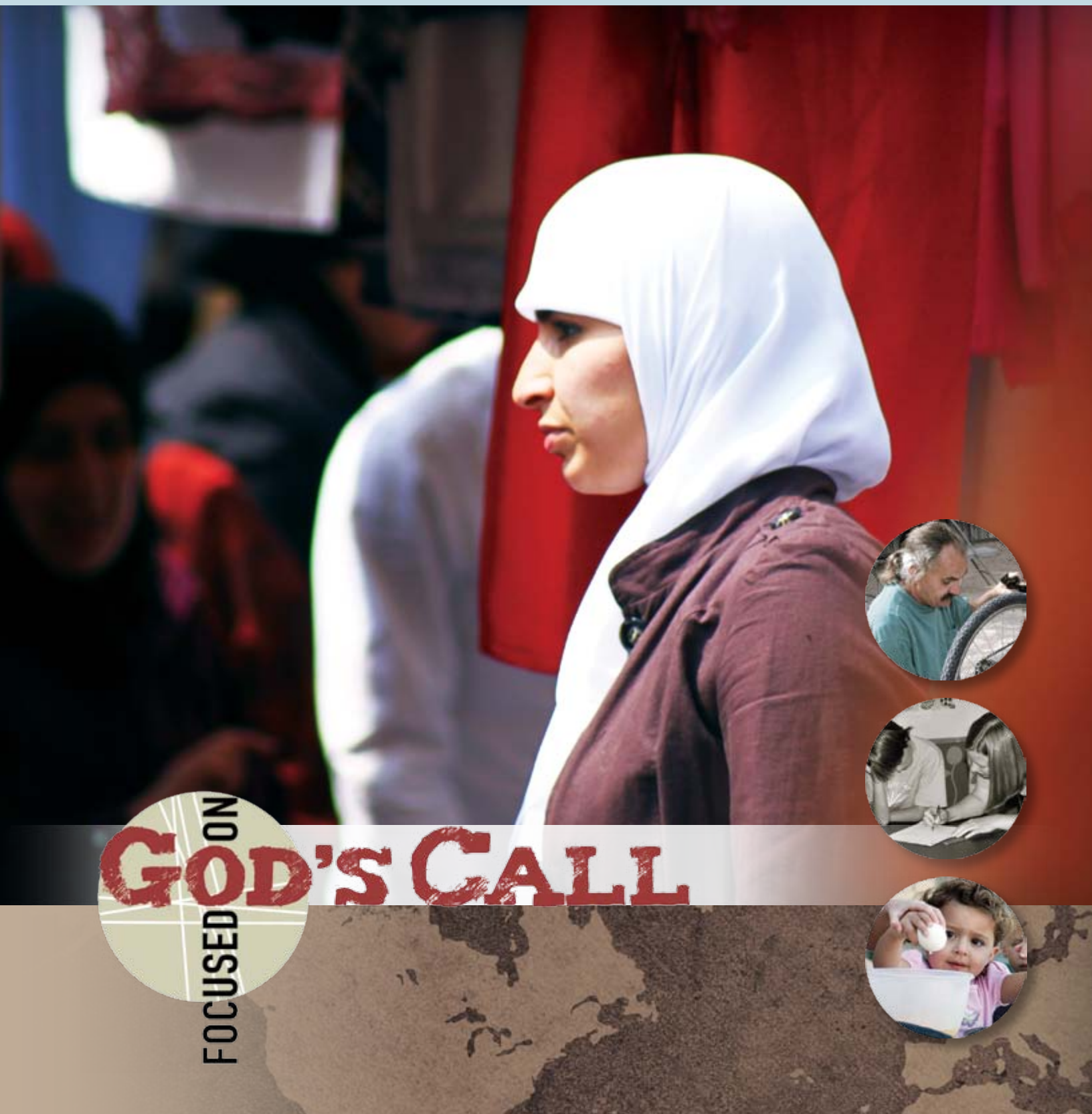


GOLDEN GATE

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

A magazine for alumni and friends SPRING 2012



FOCUSED ON
GOD'S CALL

FOCUSED ON GOD'S CALL



The word *call* is used so many ways in Christian circles. We diminish the experience by labeling every spiritual experience a “calling.” Not so in the Bible! A call is a profound impression from God – more than a prompting, guiding, or directing. A call establishes life’s parameters and focuses our efforts for sustained, intense effort.

