

RESTORER



L I N C O L N C H R I S T I A N U N I V E R S I T Y

“Come, follow me,”
Jesus said, “and I
will make you
fishers of men.”

- Matthew 4:19



INSIDE



It's Not Easy Being Green

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THE RESTORER

For nearly 75 years the Lincoln Christian community has looked to the *Restorer* as a resource to reflect how LCU is partnering with the Almighty God of the universe in His universal, eternal, unchanging mission of restoring all things to Himself. After all, He is the ultimate Restorer.

Through Jesus Christ, God is reconciling to Himself all things (Colossians 1:20), reuniting all things in Him (Ephesians 1:10) and will ultimately restore all things to Himself (Acts 3:21). Since the mission of LCU focuses on equipping servant leaders for both the church and the world, we want this publication to not only be about restoring Biblical Christianity, but also about restoring the world to its divine intent.

I hope you will take a few minutes with your favorite warm drink while you sit back and enjoy these accounts of engaging faith, inspiring hope, and activating love. As you read through this *Restorer*, be encouraged by the deep stories of Lincoln Christian University alumni, students, faculty, staff, trustees, and partners who are sharing the love of God with His world.

Thank you for joining us in this grand adventure of partnering with our great and gracious God Who is on a mission to restore all things to Himself. Together we celebrate what He is doing through the faith, hope, and love of *Lincoln Leaders* serving and leading in the church and the world.

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”
(1 Thessalonians 1:2-3, ESV)



Don Green, DMin
President



Lincoln Christian
UNIVERSITY

MISSION

Lincoln Christian University is a Christian higher education community whose mission is to nurture and equip Christians with a Biblical world view to serve and lead in the church and the world.

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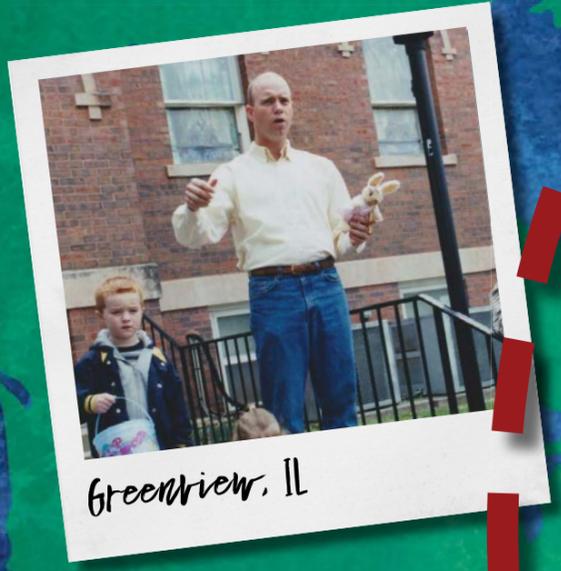
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Greenland



Greenview, IL

IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN

Whether we're driving across town or crossing an ocean, new and unfamiliar places have a way of making us feel disoriented, inexperienced, or green. Mike Farar's ministry shows what can happen when one is humble enough to admit inexperience, learn from the locals, and brave the risks of personal engagement.

After graduating from high school, Mike got a scholarship to a local community college where he aimed to study music and one day become a public school teacher. But these plans turned upside down when a fellow missionary flatly told him that he was supposed to be in ministry.

"I thought I had my mind made up. At 18 years of age, I was bulletproof and knew what I was doing with my life."

However, Mike soon realized his friend was right. Shortly after completing his undergraduate degree, Mike made it his goal to attend seminary at LCU. Against all odds, his resume was chosen over many



other applicants for a pastoral position at a small church in Greenview, IL. His direction was illuminated, but his journey had only begun.

LEARNING TO SERVE A SMALL TOWN

Mike remembers his seminary days with boundless affection: “Lincoln was absolutely amazing. I’d never had my heart and mind challenged so much as when I went to Lincoln.”

His academic challenges seemed easy compared to the question of how to connect with his congregants in the small farming community of Greenview. “I didn’t know the difference between soybeans and a cornstalk when I started. Looking at these farm people, I realized, ‘I’m in a different culture here.’”

Fortunately for Mike, Lincoln Christian Seminary offered a class called “Leading the Town and Country Church.” This course, taught by Barney Wells, trained future spiritual leaders in the finer points of connecting with small town culture, an overlooked but critical skill for new ministers. Mike remembers being struck by Dr. Wells’ words:

“Most of the people around the world live in small towns. Which means if you’re going to be a pastor, the chance that you’ll be in a small town is very likely. Don’t underestimate what God is going to do in a small town.”

Mike learned a great deal from Wells, including what people in small farming towns really value in a pastor—honesty and integrity, but also showing up at their gatherings, listening more than talking, spending time with the old and the sick.

“Barney taught me that to really engage with the folks in town, I had to meet with them on their turf.”

Mike took this cue to dive headfirst into the culture of his small town. He started getting up early to be present when the local coffee shop opened. The people would come in three waves—the livestock farmers around 5 a.m., followed by the crop farmers at about 6, and



1

finally the retirees who, showing up around 8 a.m., were considered the late crowd.

“At first, I wore a tie down to the coffee shop. These old farmers would tease me: ‘We know who you are, Pastor—you don’t need to wear a tie here.’ So the next time I wore jeans.”

Mike practiced his listening skills at the coffee shop, the mechanic’s yard, and the old folks’ home. When a local man had an accident that prevented his ability to harvest his crops, the entire community showed up to lend a hand, and Mike came along with them. Though he couldn’t drive a tractor, he could bring water, make sandwiches, and run errands. His willingness to support his community at every opportunity was noticed with surprise and growing respect, even from people who didn’t attend his church.

As the Greenview congregation grew, so did the congregation’s interest in the welfare of the church. People took initiative to build a new nursery, to repair the neglected baptistry,

and to beautify the grounds with flowers and landscaping. Much of this was done under the direction of the same old farmers whom Mike had sat with in the coffee shop.

“LCU taught me that ministry was not just about the four walls. Lincoln encouraged me to learn a little bit of sociology, demographics, understanding who my people were. I began to love everybody in that small town.”

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

Even as the Greenview church thrived, Mike began seeing a disparity in how men engaged with the church compared to women. He wanted to do his part in encouraging men to embrace their spiritual lives. This led him to eventually leave Greenview for enlistment in the military reserves, where he became an Air Force chaplain.

One day, Mike received a call with the news that he’d been assigned a one-year assignment to Greenland’s Thule Air Base, 750 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

He was being sent to, quite literally, the polar opposite of the small farming town life where he’d become comfortable. To reach those who most needed to hear the Gospel, Mike once again had to discover how to make inroads into the hearts and minds of a new group of people.

“In my morning devotions, one of my prayers is, ‘God, help me see what you are doing here, and help me engage that.’”

One day, a young female airman approached him and said she wanted to be baptized. But she didn’t want to do it in the air base pool; instead, she wanted to be baptized in the 32.5 (F) degree waters of North Star Bay.

“It turned into this great opportunity to witness and talk about the base chapel ministry. I thought getting baptized in the ocean was a crazy idea, but it turned out to be the opportunity that God wanted to use.”

THE LOCALS’ LOCALS

When an opportunity arose to minister to the Inuit, Greenland’s native people, Mike was all in. His team helicoptered to the village where a festival was taking place, complete with a feast of local delicacies, including whale blubber and boiled bird.

Mike soon found himself sitting at a table, being shown how to properly eat food that would be unpalatable to most westerners. A young woman sat down with him and offered to walk him through the process of extracting

the best part of the bird—the brains.

“I’m with them, right? I knew that to engage, I had to eat what they eat.”

Not only did he have to eat it, but he knew he had to express appreciation for it. Following the girl’s lead, he bit down on the skull and sucked out the brains, and answered when she asked how he liked it, “It had a lot of flavor!”

Mike was told about a tradition whereby those on the military base help gather presents to distribute to the four local villages at Christmastime. So, he set out to give the children of Greenland an extra special Christmas Day.

