



RESTORER

LINCOLN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

LCU Checks In With Recent Graduates, pg. 4



President's PERSPECTIVE

As this issue of the *Restorer* goes to press, we will be completing the third and final visit from reaffirmation of accreditation evaluation teams with our three accrediting associations—the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) which accredits Lincoln Christian Seminary, and the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). One of the common threads in each of these evaluations has been the need for better, ongoing outcomes assessment (see the report of our HLC review on page 14).

In a recent blog from Department of Education Under Secretary Ted Mitchell, he explained, “The focus on outcomes is essential to increase the rigor of accreditation and to provide the flexibility that can foster the innovation we need in higher education in order to serve all students well. All of us—colleges and universities, accrediting agencies, the Department, states, and the public we serve—share a stake in ensuring quality outcomes for all students.”

Outcomes are obviously to be data-driven and must be measurable but for LCU, our intended outcomes are also evident in the lives of our graduates and in their stories of how God is using them to be global difference makers. In this issue you will read of some of our recent *Lincoln Leaders* who are not only making a difference, but making a different world. You will also read of the legacy left by several *Lincoln Leaders* as they have been welcomed home with the

words, “Well done, good and faithful servant . . . Enter into the joy of your master” (Matthew 25:21, *ESV*).

All of their efforts and ours are aimed toward accomplishing one, ultimate, eternal outcome—the mission of God. Christopher Wright in his book by that title, *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*, provides needed clarity for what it means when we invite students, faculty, and staff at LCU to “Live your mission.” He writes, “Fundamentally, our mission (if it is biblically informed and validated) means our committed participation as God's people, at God's invitation and command, in God's own mission within the history of God's world for the redemption of God's creation.” In other words, “Our mission flows from and participates in the mission of God” (pp. 22-23).

Please celebrate with us, what more than 16,000 *Lincoln Leaders* have done to fulfill God's mission in every state and in 167 different countries and join us in praying for future *Lincoln Leaders* to become global difference makers.

For the sake of the mission of God,

Don Green, DMin

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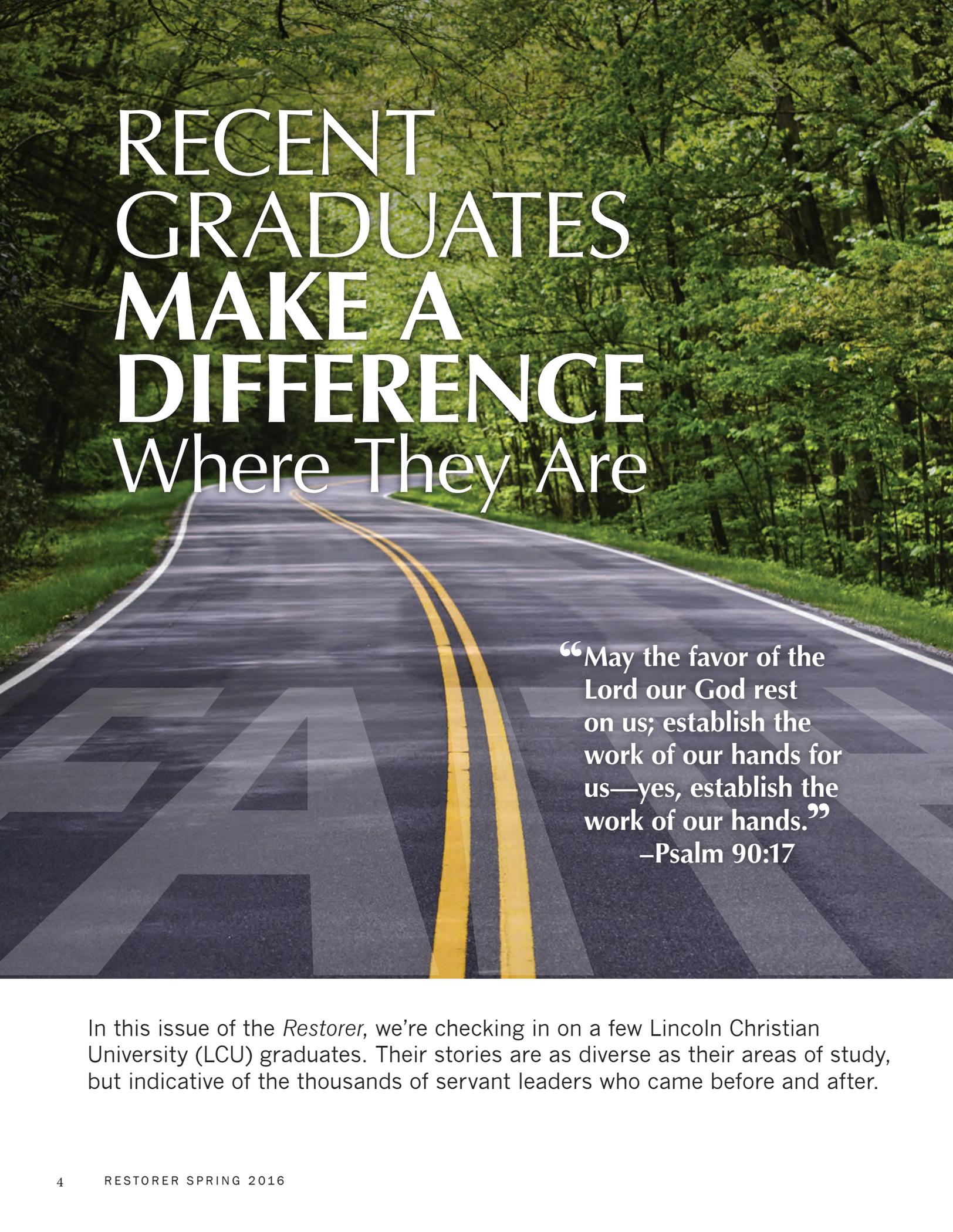
About the cover:

Spring on the LCU campus is a beautiful picture, as demonstrated in this photo of Ruth Hall, women's housing.



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RECENT GRADUATES MAKE A DIFFERENCE Where They Are

“May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.”