Golden Gate is a community of the called. We are convinced God has led us together and assigned us specific responsibilities for getting his work done. We share one heartbeat – our mission of shaping leaders who expand God’s kingdom around the world. We honor diverse methods – a plethora of activities described in this magazine. The sum total of our shared success encourages us to

keep working hard, knowing God has not only called, but also equipped and empowered us for the task.

Your Seminary is moving through a time of significant change. We are launching new programs, adding additional faculty in new positions, raising money for new projects, adding new staff, and expanding some existing programs in exciting ways. In all these cases, change equals progress, enlarging our capacity to pursue our mission in response to God’s call.

Thank you for your support. Enjoy the stories of our journey in this issue!

Yours in Christ,

Jeff P. Iorg *President*

Seminary Mission Statement
Shaping leaders who expand
God’s kingdom around the world.

Gateway is published twice a year by the Office of Institutional Advancement for alumni and friends of the Seminary.

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ON THE COVER

Woman at the weekly market in Molenbeek, the heart of Islam in Belgium. This area, which is about 40% Muslim, is where alumni William and Christine Sanders are serving. “The first time I went to this market, all of my memories from living in North Africa came flooding back. You forget that you are in Belgium!” This is one of four articles in this issue representing the theme “Focused on God’s Call.” Read about alums called to minister to Muslims in Brussels on page 8.



Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary is owned by the Southern Baptist Convention and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and the Association of Theological Schools. The Seminary operates campuses in Northern California, Southern California, the Pacific Northwest, Arizona, and Colorado.

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Ministering to Those with Disabilities

"Since the disabilities class ended, many things have happened in this area of my ministry," related Rob Landry, a Master of Divinity student at Golden Gate Seminary's Arizona campus, referring to a seminary class he took during the fall 2011 semester. "The Lord has sent more than 15 people with disabilities to Sharing Ministries Baptist Church, Tucson, Arizona, where I serve as pastor. One of the church members and I have been able to reach a mini-trailer park that consists entirely of people with disabilities. Ten of them have prayed to receive Christ and I have baptized three of them. All of them are now actively involved in the church."

The class Landry took was "Ministering to Families Affected by Disabilities," taught by Leslie Dodrill, associate professor of Educational Leadership at the Arizona campus of Golden Gate Seminary. This was the first time Dodrill taught this class to seminary students, although she has a long-time passion for the church to understand special needs kids and their families. In addition to her own materials, Dodrill used curriculum from Joni & Friends (J&F), an international organization devoted to accelerating Christian ministry in the disability community.

"It is our Seminary course, but in partnership with Joni & Friends," she said. "We had nine Seminary students who earned two credits for the course, plus a certification from J&F," explained Dodrill. Upon completion of all the assignments, J&F awarded each student a Certificate of Completion entitled 'Designed by God: A Biblical Theology of Disability, Suffering, and Church Ministry.'

Additionally, eight laypersons from the community audited the course to earn the certificate from J&F.

"Roughly 10 percent of the world's population of 650 million people lives with a disability," noted Dodrill. "They are the world's largest minority." The US Census Bureau reported in 2002 that 51.2 million people (18.1 percent of the population) had some level of disability and 32.5 million (11.5 percent of the population) had a severe disability.