When Christmas came, they took a helicopter ride to one of the villages to distribute presents. After landing at the dark, ice-covered airport, they were taken to the community center where everybody in the village was waiting to see the Julemand. “It was really heartwarming to bless those little kids. It was a ministry opportunity I never thought I would have.”

For more details about Mike’s Julemand experience Visit lincolnchristian.edu/alumni-news/greenland.

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES, SHARED DESIRES

Serving in a specific place means learning to see the world through the eyes of the people who live there. By presenting himself as inexperienced, but ready to learn, Mike not only helped the locals to trust him, but began to see the world through their eyes. This allowed him to see past the nominal differences in their lives, and revealed the opportunities to form spiritual bonds over the things that everyone shares—the desire to be heard, the need to share in community, and the yearning to experience God’s love.

While it’s not easy being green, Mike’s story shows that when it comes to sharing the Gospel, being green can sometimes be the best place to start.



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4

1. Mike baptizes an airman in the ice cold waters of North Star Bay, Greenland. 2. Michael Farar and his wife, Elizabeth. 3. Visit www.lincolnchristian.edu/restorer to read about Mike’s Julemand experience. 4. Mike’s son Levi is currently enrolled as a freshman at Lincoln Christian University’s Lincoln, IL, campus.

campus NEWS

No matter where you are or how long it's been, we want you to feel connected with our campus community...



NO WALL WIDE ENOUGH

"The Chinese Christians embraced me as a brother immediately," said Professor and Program Director of Church History and Historical Theology Bob Rea about his recent trip to China.

Accompanied by his wife, Assistant Registrar Mary Ann Rea, they met up with China Institute Associate Director Weilun Lee, to engage with Chinese church leaders, potential students, and Chinese schools.

The trip was prompted by an invitation for Dr. Rea to present to approximately 400 Chinese Christian leaders at the annual Chinese Pastor Conference in Hong Kong. Rea's book, *Why Church History Matters: An Invitation to Love and Learn from Our Past* (InterVarsity Press, July 2014), cleared the way for him to present a personal life application of what he's learned as a Christian theologian in a main session and several smaller training groups.

Weilun's thoughtful planning, skillful organizing, and successful managing ensured that they made the most of their 11-day visit. As a result, key church leaders, Chinese businessmen,

and high school administrators on the mainland were introduced to Lincoln Christian University. Bob learned that "so many times Chinese students come to the U.S. for high school, stay for college and become Americanized, then stay in the U.S."

What they learned from their Chinese brothers spurred their enthusiasm to return to the U.S. and begin to explore fast-track solutions to help LCU partner with Chinese institutions to meet the educational needs for accredited ministry degrees without alienating students from their native homeland.

Weilun also arranged time to connect with LCU alumni – both Chinese and American – and meet the parents of current and prospective Chinese students. Meeting these parents helped Mary Ann, in particular, realize what a huge responsibility we have. "I have a greater appreciation for what they are sacrificing and how much they are trusting us to care for their students."

It was a great cultural learning experience that included a trip to the Great Wall, mastering the art of chopsticks, and finding out what it feels like to fly for 14 hours and arrive at home in Illinois 10 minutes earlier than when you departed China. Their experiences proved to them that despite the miles, the oceans, the customs and the language differences that separate our cultures, our people are really not that different.



MEETING DOUBT HEAD-ON

At Lincoln Christian University, we believe it is acceptable and even commendable to ask tough questions and candidly express doubt. Even students attending Bible colleges have doubts and questions about God, faith, and Christianity. VP of Student Services Randy Ingmire asked the question, "How can we facilitate discussion on issues that churches and our students face?"

The answer was, "Room for Doubt," a sermon series developed by LCU for churches. It addresses the big questions asked by many Christians and non-Christians alike. LCU implemented the Room for Doubt message series during undergraduate chapel in the first half of the 2017 spring semester. Student Spiritual

Formation Groups (SFGs) have been encouraged to use the study guides as well. These small group sessions provide a safe environment to raise questions and investigate the basics of the Christian faith.

"The responses from students have been great," Randy Ingmire says. "Students have talked to me and said, 'This is exactly why I came.'"

You can explore the questions and learn more about the message series at www.RoomForDoubt.com.



FOUNDERS' DAY CHAPEL: IT'S FOR EVERYONE!

April 25, 2017 is shaping up to be a Founders' Day commemoration you won't want to miss. LCU is excited to welcome home NACC 2017 President Gene Appel (LCC '82, LCS). Gene is excited to share his "this is for EVERYONE" vision of the 2017 North American Christian Convention in Kansas City June 27-29.

LCU will take this opportunity to honor Gene's late father, Leon Appel, who served Lincoln Christian as President from 1972-1974 following a two-year stint as Vice President under Earl C Hargrove. He exemplified servant leadership as a pastor and Christian leader. The Appels have the distinction of being among the very few fathers and sons who have both led the NACC in its 90-year history.

Gene is the senior pastor of Eastside Christian Church in Anaheim, CA, one of the fastest growing churches in America. Before Eastside, he served at Central Christian Church in Las Vegas, NV, and Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, IL.

rave REVIEWS



1

PUBLICATIONS:

1 LCU Registrar SHAWN SMITH had a book review published in the *Stone-Campbell Journal* Vol. 19 (Fall, 2016) pp. 254-256. The book was Kelly D. Carter's, *The Trinity in the Stone-Campbell Movement: Restoring the Heart of Christian Faith*, published by Abilene Christian University Press, Abilene, TX (2015). Additionally, his journal article, "A Critical Analysis of the Eastern Orthodox View of Reception: Divisive Councils and the Filioque," was published in *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* 60.3 (2016) pp. 397-414.



2

2 Assistant Professor of New Testament FRANK DICKEN co-edited a book with Julia Snyder. The book is entitled *Characters and Characterization in Luke-Acts* (Library of New Testament Studies 548. New York/London: Bloombury/T&T Clark, 2016). Dr. Dicken's contributions also included the "Introduction," pp. 1-4, and "Herod as Jesus' Executioner: Possibilities in Lukan Reception and Wirkungsgeschichte," pp. 199-211.



3

3 The *Christian Standard* published a series of articles last fall on the topic of "Faith & Virtue: How and Why America is Still Searching," written by Professor of Spiritual Formation and Discipleship NEAL WINDHAM and a series on the topic of "Growing Elders to Lead" written by Seminary Professor of Christian Education JAMES ESTEP.



4

4 JAMES ESTEP co-wrote a book chapter with Mark A. Maddix in *A Legacy of Religious Educators: Historical and Theological Introductions*. See Chapter 16, "John Wesley: Methodizing Christian Education" (Liberty University Press, 2016).



5

5 The William Carey Library published *Controversies in Mission: Theology, People and Practice of Mission in the 21st Century* (Pasadena, CA: 2016), co-edited by Interim Chief Academic Officer ROCHELLE SCHEUERMANN and Edward L. Smither. Dr. Scheuermann also had articles published in the *Orality Journal* ("Integrating Arts and Preaching," Vol. 5 No. 2, pp. 75-82, 2016) and the *Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States* (Kurian, George Thomas and Mark Lamport, eds. Lanham, MD: Rowman Littlefield Publishers, 2016). Rochelle was promoted to Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies effective January 1, 2017.



6

6 Seminary Professor of Old Testament PAUL KISSLING has been contracted to complete Tyndale's *Old Testament Commentary on Joshua* for InterVarsity Press, England (due 2021).



7

7 Indianapolis Extension Site Director ROB MCCORD recently released his book, *Keepers of the Way* (Plowhand Press: 2017).

