie Ison  
chellie@christianchronicle.org

Advertising Manager: Tonya Patton  
tonya.patton@christianchronicle.org

Administrative Assistant: Lynda Sheehan  
lynda.sheehan@christianchronicle.org

Administrative Assistant: Joy McMillon  
joy.mcmillon@christianchronicle.org

Administrative Assistant: Melinda Wilson  
melinda.wilson@christianchronicle.org

Staff Accountant: Louise Beyer  
Editor Emeritus: Bailey McBride  
bailey.mcbride@christianchronicle.org

TO SUBSCRIBE: See [www.christianchronicle.org](http://www.christianchronicle.org),  
email [joy.mcmillon@christianchronicle.org](mailto:joy.mcmillon@christianchronicle.org)  
or call (405) 425-5070.

LETTERS: [letters@christianchronicle.org](mailto:letters@christianchronicle.org)

*The Christian Chronicle*® encourages feedback that promotes thoughtful and respectful discussion. Letters and comments should not exceed 300 words if possible and may be edited for length and clarity.

Comments to the print or online editions are considered to be letters to the editor and may be published. Please include name, city and state of residence, as well as home congregation.

*The Christian Chronicle*® is not a teaching or doctrinal publication but a newspaper with news and opinion content in sections clearly labeled. Signed columns and reviews reflect the opinions of the authors.

Advertising contains commercial messages from those who purchase the advertising space.

News coverage, opinion columns, reviews, letters to the editor and advertising do not necessarily represent the views of or constitute endorsement by the editors, the staff, the Board of Trustees of *The Christian Chronicle* or Oklahoma Christian University.

*The Christian Chronicle*® is published monthly and is served by a national Board of Trustees that is charged with the responsibility for policy and governance. All trustees, editors and staff are active members of Churches of Christ.

### TRUSTEES:

Deon Fair, chairman

Ed Biggers • Alfred Branch • Dwain Chaffin  
Monte Cox • Billy Curl • John deSteiguer • Erin Engelke  
James Moore • Robert Oglesby Sr. • Mike O'Neal  
Barry Packer • David Seat • Brian Simmons  
Harold Redd • Milton Sewell • Gary Tabor



## ARKANSAS

**SEARCY** — The 1,600-member Downtown Church of Christ is expanding to better serve the youth of its membership, including often-overlooked children with special needs, church leaders said.

A \$3.6 million addition will double the congregation's number of classrooms. A previous addition, completed in 2000, was designed for a maximum of 280 children.

"We've outgrown that facility and currently have 361 kids in our children's program," said Jennifer Mills, one of the church's children's ministers. "And it continues to grow."

The new space will include classrooms for special-needs and hidden-disability children and feature tools and resources such as sensory swings, body socks, fidget toys and weighted lap pads.

## LOUISIANA

**NEW ORLEANS** — Pop star Beyoncé reportedly has purchased the Seventh and Camp Church of Christ building.

Real estate records cited by the *New Orleans Advocate* newspaper indicate the two-story, corner church recently sold for \$850,000.

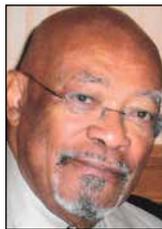
The church had fallen into disrepair as its small congregation dwindled over the years, and the few remaining members decided to sell it, according to the paper.

The celebrity news site TMZ identified Beyoncé as the buyer, the *Advocate* noted. The church's telephone number has been disconnected.

## MICHIGAN

**DETROIT** — Hubert Locke, a former minister for the Conant Gardens Church of Christ who wrote a book on the 1967 Detroit riot, died June 2. He was 84.

Besides his church duties, Locke served as an administrative assistant for the Detroit police commissioner. He was the author of "The Detroit Riot of 1967," which detailed how events unfolded hour by hour. *The Christian Chronicle* interviewed him at the riot's 50th anniversary last year.



Locke



PHOTO PROVIDED BY DAN COOPER

## New Jersey congregation celebrates a baby boom

Each year, the Pitman Road Church of Christ in Sewell, N.J., invites parents of newborns up front for a special prayer. Over the last year, the congregation has experienced a baby boom, minister Dan Cooper noted. "Biggest group of new babies we've had in a while," Cooper said.

After the riot, Locke later left the ministry and police work to enter academia. He served as the dean of the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington. He lived in Seattle at the time of his death.

## MISSISSIPPI

**PEARL** — During the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln created two holidays: Thanksgiving and a National Day of Prayer and Fasting.

Leaders of the Skyway Hills Church of Christ said they initially were unaware of the second holiday, which has faded away.

"The more we learned about this National Day of Prayer and Fasting, the more we felt called by God to honor him in this way," elder Jim Head told the *Jackson Clarion-Ledger*. So the church recently observed the holiday.

Member Andrew Rodgers told the newspaper: "Fasting and prayer draws us closer to God because ... we are relying on him for all our sustenance, for all our needs."

## SPOTLIGHT

## Texas church to rebuild after fire

**KERMIT, Texas** — After a recent fire, the Eastside Church of Christ is reminding supporters that the church is made up of Christians, not brick and mortar.

"Our congregation's building is destroyed, but the Lord's church remains strong, and worldly things are temporary anyway," leaders of the West Texas congregation said on their website at [sites.google.com/view/eastside-church-of-christ](http://sites.google.com/view/eastside-church-of-christ).

The 60-member church awaited fire investigators' determination of a cause for the fire while preparing to dig through the rubble. The auditorium, offices, classrooms and food pantry were destroyed, but the fellowship building is across an alley and was unharmed. The congregation expects to meet there while rebuilding. The burned facility was insured.

"Due to the severity of the fire,



PAMELA DAY

Volunteer firefighters take time to pray after battling the blaze in Kermit, Texas.

the recovery will be a lengthy process," the website said.

Financial donations can be sent to PO Box 845, Kermit, TX 79745.

# BROTHERHOODS: Racial division remains

FROM PAGE 3

bonds that were formed that June and the racial divide that still lingers a half-century later.

“The white brotherhood wasn’t even aware that racism was declared to be illegal in America,” Lawton said of 1968. “So we had tokenism at the time, but most of the Christian colleges didn’t open their doors to black students because of love and Christianity. It was based on the federal government saying you wouldn’t receive another dime (of student aid) from us unless you integrate your schools.”

Racism was rampant in Churches of Christ, said Andrew Hairston, a black minister who served as the conference’s Atlanta host. He will celebrate his 86th birthday on July 8.

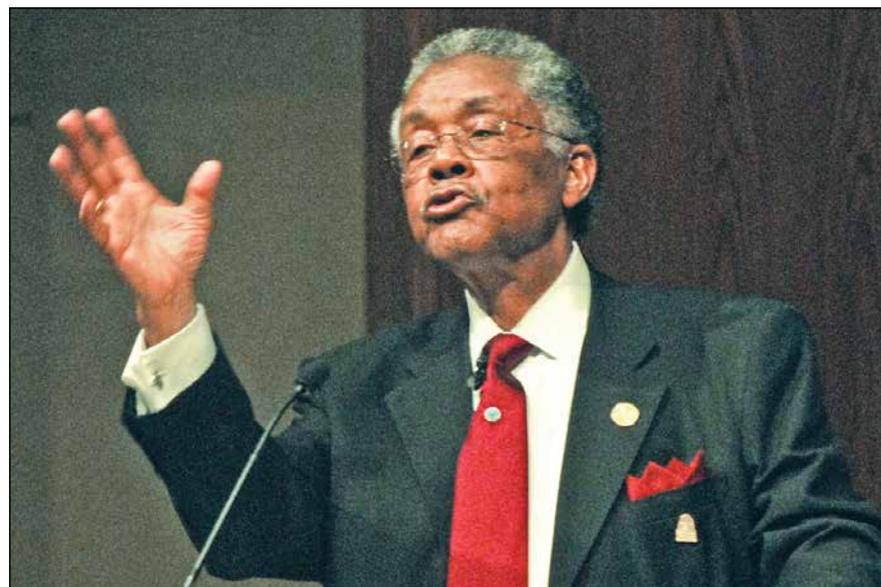
“We were not accepted in the white churches except for the back seat or by special invitation,” said Hairston, who retired in August 2017 after nearly 56 years as minister for the Simpson Street Church of Christ in Atlanta. “The thing that hurt me greatly was for us to be saying there was one church. We were obviously divided.”

Dwain Evans, a white minister who attended the meeting, came from West Islip, N.Y., where he planted the first Exodus Movement congregation.

The Exodus Movement — which drew *Time* magazine’s attention in the 1960s — involved large groups of Christians in the South and Southwest forming ready-made Churches of Christ in places such as West Islip; Stamford, Conn.; Burlington, Mass.; Rochester, N.Y.; and Toronto.

Evans, now 85, graduated from Abilene Christian University in Texas in 1954, the same year as the U.S. Supreme Court’s landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision declaring “separate but equal” public schools unconstitutional. In the unanimous ruling, justices said state-imposed segregated schools were “inherently unequal” and must be abolished.

“I thought, ‘My goodness, our



TED PARKS

Andrew Hairston preaches at the Simpson Street Church of Christ in 2012. Hairston retired in August 2017 after nearly 56 years as the congregation’s minister.

schools are desegregating, but the Churches of Christ are as white as they can be and as black as they can be,” said Evans, who began to advocate for bringing Christians of all races together.

But resistance to integrating Churches of Christ was strong, he said.

“I could tell you stories of friends of mine who were fired just because they asked a black preacher to say a dismissal prayer at a gospel meeting,” said Evans, who later left ministry and entered the real estate business. He is a member of the Bering Drive Church of Christ in Houston.

Another white attendee, John Allen Chalk, preached for the Herald of Truth’s radio program from 1956 until 1969, when he moved to the pulpit of the Highland Church of Christ in Abilene, Texas. He left the Highland church in 1971 to attend law school.

“My experience with sin and all the principalities and powers and world rulers of darkness, just my understanding theologically of the human condition, caused me all through this period to realize that we were really battling, as we still

do, some very strong forces of evil,” said Chalk, now 81 and living in Fort Worth, Texas, where he attends Christ Chapel Bible Church.

“Most of us at that meeting were blinded by our own cultural training and ... blinded by the evil one,” he added. “It still exists, if not even more powerfully today than it did in 1968.”

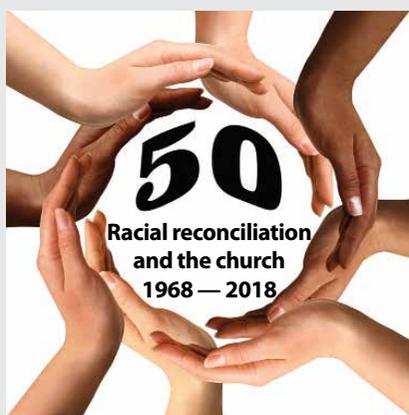
## ‘A NEGRO HAS A SOUL’

Discussion at the Atlanta conference was frank.

“You want me to lift myself by my own bootstraps, but you are standing on my boots,” charged the late Humphrey Foutz, a black minister who served the Central Church of Christ in Baltimore for nearly 50 years. He died in 2006.

“I have had to defend the fact that a Negro has a soul,” said the late Carl Spain, an Abilene Christian University Bible professor who had made a 1960 lectureship speech calling for integration at the Texas university. He died in 1991.

Besides Lawton, main organizers of the meeting included Jimmy Allen, a nationally known white evangelist who conducted thousands of gospel meetings, and R.C. Wells, who now is minister emeritus of the Harlem Church of Christ in New York after serving that congregation for decades.



More from this series: [christianchronicle.org](http://christianchronicle.org)

## 1968

**MARCH 31:** In a televised address to the nation, an increasingly embattled President Lyndon B. Johnson announced: “I shall not seek, and I will not accept, the nomination of my party as your president.”

**APRIL 4:** Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated while standing on a balcony outside his Memphis, Tenn., hotel room.

**JUNE 5:** After winning the California Democratic presidential primary, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated while leaving a Los Angeles hotel where he had addressed a large group of supporters.

**AUG. 26-29:** With anti-Vietnam War fervor running strong, TV cameras captured bloody clashes between police and demonstrators at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

**OCT. 16:** After winning medals at the Summer Olympics in Mexico City, U.S. athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos bowed their heads and raised their black-gloved fists in a recognized salute to the Black Power movement during the playing of “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

**NOV. 5:** In a three-way presidential race, Republican Richard Nixon defeated Democrat Hubert Humphrey and independent George Wallace.

SOURCE: [history.com](http://history.com)



Evans



Chalk

Because of health issues, neither Allen nor Wells was available for an interview.

The Atlanta gathering came on the heels of a March 1968 race relations workshop hosted by the Schrader Lane Church of Christ in Nashville, Tenn. Minister David Jones and the Schrader Lane elders put together that integrated workshop, which many white congregations boycotted, according to research by Doug Foster, director of ACU's Center for Restoration Studies.

Jones spoke, too, at the Atlanta gathering a few months later. Jones retired in 2015 after 53 years as the congregation's minister.

At the end of the Atlanta meeting, a statement was produced "acknowledging the sin of racial prejudice in Churches of Christ and church-related institutions and businesses," Foster noted. "It set out specific guidelines to remedy the evil in congregations, schools, Herald of Truth, publishing houses and Christian-owned businesses.

"Twelve of the 47 present did not sign." It's unclear if they refused to sign or perhaps had left the meeting early, Foster said.

#### 'ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE WRONG'

None of the attendees interviewed by the *Chronicle* claimed that the Atlanta meeting eliminated racism in Churches of Christ.

In fact, each lamented the lack of more significant progress in integrating the nation's pews.

But each characterized the gathering as a success in that black and white ministers formed stronger personal relationships with each other — and church publications and media ministries gave prominent attention to the issue.

"We knew that racism was a sin and something had to be done,"

Lawton said. The discussion in Nashville and Atlanta "did not fully solve the problem, but it began an acknowledgment of the wrong."

Hairston said: "Our meetings were genuine, and that's one of the blessings that came to me. I felt that John Allen Chalk and Jimmy Allen and me

— we had genuine relationships in those times. I would say I talked to them man to man, brother to brother. And they both were very conscious of what was going on.

"The fact that we sat down and talked for a couple of days was a change," he added, "and it affected our lives."

Evans echoed Hairston, explaining why he describes the Atlanta meeting as a wonderful experience: "It was the spirit of love."

Chalk pointed to the good will that came out of the meeting: "It was a very significant group of concerned people who came and listened. I'm sure everyone got some insights and heard some things from their black brothers — and black brothers who heard some things from their white brothers — that they hadn't even considered."

#### 'MOST SEGREGATED HOUR'

Decades after King called 11 a.m. each Sunday "the most segregated hour of Christian America," Churches of Christ remain largely divided along racial lines.

"We still have two brotherhoods — the white brotherhood and the black brotherhood — and we don't have too much fellowship between us," Lawton said.

Hairston indicated that he sees more apathy and less overt racism in Churches of Christ these days.

"You don't have as much of a hardline 'Get those black people out of here' as we had then," he said. "You don't have as many people who openly advocate that (integration) isn't



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOHN ALLEN CHALK

John Allen Chalk, who later became an attorney, shares a Bible message on a Herald of Truth radio program. Chalk served as the ministry's main radio preacher from 1956 to 1969.



BOBBY ROSS JR.

'A segregated church cannot survive in a multi-racial world': So said minister Eugene Lawton at the 1968 Atlanta meeting on race relations in Churches of Christ. Read *The Christian Chronicle's* July 5, 1968, story on the conference and the full list of recommendations that emerged at [christianchronicle.org](http://christianchronicle.org).

a Christian calling, that the church doesn't have to be bothered with it.

"Schools and jobs have been integrated, and we are not as unknown to each other as we were 50 to 100 years ago," he added.

But at the same time, many Christians seem content to remain in racially isolated congregations.

"I definitely don't think we're one church," Hairston said, "because people still decide based on race where they are going to go to church."

Evans agreed that the conference's ambition of fully uniting the black and white churches did not occur. Part of that may relate to theology, he said, as the black congregations tend to be "even more conservative than the white churches."

At his home congregation, he said, "We have black members, but there's not many of them. One of them has served in leadership positions. But by and large, the divide is still there."

Looking back, Chalk said he can see some progress. "There are token blacks in many white churches that were never there before, and there's

a greater openness about issues," he said. "And all the colleges associated with Churches of Christ, for the most part, did begin admitting black students. So that was a profound change, but it didn't come because of the Atlanta conference."

Lawton calls racism the No. 1 issue in America, suggesting that "a black person can't even go into a coffee shop and not be arrested."

In a recent case that made national headlines, two black men were arrested at a Starbucks in Philadelphia. The men's transgression: They had asked to use the bathroom as they waited for a business meeting and then occupied a table without making a purchase.

"The No. 1 thing is to teach," Lawton said. "We have enough churches talking about 'baptism is essential for salvation.' We have to talk about problems that face the lives of every human being in terms of survival.

"This is not just the Church of Christ's problem. This is America's problem," he added. "Where do we go from here?"

# 'The Missionary who Stayed Home' started a movement

(Continued from Page 1)

of Sulphur, Okla., attended Abilene Christian College in Texas, where "the missionary spirit was alive and well," said Lavella Hicks McMillan, one of his four children. "He had grown up with a really spiritually minded mother, and it all combined to make him mission-oriented."

He earned a bachelor's in journalism and a master's in English from the University of Texas in Austin and preached for Churches of Christ across the state. One day, on a walk, he spotted a copy of the *Deseret News*, a Mormon newspaper. It reminded him of his long-time desire for a similar publication for Churches of Christ.

"He wanted a newspaper like the *Cristian Science Monitor*," said his son, Mark, "not a doctrinal paper ... but a paper for and about the news of the church, especially in support of mission efforts."

Hicks shared the idea with Hulen Jackson, a friend and fellow Texas minister who immediately asked Hicks to sign him up — and became the *Chronicle's* first subscriber.