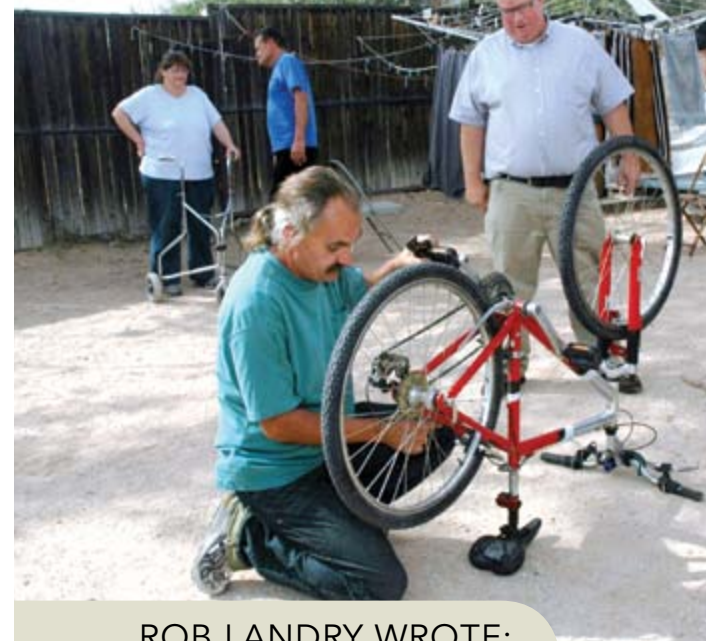
While these statistics are impressive, they can be abstract and apathetic. One reason Dodrill has a heart for this people group is personal: her 31-year-old son, Scott, has autism. She experienced firsthand how churches don't effectively minister to this group. "We need to see a person with a disability through God's eyes, not with our human, prejudging attitudes," she said.

"A class like this increases understanding and empathy for persons with disabilities and their

families. It also provides strategies for ministering to them and helps them discover God's love, and that church is a safe place for their families."

Landry utilized the skills he learned when he met Bo, a man who has a mental disability that limits him in many ways. "Although he is disabled, Bo is very talented in bike repair and fixed my bike to better than new. Through him, I met his wife, Carol, who is also disabled. She began coming to church and was later saved and baptized. She then brought her friend Beverly, who also has disabilities, and she was saved and baptized, which led to meeting three more families. They just keep coming and I'm overjoyed at how the Lord is working."

Dodrill invited guests into the classroom who had disabilities such as schizophrenia, blindness, and deafness. They described their experiences, their journeys with God, and what they would like the church to do in support of the disabled. "One goal of this course is to know how to better deal with the



ROB LANDRY WROTE:

During our Christmas program for Caring/Sharing ministries at First Southern Baptist Church of Tucson, I met Manny, who was translating for the pastor that night. I started talking with Manny as we waited for 300 families to go through the food box line. Manny has been blind since birth, and I could feel the Lord encouraging me to get to know him better. I told him that he looked familiar to me and he said I sounded familiar to him. We soon realized that we had met two years earlier when I delivered a food box to his house! After talking together for about an hour, I asked him if he might want to come to Mexico with me some day as a translator, to which he asked if I cared that he was blind. I smiled and told him I didn't care because he has many gifts and talents the Lord can use. I then asked Manny if he was getting a box. Without waiting, I took his arm and walked him through the line, describing each item he would receive and describing the people and everything going on. I then helped him to his car where he had family waiting. That was a special moment for me and I realized that the Lord was doing something very powerful. Thank you for making this class possible because it is already making an impact on our church, the disabled, and me.



differently abled and to see them as individuals created and loved by God," explained Dodrill.

To simulate what it is like to have a disability, students had their arms bandaged, sat in a wheelchair, used a walker, wore a blindfold, or yelled out 'baked beans' like someone with Tourette's syndrome. Then they were asked to share a meal together and participate in normal classroom activities. Putting themselves in a disabled person's place was eye-opening, recalled Dodrill.

"The main thing I learned from this course was the need for educating the Body of Christ," said Jim Green, Master of Divinity student, and youth

minister at Light in the Desert Baptist Church, Mesa, AZ. "There is a lack of real ministry toward the disabled, and I want to be a part of educating the church how to serve and how to connect to those with disabilities."

"This course gave me better ideas on how to minister to the family," said Tracy Newcomb, Master of Educational Leadership student, and children's minister at Foothills Baptist Church, Yuma, AZ. "It's not just the child who needs ministering to, but their whole family."

"We wanted this course to accomplish two things," said David Johnson, Director of Golden Gate's Arizona campus. "We wanted students to

become aware of the needs of families who are affected by disabilities, and we also hoped they would learn skills so their churches can minister more effectively to those families."

"We as a church body, individual congregations and the church as a whole, could do so much more if we were more understanding, if we were more aware," agreed Dodrill.