LINCOLN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



RED LIONS

2017 SPORTS CAMPS

CAMP DATES & PRICES:

NEW! BOYS' BASEBALL CAMP

(GRADES 6-12) JUNE 18-21 \$175

BASKETBALL CAMP

HS BOYS' (GRADES 9-12) JUNE 18-21 \$175

JH BOYS' (GRADES 5-8) JUNE 21-24 \$175

HS GIRLS' (GRADES 8-12) JUNE 25-28 \$150

JH GIRLS' (GRADES 5-8) JUNE 28 - JULY 1 \$150

SOCCER CAMP

BOYS' & GIRLS' (GRADES 6-12) JUNE 25-28 \$150

VOLLEYBALL CAMP

JH1 GIRLS' (GRADES 5-8) JULY 5-8 \$200

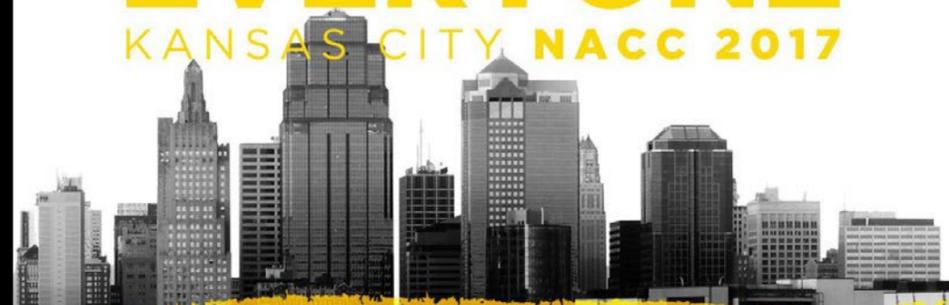
HS GIRLS' (GRADES 9-12) JULY 9-12 \$200

JH2 GIRLS' (GRADES 5-8) JULY 12-15 \$200

CALL FOR TEAM PRICING!

CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF ALUMNI ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A \$75 CAMP SCHOLARSHIP. TO REQUEST A REGISTRATION FORM CALL 217-732-3168, EXT. 2245 OR VISIT WWW.LCUREDLIONS.COM

this is for
EVERYONE
KANSAS CITY NACC 2017



JUNE 27-29
GOTONACC.ORG

All LCU, LCCS, and LBI alumni are invited to the After Party!

THURSDAY, JUNE 29
KANSAS CITY
CONVENTION CENTER
EXHIBIT HALL

immediately following evening main session.

THANK YOU PARTNER CHURCHES

485



PARTNER CHURCHES
have given to Lincoln Christian since 2000.

In FY16, LCU faculty and staff were called to speak in churches

465

times.

Total church support in FY16 totaled just under

\$680K



TOP 10*

- Lincoln (IL) Christian Church
- West Side Christian Church (Springfield, IL)
- First Christian Church (Fairfield, IL)
- Jefferson Street Christian Church (Lincoln, IL)
- First Christian Church (Morris, IL)
- Central Christian Church (Mount Vernon, IL)
- Christian Church of Clarendon Hills (IL)
- Catlin (IL) Church of Christ
- Eastview Christian Church (Normal, IL)
- Chapel Rock Christian Church (Indianapolis, IN)

*based on giving since 1985



“The Preachers are Coming!”

It was during Earl Hargrove’s famous sermon (originally named “Spreading the Gospel”) on February 24, 1944, at Lincoln Christian Church, that he first announced his new school.



Lincoln Christian Church hosted LBI & LCCS Commencement services 1946-1950 and 1957-1968.

126+



Students have come to Lincoln Christian University from Lincoln Christian Church since 2000.

A special thank you to Lincoln Christian Church for giving more than **\$1,000,000** to LCU since 1985.



Have You Provided for Your Family?

Biblical faith requires us to be engaged in Biblical action. Scripture describes the kind of action God expects when it comes to caring for our family. The Bible calls us to be responsible and provide for our families. In I Timothy 5:8, Scripture says:

“If anyone does not provide for his own, and especially his own household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

God is serious about this. We must be too. Surely “providing” includes planning ahead for that future time when we are no longer alive.

I have found that most Christians, while they are living, strive with all their effort to “provide” for their families. I have **not** found the same to be true when it comes to planning to provide for that unknown date in the future when their own deaths come. Too many of our Christian families go into a free fall when the main financial provider in the family dies. Family conflicts also arise where no planning has occurred. Planning ahead can definitely help stop these problems from occurring.

Do you need some answers to get your estate planning process started? If so, please contact me at 217-732-3168 (Extension 2235) and I will do my best to answer your questions.



Rick L. Hobler
LCU University Legal Counsel

A man with short dark hair and glasses is seated at a table, intently reading an open Bible. He is wearing a dark, textured jacket over a dark shirt. The room is dimly lit, with a framed picture on the wall behind him and a window to the left. The overall atmosphere is quiet and focused.

From Revelation to

Relationship

In some ways, American culture makes it very easy to engage with God. A person who feels drawn to learn about God can simply pick up a Bible and begin reading. They can find a church and attend a service. They follow the path set by the example of other believers.

However, having few obstacles to faith can actually be the thing that impedes its growth. Sometimes, having to fight your way forward is the key to knowing God on a deeper level.

ENGAGE THE WAY YOU ARE

Zhanliang “Jim” Sun is quick to admit that he was not the most social person when he first arrived as a student from China at the University of New Mexico. However, when a campus administrator asked for his help in spreading the word about a welcome party being given for all the new international students, Jim was glad to do his part.

“I was not someone who liked to go to parties,” he acknowledges. “But God made sure I would go.”

The party turned out to be hosted by Christian campus ministry International Students Incorporated, and it concluded with an invitation to the students to visit the nearby church. Jim was shocked to find out just how nearby it was.

“It turned out the church building was only one block away from my apartment—I could see it from my window.”

Jim’s initial visit to church was full of strange coincidences. The speaker mentioned that his wife worked at the same university where Jim had studied in Beijing. He spoke with familiarity of places in China that Jim knew well.

So when the speaker introduced God as the source of ultimate truth, and invited people to know this God, Jim felt an instant connection to what the man was saying. He looked around at the worshipers in the church and saw the speaker’s sincerity reflected in their faces.

With a strong desire to find a way to know God, he simply asked God to reveal to him the truth about Himself.



“That was a turning point for me, the message that God exchanges ideas with human beings.”

“I didn’t know what would happen. I had no pre-assumptions, no expectations.”

Without quite realizing it, Jim had taken the first step toward becoming a Christian.

THE DISCIPLINE OF RELATIONSHIP

As his classes began, Jim was soon overwhelmed with the issues common to foreign students: language barriers, homework, trying to find a routine in an unfamiliar place. He told himself that he didn’t have time to spend a whole Sunday at church anymore. In reality, though, he says, “I had a resistance inside of me.”

That is, until the church pastor and his wife invited Jim and some other students to their house. The pastor

shared the story of his faith and how it changed his path, shaped his marriage, and informed his life on a daily basis.

“That was a turning point for me, the message that God exchanges ideas with human beings. We can talk to God; God can talk to us. That inspired me so much.”

The word of God brought a sense of warm, comforting calmness to his heart that even today is difficult for Jim to describe. Back then, it had a power over him like nothing he’d ever known before.

But the indefinable resistance he felt was not gone for good. There were times where he couldn’t feel God, no matter how much he wanted to. He asked God why this might be, and the answers he turned up in

“It opened a door for me to enter into this spiritual reality. To physically feel the presence of God, His glory, His heavenly presence. It’s so special—you cannot make that up. It totally changed my world view.”

Scripture led to the conclusion that, in Jim’s words, “There must be a lot of things in my spirit that have to be ‘cleaned up,’ and it might take God a while to clean it.”

Over time, Jim began to feel strong emotions during church worship services. The songs filled him with God’s presence in a way he had never before experienced.

“It opened a door for me to enter into this spiritual reality. To physically feel the presence of God, His glory, His heavenly presence. It’s so special—you cannot make that up. It totally changed my world view.”

SHARING THE MESSAGE

Jim’s new spiritual life brought him new opportunities. An Albuquerque connection helped him enroll in [Lincoln Christian Seminary](#) and gain employment as Discipleship Coordinator for LCU’s China Institute.



In his role at the China Institute, Jim occupies a place between cultures. For himself, he says, “I’m definitely the product of two cultures. I came here at 26, I’ve been here 10 years now, and inside of me I can’t identify the differences.” He recognizes in new students the strangeness he felt about acclimating to new customs and routines. But the bigger cultural difference, he says, is less between different nations and more between the worlds of childhood and adulthood.