\* \* \*

## PUBLISHED AND MAILED BEFORE BIBLE CLASS

A HANDFUL of other subscribers followed, committing the \$2 per year fee. Hicks assembled a team of reporters spread across the U.S. At age 35, he launched the *Chronicle* as a weekly publication. Its first issue included ads of congratulations from the Preston Road Church of Christ in Dallas, G-P Rubbing Alcohol, Braden's Cake Shop and The Meggs Co., which sold Diamond Tires and Exide Batteries.

"The mailing room was our front porch," Mark Hicks said. "I was 5 years old, and all I can remember clearly is that there were bowls of wheat paste and brushes, papers, addressing labels and a half-dozen people scattered around there once a week."

McMillan was only 2 when the paper made its debut. She remembers watching her father proofread the galleys from which printers produced the newspaper's pages.

"Daddy had a knack for reading it upside down and backwards from the lines of metal type," she said. "He could read the backwards type produced by the linotype faster than I could read the



Olan Hicks greets a visitor at the Hicks Printing Company building in Abilene, Texas, in the 1940s. In addition to producing *The Christian Chronicle*, Hicks printed Bible commentaries, church bulletins and business cards.

correct way from a book.

"After the paper was printed, the folder did its job. Then the person operating the Addressograph, usually mom, would take the paper and print the name and address of the recipient. ... I remember sitting up on the bags of papers to make the ride to the post office each Wednesday evening. We'd be so tired and would then eat a quick supper and go to church that night."

\* \* \*

## AN EDITOR/BISHOP?

THE *CHRONICLE* wasn't the first news publication for Churches of Christ and was not intended to be "in competition with any other paper in the church today," Hicks wrote in the first issue.

The newspaper did not follow the model of many of its 19th century predecessors associated with the Stone-Campbell Movement, also called the Restoration Movement, which advocated simple, Bible-based Christianity.

Publications such as *Millennial Harbinger*, *The Christian-Evangelist*, *Firm Foundation* and *Gospel Advocate* included teaching pieces by theologians including Alexander Campbell, James Harvey Garrison, Austin McGary and

David Lipscomb.

In 1909, evangelist W.T. Moore coined the phrase "editor/bishop," which "referred to the informal power that editors of journals could and did wield in the absence of a more formal, denomination-wide authority structure," said Doug Foster, professor of church history and director of the Center for Restoration Studies at Hicks' alma mater, now Abilene Christian University.

Although Churches of Christ have no formal hierarchy and individual congregations are autonomous, the writings of scholars such as Lipscomb and B.C. Goodpasture have served an informal function of teaching, guiding, disciplining and nurturing the fellowship's congregations, Foster said.

"My impression of *The Christian Chronicle* is that it was intended to be more of a networking and news-reporting paper rather than a paper to exercise such oversight," Foster said. "The language of Olan Hicks concerning standing for right and truth seems to me to have been



OLAN HICKS

intended to assure readers that the paper was going to be sound — and thereby garner support and avoid opposition for the effort rather than intentionally steering the churches in certain ways."

While Hicks didn't set out to influence Churches of Christ beyond encouraging evangelism, the publication did play an agenda-setting function similar to the role played by daily newspapers, said Richard Hughes, an author and longtime researcher of religion and culture.

"By faithfully reporting the news, *The Christian Chronicle* has done several things," said Hughes, a scholar-in-residence at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn. "First, it has determined what counts as news and what doesn't and in that sense fits into the editor/bishop category.

"At the same time, by proclaiming the news about Churches of Christ, the *Chronicle* has by all means played a role in unifying our fellowship. I think, for example, of George Whitefield in the early days of the Great Awakening. He functioned, as it were, as the 'newspaper' for the colonies since, as he preached up and down the eastern seaboard, he brought news from other places where he had preached. And by making folks aware of what was happening in other areas, he

served as a unifier for the colonies.”

For his part, Hicks never aspired to such a role, Lavella McMillan said.

“Daddy was the most unassuming person you would ever hope to meet — none of that editor/bishop stuff for him,” she said. “As for his vision for the *Chronicle*, he just wanted to let people everywhere know what was going on in any place where Christ had been preached. He believed that the *Chronicle* would awaken people to the need all over the earth for Christ’s message of salvation.”

\* \* \*

## AN INFLUENTIAL LIFE OF TOO-FEW YEARS

AS WORLD WAR II ended and the paper’s circulation grew, friends suggested that Hicks move the operation to Abilene. The family set up the Hicks Printing Company in a building near the intersection of Plum and North 13th streets. In the years that followed, Hicks continued to publish reports of evangelism and mission efforts in the postwar era.

Bailey McBride, a former editor of the *Chronicle* who has served the publication for more than 30 years, said that reading the newspaper’s earliest issues “reveals that Hicks played a powerful role in setting the agenda for churches to grow, reach out of the United States and utilize media (radio and then television) to teach about salvation and to publicize Churches of Christ.”

Despite the *Chronicle*’s popularity, Hicks struggled to keep it funded. A small group of businessmen offered to help and bought 51 percent of the publication, McMillan said. Soon, the financiers took over most of the newspaper’s operations and forced Hicks out. His final issue as editor was March 4, 1954.

“Daddy nearly had a nervous breakdown when the paper was taken from him,” his daughter said, “but he had needed financial support. ... He was in such anguish but didn’t want to let us kids know what was going on.”

His friends and family encouraged him. His sister, in a letter, joked “that he would enjoy working with people rather than just printing presses,” McMillan said. The family moved to San Antonio and then to Henderson, Tenn., where Hicks joined the faculty of Freed-Hardeman College, now University. He taught Bible, Greek, church history and Christian evidences. Eventually, his daughter became one of his students in a Bible course.

“I just barely passed,” she recalled “He didn’t want anyone thinking that he was partial to any of his own kids.”

Hicks continued to advocate for missions in the U.S. and abroad, launching an Evangelistic Forum at Freed-Hardeman. If a biography were ever to be written about him, his son Mark suggested the title “The Missionary Who Stayed Home.”

Hicks died Sept. 8, 1963, at age 55.

“We seriously doubt that the brotherhood in general is aware of the serious loss sustained in the death of Olan Hicks,” wrote the editors of *Firm Foundation*, who hailed him as the father of both the religious newspaper and “the tremendous upsurge of worldwide missionary interest.”

“It is an odd but common thing that men who found movements are more often than not shuffled out of them, and few live to see them bloom,” the editors wrote. “Such was the case with Olan. He spent the last of his too-few years as an outstanding teacher of Bible and of church history in one of our colleges.

“It is our personal feeling that in history he will go down alongside Campbell, McGary and Lipscomb in the field of journalism, and in world evangelism someone will still have to come along that can be put down beside him.”

## Editor’s Desk

(Continued from Page 1)

Paul Southern, who taught Bible and English at Abilene Christian.

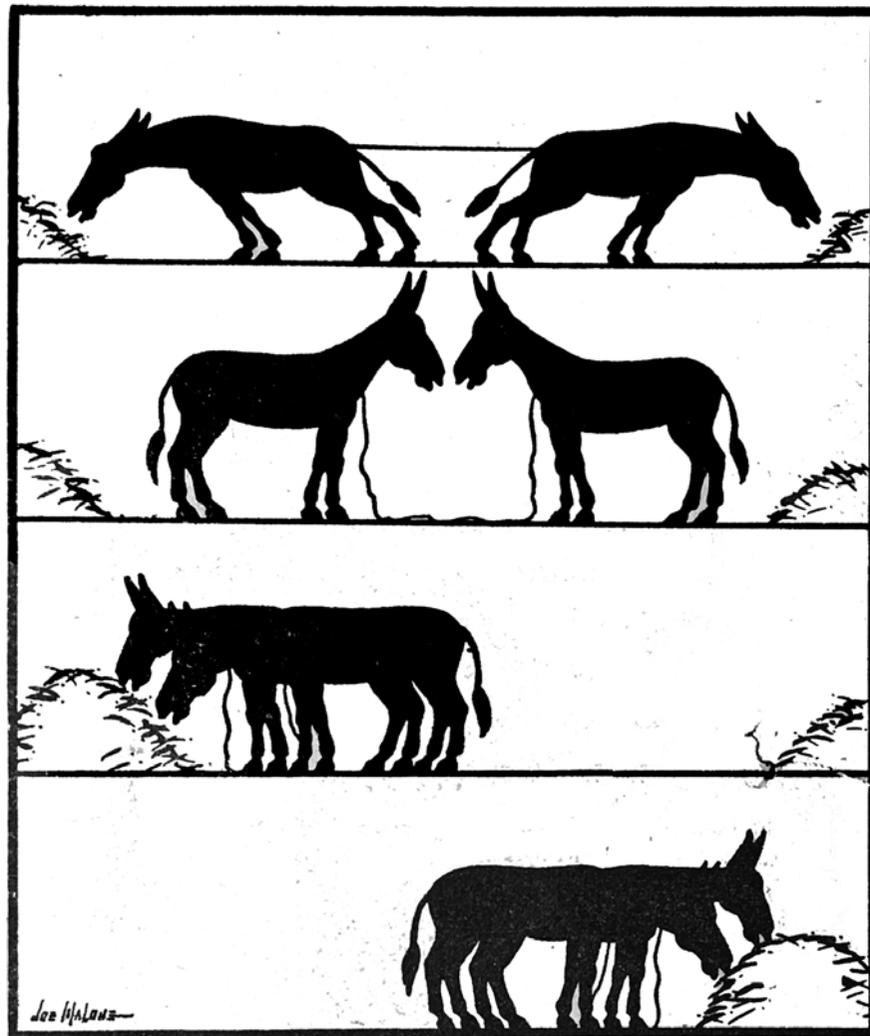
“He was the one who gave me my first lessons in journalism,” Hicks wrote. “If the job is poorly done, now you will know who to blame!”

Though he had some training in journalism, “I am not a professional promoter,” Hicks wrote in his second column, dated June 9, 1942. If the paper succeeds, “it will be because it has the merit to succeed. He then offered a sort of mission statement for the publication:

“CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE is to be built on character. It means to stand for right and truth, for fairness and impartiality, for zeal according to knowledge. It is a newspaper and is to be conducted on the principles of news reporting. We mean to maintain not only the highest ethics of the newspaper profession, but also of Christianity.”

See that someone from your congregation is designated to send all the news to the CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE.

## Let’s Work Together



This cartoon by artist Joe Malone appeared in the second issue of *The Christian Chronicle*, accompanying an editorial encouraging Churches of Christ to cooperate in evangelism. “There are enough such congregations to evangelize the entire country within the next decade if we all work together,” Olan Hicks wrote.

## Midst of War

(Continued from Page 1)

internment camp in southwest Colorado.

“Uprooted from their homes, belongings and familiar surroundings — some bewildered, some frightened and no doubt some bitter, these people were brought to a new world,” Upton wrote.

“In that bewildered multitude was a little band of Christians under the leadership of elders Yoshimuni and Shigekuni whose doctrine is set down by the apostles in the New Testament.”

The story mentioned a gospel meeting in the camp conducted by Allen, Okla., evangelist Perry Blue. The Japanese Christians expressed tearful thanks for their fellow believers’ concern, Upton wrote.

In the third issue, editor Olan Hicks framed the overseas conflicts in the context of global evangelism.

“Every mail brings news from some place where a group of soldiers or defense workers, finding themselves in some place where there is no congregation, set about to organize one,” Hicks wrote. He commended U.S. servicemen “for their loyalty to the Lord and his church” and encouraged stateside Christians to answer the call of steel companies and other businesses looking for workers to support the war effort. Move for the jobs, he wrote, and stay “until the church is established.”

“The war, in spite of all its horrors, waste, sins and heartaches, may in the providence of an almighty and an allwise God bring some good to this old world.”

**NO GOSSIP, JUST NEWS.** *That was the goal of The Christian Chronicle from the beginning, says Lavella Hicks McMillan.*

# A chronicler's daughter shares memories

BY ERIK TRYGGESTAD | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

**P**rinter's ink flowed through the veins of Lavella Hicks McMillan at an early age. She was 2 when her preacher father, Olan Hicks, published the first issue of *The Christian Chronicle*, a newspaper for Churches of Christ.

Her brother, Mark, remembers "the black ink smudges on Daddy's tummy, on the front of his white dress shirts, which he wore every day," she said. Her mother, Opal, "bless her heart, worked so hard to get them clean."

Born in Chicago, McMillan and her siblings — Mark, Clark and Janet — all played roles in the production of the *Chronicle's* first issues, from 1943 to 1954. Olan Hicks' died in 1963, and Clark Hicks served as the *Chronicle's* editor and publisher in the early 1970s.

McMillan grew up in Abilene, Texas, and moved with her family to Henderson, Tenn., where her father taught at Freed-Hardeman University. She attended Freed-Hardeman, married and completed her degree at Lipscomb University and Tennessee Tech.

She did mission work in New Hampshire for two years, served a brief stint in the Women's Army Corps and then moved to Melbourne, Fla., to teach. She divorced and later married Ned McMillan, her husband of 46 years. She taught math and English and served as a media specialist for her school before retiring in 1999.

Lavella McMillan has a son by her first marriage and two grandsons, plus two stepsons. She and her husband worship with the Melbourne Church of Christ.

**Tell me about Olan Hicks. What kind of man was he?**

I remember a time when we were living in Abilene, and he was holding a meeting at, seems like, the 14th and Vine Street Church of Christ. We had gone to every night's service, and I was so worn out. I was probably 4 or 5 years old.

I got to crying and couldn't stop. He held me in his arms and still

greeted people after the service was over. He would shake hands with someone and then pat me on the back, then shake hands with someone else. I wonder how he did it without losing patience with me.

He was witty, reserved and always fair in his dealings with people. He always seemed to be about the meekest man I ever knew — no braggadocio personality, just the unvarnished truth about what he was thinking. He always took the back seat to anyone else who was around him, always stood back and let others go ahead of him. He tried to teach us the same thing.

We had a period of several years when we always had a family time when we'd pile up in Mom and Dad's bed and he'd read us a Bible story from Hurlbut's Bible story book.

**I understand that he never saw himself in an editor/bishop role. Tell me more about that.**

He could name about any preacher anywhere in the world if you asked him, since he knew firsthand who was where, but he wasn't a glad-hander type at all. He was fairly reserved and didn't expect anyone to cater to him.

When we would travel and go to church, he always had to have an outline of a sermon in his coat pocket since he would inevitably be invited to speak by the preacher.

I found one of his little scribbled outlines the other day. It was only about five or six words, but enough to help him get his thoughts together. Also, I remember him getting off on tangents when preaching. After catching himself, he'd say, "That one's free of charge" or "It won't cost you a penny for that sermon" and then get back on the subject.

He never had his own agenda. He said his main verse was Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 2:2: *For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.* That was Daddy.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Lavella Hicks McMillan

**Was there ever a moment when your dad came to the realization, "Wow, this was the right thing to do?" or was it more gradual?**

Yes, Daddy knew that printing and publishing the *Chronicle* was the right thing to do, since it let people know what was happening in the church all over the world.

The United States was just realizing that mission work was so important, and the *Chronicle* was at least partially responsible for that knowledge.

Otis Gatewood and Maurice and Marie Hall were the most well-known missionaries I remembered, but there were lots of people who were in the mission field, including the Padens in Italy. There were so many at Abilene Christian College who were mission-minded, such as J.W. Treat, Homer Hailey, and many more.

**The *Chronicle* wasn't the only thing your father printed, right?**

The name of the company wasn't *The Christian Chronicle*, but Hicks Printing Company. Daddy printed lots of other stuff. There was a song

book called "Great Songs of the Church" as well as a whole series of commentaries on the Bible and also lots of bulletins for various congregations around Abilene. We kids would help fold and get them ready to deliver or to be picked up.

**I know from experience that the *Chronicle* will eat up any spare time you have! Plus, family-run newspapers can be expensive labors of love that become contentious among family members. Were there ever times when you saw the newspaper as a burden?**

We all went without a lot of things, and clothes, and all that, but it was the only thing we knew.

Mom wasn't brought up in the church, but when she married Daddy, she really pitched herself into whatever he wanted to do. She was really a people person and could talk to anyone she met. She was such a great asset to him. I often wondered if she might have had second thoughts about marrying him if she knew what she was in for!

**Seventy-five years after the *Chronicle's* first issue, how do you see your family's legacy in the greater story of the Lord's church?**

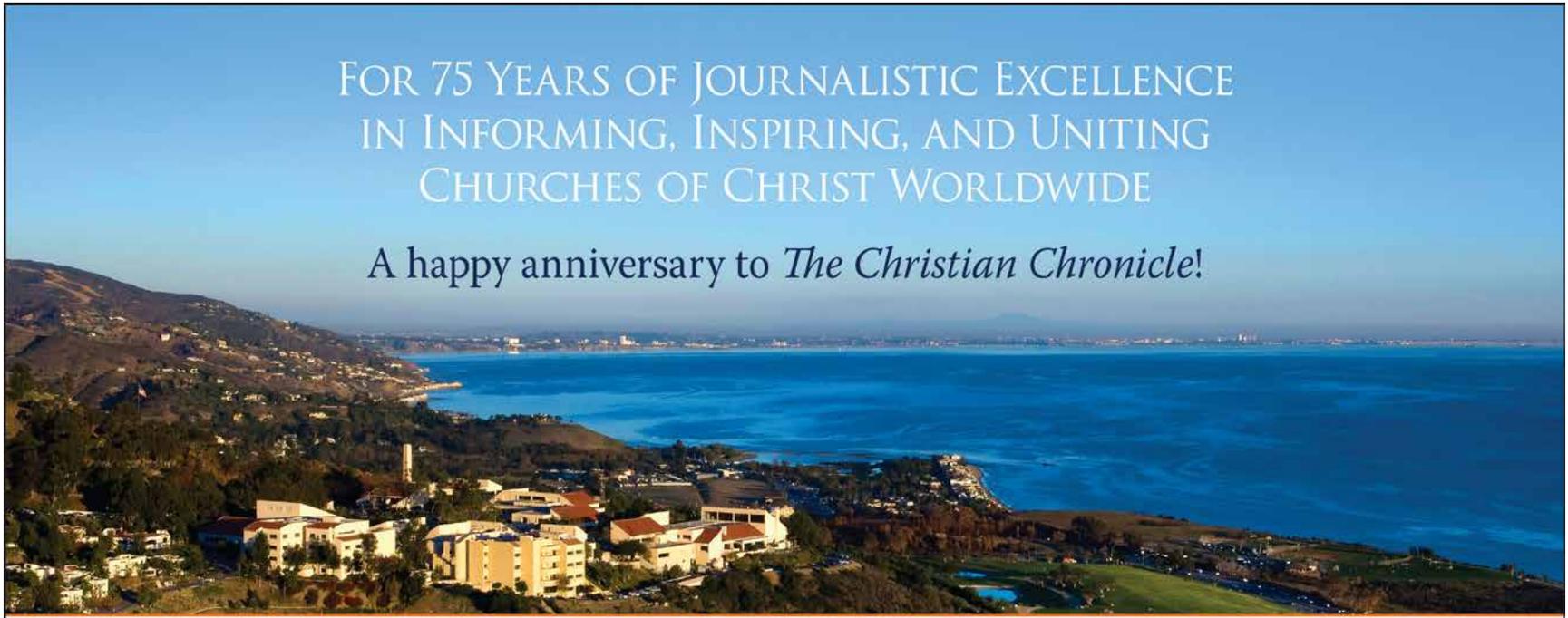
As for me, I'm still very oriented toward mission work, and served some years in New Hampshire.