—Psalm 90:17

In this issue of the *Restorer*, we're checking in on a few Lincoln Christian University (LCU) graduates. Their stories are as diverse as their areas of study, but indicative of the thousands of servant leaders who came before and after.

A CHANGE OF CAREER



Tim Revis

Sometime in 2006, **Tim Revis (LCU '15, BA in Christian Ministry)** found himself walking through the doors of First Christian Church (FCC) in Decatur, Illinois. He and his wife felt a connection immediately and returned the next

Sunday. The strong connection was reaffirmed and Tim experienced a spiritual reawakening.

This was just the first step in the path that God had set before Tim. This path would lead to and through Lincoln Christian University, out of the international computer software industry and into full-time vocational ministry.

“If God had told me what was coming in 2006, I probably would have turned and run the other way.”

“In 2010, I decided I wanted more education, so I looked at Phoenix University and the like,” says Tim. “But, a persistent voice in my head said, ‘No. Bible college.’” After wrestling with the voice for more than six months, he followed that voice in his head and, in obedience, trusted that God would eventually reveal His purpose.

Tim enrolled in Lincoln Christian University’s Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Christian Ministry adult degree program, which at that time offered 6-week classes. Students enrolled in one class at a time and attended school almost year around.

“If it hadn’t been set up like it was, I probably couldn’t have done it,” Tim acknowledges. For three and a half years, Tim worked full-time in the computer software industry while also going to school and volunteering at church. “It didn’t feel like the grueling schedule it must have been,” he adds.

“I went from being the subject matter expert to being the person in the room who knew the least,” says Tim. “But, I didn’t let it be a

stumbling block, because that would be a pride issue.”

At First Christian, Tim got involved playing guitar during worship and in a small group, soon becoming his group’s leader and eventually being asked to oversee all the small groups. What was originally an informal method of self-organizing groups was organized and relaunched into a formal small group ministry. It became obvious to Tim that he was preparing to become a small group pastor somewhere.

Then, in the fall of 2014, God started moving again. His church created a new Discipleship Pastor position, followed by the departure of the Pastoral Care Pastor whom Tim had been shadowing for two years. Two months before Tim would complete his degree at LCU, he applied for both ministry positions at his church. Though he felt more qualified for the Discipleship pastor position, God had other plans and called an outsider with experience in church growth to fill that slot. Senior Pastor Wayne Kent broke the bad news along with the good news that they felt he was the best candidate to fill the Pastoral Care ministry position. Tim met two qualifications that none of the other candidates could — the Pastor needed to fit into the FCC culture and needed to love the congregation. Tim already did both.

Tim was offered the job in February 2015 and immediately gave his notice to the international software company where he had spent the last 20 years as the North American Systems Engineering Manager. For 30 years, Tim let his career, money, and the desire to provide for his family take first place in his life. It was time to be faithful and strong in the Lord.

“I know it was the right decision for three reasons: I have no regrets, everything worked perfectly from the beginning in this job, and others have affirmed that I am serving in the right place,” Tim reports. “If I can bring the tangible touch of Jesus Christ to people at the time and place they need it, that’s a blessing. It is energizing.”

You can see Tim's joy when he talks about his work: daily visits to the hospital, monthly visits to shut ins and those living in nursing homes, weddings, funerals, and a new "handyman's" ministry that provides assistance to the elderly and single moms. I believe that pastoral care is one of the most important ministries we can do."

"I love being part of a large team at a large church."

The change has been a financial adjustment, but he's put his trust in God and "so far, so good."

In addition to preparing Tim for a new career, LCU instilled in him a desire to continue learning. He is looking forward to beginning Seminary this fall, focusing on pastoral care and counseling through LCU's MA in Ministry degree program.

FOLLOWING HER PASSION



Erica (Ballard) Winn

Erica (Ballard) Winn (LCU '10, BA in Business Administration) began working at Pearson North America in Indianapolis, IN, as an intern right after graduation. Her three-month internship turned into six months. Then came the

opportunity for her to apply for the full-time position she currently holds as Project Manager.

Pearson provides a variety of products and courseware solutions for institutions of higher education. As Project Manager, Erica develops and manages project plans, coordinates the design team's work, and interacts with clients. Erica credits her student employment at LCU, working as a TA for Eric Teoro, with familiarizing herself with instructional design and learning systems by working with the ANGEL interface.

It was also the BA in Business Administration program that provided Erica a taste of various aspects of business. In fact, Erica felt that there were almost too many paths she could have followed after graduation. However, she focused

on what was important and her desire to do well. Erica reports, "I was fortunate to find a company that I love, and then flourish there."

Erica is using her LCU experience to live her mission as part of the Pearson corporation. As an employee — as an LCU alumna — Erica feels she is living her mission by finding her passions (learning and education) and relying on faith to do good work as a Christ-follower.

The things she learned from professors Eric Teoro and Michael Gowin make her a valued employee and help in her personal relationships as well. "Other universities push specialized majors," Erica says, "so having the broader business administration degree is a benefit. I value the quality education I received at LCU. My business classes were informative and valuable. They shaped my character and helped develop my work ethic."

In addition to obtaining a job she loves, Erica achieved her Project Management Professional (PMP) certification in November 2015. In February 2012, she married her husband, Jonathan Winn. They joined Mercy Road, a church plant in Carmel, IN, four years ago. Erica and Jonathan are involved at Mercy Road as volunteers and small group members, and they attended a mission trip to build a house in Ensenada, Mexico, in 2013.

HE TOOK CLASSES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD



Jitendra Panda

Jitendra "Jimmy" Panda (LCU '12, MA in Organizational Leadership)

identifies himself as "an Indian by nationality and moreover I am a disciple of Christ."

Currently, Jimmy works in Liberia as a Peace Consolidation Officer with the United Nations. Before this, he worked in Somalia, Yemen, Namibia, and India. In his role as Peace Consolidation Officer, Jimmy assists governments, non-government organizations,

and community members in promoting peace, security, law and order, protection of civilians, and good governance, as well as building the leadership capacity of various institutions.

“I feel honored and blessed to share my life changing experience with you...”