“The college years are very important to build a person’s character. I have a passion to help them take care of their lives, to counsel them, and to help them grow spiritually.”

College is a unique period where young adults are presented with a seemingly endless array of opportunities. Some need help simply with basic life skills, such as buying groceries and going to the post office. Others are more in need of training as to how to create balance between social lives and academics, or in juggling the outside pressures with their internal growing pains. Still others need accountability about which doors are better left unopened.

“It’s not an easy time for most students. Temptation has become part of their daily life. The smartphone isn’t an evil thing, but it’s still a challenge

to use the smartphone wisely—not only for people their age, but even for adults. We need to really allow God to touch our personal lives.”

In addition, Jim sees that a large number of LCU students, no matter how strong their Christian background, are hungry for a deeper relationship with God. But sometimes their expectations about how that might look can get in the way of the depth they desire.

“There are always opportunities for us to know God more. Experience is good, it helped me a lot in my faith journey...but God decides what He wants you to experience.”

The most important thing, Jim says, is to have a heart that remains desirous of God’s presence and is open to however He chooses to show Himself. Dramatic experiences may result from it, but the backbone of that intimacy is a quiet confidence that God truly does care.

“It’s a daily basis, a daily walk with the Lord. Conversation with God doesn’t only happen when we have something to pray for. It really is happening throughout our lives. God cares about the small things, because we care.”

That in itself, he says, is a supernatural experience.

Equipped for *life*

Nobody goes through life without challenges. The more we strive to live in a meaningful way, the more obstacles we will encounter that test our character and our convictions. These challenges can break us down, or they can refine our resolve and prepare us to be stronger in the future.



Ethan and Nicole Hoinacki's story since leaving LCU is emblematic of what our university inspires to do for all students: equip them to meet life's challenges with faith, intelligence, and confidence in God's goodness.

Pursuing "Financial Peace"

Ethan and Nicole were married in 2010, while still undergraduates at Lincoln Christian University. After graduation, they found themselves starting their life as a couple with a third party in their marriage: a considerable sum in student loan debt.

It's not unusual for college graduates to have student loans to pay back. What is unusual, however, is the resolve with which Nicole and Ethan set about eliminating their debt. It's around this time that the education they received from LCU literally began to pay off.

With diplomas freshly in hand, they took on their debt as their first post-college endeavor.

They learned about debt and how, contrary to commonplace American practice, it is possible to live a life that is completely debt-free.

In keeping with what they'd learned in their "Math for Life" course, Ethan and Nicole had been strategic with the way they took out their student loans in the first place. They only used money for tuition and school related costs. Some students use loan funds not only to pay for tuition and supplies, but to buy luxuries like a great stereo or rent an extra-nice apartment. But Ethan had an advisor at LCU who told him, "Don't take the full amount; just take what you need for school." That's just what he did, which mitigated the amount he would eventually have to pay back.

Ethan and Nicole took that "bare minimum" principle and applied it to the lifestyle they lived while paying back their loans. Both had experienced the conflict that can happen in families that get overwhelmed by debt.

"We were that credit card, home loan generation," Nicole says of her family and Ethan's. "I had to really relearn you don't have to have debt if you don't want to."

Though they were "dirt poor," the couple embarked on a way of life that took tightening the belt on spending to a whole new level.

"We were living on a budget that allowed us \$20 per week for household items and groceries," Nicole remembers. White bread and

pasta became routine choices for meals. "Most people are in shock when they hear what we did," she laughs. "We were lucky that our families were supportive."

To truly engage with the challenge, they had to find a way to stay motivated to reach their debt-free goal. For this purpose, they drew up a chart that showed the progress of falling debts. Each time they passed a monetary milestone, they celebrated the achievement with a big red X on the chart. Along the way, they found creative ways to keep themselves entertained—inventing new recipes for how to use peanut butter and spending their date nights going for walks and playing cards. What could have felt like deprivation instead became something they could laugh about together. Where tight finances might drive a wedge into some marriages, pursuing this goal together drew Ethan and Nicole closer as a couple. The fondness in their voices is evident as they recount the story.

"[It was] one of our biggest challenges," says Nicole, "and we faced it right away, together."

The ultra-modest lifestyle lasted two years until their debts were erased. Any Dave Ramsey fan can guess what happened next. The couple made a trip down to Nashville to perform the debt-free scream. When people follow Ramsey's methods and finally reach the debt-free mark, they can go on his show and literally scream into a microphone, which is an expression of relief at finally being out of debt.

Little did they know that the days of eating noodles and going without would be a walk in the park compared to their next major challenge.



A Deeper Trial

In August of 2015, Ethan and Nicole welcomed a child, Sadie Lyn, into the world. Before the birth, doctors had told them of a concerning growth in the baby's abdomen. Within days after her birth, doctors were planning a surgery to remove the growth.

It turned out that the growth was in the baby's liver. Doctors worried about her intestines and the ability to digest food. As they waited for Sadie to gain strength for the surgery, checkups surprised the doctors because of how well she seemed to be doing.

After months of waiting, the time for the surgery was finally upon them. The plan was for the surgeon to do a CAT scan and then speak with the parents before beginning the surgery. After the scan, the doctor greeted Ethan and Nicole with words they never

expected to hear: "I have the best news possible for you. Her AVM is shrinking. It's going away."

The doctor went on to say that the mass that used to take up a third of Sadie Lynn's liver was now down to five percent, and seemed likely to continue shrinking.

After so much worry and waiting, Nicole and Ethan were practically in shock. Unsure of how to process the information, they asked the doctor what was supposed to happen next.

And he said, "I'm not going to do surgery, that's for sure!"

Fast forward to the present, and Sadie Lynn is a healthy and thriving girl, approaching her two-year-old birthday. Last summer, she went for an ultrasound in Chicago, and the

mass was completely gone. According to the doctors, says Nicole, "If you didn't know what to look for, you wouldn't have noticed anything had been there."

No Formula, Just Faith

Challenges can cause many to retreat from life, from faith, even from the people we love most. Ethan and Nicole's story shows how leaning into challenges is often the key to not simply getting through them, but coming out stronger on the other side.

They both agree that there were some foundational practices that helped them overcome their two most significant challenges to date. The first was taking one day at a time. Sometimes, Nicole admits, it felt like simply going through the motions; there were even moments when the pressure felt like too much to handle. "You break temporarily," she reflects, "but you pick up the pieces and keep going."

In those moments, the principles instilled in them at LCU carried them through. Ultimately, the ability to acknowledge their doubts and fears while remaining in faith proved no less practical or applicable to daily life than the principles of financial management.

Ethan says that by the time they came through the challenge with their daughter, "I just had a better understanding of who God was—an eternal Father. This is a broken world that we're a part of. We can't fathom His bigger picture. He was with us every single step to get us where we are currently, and He's going to be with us in the future. This is just another thing to hold on to. Life's going to throw us another curveball."

Nicole adds, "There's not a formula we followed. It's just amazing what you can handle when you have God on your side."



Ethan and Nicole with Dave Ramsey on April 11, 2014.

"It's just amazing what you can handle when you have God on your side."

While freshmen at LCU, both Nicole and Ethan had taken a course called "Math for Life." This class had used Dave Ramsey's "Financial Peace" training as a framework for teaching practical money management skills.

LCU Women's Volleyball Competes in NAIA Conference Tournament

After posting a 22-8 regular season record, the Red Lions Women's Volleyball team accepted an invitation to play in the Association of Independent Institutions (AII) Conference Tournament in November 2016. It was the first time a Red Lions athletic team qualified for any NAIA postseason tournament.

The team traveled to the College of the Ozarks in Point Lookout, Missouri, where they met the three other teams playing in the tournament: Johnson & Wales University (Denver, CO), Haskell Indian Nations University (Lawrence, KS), and College of the Ozarks.