Now I'm a member of a congregation that is mission-oriented, and also a ladies' Bible class that contributes to different missions.

Daddy was what I call a "chronicler." He didn't want to sway opinion except toward what the Bible taught and only wanted to report what had happened or was happening. His emphasis was always on mission work and spreading the Gospel worldwide — no gossip, no opinions, no trying to sway people's opinions about certain things, people, places or work that was going on, just straightforward reporting the situation as it was.

FOR 75 YEARS OF JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE  
IN INFORMING, INSPIRING, AND UNITING  
CHURCHES OF CHRIST WORLDWIDE

A happy anniversary to *The Christian Chronicle!*



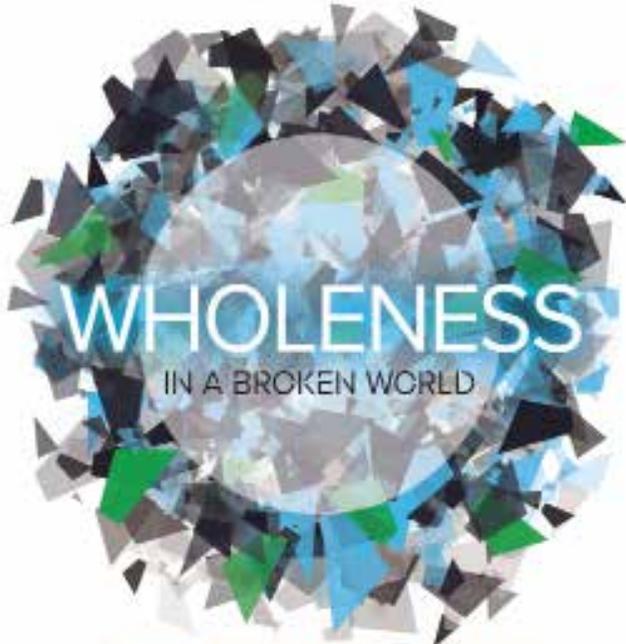
**PEPPERDINE**  
UNIVERSITY

[pepperdine.edu](http://pepperdine.edu)



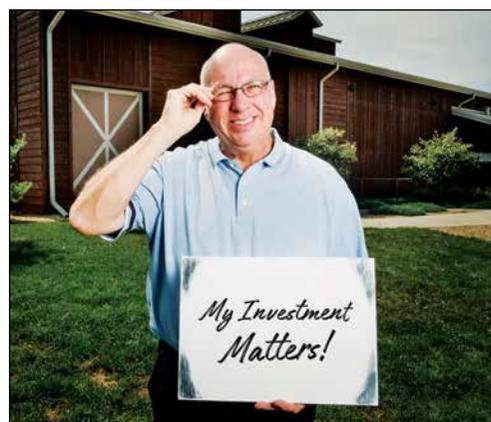
Malibu | West Los Angeles | Calabasas | Encino | Irvine | Silicon Valley | Washington, DC  
Heidelberg | London | Florence | Buenos Aires | Lausanne | Shanghai

Summit



Together Through the Power of the Spirit  
INSIGHTS FROM EPHESIANS

112th Annual • Abilene Christian University  
September 16-19, 2018 • [acu.edu/summit](http://acu.edu/summit)



Explore TSF and  
Build the Kingdom!

4.65% APY  
5 Year Certificate

3.56% APY  
3 Year Certificate

2.99% APY  
1 Year Certificate

DISCOVERY CHRISTIAN CHURCH BROOMFIELD, CO  
PAT HARTSON, TSF INVESTOR

WATCH OUR STORY AT  
[TheSolomonFoundation.org/Stories](http://TheSolomonFoundation.org/Stories)



LOANS • INVESTMENTS • GROWTH

4.65% APY is based on a minimum investment of \$10,000 for a term of 5 years. 3.56% APY is based on a minimum investment of \$10,000 for a term of 3 years. 2.99% APY is based on a minimum investment of \$500 for a term of 1 year. The content and material contained herein are not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy Investment Certificates of The Solomon Foundation. The offer is made solely by and through our Offering Circular, which you should read carefully before making an investment decision. The Investment Certificates are subject to certain risk factors as described in the Offering Circular. Investment Certificates are offered and sold only in states where authorized. Investment Certificates of The Solomon Foundation are not insured by the FDIC, SIPC or any other governmental agency. TSF has the right to call Certificates for redemption at any time upon sixty (60) days written notice. In such event, interest will be paid to the date of redemption.

# SEPT 13-14 NEW DAY CONFERENCE

Join us September 13 & 14 at North Boulevard Church of Christ in Murfreesboro, TN and return to your congregation with tools and resources that will help your members "be more disciples!"

**NEW TOOLS  
ETERNAL TRUTHS  
ENDURING CHURCHES**

**Early bird price**

**\$59**



and more...

**NORTH BOULEVARD**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

1000 North Boulevard  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

www.nbcchurchofchrist.com

**BR**  
**RC**

## BRANCHES RECOVERY CENTER, LLC

*"With God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26*

Branches RC is a Christian-based men's drug addiction facility for detox and residential treatment services.

We realize that drug addiction doesn't just affect the addict, but it includes the entire family and surrounding loved ones.

While providing the latest compassionate, quality programs and therapies to fight substance abuse, we understand the importance of incorporating Jesus as our higher power.

Branches RC is located in Corona, Calif., and founded by Phil Pafford, a graduate of Harding University.

Our facility provides an escape from the stress and pressures associated with addiction, while allowing men to work beside excellent counselors to realize "their way" has not worked and assist them in a paradigm shift in the way they think - helping men renew a positive view of themselves and to put a reliance on God into their lives.

**Don't try to fight addiction alone...Call us today!**

**(951) 817-4486**

**Visit our facility at: [www.BranchesRC.com](http://www.BranchesRC.com)**

Center · Peace

## (e3) CONFERENCE

Oct. 4-7, 2018 | Highland Oaks COC, Dallas

Join Bible faculty from COC colleges as we create open dialogue about faith & sexuality.

Guest speakers include **Don McLaughlin** from N. Atlanta Church, as well as, popular speaker and author, **Justin Lee**.

### Register & More Details

[centerpeace.net/e3conference](http://centerpeace.net/e3conference)  
or call 469-955-2407

CenterPeace helps churches and families learn a more Christ-like response to individuals experiencing same-sex attraction.

[centerpeaceinc@gmail.com](mailto:centerpeaceinc@gmail.com)  
 [facebook.com/centerpeaceinc](https://www.facebook.com/centerpeaceinc)



## AUSTRALIA

**BRISBANE** — “Passing the Baton” was the theme of the recent Asia-Pacific Elders, Deacons and Spouses Conference, hosted by The Point Church of Christ. More than 60 Christians attended from across Australia, Singapore, India and the U.S. Speakers included Evertt Huffard of Harding School of Theology in Memphis, Tenn., Jay Jarboe of Missions Resource Network and ministers Steve Wilson, Benny Tabalujan and Stuart Penhall.

“It was a fruitful and inspiring time,” said participant Craig Holyoak, “which left attendees with a common sense of mission and shared purpose.” See more news from Australia in *InterSections* magazine, [www.intersections.com.au](http://www.intersections.com.au).

## CAMEROON

**NGONG** — Tuition for a new ministry training school in this West African nation is a bag of corn.

Actually, the corn is more of an investment in the school, *L'Institut Biblique de l'Afrique Francophone de Ngong*, overseen by the Church of Christ. Albert Djoksia runs the school, which has seven rooms for dormitories and a classroom for its first 12 students. The church also plans to open a health center to

serve its community in Cameroon's predominantly Muslim north.

## FRANCE

**LYON** — Street interviews conducted in this once staunchly Catholic nation show that French people today know little about Jesus, church members report. So coordinators of a recent family retreat for French-speaking Churches of Christ chose “Faith: From Assurance to Proclamation” as this year's theme.



JUSTIN HOPKINS

## When the potluck brings itself to church

As students take exams, a lone chicken strolls through the Rwenzori School of Preaching in Kasase, Uganda. Minister Justin Hopkins (that's his shoe at far right) traveled to the East African nation to teach courses on evangelism and marriage and family at the school, founded in 2016. Hopkins worked with Gregg Knight of the Manna Project during the trip, providing food for widows of a Church of Christ in the mountains near Kasase and support for orphans taken in by a congregation in the village of Kitswamba. “Also, a group of Ugandan preachers is forming a coffee-growing co-op, with the goal of supporting their ministries, feeding orphans in their villages, and employing local brethren to lift up the community,” Hopkins said. The visitors hope to import the coffee to the U.S. to assist the new co-op.

Speakers discussed historical evidence for Jesus, the New Testament canon, materialism and suffering during the retreat, hosted by the Lyon Church of Christ. About 110 Christians attended.

## UNITED KINGDOM

**LONDON** — Christian women of British, African and many other national origins practiced “Love in Action” at the Wembley Ladies' Day,

hosted by the Wembley Church of Christ. Speakers included Athena Theodotou and Amanda Appiagyei of the Wembley church and Esther Chikurunhe of the Thamesmead Church of Christ.

This item appeared in the latest issue of *Christian Worker*, which also has extended tributes to British Christians Jack Strachan and Beryl Nisbet. Read the tributes at [www.churchesofchrist.co.uk](http://www.churchesofchrist.co.uk).

## SPOTLIGHT

### Training Africans to reach souls in Europe

**PADUA, Italy** — In northern Italy, Churches of Christ comprised of immigrants from the West African nation of Ghana “actually outnumber the Italian churches in both size and number,” said missionary Jeremy Korodaj. “Most of these congregations don't have any qualified men who have enough Bible knowledge or experience in the Word of God to help guide and mature them through preaching, teaching, ministry.”

Four years ago the Church of Christ in Padua launched the Latreia Bible School, named for the Greek word for “service” (which appears, appropriately enough for Italy, in Romans 12:1). Korodaj and Ghanaian Christian Eddie Dadzie teach classes on weekends and during a “Blitz Week” each summer to allow for students' work schedules. Six students, representing Ghanaian congregations in Vicenza, Zoppola, Reggio Emilia, and Modena, graduated recently from the three-year program.

“Their commitment is commendable,” Korodaj said. Most work long hours on weekdays and some work half days on Saturdays before traveling at least an hour to Padua and attending class for five hours.

The missionary gave each graduate the apostle Paul's charge from 2 Timothy 4:1-5, the same charge he received from minister Guy Orbison Jr. when he completed a preaching internship in Durango, Colo.

“The charge is to preach the Word of God in all circumstances,” he said, “good, bad, when it's popular, when it's not.”



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JEREMY KORODAJ

Jeremy Korodaj gives the 2 Timothy charge to a graduating student in Italy.

# Missions canceled amid 'fear and uncertainty'

**POLITICAL VIOLENCE** in Nicaragua halts trips by U.S. groups as Central American nation prays for peace.

BY BOBBY ROSS JR. | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

Normally, a team from the Highway Church of Christ in Judsonia, Ark., would be sweating for God in the mountains of Jinotega, Nicaragua.

For 15 straight summers, the congregation has sent teens and adults to help with Misión Para Cristo — Spanish for “Mission for Christ.” The humanitarian aid organization shares Christ’s love with thousands in Central America’s poorest nation.

But amid ongoing deadly clashes between Nicaraguan government forces and civilian protesters, the Arkansas congregation reluctantly canceled this year’s planned trip.

“It’s just heartbreaking not to be able to see our Nicaraguan brothers and sisters,” said Danny Deramus, a Highway church elder.

Dozens of U.S. church groups have made the same difficult choice to stay home.

“We have not come to this decision quickly and have been in prayer for the last month,” said Audrey Mauck, missions coordinator for the Edmond Church of Christ in Oklahoma.

The Edmond church supports five Nicaraguan native missionaries and

had intended, as it has for several years, to send a group to conduct Vacation Bible Schools in the Latin American country this summer.

“Our hearts are with our brothers and sisters there,” Mauck said in a recent Facebook post. “Our prayer is that God will be glorified in this situation as we know He can resolve the differences in the country.”

Efraín Perez Estrada, a Church of Christ preacher in Matagalpa, a hilly agricultural community in northern Nicaragua, asked for prayers from fellow Christians. He pointed to “fear and uncertainty about the hard situation.”

“A lot of brethren didn’t meet on



BENNY BAKER

**Staff members with Misión Para Cristo in Jinotega, Nicaragua, treat a gunshot victim after political violence erupted in the city north of Managua.**

Sundays because of fear,” he said in a Facebook message. “Night activities of Churches of Christ have been stopped in some places.”

The human rights organization Amnesty International accuses President Daniel Ortega’s government of adopting “a strategy of repression, characterized by the excessive use of force, extrajudicial executions, control of the media, and the use of pro-government armed groups, to crush protests.”

At press time, the death toll stood at roughly 130.

Besides those killed, Amnesty International points to more than 1,000 injured and hundreds arrested “amidst the state’s heavy-handed and highly coordinated response to

the protests.” Demonstrations began April 18 after the government hiked worker and employer social security contributions.

Although the reforms were later reversed, the unrest has lingered with demonstrators calling for the removal of Ortega, a 72-year-old former Sandinista guerrilla fighter.

In all, 24 church groups from the U.S. had been scheduled to travel to Nicaragua and work with Misión Para Cristo this summer, said Benny Baker, the American missionary who with his wife, Donna, started the Christian nonprofit in 1997.

But not anymore.

“I couldn’t in clear conscience ask anybody to come,” Baker said.

Jinotega, a few hours north of

Managua, remained relatively calm for weeks, Baker said.

Misión Para Cristo’s Nicaraguan staff — a core group of 52 people — kept the ministry’s outreach in areas such as health care, education and construction going, he said.

But in recent days, the violence reached Jinotega, resulting in deaths and injuries.

On a recent Saturday, Misión Para Cristo treated and helped stabilize about two dozen victims, Baker said. But the next day, safety concerns forced the ministry to lock its doors.

“The fear of the 1980s is starting to creep in,” Baker said, referring to the Nicaraguan Revolution — a decade of civil war. “Nicaragua was not a good place in the 1980s. You can already hear people fearing that will happen.”

Baker voiced concern about the loss of income from the 275 short-term missionaries who won’t make the trip to the poor, coffee-producing region of northern Nicaragua this summer.

The nonprofit occupies a remodeled warehouse across the street from a usually bustling — but recently quiet — city market and bus stop. Typically, fees paid for the church groups’ meals and lodging cover 40 percent of Misión Para Cristo’s year-round operating expenses.

“Right now, we’ve got a number of people who could lose jobs very quickly,” Baker said.

He asked for prayers for Misión Para Cristo and all of Nicaragua.

“What hurts is when you see your world being turned upside down, and you have no control over it whatsoever,” the missionary said.

“I attribute this to a major political storm in Nicaragua,” he added. “In the middle of the storm, you don’t know the damage. Our goal is to make sure we are still able to function and serve the people of Nicaragua when this storm is over.”



Baker

# 'The sky began raining ash'

IN GUATEMALA, church members witness a volcano's fury – and launch relief efforts.

BY ERIK TRYGGESTAD | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

**T**oday the colossus woke up," said Dr. Raul Duran, describing the volcanic eruption in his native Guatemala that claimed more than 100 lives as it smothered villages in magma and mud.

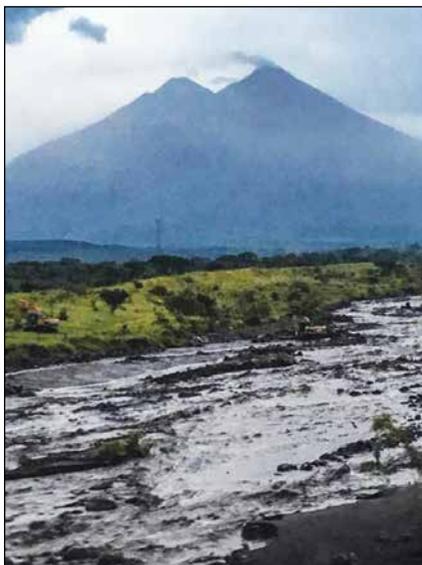
Duran, a physician who worships with a Church of Christ in the tourist town of Antigua, said that all of the members of his congregation are accounted for. One of the Christians, however, said that at least 30 members of her extended family are among the 200-plus people still missing.

The volcano (named Fuego, "fire" in Spanish) is one of 37 in Guatemala and is prone to eruptions, Duran said, but "usually of low intensity." On June 3, Fuego shot a plume of gas nearly six miles into the air, sending ash into the skies over Antigua and Guatemala City, nearly 30 miles away.