Jimmy reports, “This assignment is one of the most challenging, compared to the international assignments I had in previous years. My work expects the highest level of competency and skills like self-discipline, honesty, respect, integrity, punctuality, ethics, positive attitude, cultural understanding, strategic thinking, leadership, and professionalism.” He credits the education he received from Lincoln Christian University for the encouragement and support he needs to fulfill these tasks.

Jimmy enrolled in the two-year online MA in Organizational Leadership program in 2011 and graduated in August of 2012. The education he received transformed his view of the world and affirmed a new meaning and mission for his life.

“I never imagined that an online course could be so powerful as to change someone’s mind and life,” says Jimmy. It wasn’t simply the online format, but rather a combination of factors: the dedicated faculty and support staff, course content, and the overall commitment that LCU demonstrates by supporting students beyond their expectations.

Jimmy recalls, “I remember that on several occasions I had difficulties in getting printed course books while I was working in Somalia, where those books were either not available or not allowed for sale, and I didn’t possess a credit card to purchase books online. I expressed my difficulties to Professor Don Green. After that, I started receiving learning materials sent to my mail box from the University. Later, I received an email from Dr. Green inquiring about my interest in buying used-books from a sale that was going on in Lincoln. He bought the books and shipped them to my home address in India. This kind of

support helped me understand the meaning of dedicated service and come out of my comfort zone to help those who are in need of help.”

Jimmy continues to refer to his assignments and group discussions he saved from his coursework that built his knowledge base and improved his reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. He continues to learn and work hard because he has embraced the need for continuous education and has made it a part of his life since his time as a student at Lincoln Christian University.

TWO DEGREES AND AN UPCOMING WEDDING



Sopha Hughes and Anthony Rush are engaged to be married this June.

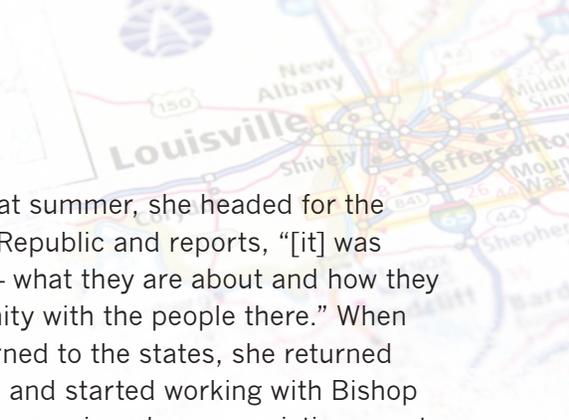
Anthony Rush (LCU ‘16, BA in Psychology) and Sopha Hughes (LCU ‘15, BA in Intercultural Studies) have a story that you may find familiar.

While attending Lincoln Christian University, Anthony and Sopha

were both Red Lions student athletes. Anthony played for the men’s basketball team and studied psychology. Sopha contributed to both the women’s volleyball and basketball programs while earning her Intercultural Studies degree. They met on the LCU campus. Today, they are engaged to be married.

Anthony is a young man with a quiet strength. He completed his undergraduate degree in December 2015 and will walk at Commencement this spring. That said, Anthony is not one to sit still. He has remained at Lincoln Christian, enrolling immediately in the Seminary’s Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) program and taking on an assistant coach position with the men’s basketball program.

Anthony says, “I just felt like LCU was the best place to at least start my master’s program, due to the great connection I have with the professors and the material they teach. Having the ability to not only have book knowledge, but



also being able to incorporate the Word of God as the main focus was the icing on the cake. I knew I wanted to continue on and LCU was the top choice, easily.”

The transition from Red Lions athlete to Red Lions coach was something that Anthony was less sure of, but he grew to accept it and quickly fell in love with the new responsibility. According to Anthony, “Having the ability to see basketball and the team from another angle is very interesting. Learning to be a leader in another way has helped me grow not just in basketball but in faith as well. It has showed me that often times with God in the forefront we are stronger and more capable than we think.”

Anthony hopes to have his own program someday, where he is able to teach basketball, Jesus, and life skills all at the same time. Basketball is just the venue for him to set up his true goal of sharing Jesus Christ and His love with the people he comes into contact with. “I’ve always loved working with youth. I remember being one of those youth that looked up to young adults who wanted to invest in me with everything they had.” Anthony says, “I’ve seen basketball literally save lives. The fact that we can use that, and add Jesus to it, is the ultimate remedy, in my eyes, to saving a lot of young kids from the streets.”

Sopha’s heart is as big as her personality. Classmates will tell you that her heart and her confidence grew as a student at LCU. She completed her coursework and earned her degree in December 2014, but went on to serve in internships with Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY, and with GO Ministries in the Dominican Republic. Sopha worked with Southeast’s high school ministry in the spring

of 2015. That summer, she headed for the Dominican Republic and reports, “[it] was awesome — what they are about and how they do community with the people there.” When Sopha returned to the states, she returned to Louisville and started working with Bishop Marketing, answering phones, assisting agents, entering data, and other such tasks.

When Sopha and Anthony “tie-the-knot” in June, they will be moving to a low income neighborhood on the west end of Louisville, called Portland. They plan to partner with a nonprofit organization called Love City. There, Anthony will be able to continue his passion for working with kids and coaching/running the basketball program. Sopha will be involved with the arts portion of the program they have, helping to teach kids how to express themselves through the form of art—whether that be photography, painting, pottery, and/or music.

Sopha says, “We’ve been given so many awesome opportunities to serve. During my stay in Lincoln I was able to travel to England, Haiti, Las Vegas, and Mississippi. Anthony served in Kansas and California (twice). I was involved in Quest, working with kids in Lincoln for three years, prison ministry for two, and outreach ministry at Lincoln College for four years. LCU has taught me how to love just about everyone, meeting people where they are. I learned the importance of being authentic and real with people. We are called to love, spread love, and be love because God is love. Without love, how can people see Jesus through us? It seems simple, but to some it’s not in their comfort zone, they fear rejection, or are just comfortable in their faith. But for Anthony and me, God has called us to live where no one wants to live—in a neighborhood that probably isn’t the safest, to

Phillip Krueger (LCS '06, MDiv, New Testament) wrote an article that was published on the *World Magazine* website in January. The title of the article is “American Holocaust.” This article is significant today because of *Roe v. Wade*. You can read the article at: <http://www.worldmag.com/2016/01/the-american-holocaust>. Phillip is Pastor of Sun City West Christian Church in Sun City West, AZ, and first preached this as a sermon in June of 2015.

be His hands and feet in a community so longing for hope, restoration, and just pure love.”