Round robin play on Friday resulted with a face-off against top-seeded College of the Ozarks on Saturday which brought their tournament play to an early end.

"I am extremely proud of our girls and the season they had," said first-year LCU Athletic Director Nathaniel Smith. "To be able to qualify for this tournament and compete like we did says a lot about our program. The future is bright for Red Lions Volleyball."



LCU AII CONFERENCE AWARDS

FIRST TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE

Abbey Akre (Sr, Lisbon, IL)
 Second Team All-Conference
 Katie Boyce (Jr, Havana, IL)
 Brittany Beals (So, Effingham, IL)
 Maliah Feller-Blakemore
 (Fr, Quincy, IL)

CHAMPIONS OF CHARACTER AWARD

Abbey Akre (Sr, Lisbon, IL)
 Hannah D'Andrea (Jr, Lincoln, IL)

COACH OF THE YEAR

Dave Donnelly

BRIDGING THE GAPS BETWEEN LCU STUDENTS AND THE LINCOLN COMMUNITY

Many college campuses face communication problems when it comes to student relations between athletes and academics, undergraduate and graduate students, campus communities, and surrounding communities. That's where LCU Red Lions Athletic Department hopes to make a difference with their newly formed **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)**.

First year Athletic Director Nathaniel Smith established the SAAC to serve as a liaison between the undergraduate student body, faculty, athletic department, student-athletes, and the Lincoln, Illinois, community.

"LCU student-athletes are more than just athletes. We want them to excel in the classroom and be prominent leaders in the service community both at LCU and in the town of Lincoln. If we are able to lend a helping hand in any way, we view it as an opportunity to glorify God through our work to others," said Smith.

SAAC is led by President Brock Trexler, Vice President Abbey Akre and Director of Community Relations Hannah D'Andrea along with three representatives from each sports team. All members are coach-appointed leaders that include freshmen. By involving freshmen, they have a unique opportunity to grow their leadership and servant skills while passing those skills along to their teammates.

Trexler acknowledges that the impact in its first year may be limited while they build sponsors and funds, but they are "more focused on relationship building than anything."

Since October, SAAC has been involved with Toys for Tots, Harvest of Talents, Christmas in the Chapel, and Cookies with Santa. They also raked leaves in the community and conducted a food drive for the local food pantry. They've already done some painting at the local humane society during this spring semester and have plans for tailgating at the home baseball games.

Through these community-focused service events, SAAC has already begun to close gaps and build bridges between LCU and the Lincoln community.

LCU Adds Men's and Women's Cross Country



The Red Lions Athletic Department has added men's and women's cross country teams to its docket of sports offered to undergraduate student-athletes. To begin in the fall 2017

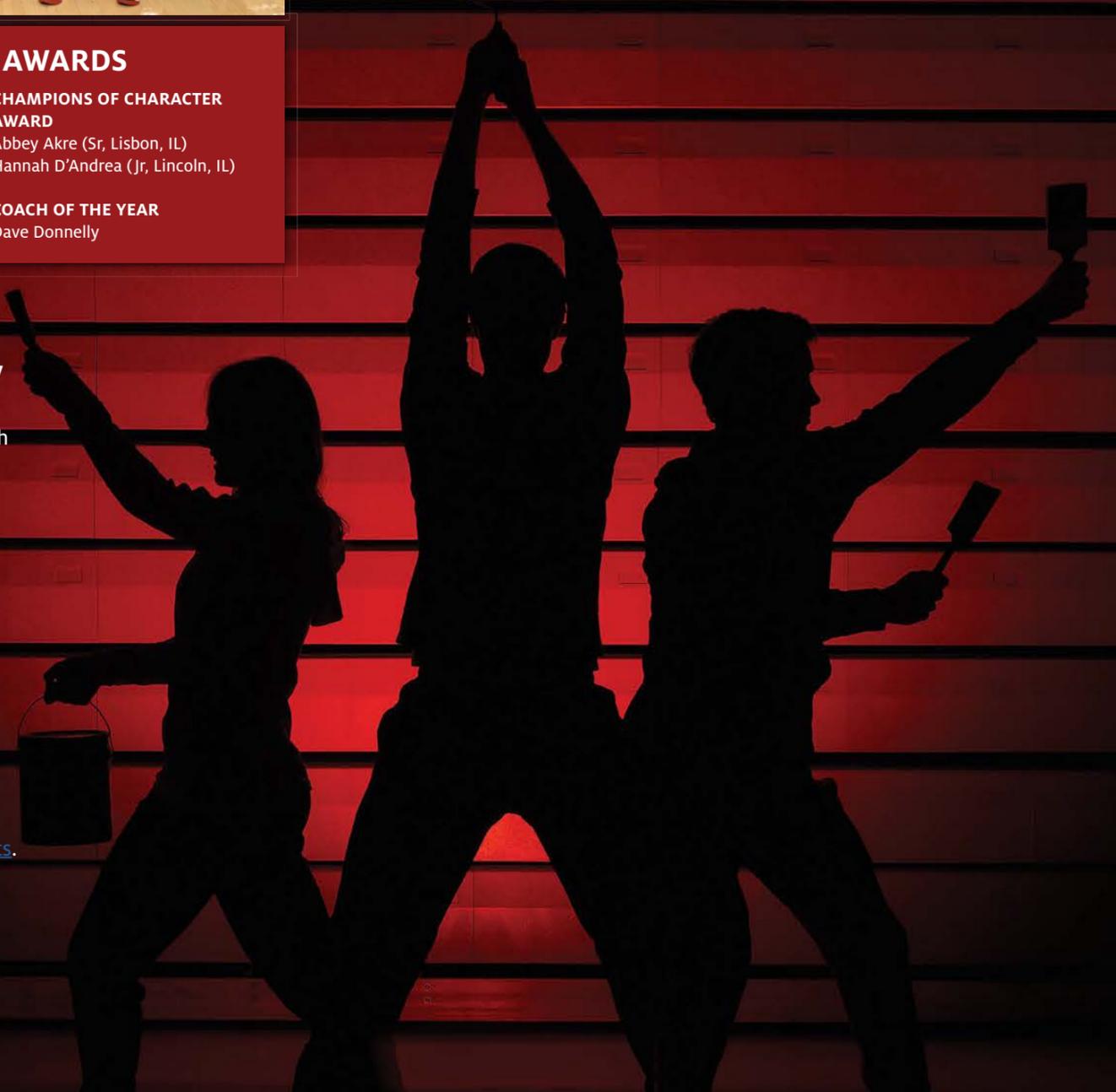
semester, both the men's and women's cross country teams will compete under the coaching of Brendan Hoskins – who recently completed a successful NCAA DI cross country career at Illinois State University.

Athletic Director Nathaniel Smith shared his excitement about the new addition. "We wanted an energetic, knowledgeable, and passionate individual to lead our programs and that's what we got in Coach Hoskins. With Brendan's running

experience and willingness to recruit, I have high hopes for our new program."

Recruiting for the teams is already underway as well as scheduling for the 2017 season. If you know someone who would be a good fit for the LCU Red Lions, please submit his or her name on our website www.LCUredlions.com.

Men's and women's cross country brings LCU's total intercollegiate athletics offerings up to eight. Cross country joins baseball, volleyball, men's and women's soccer, and men's and women's basketball. Each team competes under the banner of both NAIA and NCCAA affiliation. For more information on the Red Lions athletic program visit www.LincolnChristian.edu/athletics.



campus LIFE



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- 1 A new technology station was added to the Warehouse during summer 2016 renovations.
- 2 Scholarship donors and recipients connect at their annual luncheon in October.
- 3 Students gather bi-weekly in the Heironymus Prayer Room for the "Reach" prayer gathering.
- 4 The 2016 Camp Teams benefited from pre-camp training at Little Galilee.
- 5 Meet the cast of Christmas in the Chapel 2016, "An Old-Fashioned Christmas."
- 6 Focus continues to be a meaningful student-led worship every other Wednesday night.
- 7 Shout out to Rochester Christian Church staff attending Tuesday morning chapel.
- 8 Flooding the "Jordan" is a great community builder.
- 9 Move-In Day 2016!
- 10 We take our intramural basketball very seriously.
- 11 China Institute students bundled up for a cold day in February.