Roberto Alvarez Jr. was driving a van full of students from Lipscomb Academy in Nashville, Tenn., to Antigua as Fuego erupted.

"We were in shock when the sky began raining volcanic ash," Alvarez said. "At that point, we had no idea of the devastation."

The students from Lipscomb, a K-12 school associated with Churches of Christ, had just completed a week of mission work in San Cristobal and worshiped with the Church of Christ



KEVIN C. OWEN

"Fuego! For now she's sleeping," writes minister Kevin C. Owen in a message from his medical mission in Guatemala.

in Pinares del Norte.

"The rain was black and smelled like soot," said senior Lindsey Reynolds. Soon "our van was covered in ash. In order to see the road, we constantly poured water and Coke onto the windshield."

When the team arrived in Antigua, "we stepped out of the van onto a thick layer of ash," Reynolds said. "People were wearing masks to keep from being poisoned by the toxic fumes of the volcanic soot. It was sad to see such a beautiful city littered with black debris."

The mission team returned safely to the U.S. June 5, said team leader Libby Barker. During the trip they worked alongside students from the Biblical Institute of Central America. The institute, known as BICA, trains evangelists in Guatemala and Honduras. Alvarez serves as director of development.

"Three BICA graduates work as firefighters, so they have been called into action," Alvarez said. "They contacted us to ask for help for the people in need. So we began a campaign with the local churches to



PHOTO PROVIDED BY LIBBY BARKER

After driving through a rain of ash, the Lipscomb Academy mission team made it safe to Antigua, Guatemala.

gather necessary supplies.

"Unfortunately, the churches in Guatemala are not overwhelmingly rich with money, but they want to give everything they can."

The firefighters compiled a list of the most urgent needs, including



Alvarez

planned to assist in the work. Healing Hands International, a nonprofit associated with Churches of Christ, is collecting funds for relief and providing assistance to BICA.

Health Talents International, another church-supported ministry, also is assisting in relief efforts. The medical mission operates a surgical facility, Clinica Ezell, in the coastal town of Montellano.

"While Volcano Fuego is only 35 miles from Clinica Ezell, none of

our children in the ABC program (a child sponsorship program) nor their families were lost," said Health Talents director Rick Harper. "They were far enough away to be safe, but not far enough away not to be impacted by loss of friends."

A team of U.S. Christians was serving at Clinica Ezell when the volcano erupted. During their evening devotionals the team prayed for those affected, said Kevin Owen, preaching minister for the College Hills Church of Christ in Lebanon, Tenn.

A couple working with the team, Cary and Rita Sills, lives in Antigua and returned to their home with medical supplies on June 7, Owen said. Another team member, Kay Reiboldt, "hugged them goodbye before they left and said, 'I hope your house is OK,'" Owen said.

"Rita said, 'It's only a house.'"

Health Talents workers are giving gloves and masks to people affected by the ash and plan to distribute water filters, rice, beans and a high-protein drink mix, Incaparina.

Duran and his fellow Christians in Antigua also plan to assist in relief. In July they host a mission team from the Prestoncrest Church of Christ in Dallas, which supports Duran.

"This will be our 20th year," said John Scott Davis, worship minister for Prestoncrest, of the upcoming mission. "We have worked several years at a school in Alotenango, which is just a few miles from the base of Fuego, and they are the community that really caught the brunt of this eruption. I'm sure we will be serving some folks from that community while we are there."

"What's crazy is that this volcano puffs and spits all the time, but it's the volcano that people take tours to climb while we're there."

"I doubt we'll have any volcano climbers this year."

**HOW TO HELP:** Find links to church-related ministries collecting funds for volcano relief at [christianchronicle.org](http://christianchronicle.org)



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ROBERTO ALVAREZ JR.

A rain of ash falls on a van carrying a mission team near the Fuego volcano.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY!



THANK YOU FOR INFORMING, INSPIRING AND UNITING THE CHURCH WORLDWIDE.

**HARDING**  
UNIVERSITY

*Congratulations!*

*We applaud The Chronicle for 75 years of exemplary reporting!*



**WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL**

**ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**



You. Sharing Jesus.

**PEPPERDINE**  
UNIVERSITY

CONSIDER INCLUDING *THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE* IN YOUR WILL OR ESTATE PLAN



*The Christian Chronicle*

The Heritage Circle is composed of those who bless the *Chronicle* through their will or estate plan.

**Help secure the future of *The Christian Chronicle*.**

Call Stephen Eck of the Chronicle Planned Giving Office for assistance at (405) 425-5080.



**A CHURCH-PLANTING TEAM** moved to South America eight years ago. Their goal:

# ‘To work ourselves out of a job’

Now, as the first team members prepare to return home, they pray that their replacements will keep the faith – and keep planting.

BY ERIK TRYGGESTAD | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

CUSCO, Peru

**I**t's terrifying, to be completely honest.

*“It's terrifying to think of leaving, coming back in a year and it's all gone.”*

That's Barton Kizer's biggest fear for the Church of Christ he and his teammates have planted in this South American city of half a million souls, the gateway to the ancient Incan citadel of Machu Picchu.

In December, after completing the eight years of service they committed to and trained for, Kizer and his wife, Allison, will pack up their lives and their four children (three of them

were born here) and return to the U.S.

So will three of their teammates — Gary and Jennifer Reaves and their two children and Corinne Faneus.

Their destination: Charlotte, N.C., where they hope to plant a

**Kizer**

new, multi-ethnic Church of Christ.

Sitting in an upper room of the Cusco church's rented building, the departing teammates talk about their hopes and fears with Ron and Georgia Freitas, former missionaries to Curitiba, Brazil, who work with Great Cities Missions, the Texas-based nonprofit that has trained and nurtured the Cusco team.

The church planted by the team, *Iglesia de Cristo, Congregación Ayllu*, takes its name from a word meaning “gathering place” or “community” in Quechua — an indigenous tongue still spoken in the villages that seem to dangle from the cliffs



PHOTOS BY ERIK TRYGGESTAD

**Outside the meeting place of the Ayllu Church of Christ in Cusco, Peru, Sarah Davis checks in on her babysitter before an all-day meeting with Ron and Georgia Freitas of Great Cities Missions. Davis and her husband, Ryan, will remain in Cusco as five of their team members return to the U.S. in December.**

surrounding Cusco. About 120 people break bread, pray and serve in the church. Among them are the addicted, the abused and the overlooked — those the church planters came here to seek and serve.

Despite the mission's success, the church planters know of other efforts that, despite careful planning,

coming years, the church will appoint Peruvian elders, deacons, preachers and evangelists and that its members will continue to serve the hurting — and plant new churches.

“We're really trying to work ourselves out of a job,” says Sarah Davis, who moved to Cusco with her husband, Ryan, four years ago as part of the team's second wave.

She cites 2 Timothy 2:2 — advice given by the apostle Paul to his young protege nearly 2,000 years ago — as her guiding star: “Teach others to teach others.”

To equip themselves for ministry, the Peruvians studied for two years at Baxter Institute, a ministry training school in Honduras associated with Churches of Christ.

“All that I learned in Honduras I can put into the church here,” Arévalo says. But she's concerned that, as Jesus once said of a prophet in his hometown, she and her

**Arévalo**

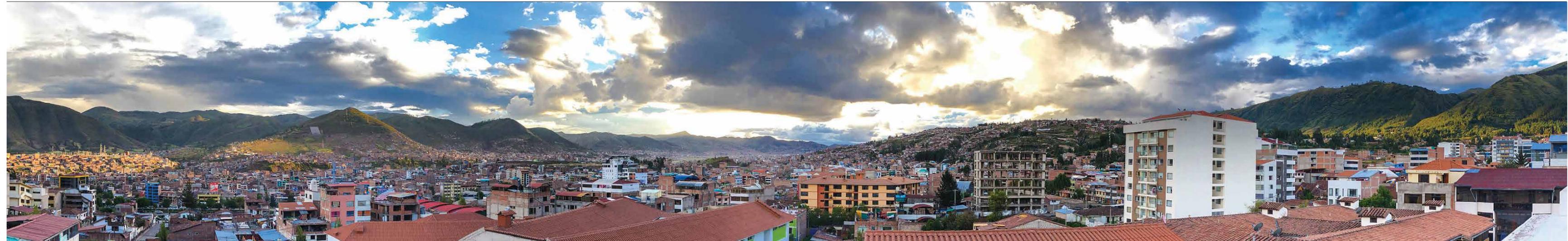
Peruvian coworkers won't get the same level of respect or cooperation that their congregation gives to the missionaries from the North.

As the transition approaches, the missionaries granted *The Christian Chronicle* access to their meetings with the Freitas and glimpses into their daily lives — and the lives of those they serve.

So far, “it's been a funny-feeling year,” Barton Kizer says, “but God's bringing it together at the right time.”

“It's going to be a tough transition, I don't want to underestimate it, but it's going to be a good one, too.”

CONTINUED



At nearly 11,000 feet, a short climb up the staircase in Barton and Allison Kizer's apartment can leave a traveler breathless but yields a rooftop view of Cusco. The oldest city in Peru, Cuzco (*Qusqu*, "rock of the owl" in Quechua) was the capital of the Inca Empire from the 13th to the 16th century, before the Spanish conquest.

# I like the way they approached the mission. They asked, 'Should we come here?'

CONTINUED

**W**e wanted to be close to home ... y'know, in this hemisphere."

The slightest of smirks crosses Barton Kizer's face as he recalls the reasons his team chose Cusco, a mere 3,600 miles south of, and across the equator from, his home in Tennessee.

(Yes, it is in the Western Hemisphere, though, and the same time zone.)

It's also quite high up. The living room of the Kizers' apartment measures 10,698 feet above sea level. A simple stroll upstairs to the roof yields a panorama of the city that's breathtaking — literally. Allison Kizer says she'll miss the view but not the "high-altitude baking fails."

Back in the living room, as the Kizers' twin 4-year-olds don superhero capes and compete for a reporter's attention, the family shares a pasta dinner with Juan Carlos Malpartida, a structural engineer and deacon of the Wanchaq Church of Christ, a congregation launched in Cusco in the early 1970s.

"We really look to Wanchaq as our big brother," Barton Kizer explains. When the first wave of missionaries arrived in Cusco in October 2009 they worshiped with Wanchaq as they



Erlin Guzman Bolanos sits outside his one-room apartment with two of his daughters.

learned Spanish and made contacts.

The teammates met as students at Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson, Tenn. They shared the desire to serve "outside the Bible Belt," says Barton Kizer, whose father and brother both are pulpit ministers in the Southeast. They considered Vancouver and Denver, but their future wives influenced them to think south.

Their teachers recommended Bill Richardson, a missions professor at Harding University in Searcy, Ark., who leads teams of students to the region. He helped the missionaries

on survey trips. The students also trained with Great Cities Missions, which plants Churches of Christ across Latin America.

"I like the way that they approached the mission here," Malpartida says of the team. "They were very careful not to harm the church here. They asked, 'Should we come here?'"

The Wanchaq church's reply: "We should not be the ones to prohibit God's will. We can help you to start."

**I like the parable of the sower. When there are problems in life, they can choke you out (just like thorns). But we should sprout. We should grow despite the problems in life."**

Among those served by the mission team is Erlin Guzman Bolanos, a man who knows a lot about thorns.

The taxi driver and his wife, Noemi, live in a single, rented room off a muddy creek path with their three daughters — including twins with cerebral palsy. Despite his humble circumstances, "he insists that you try his wife's cooking," Barton Kizer says.

As the family shares plates heaped with grilled fish, beans and rice, one of the twins gleefully rams her wheelchair into her guest's legs, demanding he draw pictures for her, while the other dangles from Kizer's neck.

The family encountered the Ayllu church through a medical campaign

conducted by visitors from the U.S.

Soon, they learned that the church had more to offer than just medicine. Speaking in Spanish as Kizer translates, Bolanos talks about the fights he and his wife used to have, and how their involvement with the Ayllu church likely saved their marriage.

Now they host neighborhood Bible studies in their apartment, sharing the parable of the sower and other stories of God's love.

"After church, they always stay and clean up, these two," Kizer says of the couple.

Later in the day, a small group of Ayllu members and a family of visitors meets for Bible study in one of Cusco's middle-class neighborhoods.

Percy Ávalos Rojas, one of the Peruvian team members, leads a discussion of 2 Peter 3:8: "With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day." He references the Old Testament prophet Isaiah's admonition to "wait on the Lord" and the differences between man's expectations and God's timing.

It's a lesson Esther de la Cuba knows well. Before the Bible study, she shares the story of her baptism and the long, patient wait she endured for her husband to accept the Gospel.



Esther de la Cuba



Percy Ávalos Rojas, right, leads a Tuesday evening small-group Bible study. Cusco team members made small-group ministry an intentional focus of their church-planting work.

"One day, out of the blue, he came to her crying, saying, 'Esther, I want to be baptized!'" Kizer translates. "He's preaching this Sunday."

Their daughter, Milagros Loiza, started attending church with her family when she was 12. Later, in her teen years, she fell away from the church, but "I had a conversation with Barton, and I'll never forget it," she says. She returned to the flock.

"We got used to you guys," Loiza tells Kizer. "You shouldn't leave, but the inclusion of the Peruvians (on the team) is good."

**W**e've never known the church in its days of scarcity. Now, it's kind of a different challenge."

As he passes a plate of *Picarones* — crisp Peruvian doughnuts, hot out of the fryer — Ryan Davis talks about his vantage point as a member of the mission team's second wave.

"And I know these guys are jealous," he says of the departing missionaries, "because we're going to get to benefit from the fruit of their labor."

It's the end of a meal at a second-story restaurant in Cusco's historic

Plaza de Armas. Around the table are the team's past, present and future — Barton Kizer, Davis and his wife, Sarah, and Peruvians Elvis Chacón and his wife, Yolanda Arévalo.

"We absolutely fell in love with Cusco when we came down on our first mission trip," Ryan Davis says, "but what we fell in love with I think even more was the team."

He laughs as he remembers the long year of language learning after they arrived. They knew they were making progress when, during prayer request time at a small-group Bible study, one of the church members said, "I just want to thank God that these missionaries who arrived a year ago mute, now they can speak."

Sarah Davis says, "I think we've had a huge blessing in just being able to learn a lot from Barton and Gary's families. It's been pretty exciting to get to come in and kind of apprentice under them in certain ways, and now to have the blessing of getting to work with our new Peruvian team members."

Eight years into the mission, the U.S. Christians see their role behind the scenes, cultivating Peruvian preachers and evangelists. The two are different, Kizer notes. It seems that "God doesn't make a lot of preacher/evangelists. He makes preachers and he makes evangelists."

He sees both qualities in Chacón, a

## Republic of Peru

**POPULATION:** 31 million. **LANGUAGES:** Spanish, Quechua, Aymara, Ashaninka and other indigenous languages. **RELIGION:** 81.3 percent Roman Catholic, 12.5 percent evangelical Christian groups, 3.3 percent other, 2.9 percent none.



**CHURCHES OF CHRIST:** Evert Pickartz, a missionary in Chile, distributed tracts in Peru in 1958 and in 1961 sent Oscar Aquilar to establish a congregation in the capital, Lima. Glenn Kramar was the first full-time missionary from the U.S., arriving in 1962. Among those he baptized was Francisca Feliz de Triveños who, along with her husband, Hipólito, planted churches across the country, including the Wanchaq Church of Christ in Cusco. Hipólito Triveños estimates that the country now is home to 38 to 42 Churches of Christ — more than 20 of them in the Lima metropolitan area.



**SOURCES:** CIA World Factbook, "Churches of Christ Around the World" by Mac Lynn, interviews. Maps via Wikimedia Commons.

CONTINUED



The Cusco team shares a laugh with Georgia and Ron Freitas of Great Cities Missions, right, as they begin a day of discussions about the upcoming transitions.

## *I think sometimes we have to check our purposes as a church*

### CONTINUED

man who, at one point in his life, “didn’t think God would even love someone like me,” he says.

He grew up Catholic, like most of his countrymen, but spent much of his time at nightclubs, “drinking and fighting.” His sister found out about the Ayllu church and its reputation for helping the hurting and addicted. She encouraged him to visit.

“I was still doing things I shouldn’t do,” he remembers. But he kept going to church and was baptized. He collapses with laughter when he remembers the name of his employer at the time — a restaurant called The Fallen Angel.

“I don’t know why, but one day they asked me to preach and work with the young people,” he says. “I remember that my first sermon lasted about seven minutes.”

The sermons lengthened and improved, and the team members enrolled Chacón



Chacón

and his wife in an intensive course of study. The couple had to demonstrate three months of active membership followed by six months of active leadership. They led small-group Bible studies and did a six-month internship. Finally, the team sent the couple to Baxter Institute in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, along with Percy Avalos Rojas for two years of ministry training.

The training was excellent, Chacón says, and the pressure

was high to join new, all-Latino mission teams headed for locales throughout the Spanish-speaking world, some of them coordinated by Great Cities Missions.

But “this is the church where I was born,” he says of the Ayllu congregation. “We wanted to come back because this is our family.”

Kizer adds, “If we had to just think of an ideal couple to work with the church, I would think of these guys.”

**‘So many changes are going on with you so quickly.’**

In a tight semicircle, the entire Cusco team lines the walls of an upstairs classroom in their rented church building as Georgia Freitas talks with them about the upcoming transitions.

“Our team’s going through puberty!” Barton Kizer jokes. Or maybe it’s a midlife crisis. The team is about halfway through its 15-year plan — a plan focused on worship, evangelism and small-group ministry.

Freitas and her husband, Ron, host three sessions with the team — one for the departing missionaries, one for the U.S. missionaries who are staying and one for the Peruvian team members — before meeting with the full team. They ask each group what they feel good about and what they’re most concerned about.

“This is a *momento muy importante en esta iglesia*, a very important moment in this church,” Ron Freitas says in Spanish and English, occasionally throwing in a Portuguese word or two from his days in Brazil.