"Everywhere I go now, I meet people with a variety of physical and mental disabilities," said Landry. "Before this class, I might never have talked with them, but now I walk right up and start a conversation. Often this turns into sharing about Christ or giving them information about the church." ■

Focused on Serving Students



GOLDEN GATE TUTORING NETWORK

"A mother of a high school student called us about her son – he wasn't doing his homework, was into drugs and alcohol," said Celeste Ezell, 2008 Master of Divinity graduate and co-founder, with her husband Daniel, of Golden Gate Tutoring Network. "Because of our tutoring business, we're viewed as professional business people, rather than ministers, which provides us with an instant rapport," she said. "I told her of an experience my mom had with my brother, and how he had a complete turnaround after similar behavior. I emphasized in my testimony how my mom prayed for my brother, and the positive results."

Daniel continued the story, "I called this boy every day to make sure he was meeting the goals we had set together. I mentored him. He knew I cared about him, and he responded. He graduated from high school, and today is a U.S. Marine serving in Afghanistan."

"We began tutoring at the Golden Gate Seminary library in 2005 when we were students," explained Daniel, "as a way to make money to finance an overseas trip required as part of the Master of Arts and Intercultural Studies (MAIS) degree." Daniel, along with Celeste, who audited the MAIS classes, recruited all 19 students in their class as tutors. This funded

the students' trip to Tunisia in 2005, where their research focused on the archeology and cultural history of the region. Daniel earned the MAIS degree in 2006, and a Master of Divinity in 2008.

"We saw tutoring as a way to reach out to the community," said Celeste, an Enid, Oklahoma native. "It got the Seminary students in touch with the families in the neighborhood, and we immediately saw it as a real opportunity for ministry."

Today the Ezells, who have been married nearly nine years, have a thriving business in San Anselmo, a small town about 15 minutes from

the Northern California campus of Golden Gate Seminary. "We have found tutoring to be a perfect vehicle for forming deep relationships quickly," said Celeste. "We tutor students by helping with homework or prepping for a test, but also through mentoring on how to make good decisions. We have found that as professionals, we have a quick, meaningful rapport with entire families. Students and even their parents look to us for our expertise in helping them through tough times."

The Ezells specialize in middle and high school-age students, and they employ other tutors whose focus is elementary school, an educational therapist for those with learning disabilities, and a tutor for SAT and ACT preparation. To reach those students without academic challenges or those during the summer months, they also offer homeschool workshops plus summer camps in a variety of intriguing subjects.

It can be a challenge to communicate with those living in Marin County, since many are influenced by various spiritualities and worldviews, and often possess a self-sufficiency that comes from wealth. The Ezells,

parents of two-year-old Patrick and five-year-old Jocelyn, make an effort to participate in the community. "We partner with several school fundraising groups, network with the local Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Merchants Association, and sponsor summer film nights in the park," said 34-year-old Celeste. "This includes hosting trivia games before the movie, which is a great way to connect."

The Ezells came to Golden Gate Seminary from Florida in 2004. "After visiting other Southern Baptist seminaries, we found Golden Gate offered a non-political environment for us to figure out our ministry niche," recalled Daniel, who is 35 and from Jacksonville, Florida. "We were able to use our business as our TFE (Theological Field Education) requirement, which gave us the outlet for thinking through our mission and goals," explained Celeste. "Several Seminary professors went the extra mile for us," she continued. "Glenn Prescott helped the TFE to fit our unique ministry, Rick Durst served as a sounding board and encourager, and Mark Tichenor helped us find Seminary students to tutor with us during our first years in business."

Currently, Golden Gate Tutoring Network services between 50-60 students. During finals, the numbers jump to 60-70. "We care about the students we tutor," said Daniel. "We are patient and don't see it as just a job. We're committed and called to love them." Celeste agreed. "We see them as our mission field. We check on them even when we're not getting paid. We think of creative ways to help them."

Daniel makes it a point to respect his students, which he said makes all the difference. He recalled that the most important people in his life when he was in high school and college were his youth ministers. "Their mentoring relationships helped to shape me. My goal in life since then has always been to become the kind of man young people look to for guidance. This job gives me that opportunity."