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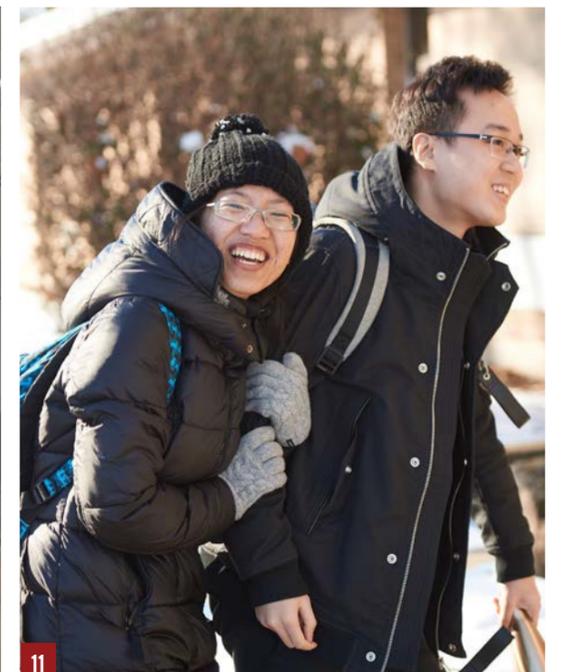
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1 Roger C. Songer, LCC '76, was presented his Restoration Award in Campus Ministry on April 9, 2016 at the Charleston (IL) Christian Campus House. Roger's specialized ministry in university campus ministry began in 1979 with five years on the campus of Oklahoma State University, followed by a move to the Christian Campus House of Eastern Illinois University, where he served for the next 32 years. Roger retired in July, 2016. During his ministry, he participated in 40 foreign mission trips, as well as mission trips to the inner cities of Chicago and Indianapolis. Of the 290 student leaders he worked with during his ministry, more than 150 of them went on to seminary and full time ministry/missions work. He also served on the Planning Committee of the North American Christian Convention, the Board of Directors of Christian Missionary Fellowship, and developed a continuing education curriculum that would be offered in seminary level workshops for those entering campus ministry careers. In a secular university world where human philosophy abounds, Roger was there as a voice for the Gospel of Jesus Christ by providing a haven of Christian fellowship, love, teaching, influence, and encouragement.

2 Charles R. Boatman, LCS '72, was awarded the Restoration Award for Kingdom Service during the 2016 North American Christian Convention in Anaheim, CA. His service began in 1954 when he attended Minnesota Bible College and entered into

his first preaching ministry in London, MN. Over the past 53 years, he has written thousands of articles, reflections, lessons, and illustrations for Standard Publishing and David C. Cook. He entered Lincoln Christian Seminary in 1965, while he preached at Palmyra (IL) Christian Church and taught at St. Louis Christian College. Charles and his family went to West Africa from 1970 to 1972 where he was the founding president of Liberia Christian College. He completed his Master of Divinity from Lincoln Christian Seminary in 1972 while teaching again at St. Louis Christian College. In 1980 Charles was called to serve as President of San Jose Bible College. Charles is now the Executive Director of a youth rehabilitation program with Christian Encounter Ministries. He continues to add to his pilgrimage with a fruitful ministry, and the 2016 Restoration Award for excellence and persistence in ministries around the globe is well earned for an illustrious life of service.

3 Ken Gennicks, LCC '80, LCS, was presented the 2016 Restoration Award in the Field of Preaching Ministry during our October 7-8 Alumni Homecoming. His remarkable Christian service consists of a preaching ministry that began in 1979 at the Salisbury (IL) Christian Church and extends 38 years to the present. The Athens (IL) Christian Church had just completed a building program when they welcomed Ken and his wife Sarah in July, 1984. Two years later, the congregation increased in size so much that they had to move to two worship services. Ongoing growth led the congregation to relocate to a new one-level facility in 2004. Even so, within eight years, Ken was called to lead yet another building campaign as youth areas and additional classroom space became needed. Ken has mentored many young ministers in their early formative years and numerous Bible college

students, full-time ministers, and missionaries have emerged from the Athens Christian Church during Ken's ministry there. He is a respected and trusted community pastor to many living in the growing area in and around Athens. He and his wife Sarah have modeled Christian marriage and family life for 34 years. Ken Gennicks, a man given over to Christ and the Church, was also recognized in 2004 with the Christian Servant's Award.

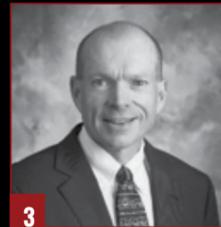
4 The ministry of Dr. Paul McAlister (LCS '72) has stretched far and wide. It was therefore appropriate that he was awarded the 2016 Restoration Award for Kingdom Service on November 18 during the International Conference on Missions. He began teaching a variety of subjects at Minnesota Bible College where he also introduced students to the mission field by organizing mission trips to Haiti and Honduras. Paul broadened his mission perspective to include domestic ministries at the Federal Medical Center, U.S. Bureau of Prisons in Rochester, MN, and the prestigious Mayo Clinic, where he founded Aslan's Forum (a Bible study program for Mayo Clinic residents) and served in the Alcoholism and Drug Dependency Unit. Additionally, he served as adjunct professor for Augsburg University and Mayo Medical School. After 28 years of teaching, Paul went to work with the Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center as treatment director for individuals with chronic mental illness. Paul and his wife Kathryn became engaged with Pioneer Bible Translators (PBT) in 2009, concentrating much of their time to the branch in Papua New Guinea. Paul also serves as the PBT chaplain for the Board of Directors. Paul models a strong commitment to Biblical preaching and teaching, a well-articulated Christian worldview, and a heart for God's global mission.



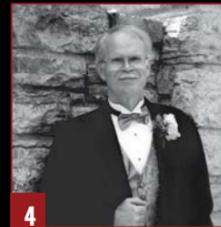
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ALUMNI NEWS

DOWN THE AISLE

'60s

J. Michael "Mike" Heston (LCC '60 '64, LCS '95) and Beth Harris were married on September 10, 2016. Mike has lived in West Plaines, MO, for 18 years and will continue a part-time ministry at Fowler Chapel, a small rural congregation.

was born at home at 1:22 a.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. and measured 20.5 in. His proud siblings are Elliott and Maddie.

'10s

1 John (LCU '12) and Jodie (Latham LCU '14, LCU '16) Merritt are the proud parents of a new daughter, Willow Jean. Willow was born on October 9, 2016 at 6:13 p.m., weighing 8 lbs. 13 oz. and measuring 19.5 in. long. Her big sister is Aera.

FUTURE ALUMNI

'00s

Ryne Urton (LCC) and his wife, Rachel, welcomed their first child, a little girl, on December 22, 2016. Blake Noelle was born at 10:03 a.m. weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. and measuring 19 in.

Blake (LCU '12) and Jenna (Reed LCU '13 and '15) Canterbury welcomed their new baby boy, Braxton Eugene, on October 22, 2016.

2 Timothy (LCU '14) and Shannon (Robinson LCC '07) Baccus welcomed a third child to their family on September 27, 2016. Judson Jack

4 Matthew (LCU '15) and Kacey (Campbell LCU '15) Laker welcomed a baby boy into their family on July 15, 2016 at 6:53 p.m. Ezra Joshua was 6 lbs. 2 oz. and 19 in. long.

3 Jason (LCS '13), and Catlin (Middleton LCS '12) Donato welcomed their second son, Innis Reid, on



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November 4, 2016. Innis weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was 20 in. long. His proud big brother is Adler.

2 Timothy (LCU '14) and Shannon (Robinson LCC '07) Baccus welcomed a third child to their family on September 27, 2016. Judson Jack was born at home at 1:22 a.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. and measured 20.5 in. His siblings are Elliott and Maddie.