It’s also a difficult time, he adds, as the Christians attempt to “make a team out of two cultures.”

The teammates know the challenges. The U.S. Christians want to see the church continue its outward-focused, urban ministry, resisting the urge to buy affordable land on the outskirts of town. That could keep the church from reaching those who need Jesus, they say.

The Peruvians want their ideas to be considered equally with those of the U.S. Christians. There’s also concern about economic inequality. The U.S. Christians have access to more financial support than the Peruvians, though they must make regular trips to the U.S. to raise funds. The U.S. Christians also don’t have the family support structure the Peruvians have in Cusco.

The departing team members, meanwhile, worry that, despite their years of sweat, toil and tears, the intercultural mix won’t work, the team will fall apart and the church will disappear.

Throughout the discussions, Freitas encourages the teammates to be patient with each other and, most importantly, to keep their focus on Christ.

“I think sometimes we have to check our purposes as a church and as a team,” he says. “A lot of times, I find myself concerned or worried about things I shouldn’t be worried about. That’s pride.

“I want you to think about being a master builder — as a team — built on a foundation, built solely by Jesus Christ.”



## **‘It was a God thing’**

Bethany Iversen, an intern for the Cusco team, visits with Yuxelis Márquez, a refugee from Venezuela who learned of the Ayllu Church of Christ through a friend.

“It was a God thing,” Marquez says as Iversen translates. “I came here for a reason.”

Churches of Christ across South America are serving Venezuelans forced to leave their homes in the midst of the country’s ongoing economic crisis. Márquez had to leave one of her children behind and sends home money from whatever work she can find. The church is helping with her needs.

“I’m impressed by the character of the Venezuelans,” Iversen says. “They’re open, kind. The ones I’ve met haven’t been trying to take advantage of us.”

## CUSCO TEAM TIMELINE



ERIK TRYGGESTAD

Missionaries pray for the Cusco team in 2009 during the World Mission Workshop at Freed-Hardeman University.

- **2009:** Matt and Charla Cook, Barton and Allison Kizer and Gary and Jennifer Reaves arrive in Cusco. They worship with the Wanchaq Church of Christ as they learn language and culture.
- **2010:** The missionaries launch the *Iglesia de Cristo, Congregación Ayllu*.
- **2012:** One of the Cooks' children is diagnosed with cancer. They move back to the U.S. After a liver transplant

and treatments, the child is cancer-free.

- **2013:** Corinne Faneus begins a two-year internship with the team.

• **2014:** Ryan and Sarah Davis and Derrek and Danyel Wilson move to Cusco and learn Spanish as they train with the team. The Wilsons return to the U.S. in 2015. Another couple, Kevin and Keli Westmoreland, trains in the U.S. for ministry with the team.

- **2015:** The Westmorelands move to Cusco and join the team. Faneus becomes a team member.

- **2016:** Peruvians Elvis Chacón, Yolanda Arévalo and Percy Ávalos

Rojas begin studies at Baxter Institute in Honduras.

- **2017:** Mitchel and Rachel Routh move from U.S. to join the team. Bethany Iversen and Skylar Johnston from the U.S. and Peruvian Sharit Zapata

begin internships with the team.

- **2018:** Chacón, Arévalo and Ávalos return from Baxter and join the team. Iversen and Johnston will become team members in August. The Kizers, Reaves and Faneus will move to Charlotte, N.C., in December.

**NOT EVERY HILL IS CALVARY!**

In this 40 page booklet, Wayne Newland analyzes *PATTERN/CENI/SILENCE*, offering an alternative: *A Hermeneutic of Love and Freedom*.

Also available:

**"JUDGE NOT ANOTHER'S SERVANT"** (12 pp)

*The Broadening Spectrum in Churches of Christ Today*

**"LOVE GOD AND DO AS YOU PLEASE"** (16 pp)

*Three Phases of Spiritual Growth*

**\$3.00 each, postage paid.**

Order now. Send check to the author:

**Wayne I. Newland, Box 121  
190 US Route 1  
Falmouth, ME 04105**

For more information:  
[Heritage21@maine.rr.com](mailto:Heritage21@maine.rr.com)

*"Newland offers a number of challenging observations regarding the interpretation of Scriptures among Restorationists."*

Tom Olbricht

**THE TRUTH ABOUT DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE**

*A Politically Incorrect View of Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage in Today's Church*

**Weldon Langfield**

**GET MARRIED!**

To avoid fornication, each man should have his wife and each woman her husband.

*1 Corinthians 7:2*

Hardcover \$20.95

Paper \$13.50

Discounts at:  
[WeldonLangfield.com](http://WeldonLangfield.com)

**A One Day Church Missions Conference**

**MAKING MISSIONS A PRIORITY**

East Brainerd Church Of Christ  
Chattanooga, TN

August 18, 2018 | 9am-3pm  
\$15 per person

Register By August 1st Online At  
[eastbrainerdchurch.org/missionconference](http://eastbrainerdchurch.org/missionconference)

The 40-year-old AMEN Ministry connects Christians in the United States Military with local churches of Christ both overseas and in the U.S.

Please send name, email, and other contact info to:



**AMEN Ministry**

P.O. Box 353, Hebron, CT 06248

[amen.ministry@comcast.net](mailto:amen.ministry@comcast.net), (860) 372-7051

**Check our our new book titles online:**

**The Man**

by: Michael S. Corcoran

[christianchronicle.org/books](http://christianchronicle.org/books)



What exactly does Jesus expects of his followers?

Start your study, today!

Choose from Kindle, hardcover, paperback or audiobook. Review book on Amazon.

Contact today for promo code.

Limited number available.

**FAITH -BASED ADDICTION RECOVERY**

Located near Hot Springs Village, Ark., SOZO Recovery Center is achieving amazing results in curing addiction by having their clients attend the Village Church of Christ as part of their Bible-based curriculum. "Over 30 men have been baptized and joined the church in the last four years," says SOZO Director, Bob O'Dowd. Based on merging Christian principles and church attendance" with the time tested 12 step model of recovery, our success at achieving and sustaining sobriety far exceeds the national average.

**Bob O'Dowd, (501) 226-9575**

[www.sozorecoverycenters.com](http://www.sozorecoverycenters.com)



## Full-time Faculty Member (Baxter Institute)

Baxter Institute – a four-year college level institution – is seeking a full-time Bible faculty member beginning January 2019. **Expires: November 15**

The successful candidate will have a master's degree in theology or a ministry field, with teaching experience.

This position involves teaching Bible, theology, and ministry classes to undergraduate-level students. Likewise, the position involves administrative responsibilities such as coordinating evangelistic campaigns, lectureships, and youth rallies. The candidate should be considered an active member in the Churches of Christ, and have a strong desire to serve God in Latin America.

Initial application should include a letter of interest and curriculum vitae. To complete the application, two church references, two professional references, and a transcript of the highest degree are required. Submit application materials to:

**Dean Selvin Monterroso, selvin88@yahoo.com**

*and*

**President Stephen Teel, president@baxterinstitute.org**



[baxterinstitute.org](http://baxterinstitute.org)

Muchísimas gracias, Christian Chronicle, for 75 years of blessing the church with connections and inspirational stories. Brethren all over the world have benefited!

**A MASTER'S DEGREE OF  
BIBLICAL  
PROPORTIONS**

Become the Christian leader God wants you to be. With affordable classes just one day a week, you can get the knowledge your calling demands.

ONSITE OR ONLINE  
OC.EDU/6ST

**OC** ORELANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

**PREACHING  
IS WHERE  
WE BEGAN**

Training Preachers since 1962

Two years of tuition-free  
training and in-depth  
Bible study  
A lifetime of influence

Now is the time to change  
your world

**SUNSET**  
International Bible Institute 800.658.9553 • [www.sibi.cc](http://www.sibi.cc)




College of Business, Faculty Positions

### College of Business, Department of Management, Entrepreneurship and Marketing, and Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics

The mission of the Lipscomb University College of Business is to "Develop business leaders who embrace the values and virtues of Jesus." Lipscomb University is centrally located in Nashville, Tennessee, a vibrant and rapidly growing business and health care center. The university is associated with the churches of Christ, and members with an advanced degree in business are encouraged to apply.

**Position Available:** Beginning January 1, 2019, or later as mutually agreed.

**Faculty Positions:** Two tenure track positions are available: 1) health care administration (F0098P) and 2) finance/economics (F0055P). These positions offer an exciting opportunity to join an innovative, faith-oriented and student-centered business program. The college is highly rated by Bloomberg/Business Week and Poets&Quants. Qualifications include:

- An earned doctorate degree (PhD, DBA, DHA or equivalent). Doctoral students nearing graduation will be considered.
- Demonstrated teaching experience in business.
- Record of scholarship to qualify the faculty member as Scholarly Academic (SA) under AACSB accreditation standards. Recent doctoral graduates are qualified for five years.
- Industry experience strongly preferred.

**Rank and Salary:** Experience and qualifications will determine academic rank and salaries are nationally competitive by AACSB standards.

**Application Information:** Interested candidates should submit contact information for three references, a curriculum vita, teaching portfolio and a letter of application that briefly addresses scholarly interests, career goals and teaching philosophy. Review of applications will continue until all positions are filled. Electronic submissions are encouraged at: <https://lipscomb.peopleadmin.com/>

**Contact:** Andrew S. Borchers, DBA, Professor and Associate Dean of the College of Business Lipscomb University at: [andy.borchers@lipscomb.edu](mailto:andy.borchers@lipscomb.edu)

## HIGHER EDUCATION

### FAULKNER UNIVERSITY

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** — Faulkner students just keep getting younger and younger.

The 2,500-student, Christian university launches a pre-kindergarten program this fall, buoyed by a grant from the state government.

Faulkner will house two of Alabama's 107 new First Class Pre-K Program classrooms. The program is an initiative by Gov. Kay Ivey to raise the state's enrollment of 4-year-olds to 32 percent statewide.

**Cowell**

Leslie Cowell, dean of Faulkner's College of Education, applied for state grants for the classrooms, which will serve 32 students.

The program's directors "asked if we could do two classrooms," Cowell said, "because the need in this area of Montgomery was so great."

### HARDING UNIVERSITY

**SEARCY, Ark.** — In the midst of a nationwide epidemic of prescription drug abuse, the College of Pharmacy at this 7,100-student university associated with Churches of Christ facilitated a recent Drive-Thru Medication Cleanout.

By dropping off unused and expired medications, Searcy residents are "working to prevent abuse, misuse and accidental poisonings while protecting the local water supply and landfill," said pharmacy professor Kaci Bohn.

Since 2012, Harding has partnered with the Searcy Police Department and White County Sheriff's office to collect more than 1,100 pounds of medication, Bohn said.

### LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY

**TUSKEGEE, Ala.** — Seven students from the Nashville, Tenn., university traveled to the Tuskegee History Museum recently to help with archival work. Coordinating the trip was Randy Spivey, academic director for Lipscomb's College of Leadership



STEDDON SIKES

## Smiles and mustaches abound at York College's SoulQuest

A few of the 450 participants at this summer's SoulQuest share hugs, smile and fake mustaches on the campus of York College in Nebraska. "Lives were changed, and hearts were touched for Jesus," said Chrystal Houston, director of alumni and communication for the 500-student college associated with Churches of Christ. "The week included service projects across the York community, from painting houses, fire hydrants and park benches to sorting clothing at a donation center, to washing city vehicles, to singing for residents of a care facility."

and Public Service's Fred D. Gray Institute for Law, Justice and Society.

Students spent time at the Rosenwald School and spoke with relatives of the participants in the infamous Tuskegee syphilis study.

"One of the relatives said after all that has been said and done, forgiveness is what needs to happen because there is too much hate in the world," said Lipscomb senior Christian Monyei. "That just really resonated with me."

## K-12 CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

### SONRISE CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

**HO, Ghana** — During the 10th graduation ceremony of this school in West Africa, associated with Churches of Christ, officials dedicated a 16-bed clinic that will serve

students and the community.

The Ray and Cam Boatright Health Center honors a couple that has "worked day and night to help raise funds for Sunrise," said administrator Joseph Dzamesi. "Their commitment and dedication to the Sunrise project is unmatched." The school is ranked among the top six schools in Ghana's Volta Region, he added, and its ministry has resulted in hundreds of baptisms.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOSEPH DZAMESI

Sonrise Christian administrators cut the ribbon for the school's new health clinic.

## MINISTRY TRAINING

### CONNALLY SCHOOL OF PREACHING

**ARUSHA, Tanzania** — Solar panels and a water well will help the Andrew Connally School of Preaching save about \$2,500 per month in utilities, said Daniel Gaines, who coordinates the school under the elders of the Bear Valley Church of Christ in Denver.

The projects are part of a Tanzanian Leadership Challenge that raised 68 percent of its \$250,000 goal in six months, Gaines said.

The East African school, named after a longtime missionary for Churches of Christ, has played a role in the establishment of more than 500 congregations in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan, said officials at Bear Valley Bible Institute International.

Launched by Cy Stafford and the Hattiesburg Church of Christ in Mississippi, the school is an extension campus of Bear Valley.

# GEN Z: Too many churches using 'antiquated, outdated' methods

FROM PAGE 3

was “to create dialogue around spiritually forming Generation Z.” Too many churches and Christian schools rely on “antiquated, outdated” methods, he said.

Generation Z — born in the mid-1990s to mid-2000s — grew up online, awash in ever-present, technological distractions, Tatum said.

Veronica Dillard sees this firsthand at Westbury Christian School in Houston, also associated with Churches of Christ.



Dillard

“We are competing with so many different messages that our kids are being tossed every day, every five minutes, every 30 seconds,” said Dillard, who works with teens and college students and attended the Contribute Conference.

“All this stuff they’re exposed to we have to compete against,” Dillard said. “We have to make it seem like this Jesus stuff we’re talking about is cool too, because it’s not popular.”

But it should be, Tatum said. Too many students who seek ways to be involved in social justice and hands-on service — the very behavior Jesus modeled — walk away from their faith when they don’t see those opportunities in their churches.

“I think we need to be a little more active in our spiritual formation efforts instead of so passive,” he said. “The way we’re doing it isn’t necessarily engaging the next generation. I also think the Gospel should be exciting.”

## STOP OVER-ENTERTAINING KIDS ...

For two days, speakers from across the nation focused on four key challenges faced by Gen Z — identity, diversity, trauma and inconsistent faith.

Too many Christians view their young people as entertainment seekers, said James K.A. Smith, professor of philosophy at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich.

As a result, churches tend to over-entertain their youths.

“We thought if we could make church entertaining for kids we would keep them,” Smith said. “But



Brandon Tatum, Jay Smith and Mallory Wyckoff discuss Generation Z during an audience question-and-answer session.

really, I think all that means is we keep them in this sort of ‘Jesus club.’ I don’t necessarily think it means we’re making disciples.”

He encouraged the attendees to honor the intelligence of their children and not “dumb things down.” Rather, believers should challenge their church’s youths and give them opportunities to serve.

They are, after all, “image bearers of God,” said several of the speakers, including Josh Graves.

“Humans of every generation forget that the image of God has been placed in everyone,” said Graves, minister for the Otter Creek Church of Christ in Nashville.

It’s not enough to merely expect great things of the next generation, speaker Luke Norsworthy added. Older generations must model what they hope to see in young people.

“If you want students to be creators, contributors, they need to see

you doing that,” said Norsworthy, minister for the Westover Hills Church of Christ in Austin, Texas.

## ... AND ‘LET THEM SCRUB TOILETS’

They also need “hero stories,” said Laura Sandefer, founder of Acton Academy in Austin. These aren’t just fictional stories of supernatural men, women (and, occasionally, aliens) but also tales of ordinary people who do extraordinary things — people who don’t give up when things get hard, people who try their hardest to solve a problem, people who get back up when the world knocks them down.

And “stop answering questions,” Sandefer told the audience. “Answer questions with questions. Let them have a chance to figure things out. They’re smart. They don’t need us to answer everything for them.”

Lastly, “Let them scrub toilets,” she said. Real life includes “nasty”

messes, and cleaning them up is nothing short of heroic.

Giving young people real work to do gives them an opportunity to contribute, to give back, Sandefer said. And it gives them something to be proud of.

The advice was practical and helpful, said Dillard, adding that it called to mind the words of the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 3:6, “*I have planted ... but God gave the increase.*”

“Even if we don’t see the results while the students are with us, just know and trust that God, in the end, is the one who gives the increase,” she said. “It’s just our job to do what we can while we have them.”

## FINDING THEIR VOICES

Christians must realize that their young people have something valuable to offer their churches, said another speaker, Mallory Wyckoff, who teaches at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn.

“By valuing dignity, we can help young people find their voice,” she said.



Graves



Sandefer



PHOTOS BY BARBARA HAYWOOD AND RILEY WILSON

## Building Christian leaders one stone at a time

When it comes to influencing Generation Z for Christ, “what you do matters,” Luke Norsworthy, minister for the Westover Hills Church of Christ in Austin, Texas, said during the Contribute Conference. He cited 1 Corinthians 15:58: “Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord.” “Don’t underestimate the value of the work of one day,” he said, using the analogy of building a cathedral. The beauty doesn’t all happen at once, he told conference attendees. Rather, it comes through a process of carving each individual stone. Norsworthy hosts a weekly podcast, *Newsworthy with Norsworthy*, in which he discusses spirituality and Christianity with fellow ministers, authors and scholars.

To that end, organizers of the Contribute Conference honored students for their efforts to improve their schools and communities:

- **Emmanuel Ukot**, a recent graduate of Westbury Christian, helped bring an international student organization, Health Occupations Students of America, to his school. The organization exposes students to the healthcare field and promotes career opportunities in the industry.

- **Holden Hill**, of Oklahoma City, spent months interviewing Christian leaders from around the world, searching for answers to questions he had about his faith. He compiled his journey into a book and hopes to help other seekers find truth.