"We're building a foundation, and we keep in touch for several years after the tutoring ends. We see the fruit after they graduate, when they come back to visit us," Celeste added. "That's when you know you've made an impact." 📖



Ministering to Muslims in Brussels

WILLIAM & CHRISTINE SANDERS*



"We are church planting among the North African Muslim immigrant population of Belgium," said William Sanders, a Master of Divinity (2005) and Master of Theology (2007) graduate. William and his wife, Christine, have been serving in Brussels since 2008, and are also responsible for outreach to North Africans in the rest of the country.

"There are about 300,000-400,000 legal North Africans in Belgium, and an unknown number of illegals – possibly double that amount," explained William. "The city of Brussels itself is 25% Muslim, and includes those who have just arrived from North Africa and only speak Arabic, as well as those born in Belgium who speak only French."

"Our outreach to the North African community in Brussels began with our neighbors," said Christine. "We have North African families living on either side of our apartment, and another living directly across the street from us."

"We minister in a variety of ways, and try to be creative in gaining access to our people," explained William. "We have a community center called 'The Oasis' that our team started before

we arrived. Our center, which is in a North African neighborhood, is open a few days a week and people can use the internet for free and have a free coffee or tea."

The center also offers monthly food and clothing banks, and occasionally the Sanderses teach ESL classes. Among the people who participate in these banks, over 80% are North African.

Besides the center, Christine is involved with another weekly food bank. Through this ministry, several North African ladies have come to know Christ. Christine partners with two others to lead a Bible study for these new believers, all of whom come from Muslim backgrounds.

"Many of the ladies have not even told their husbands or families that they are Christians out of fear of what will happen to them," noted Christine. "The only time that they get to openly profess Christ and fellowship with others is when they come to the Bible study."

William also hosts a Bible study that meets at a church. "But our desire is to have more Bible studies/discipleship groups that form into churches which meet in homes, coffee shops, and corner shops.

We want to gather people where they naturally meet."

"In addition to the various social ministries already mentioned, we connect with North Africans in parks, cafés, corner grocery stores, barbershops, North African bakeries and butchers," Christine explained. "We try to meet the North African parents of the children in our daughter's class at school, too."

William credited his seminary education for the base of knowledge that he uses in evangelism and discipleship of North Africans. He noted his broad and deep knowledge of Scripture, which he can teach to others, going deeper with mature believers and making things simple for those who have just accepted Christ. "Golden Gate helped me gain that knowledge and gave me opportunities to put what I knew into practice while still in seminary," said William. "Golden Gate also gave me the opportunity to study Islam, where I was required to read the Qur'an for my Islam class and research religious practices of Muslims. This has aided me tremendously. Just being able to tell a Muslim that I have read the

entire Qur'an gives me credibility when talking with them about Jesus."

Christine, a California native who met William when they were both attending the International Mission Board's Journeyman training in January 2000, explained that they chose Golden Gate because of the multicultural influence. "We knew we would have the world at our doorstep while going to school, and we wanted to be involved in ministry in a more postmodern setting."