CLASS NOTES

'70s

Roger C. Songer (LCC '76) retired August 1, 2016, after serving more than 32 years as senior campus minister with Christian Campus House at Eastern Illinois University. Roger previously served for five years as campus minister with Fellowship of Christian University Students (FOCUS) at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, OK.

He served 38 years in campus ministry and 44 years of ministry overall. Roger will continue in ministry, focusing on writing and speaking. He and his wife, Sue (LCS), have three daughters, Rachel, Leah, and Rebekah, and four grandchildren.

David R. Schultz (LCC '75) was named editor of the Bluffton News-Banner, the daily newspaper for Wells County, IN, on November 18, 2016. He has been with the News-Banner since 2008. His wife, Susan C. (Shelt LCC), has Parkinson's disease and is active in the Rock Steady boxing program for Parkinson's patients.

'80s

Steven Chapman (LCC '85, LCS '92) and his wife, Laura (LCC '84), celebrated 20 years of ministry with First Christian Church of Chicago on September 1, 2016. Steven served 11 years with the congregation as Associate Minister

of Outreach and Discipleship and was named Senior Minister in 2007. Laura has served alongside him in his ministries.

5 Dr. Gene B. Appel (LCC '82, LCS) is president of the 2017 North American Christian Convention (NACC). The conference will be held at the Kansas City Convention Center in Kansas City, MO, June 27-29. He would like to invite everyone to the After Party following the main session on Thursday night in the Exhibit Hall.

'90s

Robert "Bob" Fitzsimmons (LCC '96) completed 10 years with the Celebrate Recovery ministry at Manchester Christian Church in Manchester, NH. He has been instrumental in the start-up of several Celebrate Recovery ministries throughout the state. He was recently appointed to the State Representative position for

New Hampshire. Bob and his wife, Angela "Angie" (LCC '97), reside in Londonderry, NH.

'00s

David J. Nicholson (LCU '00) began a new ministry as Preaching Minister with First Church of Christ in Ft. Recovery, OH, on June 1, 2016.

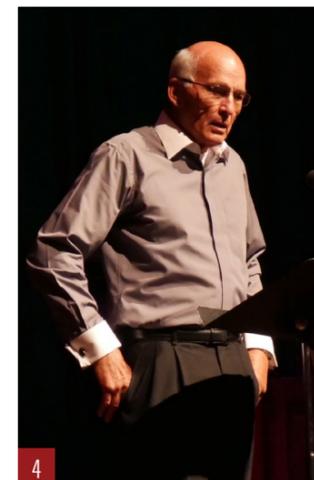
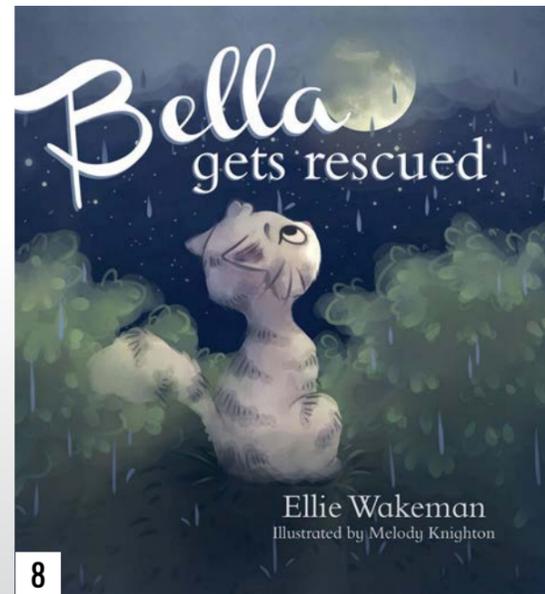
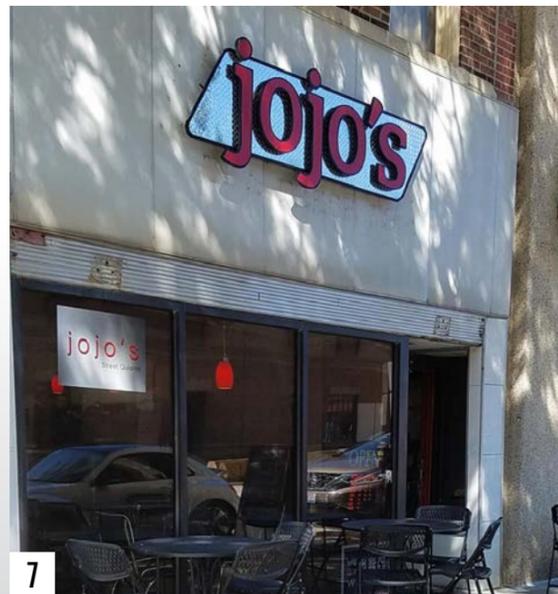
Jana Troutman-Miller (LCS '00) was appointed as Chair of the Commission on Certification for Board of Chaplaincy Certification, Inc., an affiliate of the Association of Professional Chaplains. She has served as a professional chaplain for 15 years. She is currently an Episcopal priest and chaplain at Saint John's On The Lake, a retirement community in Milwaukee, WI.

Abbey L. Flaherty (LCC '02) relocated to Prague, Czech Republic, in 2016 to teach full-time at the Christian International



2016 Alumni Homecoming

- 1 Wonderful worship, led by father Eric and son Parker Radecki and the Master's Men and Gloria Choirs.
- 2 What a joy to connect with longtime friends and classmates.
- 3 Henderson Hall provided ample space for food and fellowship.
- 4 As expected, we were blessed by Tom Ewald's message on Friday evening.
- 5 Recognize any familiar faces?
- 6 Ken Gennicks received the Restoration Award in the field of Preaching Ministry.



School of Prague. This is her first year teaching. She also has a position with Human Resources.

'10s

8 *Bella Gets Rescued*, by **Ellie Wakeman** (LCC '07, LCS '12) and illustrated by Melody Knighton, was published by Ambassador International and released to major retailers March 1, 2017. In it, Ellie tells a parable of the heavenly Father's love for the lost through the story of Bella, a lost "scaredy-cat," who finds herself rescued by "scary" humans that she eventually grows to love.

6.7 Jo Jo's Street Quisine, owned and operated by Joseph and **Dovie (Estep LCU '14) Hacker**, was named best new restaurant in downtown Springfield (IL) in January.

IN MEMORIAM

'50s

John R. Nelson (LBI '54) went to his heavenly home on February 11, 2016. He was born and raised in Clinton, IL. John served in the Navy for four years. He ministered in several churches in Illinois and Indiana, specializing in the establishment of new congregations.

Lola J. (Griffith) Cook (LBI '51) went home to be with the Lord on August 15, 2016. Her husband, James A. Cook, Sr. preceded her in death. As a talented painter, she has provided hand-painted scenes for many church baptistries.

Charles E. "Chuck" Webb (LBI '50) was called to his heavenly home on August 26, 2016. Chuck entered Lincoln Bible Institute as a preaching student in August, 1946. While at LBI, Chuck met his wife, **Marjory "Elly" (Quandt LBI '50)**. They were married August 22, 1950, and celebrated 66 years of marriage just four days before his death. Chuck had a lifelong preaching ministry from which he never retired.

9 **James Cunningham (LBI '55)** went home to be with the Lord on September 20, 2016. James preached at many churches in Illinois before moving to Omaha, NE, in 1963. He had a passion for life which included God, family, friends, riding motorcycles, flying a small private airplane, and telling jokes.

Richard D. Robinson (LCS) went to his heavenly home on December 4, 2016. He began his 50 years in ministry with his wife, Jeanette, in Tampico, IL. He went on to Greenville, IL, and concluded with 34 years at Woodview Christian Church in Wyoming, MI.

'60s

10 **Algot "Al" Olson (LBI '60)** passed away on April 13, 2016, holding the hand of his wife, **Virginia (Logan LBI)**. After graduating from high school and college he went on to start Francesville Tire Company in the early '60s and Blue Sea Blueberries in the early '70s.