Like many other LCU alumni, Sopha and Anthony must help raise money to fund their positions at Love City. If you'd like to support their service there, or learn more about Love City, please visit www.lovecityinc.org/.

ALUMNUS PASSES THE BAR



Benjamin Shiloh Bloomer

As an undergraduate student, **Benjamin Shiloh Bloomer (LCU '12, BA in Philosophy)** participated in the Honors Program under the mentorship of Dr. Chris Keith and had already been accepted to DePaul University College of Law when he crossed the stage at Commencement in May.

We are happy to report that Shiloh graduated from DePaul in May of 2015 and passed the Bar Exam the same year. He tells us, “My LCU education helped me in a lot of ways. The Intro to Bible and Principles of Bible Study courses really helped to cultivate humility about my beliefs and open my eyes to the value of holistic interpretation. As you can imagine, interpreting the law is no small feat, and skills I learned at LCU, as well as humility about one’s own interpretation of a text were instrumental throughout law school.”

When Shiloh moved to Chicago to attend DePaul, he became part of two church communities. He describes Life Church (Wheaton) as a wonderful and refreshing congregation. The other, Cornerstone Chicago (Near West Side), is an amazing experience of community. He explains, “I believe that it is very important to find a church with community, especially after leaving the Christian college atmosphere.”

Shiloh has been leading a city group for young professionals and University of Illinois-Chicago students. They meet weekly to eat and look at God’s word together. He and his fiancée are also

benefiting from the community a young couples group provides.

Today, Shiloh (originally from Decatur, IL) lives in Chicago where he works as an intern for Heartland Alliance, an international human rights organization. Shiloh hopes to become a full-time employee before his wedding on May 14.

FINDING THE BALANCE



Susan Haerr

Susan Haerr (LCU '15, MA in Counseling) is employed as a Licensed Professional Counselor in the outpatient division of Chaddock in Quincy, IL. Chaddock is an agency that specializes in treating people with issues of trauma and attachment,

but also sees clients with a wide variety of presenting problems.

“My MA in Counseling degree is the reason I am equipped for this job,” states Susan. “Daily, I am faced with profound stories of trauma and heartache. My MAC professors prepared me to face this challenge with compassion and professional integrity. As I consult with other professionals in the field, I am realizing more and more just how special LCU’s MAC program is. I get comments from other professionals telling me how impressed they are as I tell them of my experience there.”

Susan cannot share specifics about the difficult situations she faces, but she can tell us the guidance of her LCU professors is continually in the back of her mind. She says, “The confidence they have shown in me is humbling and helps me to face these situations with a calm assurance.”

Susan learned of the Lincoln Christian Seminary MA in Counseling (MAC) from a recommendation on a Christian mental health forum. “I knew that I wanted a program that would teach me how to integrate my faith with my professional practice, and as I researched the program, God told me

clearly that this was the program He had chosen for me.” She continues, “It would be some time before I fully understood all of the benefits. I am so grateful now for that direction, in light of the excellent leadership and teaching and the practical benefits of graduating from a CACREP-accredited program.”

Susan drove two and a half hours each way to her classes on the LCU campus. However, the ability to stay in the dorms for a small fee made this workable. The daunting drive was easily adapted to, but the struggle of balancing home and school took a little more effort. “Whenever I was at school, I felt guilty for not being at home with my husband and children. When I was at home, I felt pressure to be studying,” explains Susan. “Over time, I figured out the balance and our family actually learned to work better as a team as a result. I have such a special extended family that helped to fill in the gaps during my hectic schedule, and this made all the difference in my ability to stay focused.”

We asked Susan if she had any advice for others pursuing a graduate degree. Her advice is,

“Pray, pray, pray. There will be times of high stress and anxiety and you must be able to go back to that moment when God assured you that this is the path He has chosen for you. It is my opinion that you cannot find a better program than the one at LCU. I was so blessed to pursue my master’s degree there and I believe, by the grace of God, that this blessing now flows out to those I get to serve each day.”

The Haerrs are members of The Crossing in Hannibal, MO - an Independent Christian Church- where they serve in the children’s ministry.

“I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.”

—Ecclesiastes 3:12-13

LCU ACCREDITATION REAFFIRMED

Lincoln Christian University (LCU) has received official notification from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of their successful reaffirmation of accreditation until 2025-2026. The 10-year accreditation is the maximum possible.

HLC requires all accredited institutions to meet five over-arching “Criteria” for accreditation. Encompassed in those five criteria are 21 “Core Components” of HLC expectations. The evaluation team that visited LCU concluded that LCU met 20 of the 21 core components without reservation. One core component, that “the institution demonstrates a commitment to educational achievement and improvement through ongoing assessment of student learning” was determined to be met, but “with concerns.” Though the team expressed appreciation for LCU’s efforts in this area, LCU will host a focused visit on assessment in two years (Spring 2018) “to monitor the institution’s continued progress in the ongoing assessment

of student learning for use in educational improvement and planning.”

LCU was first accredited by the Higher Learning Commission in 1991 and hosted its first HLC reaffirmation visit since 2006 in the fall of 2015. The Higher Learning Commission is an independent corporation that was founded in 1895 as one of six regional institutional accreditors in the United States. It accredits degree-granting post-secondary educational institutions in 19 states that comprise the North Central region.

“We are not finished yet,” says Silas McCormick, Vice President of Academics. “The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) visited in mid-March and the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) will be here in April, but our reaffirmation from HLC is a major accomplishment for LCU and I am deeply grateful for all of the work that many, many people did to make that possible.”



LCU Students Receive Rare Opportunity to Study Ancient Biblical Manuscript

by Jessie Sweeney, LCU senior majoring in Psychology

The team posing in front of a replica Gutenberg printing press.