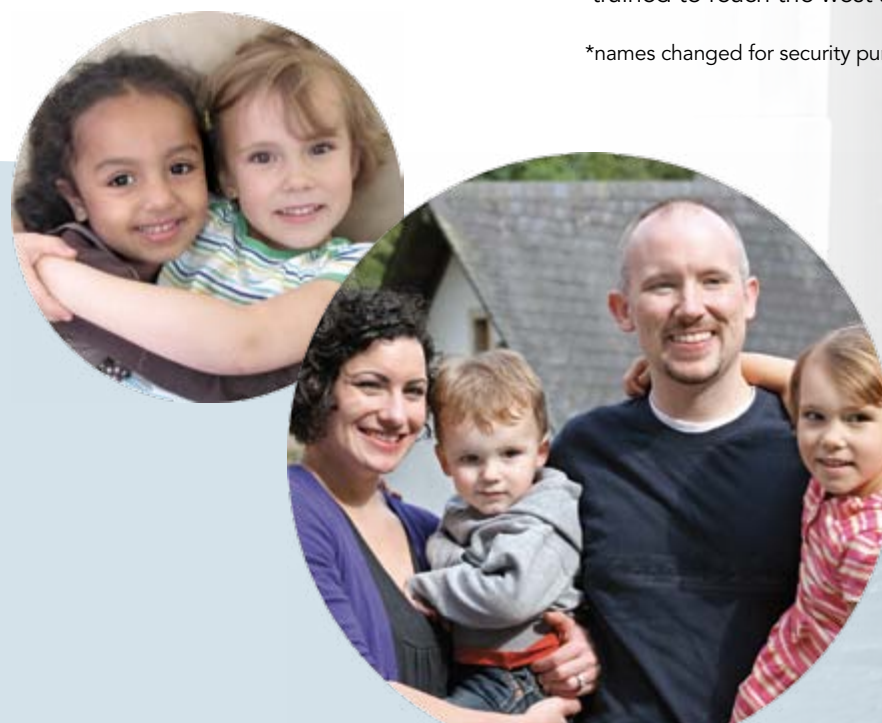
William, who grew up in Lugoff, South Carolina, agreed that Golden Gate's reputation of being missions-focused was a primary attraction. "Several teams with ties to Golden Gate came to North Africa while I was a Journeyman there, so I was able to talk a lot with them about the Seminary." Also, since William had gone to a large, impersonal state university, he was drawn to Golden Gate because of the opportunity to get to know his professors well. "This turned out to be one of my favorite aspects of Seminary."

While Christine took classes for only one semester, she credits living in Northern California's Marin County as preparation for living in Europe. "The environment is

very similar, as well as the people and their attitudes." William agreed that when they arrived in Brussels, "we had already been exposed to life in a very secular, humanistic society, which was not only unreached, but also antagonistic towards the gospel." He noted how living in Marin also prepared them for the high cost of living in Belgium. "As poor seminary students, we were used to making things work financially in a place with a high cost of living."

They enthusiastically recommend Golden Gate to people who are considering seminary. "Christine and I both strongly encourage them, and make it sound foolish to consider going anywhere else, especially if they feel led to do any type of cross-cultural ministry." Christine agreed that they had a great seminary experience, and tell others that the emphasis that Golden Gate places on taking the gospel to the nations, at home and overseas, is something that isn't just preached in the classroom and during chapel time, but is modeled by the professors themselves. William summed it up by saying, "We talk about the location, the professors, the smaller size, and the passion of President Iorg to see leaders trained to reach the west and beyond." 📌

*names changed for security purposes



Called to Serve the Transitional and the Homeless

BREAKFAST TOGETHER OUTREACH

Addicts, drunks and prostitutes. Homeless, struggling families. These were the residents of the Algodon Motel in San Clemente, California. Located on a street known for drug trafficking, it is the scene of frequent police raids. Like others across the country, the Algodon Motel had once housed travelers, but as the neighborhood declined over the years, it became temporary housing for the homeless and those who could not afford to rent apartments. An online review of San Clemente motels rated it filthy and one of the three "worst in town." Yet this was where God chose to start a ministry, which today is known as "Breakfast Together Outreach."

"I've been serving in this ministry for over five years," said Howard Mazer, second year Diploma in Theology student at Golden Gate Seminary's Southern California campus. "I heard about this outreach through the Saddleback Church men's ministry."

He explained that the men's group serves breakfast every Sunday morning outside in the covered parking area. "We set up the tables and cooking items at 9 am, serve food at 10 am, and preach a message at 10:30 am. People come from the neighborhood, and many are regular attendees. It's evolved from an outreach to a church plant. There is a core of about 20 regular attendees. We feed about 40-50 people, and typically we have 30 people stay for the message."

Tom Barber, who graduated in 2011 with a Master of Divinity degree from Golden Gate's Southern California campus, became involved five years

ago. "I heard about this ministry from Howard, and it's where I'm called, even though I didn't expect to be a 'street corner preacher.' One thing I learned at Golden Gate is that there are a lot of places to serve, and my professors taught me to pay attention to where God's calling you."