Joan (Baldwin) Leach (LCS '65) passed away on September 23, 2016 in her home in Manhattan, KS. She and her husband, **Donn (LBI '50)**, moved to Lincoln in 1959 when Donn began teaching at Lincoln Christian College. After Joan received her master's degree from Lincoln Christian Seminary in 1965, they both served as faculty until they moved to Manhattan in 1972. They were the recipients of the LCU President's Distinguished Service Award in 2012.

'70s

11 **Rodney J. Ziegler (LCC '75)** passed away at home on March 2, 2016. He is survived by his wife, **Joy (Flick LCC '74)**. He was the Associate Minister at the First Christian Church in Beech Grove, IN, for 13 years and an elder at Southport Heights until his retirement.

Rhonda J. (Clark) Kraft (LCC) passed away on March 25, 2016 after a courageous battle with ovarian cancer. She is survived by her three children, a grandson, her mother and step-father, several siblings, and her former husband.

Linda Fern (Heppner) Reeves (LCC '78) went home to be with the Lord on April 3, 2016. She was the children's minister at the Second Church of Christ in Danville, IL, for 7 years. Linda was a school teacher for 33 years.

Peggy Louise Gaff (LCC '72) passed away from ovarian cancer on Aug. 12, 2016. Her husband **Anthony (LCC '71, LCS)** and children **Isaac Gaff (LCC '96)** and **Gretchen Forman (LCC '01)** survive.

Gordon R. Van Zile (LCS '70) was called home to be with the Lord on April 28, 2016, in Tulsa, OK. Gordon enjoyed ministries in Illinois, Kansas, and Oklahoma. He is survived by his wife, **Virginia Sue (Fry LCC '65)**, their two children, two grandchildren, and a sister.

John D. Orris (LCS '78) passed away on June 21, 2016, in his home. John enjoyed reading books on philosophy and theology, visiting Olmstead County parks, helping people with computer problems, and maintaining the Friends of Oxbow website and newsletters.

'80s

12 **Thomas W. "Tom" Silkwood (LCC '80)** went home to be with the Lord on March 26, 2016. Tom served as youth minister at Northland Church of Christ in Danville, IL, but spent most of his life working in Thailand at a children's hostel and visiting villages.

Donald L. Gibbs Jr. (LCC '86) passed away unexpectedly on December 16, 2016. Donald was a devoted father to daughter **Katie L. Gibbs (LCC)** and son **Joshua Gibbs**. They survive, along with their mother, **Marta (Cruzan LCC) Gibbs**.

'90s

Alonzo Price Barnes (LCC) went home to live with his Lord on April 5, 2016, after 95 years of loving service to God, his family, and the community. He served as a trustee of Lincoln Christian University for 16 years between the years of 1969 and 1986 and taught in 1983 and 1984.

John M. Davenport (LCS '97) was called from this life to his heavenly home on August 8, 2016. John served several parishes

throughout Missouri and Illinois until 2014 when he moved to Grand Prairie, TX.

13 **Paul Middlesworth (LCS '91)** passed away on April 17, 2016, at his home in Baraboo, WI. Paul ministered with churches in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Dakota, and Illinois, was involved in social work and was a hospital chaplain and spiritual counselor for hospice.

Our community was shaken by the untimely death of **Jessie C. Eury** Library Assistant Librarian **Mike Reid (LCS '99)** on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. Memorial contributions may be made to Julie Young for his daughter Kara's college fund or to benefit the Lincoln Christian University Library in Mike's name.

'00s

Jerome A. "Jerry" Hayward (LCC, LCS '08) and his wife, Kathleen, were called home on November 29, 2016, as a result of a motor vehicle accident. Jerry was a minister of God and a member of St. John's Reformed Church in Hollidaysburg, PA.



50TH YEAR REUNION

Sixteen members of the Class of 1966 returned to the Lincoln Christian University campus on May 6 and 7, 2016, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their graduation from Lincoln Christian College. Class members came from Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, California, North Carolina, and Florida to renew acquaintances and reminisce over shared memories and the uncommon twists and turns that come with Christian service. For some, it was their first return visit since their graduation in 1966. Class members and their spouses or guests were treated to a variety of special events including a noon meal with the Alumni Council, a tour of campus led by VP of Alumni Services Lynn Laughlin, refreshments in the Warehouse Student Center, and a banquet in Henderson Hall where they were honored by LCU faculty, staff, administrators, and trustees. Reunion festivities concluded following the 2016 Commencement activities on Saturday. We trust they also had time to relax and enjoy the company of former classmates and future *Lincoln Leaders*.

Save the Date

**Class of 1967 | 50th Reunion
May 5-6, 2017**

If you are a member of the undergraduate class of '67 and have not received information for this event, please contact the Alumni Office at 217-732-3168.

WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!

Send your updates and photos to:

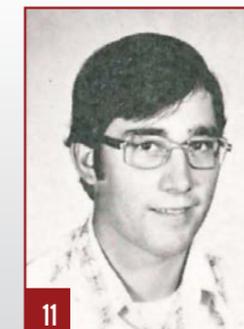
m: Alumni Services, Lincoln Christian University, 100 Campus View Dr., Lincoln, IL 62656

w: LincolnChristian.edu/restorer

e: alumni@LincolnChristian.edu

News and photos will be published based on image quality and space available.

Please visit LincolnChristian.edu/restorer for more news and photos.



**WRITE US AND TELL US
WHAT YOU THINK.**

Send us stories of how you are living your mission for God's Kingdom.

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CHRISTIAN *Women's* CONFERENCE

ROYAL TREASURES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017

8:30 a.m.- 3 p.m.

EARL C HARGROVE CHAPEL

REGISTER BY: APRIL 19 FOR \$35

(\$40 AFTER)

WITH
SUSIE LARSON
AND
LIZ CURTIS HIGGS



WWW.LINCOLNCHRISTIAN.EDU/CWC



The annual LCU Alumni Reception
will be held on

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

after the main evening session.

All LBI, LCC, LCS, and LCU alumni
are invited to attend.

Nov. 16-19, 2017 | Peoria Civic Center | Peoria, IL

upcomingEVENTS

APRIL

- 9 [Focus at Champaign-Urbana](#)
- 18 [Spring Visit Day](#)
- 22 Intentional Church Conference, Decatur
- 25 Founders' Day Chapel with NACC President Gene Appel
- 26 Christian Women's Conference

MAY

- 6 Commencement

JUNE

- 4 Pentecost Sunday Offering for LCU
- 22-24 [Lincolnland Classic Bible Bowl Tournament](#)
- 27-29 North American Christian Convention, Kansas City

AUGUST

- 12 Move-in Day
- 29 Convocation

OCTOBER

- 9 [Fall Visit Day](#)
- 27 [Fall Campus Challenge](#)

NOVEMBER

- 11 Lincoln Leaders' Scholarship Day

Serving Students and the World

The faculty at Lincoln Christian University is dedicated to teaching students to be thinkers, professionals, and faithful followers of Christ; you know this because you have experienced it firsthand.

At LCU, professors don't just welcome students into their classrooms; they welcome them into their lives.

They are more than just teachers. They become role models, mentors, advisors, encouragers, and partners in learning. That's because the heart of the teaching philosophy is close student-faculty relationships.

Those of us in the LCU family know that our school cares about the educational advantage of small class sizes. With an average of 12 students per class, our students engage in discussions and debates that foster spiritual growth and meaningful personal connections.

As many of you have experienced firsthand, LCU professors are experts in their fields. By staying active in their professions and engaging in ministry around the world, they grow as educators. They are presidents, presenters, and participants in national and international conferences, and are widely published in their areas of expertise. LCU professors have been on more than 50 short-term mission trips in the last five years alone, traveling to more than 30 countries from Canada to Zambia. When they come home, they have new tools to use towards their passion of shaping the educational development of our students.

We're thankful for professors who understand the importance of teaching students in such a caring and focused manner, and we know you're right there with us. If you know of anyone who is seeking to learn in a caring and engaging environment – lend LCU a hand and send them to our website: www.lincolncristian.edu. We would love to continue the tradition of training **Lincoln Leaders** like you!