Museum of the Bible Scholars Initiative (MOTBSI) is a unique opportunity for students to interact with and analyze ancient Judeo-Christian manuscripts, primarily biblical manuscripts. Students involved in the project work with a scholar-mentor to identify the text, write up a transcription, note textual variants, and date the handwriting. Often these texts are not yet published. At LCU, Dr. Nicholas Zola, Assistant Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity, along with Dr. Frank Dicken, Assistant Professor of New Testament, is leading a group of LCU students in translating, transcribing, and dating their own manuscript, which is an unpublished fragment of Paul's letter to the Romans. They lead seniors Brandon Berry, Thea Stephens, and Jessie Sweeney and Seminary student Jasmine Howe as the MOTBSI team at LCU. In December 2014, the team took a trip to Springfield, MO, for a chance to see their fragment in person and to receive a personalized tour of Passages, a traveling exhibit dedicated to the story of the Bible, led by MOTB's Dr. Josephine Dru, Curator of Papyri. Dr. Dru showed the team the exhibits of the museum directly related to biblical manuscripts, including a full-length replica of the first Isaiah scroll discovered among the Dead Sea caves, and an in-depth look at how ancient papyrus was produced. The

tour allowed the team to study many biblical manuscript fragments recovered from areas all over the ancient world. After touring the museum, the students participated in a manuscript exercise Dr. Dru prepared to demonstrate the skills the students would need to analyze their own fragment. Finally, the students enjoyed an opportunity to work directly with the fragment of Romans that their team is studying. They used this time to take measurements of the letters, to examine the missing portions of text for additional clues, and to begin an initial paleographical analysis.

At the end of the project, the team will be producing an edition of their fragment for publication, which will include a description of the piece, a transcription of the text, and a dating of the handwriting, among other items. The project is a rare opportunity for LCU students not only to hold a piece of history in their hands, but also to make a solid contribution to New Testament scholarship and textual studies.



The team hard at work studying their fragment.

Decatur Area Churches Pilot Room For Doubt Message Series

Twenty-five central Illinois churches collaborated during the fall of 2015 to pilot a six-week sermon and curriculum series being developed by Lincoln Christian University through their Room For Doubt apologetics project. LCU has been working with nationally recognized authors Garry Poole, Mark Mittelberg, and Lee Strobel (*Investigating Faith*) to develop the message series that includes adult and teen study guides.

The inspiration for the Decatur area campaign came as a result of Decatur's First Christian Church (FCC) Senior Pastor Wayne Kent meeting

Antioch Christian Church, Decatur
Boiling Springs Church of God, Decatur
College Park Christian Church, Normal
First Baptist Church, Decatur
First Christian Church, Blue Mound
First Christian Church, Clinton
First Christian Church, Decatur
First Christian Church, Moweaqua
Galilee Baptist Church, Decatur
Grace United Methodist, Decatur
Leroy Christian Church, Leroy
Life Builders Church, Decatur
Maranatha Assembly of God, Decatur
Mound Chapel Church of God, Decatur
Mound Road Christian Church, Decatur
Mount Zion Christian Church, Mt. Zion
New Beginnings Church of God, Decatur
Northwest Christian Church, Decatur
Passion Community Church, Mt. Zion
Renaissance Church, Decatur
Riverside Baptist Church, Decatur
St. Paul's Lutheran, Decatur
Tabernacle Baptist Church, Decatur
Temple Baptist Church, Decatur
Westminster Presbyterian, Decatur

Garry Poole at an event in Dallas in late 2014. Garry invited Wayne to pilot the materials at his church. The staff of FCC had bigger ideas and decided to invite other churches to join them.

The participating churches gathered regularly for planning and prayer leading up to the six-week event. The *Room for Doubt* campaign was visibly promoted throughout the greater Decatur area. There were five billboards and 1,200 yard signs advertising the Room for Doubt series. Each church used "invite cards" to invite friends and co-workers to attend church during the series.

The six-week journey launched on Sunday, September 13, 2015, and included messages during Sunday morning worship services, small group/Bible School classes, and testimonies from individuals wrestling with questions of doubt. *Room for Doubt* exists to equip believers in defending their faith and to engage those not connected to the Christian faith by helping them consider the upside of doubt.

To further enhance the messages shared in the participating churches, the campaign included a Q&A Night at



Wayne Kent introduces Mark Mittelberg at the Q&A event.

Decatur's Millikin University. Approximately 500 people were in attendance at Millikin's Kirkland Auditorium on the evening of Sunday, October 4, 2015. Wayne Kent served as moderator, while Mark Mittelberg and LCU Professor of Philosophy and Apologetics Rich Knopp answered questions from the audience. Questions came in the form of live questions from "the floor" or questions submitted via mobile phone technology.



Rich Knopp

"One of the by-products of having the churches come together was the witness of unity displayed throughout Decatur," says Wayne. "Unchurched people often times wonder why churches seem to not like each other, or why various churches don't get along if they claim to follow the same Jesus. When churches from several denominations and backgrounds came together, it was a testimony of unity that all too often is absent in most communities."

In support of the *Room for Doubt* campaign, LCU was pleased to send representatives to each of the participating churches. *Room for Doubt* has been reviewing feedback from the pilot program in Central Illinois along with one in Omaha, NE, and an earlier pilot at East 91st Street Church in Indianapolis with plans to offer the message series through www.RoomForDoubt.com later this year.

Room For Doubt Message Series

WEEK 1: "The Upside of Doubt"

Looks at how even people who knew Jesus during his ministry on earth sometimes struggled with doubt, but were able to grow through it.

WEEK 2: "How Can We Be Sure God Actually Exists?"

Provides evidence from science, history, and Scripture that points to God's existence.

WEEK 3: "Isn't the Bible Full of Myths and Mistakes?"

Establishes Scripture as our trustworthy source of spiritual information.

WEEK 4: "Why Do Christians Say Jesus is God's Son?"

Focuses primarily on the evidence for His resurrection.

WEEK 5: "Why Would God Allow Tragedy and Suffering?"

Shares five biblical "points of light" for why Jesus is the best solution to this thorny problem.