Max McGhee, one of the ministry's co-founders and an art director at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California, explained that the ministry has not strayed from its original focus over ten years ago. "We offer help to those who come. We offer them connections to services, shelters, treatment programs, and to get off the streets if they want. We apply the Word of God to their lives. We offer them a more joyful life in whatever circumstances they're in."

"We don't require them to stay for the message after breakfast," added Tom, an aeronautical structure analyst for a Los Angeles-based consulting firm. "We know they have certain needs, and we show how much we care."

The ministry has grown from the Algodon Motel in San Clemente, California, to nearly 10 sites in Southern California, and Tom noted that four new locations in the Orange County region were launched on Easter Sunday 2012.

The "food and fellowship" format is easy to replicate, using Max's small group training curriculum. Volunteers from a local church's small group are assigned to one of the sites in Southern California, which could be a motel, a park, or a parking lot. They prepare the meals with cooking equipment that is already at the

"We offer them connections to services, shelters, treatment programs, and to get off the streets if they want. We apply the Word of God to their lives. We offer them a more joyful life in whatever circumstances they're in."

site, using food they provide or is sometimes donated from local stores and restaurants. The small group members are encouraged to mingle, to listen, laugh, and pray together with those living in the motels and city parks.

The sermons are contextualized for this economic demographic and social group. Fifty-nine-year-old Tom recalled how his seminary professors encouraged him to reach out to a people others forgot. "My seminary education allows me to field questions I wouldn't otherwise be able to answer."

Sixty-five-year-old Howard agreed that his seminary tenure was "the greatest experience in my life. Everybody I've met there is just really authentic. They walk the walk. They are warm, loving people, and even President Iorg is a great guy."

"I have noticed that among the homeless people, one of their meager possessions is often a Bible," added Howard, a retirement plan consultant and investment advisor. When asked why he does this, he replied, "Like Jesus, I have a heart to seek and save the lost. I just feel it's one of God's calls on my life." ■



Golden Gate Seminary Launches New Korean-English Bilingual Program

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary announced on November 9, 2011, the launching of two Korean-English bilingual tracks of two existing degrees – the Master of Divinity and the Master of Theological Studies. Both of these degrees will initially be offered at the Seminary's Southern California campus beginning in fall 2012.

"The Master of Divinity (MDiv) and the Master of Theological Studies (MTS) are the same degrees we are already being delivered at each of our five campuses," said Dr. Michael Martin, Vice President of Academic Affairs. "The professors of these Korean-English courses will be fluent in the Korean and English languages. Class lectures will be presented in the Korean language and students will submit work in Korean. However, participating students must be bilingual in order to participate fully in the academic experience."

The Korean-English Bilingual Program is in response to the need of many Korean students who are very capable academically, but struggle to explain what they have learned in the English language. This new program will allow them to adequately express what they have learned and give nuance to their understanding of the material. "It will allow students the opportunity to learn and engage in student/faculty interaction and peer interaction to their full capability," explained Martin.

Students in the program will be required to take theological reading seminars in which they will read theological texts written in English. Students will then discuss their studies in an English language conversation, enhancing their English skills.

Martin anticipates that the two types of students most likely to enroll will be first generation Korean-Americans

한영 이중언어 학위 과정

already serving in Korean churches in the United States and international students who come directly from Korea.

"The Korean community has provided incredible encouragement for launching this effort to our Korean program. Their financial and co-operative support was a significant issue in gaining authorization from our accrediting agencies," said Dr. Jeff Iorg, Golden Gate Seminary's president.

Dr. David Gill, a well-known Korean leader among Southern Baptists, has been named the Director of the Seminary's Korean-English Bilingual Program. Dr. Gill is a graduate of Golden Gate Seminary holding a Master of Divinity degree and a Master of Arts in Christian Education. Gill will recruit, promote, consult, teach, and raise funds related to the Korean program. ☐



Business Appreciation Day

Local Marin County businesses exhibited in Golden Gate Seminary's Business Fair, kicking off the Northern California Campus' inaugural Business Appreciation Day on March 8, 2012. Three activities were scheduled. First, the Business Fair was an opportunity for local businesses to display their samples and services to students, staff, and faculty. All were invited to attend Chapel with a message from Dr. Jeff Iorg, followed by a luncheon to thank and acknowledge the individuals, businesses, churches, and organizations that employ Seminary students.