- **Anna Kate Armstrong** and

her classmates — **Jessica Cherry**, **Scottie Smith** and **Pryce Jordan Daniels** — work with 84 Days, a mission project of the nonprofit Run4Water that provides reusable pads and menstrual cups to girls in Africa. The project’s name is the average number of days girls and young women miss school or work due to a lack of these products.

Many African girls also are at risk of assault and rape as they fetch water and perform other daily tasks, so the 84 Days project provides self-defense training.

Traveling to Africa — and sharing your faith at home — can be frightening, Daniels said. But seeing older believers model service to God is helpful.

“I feel like sometimes people are nervous to put themselves out there and do it,” Daniels said. “But once you do it, the first-time people realize it’s not as scary as it seems to go out and talk about Jesus every day.”



Ukot



Hill



Daniels



# HARDING

U N I V E R S I T Y

## FACULTY POSITIONS AVAILABLE

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

Initial application should include a letter of interest and curriculum vitae. To complete the application, three church references, three professional references, and a transcript of the highest degree are required.

Salary and rank are determined based on credentials and experience.

**PAUL R. CARTER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.** Seeking full-time nine-month faculty member beginning August 2018. Preference will be given to a Ph.D. in a business field with at least 18 graduate hours in marketing. Preference also will be given to those with professional experience in marketing analytics, electronic marketing and/or integrated marketing management.

Submit application materials to Dr. Jim Shelton, associate dean, at [jjshelton@harding.edu](mailto:jjshelton@harding.edu) or Box 10774, Searcy, AR 72149.

**CANNON-CLARY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.** Seeking full-time nine-month faculty member for the educational leadership program beginning August 2018. The successful candidate will have an Ed.D. in educational leadership or a closely related field, teaching experience in a K-12 school setting, and administrative experience with preference given to a district-level background. This position involves teaching graduate-level students on and off campus and some Saturdays (including face-to-face and eLearning platforms), supervising administrative interns statewide, advising doctoral candidates, collaborating with other instructors, and transitioning programs to new accreditation standards. Optional summer teaching is under separate contract.

Submit application materials to Dr. Kimberly Flowers, director of educational leadership, at [kflowers@harding.edu](mailto:kflowers@harding.edu) or Box 12261, Searcy, AR 72149.

**COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.** Seeking full-time 12-month director of assessment to manage implementation of a comprehensive program of assessment for the purpose of programmatic improvements in accordance with accreditation requirements for the college. Master’s degree required; Ph.D. with emphasis in assessment, higher education, health and/or educational research or related field highly preferred. Consideration will be given to candidates that qualify for faculty status. Responsibilities include working with assessment committee, faculty, staff and administration to implement and review effective strategies for the assessment of student learning at individual and program levels as well as assessment of college-level mission and goals.

Submit application materials to Dr. Jeff Mercer, dean, at [jmercer1@harding.edu](mailto:jmercer1@harding.edu) or Box 12230, Searcy, AR 72149.

Additional openings are available in the following areas:

CANNON-CLARY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Please visit [harding.edu/jobs](http://harding.edu/jobs) for further information on these positions and to learn more about open staff positions.

Harding University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not unlawfully discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, disability or prior military service.

# Milestones

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

## Birthdays

**104th: Elmo Snelling,** July 27, Edmonson, Texas. **101st: Lloyd Boyll,** June 5, Abilene, Texas.



**Elmo Snelling**

## Anniversaries

**71st: John and Mary Townley,** June 14, Porter, Texas.

**70th: Frank and Marjorie Davis,** June 13, Neenah, Wis.

## Memorials

**Robert 'Dean' Crutchfield**  
1932-2018

Robert Dean Crutchfield, age 85, passed away at 10:30 p.m., May 27, 2018, at the Murray Calloway County Hospital in Murray, Ky. He was born October 5, 1932, in Fulton, Ky. He was a member of the Green Plain Church of Christ.

Dean preached and served Churches of Christ in Alaska, Maine, Kentucky and Tennessee. His preaching for churches in gospel meetings and at lectureships took him to 24 states and 18 foreign countries.

For many years, he was the regular speaker on radio programs in Kentucky and Tennessee. He was instrumental in starting and was also moderator for seven years for a weekly television program, "Searching

the Scriptures," telecast over stations in three states and seen in parts of eight states. Articles that he has written have been printed in many Churches of Christ affiliated publications.

Dean was engaged with evangelism on the sub-continent of Asia for 50 years. From 1967 to 1982 his time was divided between work in Asia, and local work with churches in Kentucky and Tennessee. Since 1983, he was engaged full time in foreign evangelism. His work was primarily in India but also included Nepal, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mary Evelyn of Murray, Ky.; three sons, Gary (Margrit) Crutchfield of Florissant, Colo.; Robert Crutchfield of Murray, Ky.; Edward (Melissa) Crutchfield of Johnson City, Tenn.; two grandsons, Charles and James Crutchfield; three granddaughters, Emily, Amanda and Hannah Crutchfield; one great-grandson, Kenton Dean Crutchfield; and one brother, Richard Crutchfield of Cadiz, Ky.

Dean is preceded in death by his parents, Herschel D. Crutchfield and Ruby Edwards Crutchfield; and one brother, Hershel E. Crutchfield.

**Enrica Salvoni**  
1927-2018

May 19, 2018, Enrica Salvoni, age 91, passed away in Milan, Italy. She was the widow of Dr. Fausto Salvoni, scholar and leader for decades in Churches of Christ in Italy. He wrote numerous books and influenced

many who sought to practice simple Christianity.

Having studied at Catholic seminary, at 21 Fausto Salvoni received a doctorate in divinity and later a master's in the Holy Bible. He served as a professor at Catholic Seminary for Priests in Milan. He wrote for the *Catholic Encyclopedia* (Vatican Edition) and *Ecclesiastical Encyclopedia*.

He stated, "I loved the Bible and had the wonderful privilege of studying it in original languages. I tried during that time to teach the Bible faithfully and not Roman Catholic traditions."

In 1950, he left the Catholic church, gravitating toward directions of the early church. He connected with Harold Paden, a pioneering, post-World War II missionary for Churches of Christ, and determined to work within the Churches of Christ there. He was baptized for forgiveness of his sins and received the gift of the Holy Spirit. He soon preached to large crowds across Europe and visited the USA, directing the Bible Chair in Milan and teaching at Florence. He served many churches, while publishing.

Harold Paden credited Fausto Salvoni with modeling a passion for God's love and grace, above sectarian issues, which so many of us later received through Harold.

Fausto died in 1982, leaving his wife, Enrica, as a valuable presence in the churches in Italy. Throughout the following 36 years the Bering Drive Church of Christ in Houston continued sending much-needed support to this godly widow and example to Italian churches. It was a blessing to participate in her journey.

## With Appreciation

*The Christian Chronicle* appreciates and acknowledges a generous gift received in honor of Bobby Ross Jr.

## NEWSMAKERS

**AWARDED:** Michael Benavides, a member of the West Huntsville Church of Christ in Alabama, the Mr. and Mrs. Lee Holder Memorial FHU Bible Scholarship for the fall semester at Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson, Tenn.



**Benavides**

**Rick and Benita Lanning,** the Friend to Youth award from Florida College in Temple Terrace. The couple has served Churches of Christ in Minneapolis for 32 years. **Joey Davis,** the Alumnus of the Year award and **Sherry Brown,** the Living Flame Award from the Memphis School of Preaching in Tennessee.

**DRAFTED:** Lee Solomon, second baseman for the Lipscomb University Bisons, selected by the San Diego Padres in the 2018 Major League Baseball Draft. He is the 30th player in the Nashville, Tenn., university's history to be picked in the MLB draft.



**Solomon**

**NAMED:** Phillip Calvert, chief of police for Faulkner University in Montgomery, Ala. **Stephanie Howell** to the board of trustees of Harding University in Searcy, Ark.



**Calvert**

**Alan Stephens,** development officer for World Christian Broadcasting in Franklin, Tenn. He and his wife, Stacey, worship with the Concord Road Church of Christ in Brentwood, Tenn.



**Yoder**

**Christian Yoder,** stateside administrative coordinator for Made in the Streets, a nonprofit supported by Churches of Christ that serves children in Kenya.

*Submit your wedding announcements, birth announcements, memorials or tributes to milestones@christianchronicle.org or call (405) 425-5071. Submissions start at \$25.*



# ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

## College of Arts and Sciences

*Dr. Gregory Straughn, Dean, ACU Box 29210, Abilene, Texas 79699-9210*

The **Department of Communication and Sociology** invites applications for a tenure-track position at assistant professor level beginning August 2018. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in sociology. Areas of specialization are open, but we particularly seek applicants who can teach undergraduate statistics and research methods. Our faculty is engaged in research with undergraduate students on a broad range of topics. All applicants should demonstrate a record of excellent classroom teaching, the potential for scholarly endeavors, and collegial service. Applicants must have strong communication skills and interest in the development of students. Information about the department is available at [acu.edu/sociology](http://acu.edu/sociology).

The **Department of Journalism and Mass Communication** invites applications for a full-time, tenure-track faculty member to join six colleagues beginning Aug. 1, 2018, in an ACEJMC-accredited program in a state-of-the-art facility. About 150 students are enrolled in advertising/public relations, convergence journalism or multimedia majors within the department or in an interdisciplinary graphic design/advertising major. Students in the advertising/PR major spend two semesters working at Morris+Mitchell, a student-run agency. The ideal candidate will have academic credentials and professional experience for teaching public relations courses in the ad/PR major. Though not required, applicants who bring a second area of interest in sports communication, social media or film are particularly encouraged to apply. A terminal degree is strongly preferred, but applicants who are ABD will be considered. Research and service expectations support the university's status as a premier comprehensive university. Information about the department is available at [acu.edu/jmc](http://acu.edu/jmc).

## College of Education and Human Services

*Dr. Jennifer Shewmaker, Dean, ACU Box 28276, Abilene, Texas 79699-8276*

The **Department of Teacher Education** invites applications for a tenure track faculty position at assistant or associate professor. An earned doctorate in the field of education with an emphasis in one or more of the following areas is required: special education, reading and/or ESL. Must provide evidence of exemplary practice in K-12 settings. Applicants should demonstrate a strong background in effective teaching strategies for diverse populations; ability to create and enhance collaborative partnerships with public school personnel; and strong potential for continued professional service and scholarship. Commitment to the mission of preparing Christian teachers to serve in diverse settings is fundamental. Information about the department can be found at [acu.edu/education](http://acu.edu/education).

## School of Information Technology and Computing

*Dr. John Homer, Director, ACU Box 29304, Abilene, Texas 79699-9304*

The **School of Information Technology and Computing** (SITC) invites applications for an open-rank position in any of the following fields: computer

science, information technology and information systems. Start date is Aug. 1, 2018, or when the best candidate is available. Preferred applicants will have a Ph.D. and ability to teach in one of the foregoing fields, or a master's degree with significant industry and teaching experience. Primary responsibilities will include teaching undergraduate students in the SITC, mentoring students, service assignments, and research. Rank, tenure eligibility and salary will be determined based upon qualifications and experience. Information about the School can be found at [blogs.acu.edu/sitc](http://blogs.acu.edu/sitc).

## School of Nursing

*Dr. Becky Hammack, Dean, ACU Box 28035, Abilene, Texas 79699-8035*

The **School of Nursing** invites applications for an instructor or assistant/associate professor of nursing beginning Fall 2018. Applicants should maintain an active nursing license, be eligible for RN licensing in the state of Texas and have a M.S.N. degree. Preference given for a Ph.D. in nursing, a D.N.P. or related doctoral degree. Applicants from a variety of nursing sub-specialties (medical-surgical, pediatrics, critical care, nursing informatics, etc.) are encouraged to apply. The successful candidate is expected to work collaboratively with the nursing faculty toward the Christian mission of the university. Applicants should be committed to excellence in teaching and learning, facilitate exceptional student learning environments, value mentoring of students, and engage in service for the university, profession and community. Information about the school is available at [acu.edu/nursing](http://acu.edu/nursing).

See [acu.edu/academics/provost/positions](http://acu.edu/academics/provost/positions) 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 vitae; 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.

With gratitude to the *Christian Chronicle* for 75 years of service in support of Christian higher education!

# BOSS. MBA. MAcc.

Be the boss of your life, schedule, and career with a MBA or Master of Accountancy degree. OC is Home to America's #1 best value Christian MBA program, led by real-world business leaders who treat you like a boss.

ONSITE OR ONLINE  
OC.EDU/BOSS



# A MASTER'S DEGREE OF BIBLICAL PROPORTIONS

Become the Christian leader God wants you to be. With affordable classes just one day a week, you can get the knowledge your calling demands.

ONSITE OR ONLINE  
OC.EDU/GST



# PRO

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING - ONSITE OR ONLINE  
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Advance your career with an accelerated MSE or MSC. Earn your degree in less than two years while balancing your busy work and family schedules.

OC.EDU/PRO



Now in 16X9  
and 4X3  
aspect ratios



## HYMNAL

### 1 - Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art,

Words: Irish Folk Hymn  
Music: Joyce's Old Irish Folk Music, Arr: Martin Shaw

© 2001 The Paperless Hymnal™

Twelve volumes with over 1480 songs in PowerPoint® format  
Project easy-to-read lyrics and music / CCLI license not required  
Download free songs and order at: [www.PaperlessHymnal.com](http://www.PaperlessHymnal.com)

For PowerPoint® slides in Spanish: [www.himnosentantalla.com](http://www.himnosentantalla.com)

# Connect With Us!



## The Christian Chronicle

[christianchronicle.org](http://christianchronicle.org)

Digital Newsletter



@cofnews



@christianchronicle



The Christian  
Chronicle



[christianchronicle.org/  
newsletter](http://christianchronicle.org/newsletter)

Don't miss out. Subscribe at [christianchronicle.org/newsletter](http://christianchronicle.org/newsletter)

## EDITORIAL

## Gather facts before picking up stones

Everybody, it seems, has an opinion about Jack Phillips, the Colorado baker in whose favor the U.S. Supreme Court recently issued a 7-2 decision. Sadly, not everybody has taken the time to review the facts of his case.

The high court determined that the Colorado Civil Rights Commission exhibited anti-religious bias when it ruled against Phillips. The state commission sided against Phillips when the baker declined to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple. The owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop in suburban Denver cited his biblical belief in marriage as a sacred union between one man and one woman.

Regrettably, many — including some Christians eager to present themselves as more loving and compassionate than Phillips — have twisted the actual facts and circumstances of the baker's case.

The idea that Phillips “refuses service” to gays and lesbians as a general business practice is rampant. It's also untrue.

He serves anybody who walks in his shop's door. He just doesn't create any message. And for him, a wedding is a sacred rite, a religious ceremony. He can't in good conscience endorse a wedding that goes against his faith.

“I told these two men when they came in my store, ‘I'll sell you cookies, brownies, birthday cakes. I'll make you custom cakes. I'll make anything for you,’” Phillips told NBC's “Today” show, referring to the gay men who sued him.

In the same interview, the baker noted: “I don't create cakes for Halloween. I wouldn't create a cake that would be anti-American or disparaging toward anybody for any reason, even cakes that would disparage people who identify as LGBT. It's just cakes have a message, and this is one I can't create.”

Phillips stood up for what he believes. In a free nation, he has that right.

Similarly, religious freedom gives those who disagree with Phillips the right to express their opposition.

But critics — particularly those who claim to be followers of Jesus — owe it to Phillips to educate themselves on the real facts before casting stones at him.



WWW.COLUMBIACHRISTIAN.COM

Graduates celebrate at Columbia Christian School, a pre-K through high school in Oregon associated with Churches of Christ.

## The words that tear us down – and build us up – begin with ‘You are’

Words have power. God used words to create the world. The Bible, one of our key access points to God, is full of words — mean words, nice words, pretty words,

loving words, hateful words, big words, small words. They're part of our lives. I'm utterly fascinated by the power and beauty of words.

I have a friend who's a couple of years older than I am who's a beautiful model of what it's like to live for Christ on earth. We exchange prayer requests. Once, as I was telling her about some battles I'm fighting, she told me, “You are powerful.” Wow. That stuck.

To be honest, I don't remember much more of that conversation, but those three words bounced around my mind for days. “You are powerful.” While all words have power, “you are” statements have a special kind of power — Captain-America-with-his-shield, Percy-Jackson-in-the-ocean, Hermione-Granger-in-the-library kind of power.

We've all be told some type of “You are” statement. Let's be real; they don't all make us feel like Percy Jackson at the center of a hurricane. They make us feel more like pre-super serum Steve Rogers getting beat up in the alley. Maybe it sounded something like this: *You are ugly. You are fat. You are unimportant. You are irrelevant. You are stupid. You're not talented. You are a failure.*

We've all been told things that tear us down, break our hearts, destroy our confidence. It always hurts, no matter who says it. Maybe it was your friend, or the mean girl, or your significant other, or your parents. Or maybe, maybe it was you.

“You are” statements aren't always bad. *You are*

*funny. You are organized. You are ambitious.* But the really, truly important ones come from Scripture. Let me introduce you to some “You are” statements that are true, no matter who you are:

### In the Word



Mary Edwards

- *You are fearfully and wonderfully made.* (Psalm 139:14)

- *You are a child of the King.* (1 John 3:1)
- *You are redeemed.* (Isaiah 43:1)
- *You are chosen for this time.* (Esther 4:14)
- *You are set apart.* (1 Peter 2:9)
- *You are loved.* (Jeremiah 31:3)
- *You are fought for.* (Exodus 14:14)
- *You are freed.* (John 8:32)

Friends, God speaks the truth about who you are.

I want to challenge you. Every day for 10 days, write down one or two positive “You are” statements that describe you. They can be biblical. They can be personal. They can come from your friends. It's important to rely on those who love us when we can't love ourselves, but it's also important to learn to truly love and value who we are.

If negative “You are” statements pop into your mind, write those down too. Then crumple up the paper and throw them away. You don't need that kind of negativity in your life. Satan's lies are no match for God's truth. Go. Speak truth — to yourself, to those you care about, to the world.