WEEK 6: "Tolerance, Truth, and the Exclusive Claims of Christ"

Addresses another major objection in our pluralistic culture: the exclusivity of Christ.





Professor of Philosophical Theology **Dr. Christopher Ben Simpson** topped Christianity Today's "7

Anticipated Theology Books of 2016" list in their January/February issue with his latest book, *Modern Christian Theology* (Bloomsbury T&T Clark, February 2016). The list is compiled from a survey of publishers who were asked which theology and biblical studies books they were most excited to publish this year. Simpson's classroom-style volume places the story of modern Christian theology against the backdrop of the history of modernity itself. The editorial review from John Milbank, University of Nottingham, UK, states, "This is the best, most up-to-date, attractive, incisive and well-informed elementary guide to modern theology now available. It has no current rivals." Available for purchase from the publisher and other online retailers.



Leadership teams either strive against one another or thrive with one another. *Conflict/Resolution*

(e2 Ministries, 2015) is the newest release from **Dr. James Riley Estep**, David Roadcup, and Gary Johnson (e2: effective elders) that engages the perpetual need for building leadership teams. Chapters include reflection and discussion questions to aid in the application of the team building principles and practices.



Registrar **Shawn Smith** will have an article published in the Spring 2016 issue of the Stone-Campbell Journal entitled "New

Perspectives on the Campbell-Ferguson Controversy: Spiritualism, Private Property, and Fisher the Revivalist."



Two LCU Seminary students, Aaron Clayton and Casey Lore, participated with **Dr.**

Robert Kurka

in a panel presentation, "The Historical Adam: Three Views on a *Christotelic* Perspective," at the Midwest Region meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Grand Rapids, MI, on March 11-12, 2016. The LCU trio collaborated on an approach to advance the question of a historical Adam from a discussion that is largely concerned with Adam's origin to a perspective that locates Adam's biblical and theological significance in terms of his relation to Christ. Clayton examined the issue from a science/theology lens, Lore advocated the naming of Adam is a Christologically-directed *archetype*, and Dr. Kurka concluded by offering biblical and historical reasons why Adam's theological significance largely comes from his relationship to Christ.

calendar of EVENTS



APRIL 19

40-year Anniversary Chapel Service for Pioneer Bible Translators

APRIL 27

Christian Women's Conference

MAY 7

Commencement

JUNE 19-JULY 20

Red Lions Sports Camps

JUNE 21-23

Lincolnland Classic Bible Bowl Tournament

JULY 12-15

North American Christian Convention

AUGUST 18

Fall Semester Begins

AUGUST 30

Convocation

OCTOBER 4-5

James D. Strauss Worldview Lectureship

2016 James D. Strauss Worldview Lectureship

“Imaginative Apologetics”

October 4-5, 2016

Featuring

Dr. Holly Ordway,
Professor of English
and Director of the
MA in Apologetics
at Houston
Baptist University

Dr. Ordway's teaching and research centers on cultural and imaginative apologetics, with a particular emphasis on literary apologetics and the work of the Inklings, especially J.R.R. Tolkien. She is the author of *Not God's Type: An Atheist Academic Lays Down Her Arms* (Ignatius Press, 2014), as well as chapters in *A New Kind of Apologist* (“Come and See: The Value of Storytelling for Apologetics” - Harvest House, 2016) and *C.S. Lewis's List: The Ten Books that Influenced Him Most* (“Williams, Descent into Hell.” - Bloomsbury Academic, 2015). Additionally, Dr. Ordway has written many essays and other writings, and delivered numerous lectures and presentations. Dr. Ordway is the Charles Williams Subject Editor for the *Journal of Inklings Studies*. She is currently working on a literary-critical study of Tolkien's modern sources.

Her educational background includes master's degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Biola University. She received her PhD in English from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where she also earned her BA.



Robert “Bob” Sloniger, LBI '55, LCS '58 & '60, 1928-2015

Bob Sloniger passed on to his Heavenly Home on October 5, 2015. He left an incredible legacy of accomplishment, but lived with a genuine love for people, a passion for preaching the Gospel, and an unwavering commitment to Jesus.



Former LCU President Keith Ray, DMin, shares news of the Robert Sloniger Endowment for Chicago Engagement with Bob in the fall of 2013.

A simple farm boy from Payson, IL, Bob enrolled at Lincoln Bible Institute (LBI) as a skeptic, to prove the reliability of the Bible. One bachelor's and two master's degrees later, he had the proof he was seeking and moved through the rest of his life with an unwavering faith.

Bob served churches in Palmyra and Harvey, IL, before he became the Executive Director of the Chicago District Evangelistic Association (the predecessor to Ignite Church Planting) where he served until his retirement. Bob also served as the chair of the Loftis Foundation, which—at that time—funded new church plants.

Bob was passionate about reaching the unchurched through church planting and was a leader in pioneering many church planting methods. As a result, he was directly or indirectly responsible for the start of 50 churches across the United States. In 2013, the Loftis Foundation established the Robert Sloniger Endowment for Chicago Engagement at Lincoln Christian University to honor Bob's years of planting churches in Chicagoland. This endowment funds any LCU engagement, project, scholarship, and/or program in Chicagoland.

Bob was preceded in death by his loving wife Maxine, who was always at his side supporting his ministry. They had six children, 18 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren. After Maxine's death in 1999, Bob married Juanita Hamblin. They were happy together for the last 14 years of his life. Burial was at Payson (IL) Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Ignite Church Planting.

MINISTRY NEWS

Robert Baird, LCC '79, and his wife **Dawn, LCC '00**, returned to Bukavu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, on September 29, 2015, to work with the Yatima (Orphan) School Ministry. A new ministry focus will be with the Bukavu Central Prison. Their goal is to remain in the Congo for at least one year, depending on work schedule, funding, and God's will. They also have plans to begin building a house. The Baird's can be contacted via email at rbaird@heartforcentralafrica.org or dbaird@hearforcentralafrica.org.

Kevin Groben, LCS '05, is currently completing his second year as an associate minister, with a focus on Children's and Youth Ministry, at South Side Christian Church in Munster, IN. He and his wife Teresa, have two daughters; Diana (7) and Emilia (4).

C. Waylon Lawrence, LCC '08, graduated from Nashotah House Theological Seminary with an MDiv and was ordained as a priest in the Anglican Church of North America in July 2015. He is currently serving as an associate priest at St. John's Anglican Parish in Quincy, IL.

Missionaries with Pioneer Bible Translators, **Chris Urton, LCC '94** and his wife **Lori, LCC**, were recently in Papua New Guinea for the dedication of the Gospel of Luke in the Sob language. This is the first New Testament book in the Sob language. An audio recording on MicroSD cards was also made available through the assistance of Faith Comes

By Hearing. Chris serves as the advisor of the Sob language translation team and also serves as a translation consultant for other language groups in Papua New Guinea. Chris makes three trips a year to Papua New Guinea to continue the ministry to the Bible-less peoples. Chris and Lori reside in Bloomington, IL. They can be contacted via email at caurton@pioneerbible.org.pg.

Brian Yakey, LCC '05, became the Worship Arts Minister at Rockingham Christian Church in Salem, NH, on July 1, 2015.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Sky Allen, LCC '76 and **LCS '86** had an article published in the *Journal of Addition Research and Therapy*, Volume 6, Issue 3 entitled "Validity of the Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment with Substance Abuse Populations." Two other articles, "Prediction Attrition in the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders" and "The What and Why of Effective Substance Abuse Treatment" have been accepted for publication in a future issue of the *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*. Both articles are available online at: link.springer.com. Dr. Allen is a licensed psychotherapist at Regional Mental Health Center in East Chicago, IN.

Mark Yakey, LCC '07, celebrated his one-year anniversary on staff at Bethany Community Church in Seattle, WA, as Technical Specialist on November 1, 2015.

BIRTHS

Adam and **Calli Schlientz, LCU '13**, welcomed Adelaide Maxine into their family on October 24, 2015. Calli is an Enrollment Counselor at the LCU Las Vegas Extension. Congratulations Calli and Adam!

Davis, LCU '13, and **Stephanie (Williams), LCC '07, Hodam**, are happy to announce the arrival of their fourth child, Jubilee Charis. Davis, a resident director and football coach at Southern Nazarene University (SNU) in Bethany, OK, made the "catch of a lifetime." Unable to reach the hospital in time after Stephanie's water broke, Davis delivered their baby in the SNU parking lot on December 14, 2015. "Her name", Davis said, "was especially fitting, given the circumstances of her birth. There's a time of Jubilee in the Bible, and it's a time of joy, a fresh start, and for her, that is definitely fitting – a bursting forth of joy." Congratulations to the Hodam family! To read more about their experience Google search "coach delivers baby in parking lot."

DEATHS

Ivan Leroy Judd, LCC '73, passed away on April 14, 2015. He was a preacher for more than 40 years, serving churches in Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee. Ivan's years of service include being on a camp board and working with the Humane Society of Marshall County, the Aurora Food Pantry, and Marshall County Needline. He and his wife owned and operated Kiddie Korner Learning Center

in Benton for 25 years. Ivan also served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam Conflict. Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Carol (Scott), their two daughters, a son, six grandchildren, and one great granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers. Services were held April 18, 2015 at the Aurora Christian Church.

Cheryl (Turner) Eagles, LCC '77, went to be with the Lord on Aug. 20, 2015. She and her husband, **Jerry, LCC '75**, were married 41 years. He survives. They have three sons and eight grandchildren, whom she loved deeply. Cheryl was a teacher for more than 25 years, teaching in Danville, IL, for nine years and in Flatville, IL, for 16 years. She was admired, respected, and loved by her students and peers. Services were held in the Williamsville Christian Church in Williamsville, IL, on August 26, 2015.

MaryLou Prosize, LCC '75, died Sept. 8, 2015 at her home in Park City, IL. A memorial service was held on September 19, at the Community Christian Church of Lake County in Waukegan, IL. MaryLou worked for nearly 30 years with Lamb's Farm and was associated with the Bristol Renaissance Faire. She is survived by her husband, **Jesse Prosize, LCC '74-'76**, her mother, and seven siblings.

Robert F. "Bob" Strain, LCS '67-'69, passed away on April 30, 2015. During his 23-year ministerial career, he served as pastor at Augusta (KY) Christian Church, Modesto (IL) Christian Church, Crystal

Lake (IL) Christian Church, South Akron (OH) Church of Christ and North Tampa (FL) Christian Church. He worked as a drug and alcohol abuse counselor in the state of Connecticut prison system, retiring from there in 1999. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Retha, two children, a granddaughter, and a great grandson. A Celebration of Life was held on May 16, 2015.

Harley E. Hudson, LCC '68, passed away peacefully at MD Anderson in Houston, TX, on March 24, 2015 after fighting a long, valiant battle with leukemia.

Noel "Gene" Beavers, LBI '58, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, October 15, 2015. The funeral service was held on October 19, 2015 in Mt. Pleasant, MI. Gene served in the ministry 62 years, which included churches in Bismark, IL, Algonac, MI, and Kalamazoo, MI. His most recent ministry was with Westlawn Church of Christ in Shepherd, MI. He enjoyed gardening and farming, loved to travel, play the fiddle, and collect antiques. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinal fan and was part of the Broken Glass String Band. He is survived by his wife **Gayleen, LBI**, their son Phil (Judy) Beavers, daughter Janice Beavers, seven grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, and a sister.

Melody A. Bycroft Tharp, LCC '71, passed away on November 7, 2015. She taught at several junior colleges, high schools, and junior high schools. She was a member of the Roseville (IL) Christian Church. She tried to make a point to make everyone feel special and loved. Funeral services were

held on November 13, 2015, at the Roseville Christian Church. She is survived by her two children, Cyrstan (Dan) Reed and Thaddeus (Holly) Tharp, and six siblings.

Ellen K. Hodson, LCC, died on October 24, 2015, surrounded by her family at Union Hospital in Terre Haute, IN. As a member of the Maryland Christian Church in Terre Haute, her passion in life was serving and bringing people to the Lord. Ellen was a retired elementary school teacher. She volunteered at the Crisis Pregnancy Center and Kids Hope. She especially loved spending time with her children and grandchildren. She is survived by two children, three step children, a twin sister, 14 grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. A Celebration of Life was held on October 30, 2015, at the Maryland Christian Church.