My friend, you are powerful.

**MARY EDWARDS** and her family worship with the Eastridge Church of Christ in Rockwall, Texas. This fall she begins her freshman year at Harding University in Searcy, Ark. She and her mother, Martha, write the blog “Restoring God's Masterpiece,” at [restoringthemasterpiece.weebly.com](http://restoringthemasterpiece.weebly.com).

## Mourning a man who made words dance

*Maybe that's enlightenment enough: to know that there is no final resting place of the mind; no moment of smug clarity. Perhaps wisdom ... is realizing how small I am and unwise, and how far I have yet to go. — Anthony Bourdain*

I'm trudging through emotional muck due to the loss of Anthony Bourdain. He was a friend I invited into my home through the screen and pages for many years. His wry exuberance for learning and experiencing affected me deeply. His sardonic wit and ability to spar the trite and shallow — beautifully, I might add — amazed me.

His words were sometimes poignant, sometimes scathing, but always reflective of his brilliance in crafting an image or emotion. He made words gustatory, taming them while making them dance.

I have to thank him many times over for taking me to places

I otherwise would have never seen and introducing me to cultures I didn't know existed, rekindling my passion to explore. I got to live vicariously

through him, 48 minutes at a time.

He was far from a model citizen, plagued by darkness I can relate to uncomfortably well. He didn't revolutionize the food world by way of his cuisine, but he did in terms of access and celebration of differences, both in the kitchen and around the world.

He once said that he was afraid to stop moving for fear of what might happen. You stopped moving, Tony. You couldn't outrun it. And, today, part of me has stopped moving, too.

I'm skeptical, but I hope you found enlightenment.

You still had so far to go.

**BETHANY HUTTON** worships with the Memorial Road Church of Christ in Oklahoma City.

# An abused grandmother's dying requests: Study your Bible and learn how to forgive

**F**orgive? Really? No way. Forgiveness is an intentional, voluntary process. Feelings and attitudes change. We let go of negative emotions. How could I do that? I am trying to raise my family,

keep my house from exploding into chaos and maintain my full-time job.

And I didn't cause any of this mess!

But that's what my Nana asked of me during her alert moments in her final days.

Read the

Scriptures, she told me, and know how to render forgiveness.

For two years, I was blessed beyond belief to have my grandmother in Pennsylvania where I live. The nursing home staff knew that, every Sunday, they needed to get her up and dressed and have her breakfast fed to her so that she could come with us to worship with the King of Prussia Church of Christ. Nana would sing the old hymns, partake in communion with her weak, feeble hands and smile at the young children who would walk by and in their cheery, sweet voices say "Good morning, Miss Peggy!"

In two years Nana missed just three Sundays. Her memory, even

at 92, was astounding. She would recite Psalms, finish the sentences of the Scriptures and pray for me

as she knew the burden that I was bearing.

As her health started to decline, I just wanted to see her smile.

You see, Nana had suffered elder abuse at the hands of my own family for four years before I took power of



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ALLYSON ROBERTS

During the final two years of her life, "Miss Peggy" (born June 11, 1925) rarely missed Sunday worship with the King of Prussia Church of Christ.

attorney. By then, she was penniless and awash in credit card debt.

I felt betrayed. During my prayer moments and quiet time with the Lord, all I would do was complain, grumble, moan and ask for this thorn

to be taken from me.

Nana took her last breath on Aug. 26, 2017. She is no longer in darkness, but now

is in the kingdom. Hallelujah! I am thrilled to know that she is in heaven.

I have tried to honor her last request — that I stay immersed in Scripture and learn to forgive. Nana offered forgiveness to the family members who committed the abuse,

so why was it so hard for me to do the same?

The Scriptures offered me guidance and helped me remember that I also have been forgiven:

- *In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.* (Ephesians 1:7)

- *For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.* (Colossians 1:13-14)

- *And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.* (Mark 11:25)

I believe that forgiveness is playing a huge role in my grieving process. We all know the stages of grief, and while I feel that I sometimes go through all of them at once, I do forgive my family.

My mother has suffered from depression and now has Alzheimer's disease. But when I see her, she remembers that I love the Lord and want to serve him until my last breath.

I learned that through my sweet Nana and promised to strive to follow in her footsteps and be a forgiver — not one who condemns.

Grief and forgiveness can work together to achieve the ultimate goal. The old is gone, the new is here.

I will continue to grieve the loss of Nana and work on offering forgiveness to continue on her legacy.

May the God of heaven grant strength and power to all of us who need it. May we live by the words of Ephesians 4:31-32:

*Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

**ALLYSON B. ROBERTS** and her family worship with the King of Prussia Church of Christ in Pennsylvania. She has a doctorate in music education.

### Views



Allyson B. Roberts

**Blessed be the Caregivers**

SEE STORIES from our series on Christians caring for the aged, those with special needs and more at [christianchronicle.org](http://christianchronicle.org).

# Job Listings

Visit our online listings at: [www.christianchronicle.org/classifieds](http://www.christianchronicle.org/classifieds).  
Classifieds start at \$325, discounts offered to smaller congregations.  
Contact Tonya Patton at: [tonya.patton@christianchronicle.org](mailto:tonya.patton@christianchronicle.org).  
Deadline for next two issues: July 13 and August 10.

## Youth Minister - Bradenton, Florida

Fifty Third Avenue Church of Christ is looking for an exceptional youth minister. We are a congregation with an average attendance of about 200. Our youth group is about 20 strong, with a group of involved and dedicated parents.

Youth Minister will plan, communicate and execute programs and activities aimed at enriching the spiritual lives of youth.

Education: Minimum of a bachelor's degree, preferred in Bible, youth ministry or related field. Equivalent experience will be considered. Salary: Commensurate with education and experience.

A complete job description is available on our web page [53avecofc.org](http://53avecofc.org), or request by contacting the church office at [office@53avecofc.org](mailto:office@53avecofc.org) or (941) 753-4153. Please send resume and references to the attention of the Youth Minister Search Committee at the same email address, or mail to:

53rd Avenue Church of Christ, 3412 53rd Ave. East, Bradenton, FL 34203.

Closing Date: Open until filled.

## Full-Time Minister Needed in Pecos, Texas

The Church of Christ in Pecos, Texas, is seeking a minister. Graduate from a preaching school or Christian university associated with Churches of Christ and 5+ years experience preferred. Submit resume with three references to:

Church of Christ

PO Box 1332

Pecos, TX 79772

[pecoscofcoffice02@windstream.net](mailto:pecoscofcoffice02@windstream.net)

## Involvement/Worship Minister

The Fredericksburg Church of Christ is seeking an Involvement / Worship Minister to work with our young families, lead worship/singing, occasionally preach, and assist congregational efforts to reach our community for Christ. Please send a resume, a list of references, and your philosophy of ministry to:

Fredericksburg Church of Christ

507 North Llano St

Fredericksburg, TX 78624

[disciples@fredericksburgchurchofchrist.com](mailto:disciples@fredericksburgchurchofchrist.com)

## Minister Needed

Is there a congregation ready to send a minister to work in south-central Pennsylvania?

Small church needs a sponsored worker for a growing community. See online ad for more info.

Chambersburg Church of Christ  
PO Box 221

Chambersburg, PA 17201

(717) 261-0835 (leave msg)

[cofc@innernet.net](mailto:cofc@innernet.net)

[www.christianchronicle.org/classifieds](http://www.christianchronicle.org/classifieds)



## Associate Minister

We are seeking an associate minister to work with our pulpit minister with the intention of transitioning to our full-time pulpit minister. The associate pulpit minister will work with our current pulpit minister and elders to serve the West Olive Church of Christ by providing a balanced ministry of preaching, teaching and assisting the elders in implementing our vision to help the congregation grow to its full potential in membership and spiritual growth in Christ. We are a congregation of 450 members in a growing community west of Phoenix, Ariz.

**General Requirements:** *The ideal candidate should be a married, middle-aged man with at least ten years of experience. He should be of strong personal faith and be doctrinally sound and well grounded in the Scriptures. He should have an evangelistic heart to share the Gospel with those who are lost.*

**Principal Responsibilities:** *Responsibilities of this position include preaching, teaching and participation in the life of our church family.*

### How to Apply:

Those interested in applying should mail a copy of their resume with picture and at least three references to the attention of:

West Olive Church of Christ

Attn: Elders

10935 W Olive Ave

Peoria, AZ 85345

## Looking for an Energetic Evangelist

*The Bell Fork Road Church of Christ is searching for an energetic, evangelistic minister to serve full time. Our desire is for a family man with a love of GOD's word and people and also the ability to work well with a versatile congregation of all races and ages.*

Church of Christ  
Attn: Chris Kelsey, Chairman  
321 Bell Fork Rd  
Jacksonville, NC 28540  
[sylvialeatherwood@gmail.com](mailto:sylvialeatherwood@gmail.com)  
(910) 346-6107

## FULL-TIME MINISTER WANTED

The Chatham Church of Christ is looking for a full-time minister. We are a small congregation in northern New Jersey. Preferred qualifications include: master's degree; strong preaching, teaching, evangelism and interpersonal skills; 5-10 years of experience; and willing to make a long-term commitment. Send resume and other relevant information to:

[chathamchurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:chathamchurchofchrist@gmail.com)  
Chatham Church of Christ  
382 Fairmount Ave  
Chatham, NJ 07928  
(973) 635-6810

## Full-Time Minister - Missouri

Malden Church of Christ seeks a full-time minister. Rural congregation, 50-60 faithful members, led by the Lord and two elders. Compensation commensurate with qualifications and experience. Contact:

Rod Dill at (573) 281-8625

Jerry Reaves at (573) 276-8071

## Minister gives strategies to engage skeptical millennials but overgeneralizes their beliefs

The secularization of North America seems to attract ever-increasing attention from the media, sociologists and students of culture (both Christian and not).

For many Americans, David Kinnaman of the Barna Group and Gabe Lyons of Q ministry were among the first popular writers to examine and put hard data to an anecdotal experience, suggesting that a significant cohort of the millennial generation is disassociating itself from Christianity and church.

In **"The Problem of God: Answering a Skeptic's Challenges to Christianity,"** Mark Clark engages this same phenomena and invites all parties

to attend to what he considers the most persuasive arguments in favor of the Christian faith.

Clark begins by relating his story of growing up as a member of this irreligious genera-

tion. Following his testimony of conversion as a teen with a self-confessed disposition toward doubt (which he sees as related to his unapologetic rationalism), Clark takes us on a journey through the most pressing questions that have emerged through his work over the last decade to "start a church for skeptics."

Most readers will find familiar the list of problems Clark identifies: science, the existence of God, the authority of scripture, evil and suffering, hell, sexuality, hypocrisy and other such questions.

Relying heavily on scholars including Alvin Plantinga and Alister McGrath and popular apologists such as C.S. Lewis and Tim Keller, Clark seeks to

demonstrate on each of these issues that "the Christian position" can be proven not only intellectually defensible but is, in fact, often more reasonable than the atheistic worldview.

Readers who find their beliefs under attack by acquaintances holding views that might be characterized as militantly anti-Christian will discover in Clark a resource to help bolster their faith.

For those who wish simply to engage their non-Christian neighbors in evangelistic

conversation, however, Clark's approach to interreligious dialogue has a couple of shortcomings. Throughout the book, the worldviews of non-Christian groups are often overly simplified. ("Atheists believe \_\_\_" or "Buddhists claim \_\_\_ has to be true.")

As we live in an ever-globalizing world, it is vital that those of us ministering cross-culturally overcome the belief that all of any group thinks and believes only one thing. While the lack of nuance does not invalidate most of Clark's arguments, I would suggest that we not expect all our neighbors to share opinions identical to the non-Christians presented here.

Clark also tends to present the "Christian perspective" without acknowledging the great diversity of belief that exists throughout the church on the various issues he addresses.

Upon reading "The Problem of God," one could easily conclude that no "real" Christians differ from Clark in their beliefs about evolution, inerrancy, the depiction of hell in Scripture, etc., and this sets up a number of false dichotomies between the Christian worldview and others in which the reader is asked to pick a side.

This book provides a set of answers to common challenges that Christians may encounter in engaging others about faith. And we need works that come from the kind of personal experience recounted by Clark to help us navigate the enormous changes taking place in our culture.

However, we also need those resources to try and capture the complexity

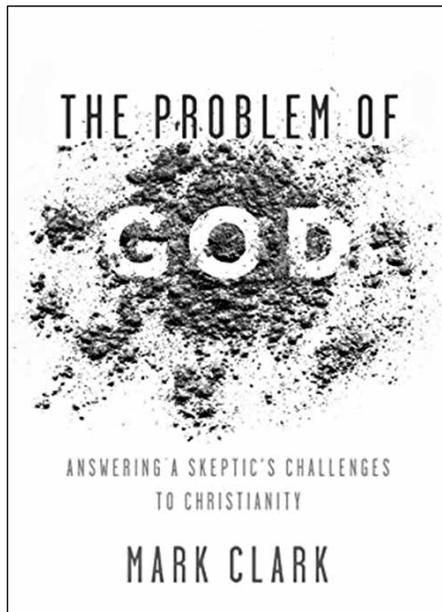
of our world in a way which empowers all the church to engage the world on behalf of God's kingdom

**SETH BOUCHELLE** lives in the Bronx, N.Y., and works with Global City Mission Initiative, a nonprofit that focuses on cross-cultural evangelism, disciple-making and church planting among the diverse immigrant populations in big cities around the world. He is a graduate of Abilene Christian University in Texas. See [www.globalcitymission.org](http://www.globalcitymission.org).

### In Print



Seth Bouchelle



Mark Clark. **"The Problem of God: Answering a Skeptic's Challenges to Christianity."** Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2017. 272 pages. \$17.99.

## Can we reach a culture that considers our faith irrelevant?

**P**eople perceive Christians as irrelevant and extreme."

This is the startling assertion by Christian researchers David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons in **"Good Faith."** Sharing results of a recent Barna Group study, they reveal that basic Christian beliefs are now considered strange, crazy and, in some cases, dangerous by mainstream American culture.

Yet there is hope. Generally, adults in America have a positive feeling toward church. They might not attend, but they believe it does good. So Kinnaman and Lyons believe that now is the time for the church to enter the public square and engage in productive, spiritual conversations that point people to Christ. In this book, they seek to prepare Christians for the task ahead.

Christians need to gain a hearing within our culture, the authors argue. This involves three actions: love, believe and live. Christians should demonstrate kindness in what they say and how they say it. They should not be afraid to courageously stand for their beliefs with confidence. Finally, they should demonstrate love and belief daily for others to see.

The authors offer guidance on how to approach relevant topics in today's public square — marriage, family, death, same-sex attraction, racism and religious freedom — using their "love, believe, live" values.

I found the book helpful in two ways. Reviewing the authors' research gives a snapshot of beliefs, attitudes and feelings within American culture about faith-related topics. This provides great material for future lessons and guidance on critical areas where teaching is needed.

"Good Faith" is about evangelistic conversations in a post-Christian world.

The authors offer inspiration mixed with thoughtfulness about how to engage secular America with the Christian worldview.

Their ultimate call to the church is for faithfulness: standing out while demonstrating love.

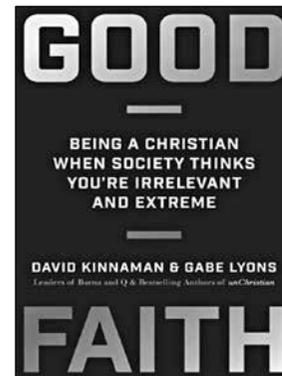
When we do this well, we show good faith.

**STEVE CLOER** is preaching minister for the Southside Church of Christ in Fort Worth, Texas. See [www.sscofc.org](http://www.sscofc.org).

### What we're reading



Steve Cloer



David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons. **Good Faith: Being a Christian When Society Thinks You're Irrelevant and Extreme.** Ada, Mich.: Baker Books, 2016. 288 pages. \$15.99.

## CALENDAR

**July 6-8 PeacePrints Retreat.** Strawn, Texas. See centerpeace.net.

**July 8-13 Summer Honor Choir (High School).** Harding University, Searcy, Ark. See [www.harding.edu/honorchoir](http://www.harding.edu/honorchoir).

**July 15-18 48th Annual Caribbean Lectureship.** Georgetown, Guyana. The National Cultural Centre. See [caribbeanlectureship.com](http://caribbeanlectureship.com).

**July 15-20 Theology Summer Academy.** Oklahoma Christian University, Oklahoma City. See [oc.edu/tsa](http://oc.edu/tsa).

**July 21 Rise and Build Workshop.** St. Petersburg, Fla. Contact [lane3communication.com](http://lane3communication.com).

**July 22-27 Texas Normal Singing School.** Abilene, Texas. See [singingschool.org](http://singingschool.org).

**July 23-27 Global Reunion 2018.** Oklahoma Christian University, Oklahoma City. See [intermissionministry.org](http://intermissionministry.org).

**July 26-29 Angel Fire Bible Symposium.** Angel Fire, N.M. See [angelfirebible-symposium.com](http://angelfirebible-symposium.com).

**Aug. 2-4 Redemption CCG National Tournament.** Tomball, Texas. Contact [txredemption@gmail.com](mailto:txredemption@gmail.com).

**Aug. 3-4 Widow / Widower Retreat.** LaVergne, Tenn. See [widowhoodworkshop.com](http://widowhoodworkshop.com).

**Aug. 18 Church Missions Conference.** Chattanooga, Tenn. See [eastbrainerdchurch.org/misionconference](http://eastbrainerdchurch.org/misionconference).

**Aug. 31-Sept. 3 National Christian Singles Seminar.** Sugar Land, Texas. See [nationalchristiansingles.com](http://nationalchristiansingles.com).

**Sept. 11 Eastern European Mission's Franklin Event.** Franklin, Tenn. See [eem.org/events](http://eem.org/events).

**Sept. 13-14 New Day Conference.** North Blvd. Church of Christ, Murfreesboro, Tenn. See [northboulevard.com](http://northboulevard.com).

**Sept. 16-19 Summit 2018. Abilene Christian University.** Abilene, Texas. See [blogs.acu.edu/summit](http://blogs.acu.edu/summit).

**FULL CALENDAR:** [www.christianchronicle.org](http://www.christianchronicle.org). To include your event for \$25, contact [tonya.patton@christianchronicle.org](mailto:tonya.patton@christianchronicle.org).

### Full-Time Family Minister - Tennessee

Millington Church of Christ is praying for a full-time family minister, with a passion for the Lord and for serving His people. Our economically, racially and socially diverse church family consists of about 250 adult members who are shepherded by eight elders. We have a full-time outreach minister (who has served this congregation for 34 years), a full-time youth minister caring for a large number of teens and active Kingdom Kids (6th grade and down) group and a large correspondence course prison ministry. We are known in our community as a friendly, compassionate, accepting church. We have four men that preach regularly (two are members). We are looking for a godly - fatherly man who has a heart for evangelism, will preach a few times a month, teach classes, will connect with families during the week with office hours and who will visit folks (homes, hospitals, shut-ins, etc.). If interested please contact us at:

[cutles@bellsouth.net](mailto:cutles@bellsouth.net)  
[HowardThomasHowell@gmail.com](mailto:HowardThomasHowell@gmail.com)  
 (901) 872-4426

### Full-Time Pulpit Preacher

The Annapolis Church of Christ in Maryland is looking for a well-rounded preacher who is capable of inspiring members of the church and the community around them. The church has elders and deacons. Interested men should mail or email a letter of introduction, resume, recent sermons, and examples of recent classes taught. Go to [annapolischurch.org/preacher](http://annapolischurch.org/preacher) for full job description.

**John Lewis**  
[jlewis@annapolischurch.org](mailto:jlewis@annapolischurch.org)  
 (443) 977-6124

### Full-Time Pulpit Minister

Pleasanton Church of Christ in Texas, is looking for a pulpit minister. We have an average Sunday morning attendance of 215 members/guests, seven elders, nine deacons and an associate minister whose focus is youth and family. Please provide a copy of your resume and one DVD of a sermon you have preached within the last year. For more information, please contact the search committee chairman:

**Wayne Johnson at 830-391-2571 or**  
[wjohnson4945@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wjohnson4945@sbcglobal.net)

### Enthusiastic Youth Minister

The Park Avenue Church of Christ in Denison, Texas, is seeking an enthusiastic youth minister. Responsibilities include: coordination of youth education, worship, fellowship, service activities, etc. Must possess strong leadership, organizational, verbal and written skills. Experience preferred but not required. Send resume to:

**George Hatfield**  
[gghat@swbell.net](mailto:gghat@swbell.net)

### Do you have a passion for preaching the Gospel?

*A servant heart that desires to teach others how to reach the lost in this world?  
 With a specific vision and plan on how to grow the church spiritually?*

**If so, then we want to hear from you!**

Sunset Church of Christ is a dynamic, energetic, established congregation in Taylor, Michigan, looking for a full-time preacher to become part of our growing family. You will work alongside a 200+ membership that consists of many young and middle-aged families and some wonderful seniors. We have a strong children's and youth program led by an Involvement Minister, as well as, a minister for seniors and visitation. Additionally, we work extensively with a missionary to the largest population of Muslims in the US, located in nearby Dearborn, Michigan. Sunset is led by a dedicated group of Godly elders and deacons who serve and live by example. We have a family atmosphere that strives to be more than Christian in name but a body that desires to live every day for Christ. The ideal candidate will have experience working with a culturally diverse congregation, a firm reliance on the Bible as the authoritative Word of God, and a demonstrated ability to inspire and relate God's Word to motivate people to action. If this sounds like you, please send your resume, audio/video files, and a one-page description of your purpose in God's Kingdom to:

**Sunset Church of Christ**  
 c/o Elders  
 24800 Ecorse Road  
 Taylor, Michigan 48180

[RWREEVES@COMCAST.NET](mailto:RWREEVES@COMCAST.NET) (Subject: Minister Search)

### Full-Time Family & Youth Minister

The Woodinville Church of Christ has a full-time position open for a Family & Youth Minister. We are a mature 250-member strong congregation with five elders, sixteen deacons, a full-time pulpit minister and a very active fellowship. We are seeking someone to enthusiastically reach out to teens and their family members, assist in guiding our teens to a committed relationship with God, promote the training of teens for service, local and foreign outreach efforts and be a spiritual mentor. The successful candidate will have at least seven years of experience including leading and teaching teens and pulpit preaching with a desire for full-time pulpit ministry; education should include a bachelor's degree (Bible major preferred) or a preaching school graduate or equivalent church-related experience. The city of Woodinville is located in the scenic Puget Sound region of Washington State—a small suburb with all the cultural amenities of Seattle nearby and an abundance of outdoor adventure opportunities.

Please submit your resume and sermon audio sample to the Family & Youth Minister Search Committee:

[searchcommittee@woodinvillecfc.org](mailto:searchcommittee@woodinvillecfc.org)  
[www.woodinvillecfc.org](http://www.woodinvillecfc.org)

### Full-Time Ministry Opportunity!

We are looking for a doctrinally sound man who is capable of relating to people and inspiring them to love God and their neighbor. Prefer a candidate that has completed a program of biblical studies at a Christian college/school of preaching. Skill set: strong work ethic and the ability to teach, preach and communicate effectively. If you are looking for a congregation that is self-supporting, has elders and deacons, provides housing (and utilities), and provides the opportunity to use your God-given abilities to preach the word, you need to consider Dexter! Please send resume and recent sermon (CD/DVD/link) to:

**Dexter Church of Christ, Attn: Steve Sewell**  
 8700 Jackson Rd., Dexter, MI 48130  
[slsewell012@gmail.com](mailto:slsewell012@gmail.com)

### Full-Time Minister

Established Niagara Falls, NY, congregation without elders, is seeking a full-time pulpit minister. We are an older congregation of 50+ members striving to serve the Lord and our community. The congregation prefers a married man with a minimum of eight years' experience and a four-year Bible degree who will help us focus on reaching our community. Please send resume, video/audio CD, or link along with a personal philosophy of ministry to:

**LaSalle church of Christ**  
**Minister Search Committee; c/o Dailey**  
**4704 Stacey Dr, Lewiston, NY 14092**

[www.lasallechurchofchrist.org](http://www.lasallechurchofchrist.org)

### Semi-Retired Preacher

The church in Chillicothe, Texas, is in need of a semi-retired preacher to work with us. We are a very small congregation not capable of much financial support but will furnish a nice brick home adjacent to the church building. Please contact:

**F. D. Bradshaw**  
**940-852-5181**  
**940-839-5551 (cell)**

### Minister Needed

Church of Christ located in Eureka, Calif., is looking for a minister. Weekly salary, house, and travel allowance are provided. We prefer someone under 60 with 10+ years experience.

If interested, send resume, recorded sermon sample and recent photo.

**Church of Christ**  
**257 Sonoma St**  
**Eureka, CA 95501**  
**(707) 443-6102**

**Deadline: August 1, 2018**

### Full-Time Youth Minister

The Maple Hill church of Christ in Lebanon, Tenn., is seeking an experienced, full-time Youth Minister. We are a growing congregation of approximately 450, located 30 miles east of Nashville with several young families. Send resume, references and work philosophy to:

**Maple Hill Church of Christ**  
**102 Maple Hill Rd.**  
**Lebanon, TN 37087**  
**maplehillchurch.org**  
**ymsearch@maplehillchurch.org**

### Full-Time Minister

The **Newport Avenue Church of Christ in Bend, Oregon**, is hiring for a full-time (five days per week), preaching minister. Seeking someone to help implement programs and structure to continue to grow the church and develop active youth programs. Email resume and cover letter to:  
**newportcofc@gmail.com**

### MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

*Tiny congregation looking for sound Christian leadership. Retirement or other support needed.*

**Church of Christ**  
**Attn: Billy McCarty**  
**PO Box 487, Reserve, NM 87830**  
**(575) 533-6574**

### Preacher Search - Davenport, Iowa

Central Church of Christ is looking for a gifted speaker, sound in Scripture, who can present the Word in the assembly to visitors we bring in. The minister should be encouraging, outreach-focused and able to devote one-to-one study time with recent converts. We are an active body of servants. Please submit cover letter, resume and link to a recent sermon to:

**J.E. Willis at jn54wil@yahoo.com**  
**(563) 940-5751**

## Reaffirming a 75-year-old promise

**T**he *Christian Chronicle* exists to inform, inspire and unite Churches of Christ with stories about our fellowship at home and around the world.

The *Chronicle* has a long history, thanks to readers who have supported it since Olan Hicks published the first issue 75 years ago.

After Hicks, the *Chronicle* was led by Christians including James Walter Nichols, Ralph Sweet, Haskell Chesshir, Clark Hicks and John Beckloff. Each struggled to rally financial support to sustain the paper. By 1980, Beckloff and his wife, Dottie, realized they could not continue to produce the paper, so they offered the *Chronicle* to Oklahoma Christian College, now University, in Oklahoma City. Howard Norton, longtime missionary to Brazil, became the editor in 1981. In the years since, numerous dedicated souls have labored to make the *Chronicle* the best it can be.

At every landmark in the paper's history, we have reaffirmed the policy that Olan Hicks wrote in the first issue. Following are excerpts. See [christianchronicle.org](http://christianchronicle.org) for the full text.

• *The Christian Chronicle* was begun with the purpose of publishing

all the news of the Churches of Christ that is worthy of being published.

• The *Chronicle* will at all times maintain a firm and vigorous editorial policy for all that is in the best interest of New Testament Christianity. It will not become a mere gossip column; it is not going to go into a coalition with any special interest nor be exploited by any special group. It means to serve all alike, fairly and faithfully.

• The *Chronicle* will not be used as a clearinghouse for scandals or petty rivalries. It will steadfastly refuse to publish any news that may seem to be detrimental to the person or church about whom it is reported until its truthfulness has been verified. Even then, if its publication will not serve any good purpose, it will not be published in the *Chronicle*.

• The *Chronicle* is not published for the purpose of making money but for the good it can do. If you like this policy and want to help achieve the goal we have set, we solicit your patronage. We promise today to do all in our power to spread the Gospel of Christ into all nations. Here we take our stand.

**CONTACT:** [erik@christianchronicle.org](mailto:erik@christianchronicle.org)

## Paper is 'a chronicler of life and its challenges'

**A**s a retired journalist and member of the Lord's church since 1948, I can say with assurance *The Christian Chronicle* has conducted business as both a true newspaper and a helpful, informative service for us as Christians. You have covered the spreading of the faith in New Testament tradition and as a chronicler of life and its challenges for us, the faithful.

I can see that your work has been a challenge, but no bigger than the challenge faced by the church, trying to convey the Lord's message across an expanse of cultures, in the competition of ideas and the struggle to stay relevant in the lives of our young. Nothing more epitomized your success in bridging the interests than your recent stories on the

legacies of Martin Luther King Jr. and Marshall Keeble (Page 1, April).

Yes, there is some reason to be concerned about dwindling church attendance. But as the Holy Spirit instructs us, our job is to plant and leave the growth to God.

Only God can save us, in accord with his will.

And we know this: With faithful servants like your staff, we may observe the course of the effort in the pages of *The Christian Chronicle*.

God bless you all and keep you strong.

**ERNEST HOLSENDOLPH** served for 42 years as a writer and editor for publications including the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, the *New York Times*, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* and *Fortune* magazine. He worships with the Hillcrest Church of Christ in Decatur, Ga.

### To our readers



Erik Tryggestad

### Feedback



Ernest Holsendolph

## Available Opportunities



### Teacher: Spring Hill, Tennessee

Tennessee Children's Home is seeking a full-time teacher to work at on-site school for the 2018-2019 school year. Candidate must be able to plan, organize, and implement an appropriate instructional program in a learning environment that guides and encourages students to develop and fulfill their academic potential.

1. Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution
2. Meet professional teacher education requirements of school, district, and state
3. Possess a single subject credential or certification in teaching a specialized subject
4. State certification
5. Relevant teaching experience
6. Experience in working with at-risk youth a plus
7. Knowledge of relevant technology

### Residential Counselor Couples: Knoxville, Spring Hill, Pinson

Seeking couples for live-in positions as residential counselors, providing front-line treatment and care for up to eight adolescent males, ages 13-18. Good interpersonal, team and conflict resolution skills are required. Must be able to adapt to a two-week on-one-week off schedule. Residential Counselors are part of an interdisciplinary team consisting of case manager, credentialed counselors and night staff.

1. High school diploma or higher from an accredited institution
2. Experience working with at-risk youth a plus
3. One (1) year experience working with youth (volunteer, intern experience can apply)
4. Must be at least 21 years of age and married

### Night Staff: Knoxville, Spring Hill

Knoxville and Spring Hill are seeking night staff to supervise residents during sleep hours.

1. Be at least 21 years of age
2. High School Diploma or GED
3. Must have ability to deal with residents in difficult situations and use good judgment on a nightly basis
4. Experience working with at-risk youth a plus
5. One (1) year experience working with youth (volunteer, intern experience can apply)

### Teacher Assistant: Knoxville and Spring Hill

Knoxville and Spring Hill is seeking a full-time teacher assistant to aide classroom teachers in behavior management and daily functions of the school.

1. High School Diploma or GED required; college degree or related coursework a plus
2. Two years' experience working with children (paid or volunteer)

*Come be a part of this ministry! We offer competitive pay and excellent full-time benefits including medical, dental, vision, life insurance, disability, retirement and paid-time off.  
Sharing Faith, Hope and Love (Since 1909)*

Dana Lawson, (931) 486-2274 ext. 225  
dlawson@tennesseechildrenshome.org  
tennesseechildrenshome.org

**Congratulations, Chronicle,  
on 75 years of excellent journalism!**



## Full-Time Houseparents Full-Time Social Worker

**Qualifications for Houseparents:** Seeking a married couple with a commitment to caring for teenage boys with the motivation to meet the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of children in care. Must be a faithful member of the Church of Christ and meet the State of Florida Criminal Background check requirements as well as agency background checks.

**Benefits Include:** Salary, Retirement Plan, School Tuition, Food, Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Housing and Utilities.

**Qualifications for Social Worker:** Hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree in social work and have a minimum of two years' experience in working with children and families. Must be a faithful member of the Church of Christ and meet the State of Florida Criminal Background check requirements as well as agency background checks.

**Benefits Include:** Salary, Retirement Plan, Health Insurance, Life Insurance, and School Tuition.

Send Resume and letter of interest to:

**Chuck Shepherd**  
Director of Social Services  
chuck.shepherd@mdchome.org  
(352) 383-2155, x9128  
301 West 13th Avenue  
Mount Dora, Florida 32757

### Open Full-time Faculty Positions

Elementary Principal  
Secondary Assistant Principal  
Secondary Science Teacher  
After School Program Director

**Availability: Fall 2018**

**Salary:** Varies based on education level and experience; benefits include retirement plan, school tuition, health insurance, life insurance.

**Job Description:** Mount Dora Christian Academy is seeking highly qualified individuals to join our growing team for the start of our 2018-19.

**A successful candidate for any of the above will:**

1. Hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree (master's degree or higher is preferred)
2. Be licensed/certified or eligible for licensure/certification in Florida
3. Be a faithful and active member within a church of Christ congregation
4. Possess a positive attitude and be a team player

**About the Organization:** Mount Dora Christian Academy is a private, PK-12 school founded in 1945 and affiliated with the churches of Christ. Our beautiful 70-acre campus is located in the heart of central Florida.

Visit our website at [www.MDCAcademy.org](http://www.MDCAcademy.org)

Please send a Resume/CV and letter of interest to:

**Lori Hadley**  
lori.hadley@MDCAcademy.org  
(352) 729-9007  
301 W. 13th Avenue  
Mount Dora, Florida 32757

**Congratulations,  
Christian Chronicle!  
Keep up the  
great work!**

CALENDAR.....33	JOB LISTINGS.....31
CURRENTS.....17	NATIONAL.....5
DIALOGUE.....10	PARTNERS.....23
EDITORIAL.....29	PEOPLE.....26
FEEDBACK.....34	REVIEWS.....32
INTERNATIONAL.....13	VIEWS.....30



Oct. 9-12, 2018  
Branson, Mo.

ABUNDANT LIVING  
501-279-4055 • 501-278-7033  
abundantlivingseniors.com

RETIRED  
but still working for the Lord

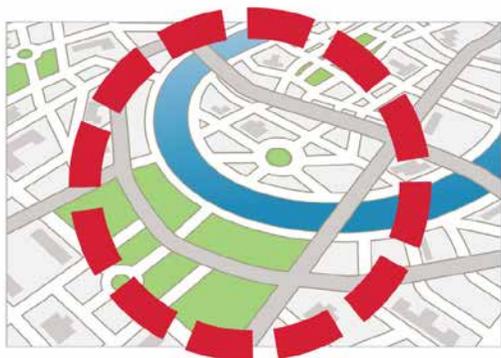
*"Making the Most of the Rest of your Life"*

BOX 11000

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

73136-1100

# Find seekers. Share Jesus.



Anywhere you want.  
Introducing WBS'  
latest teaching tool:  
the new, more  
cost-effective  
**Connect  
Web Ads  
2.0.**

[worldbibleschool.net/connect](http://worldbibleschool.net/connect)



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
OKLAHOMA CITY OK  
PERMIT # 276



## WHO WILL GET #10,000?

Someone, somewhere in the Philippines, sometime this year will get Solar Player #10,000.

Who will it be? How will it change their life for good?

*(This year Sunset will have delivered over 10,000 Solar Players in over 15 nations on four continents since it began the SOLAR MISSION effort in 2013)*

Sunset International Bible Institute • 800.658.9553 • [www.sunset.bible](http://www.sunset.bible)