Harlan Williams, LBI '53, passed away on February 22, 2015. He was a native of Hodgenville, KY, and retired as an insurance agent with Northwestern Mutual. He was preceded in death by his wife, Janice Joy Kakac Williams, his parents, and two siblings. He is survived by three daughters, a son, two siblings, and seven grandchildren. The funeral was held at Brown Funeral Home in Elizabethtown, KY.



PATSY JARRETT WILSON, LBI '57 1935–2015

Patsy Jarrett Wilson, after a long and courageous battle with cancer, was welcomed into her Eternal Reward on November 18, 2015, passing away quietly in her home while surrounded by her loving family.

Of her 80 years, Patsy devoted 62 years of her life to Christian ministry, first as a preacher's wife, teacher, mentor, and musician, followed by 31 years in service at Lincoln Christian College. She began as assistant manager for the WLCC radio station, and three years later became a vigorous influence and servant as Director of Recruitment and later as Assistant Director of Admissions. While serving in that role, Patsy headed up the Lincolnland Bible Bowl Tournament, and she made it one of the very best in the country.

Patsy's many hallmark contributions, in addition to student admissions, included being a very popular speaker for women's events, conferences,



workshops, marriage enrichment seminars and family enrichment weekends (teaming up with her husband Robert Wilson) that stretched

across the United States, Canada, England, and Africa. She and her husband Bob often led workshops for the North American Christian Convention. She wrote articles for the *Christian Standard*, *Key Magazine*, and other periodicals.

Over the years, Patsy's ministries were wide-ranging, depending on where she was serving and on what the needs around her were. About 10 years ago, Patsy was diagnosed with cancer that meant surgeries and

many chemo sessions. In this new era of her life, Patsy found yet another ministry opportunity arising out of where she found herself during this battle . . . bringing a message of faith, hope, and courage. Upon their retirements from LCC, Patsy and Bob led a marriage and pre-marital counseling service until her health would no longer allow for this. Even then, Patsy ministered from her home and from her bed, where she regularly made calls of encouragement, reassurance, and inspiration, in addition to expressions of gratitude, and offering prayers. This writer will long remember the morning of July 9, about three hours before Patsy's passing, receiving a phone call from her daughter Christine who would help relate some treasured words Patsy felt she wanted to say to me before she passed.

Patsy's life-offering to Christ, His Church, His children, and to Lincoln Christian University was acknowledged in the presence of her friends, family,

“And now...what does the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, and to love Him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.” —Deuteronomy 10:12

and alumni at the July 9, 2014 North American Christian Convention, where she was presented the 2014 Restoration Award in the Field of Kingdom Service.

Patsy is survived by her husband, Robert Wilson (LBI '58, LCS); three daughters Elizabeth (LCC '81), Angela (LCC '83), and Christine (LCC); four grandchildren; and brothers Gene Jarrett (LBI '50) and Ron Jarrett (LBI '71).

Written by Sue Rogers, LCC '66, long-time friend, co-worker, and sister in Christ to Patsy Wilson

2016 SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

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RED LIONS



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GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Grades 5-8: June 26-29
Grades 8-12: June 29-July 2
Cost: \$150

BOYS' & GIRLS' SOCCER

Grades 6-12: June 26-29
Cost: \$150

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Grades 9-12: July 10-13
Grades 5-8: July 13-16
Grades 5-8: July 17-20
Cost: \$200

Children and grandchildren of Alumni are eligible to receive a \$75 camp scholarship.
To request a registration form call 1.888.522.5228, ext. 2245.

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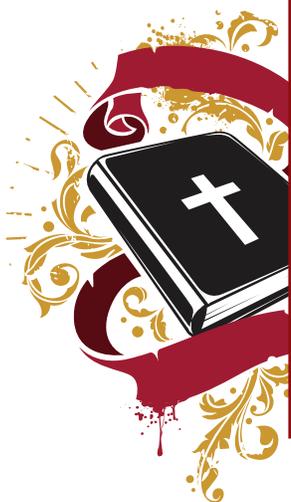
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Christian Women's Conference

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

With Michele Cushatt and Dr. Dinelle Frankland



A storyteller at heart, Michele Cushatt inspires audiences with the warmth of her transparency and presence. Her unique style makes you feel like you just spent an afternoon with a good friend, sparking tears one moment and laughter the next. Having experienced both the best and worst

of life, she's unafraid to disclose her imperfect spaces, so that you know you're not alone in yours. Michele's speaking experience covers the United States and includes *Compassion International, Women of Faith, Focus on the Family, Proverbs 31, She Speaks, Hearts-at-Home*, and church events as well as various radio, video and audio recording projects.



A remarkable and popular speaker and musician, Dr. Dinelle Frankland is Professor of Worship at Lincoln Christian University's Seminary. She is a native of Albion, Illinois, and holds a Bachelor of Sacred Music degree, a Master of Music degree, and a Doctor of Worship Studies degree.

She has taught at TCM International, a graduate seminary near Vienna, Austria, and the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies in Jacksonville, Florida. She is the author of *His Story, Our Response: What the Bible Says About Worship*. She frequently leads worship seminars in the local church for worship leaders, as well as speaks for women's conferences and events on any number of topics. Back by popular vote, this is her third visit to our Christian Women's Conference platform since 2009.

Special Offering Goal

The offering goal of \$12,000 will be used to help renovate the Warehouse (Student Center) and Coffee Shop that includes new windows, furniture, outside seating, study bar, new lighting, and electrical updates.

Registration

Registrations received by Wednesday, April 20, are \$35. Registrations after that date are \$40. Sorry, no refunds. Registrations may be mailed to: Christian Women's Conference, Lincoln Christian University, 100 Campus View Dr., Lincoln, IL 62656; or by phoning 217.732.3168; or by registering and paying online at www.lincolnchristian.edu/cwc.

Soul Support

"He restores my soul"

—Psalm 23