"Thank you for providing meaningful work for our students," President Iorg told guests at the luncheon. "You are making an investment in the future of ministerial leadership in our country, and around the world."

The highlight of the luncheon was naming the 2012 Employer of the Year Award, presented to Laleh Zelinsky, owner of Zelinsky Properties, LLC. Mrs. Zelinsky was nominated by several students who work for her. Main Street Parking, owned by Mrs. Zelinsky, has employed Seminary students for over 25 years. ☐

An Interview with Prosperly Lyngdoh

Dr. Prosperly Lyngdoh is Associate Professor of Missions. He is passionate about training students called by God, providing them with a global view of missions. Prior to coming to Golden Gate Seminary in the summer of 2010, Dr. Lyngdoh was a Missions Professor at Barclay College in Kansas. His background includes serving as a missionary pastor of Andheri Baptist Church, India, one of the leading Southern Baptist churches in the city of Mumbai. Dr. Lyngdoh coordinated the church planting ministry and also helped develop indigenous Southern Baptist churches in Maharashtra, India.

You led a team of Golden Gate students on a mission trip to Mumbai, India this past January. Tell us briefly about the city of Mumbai.

Mumbai is the capital city of the state of Maharashtra, known as the financial capital of India with a total metropolitan area population of approximately 20.5 million. Mumbai has great influence through its economic clout, and generates one third of the Gross Domestic Product. It is home to India's stock exchange and the filmmaking industry of "Bollywood." Mumbai's business opportunities, as well as its potential to offer a higher standard of living, attract migrants from all over India and, in turn, make the city a potpourri of many communities and cultures. Mumbai has a reputation for crime.

It contains Asia's largest slum with one million residents, claims more than 100,000 street children, is home to the oldest and Asia's largest red-light area, and reports an alarming rise in HIV and AIDS.

Describe the ministry that you worked with in Mumbai.

The Southern Baptist Convention started the work in Mumbai in 1984 through the International Mission Board, with a vision to start a church planting ministry in India. In 2000, the government passed a law that no properties for religious purpose could be registered with the word "church," so the Maharashtra Baptist Society (MBS) was formed. Today, the MBS is one of the leading indigenous Southern Baptist ministries in the western part of India, with 191 churches and several community development projects including day care centers, tailoring classes for women, counseling for HIV/AIDS-affected people, health care, relief work, and a widow support system.

What was the purpose behind your mission trip? Specifically, how did you serve the Maharashtra Baptist Society in Mumbai?

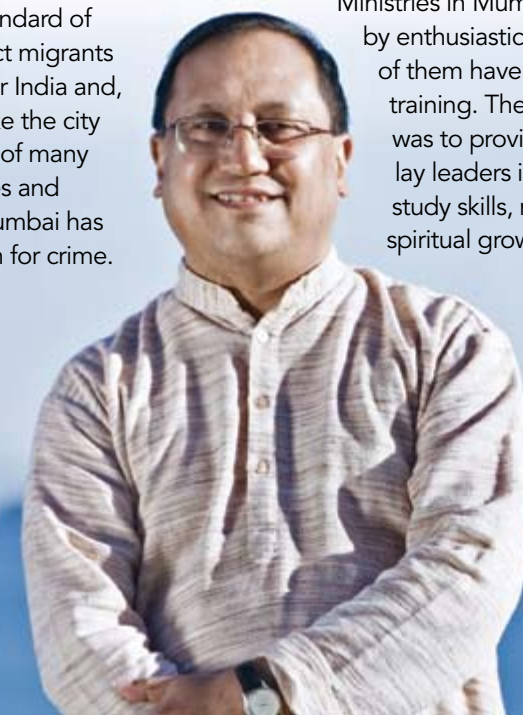
Ministries in Mumbai are basically run by enthusiastic lay leaders and many of them have minimal theological training. The purpose of this trip was to provide training for these lay leaders in three areas: Bible study skills, ministry skills, and spiritual growth for local church



ministry. Training leaders helps them to develop their skills without removing them from their ministries, families, or culture. We have discovered that Indian people respond best to a native or indigenous missionary. We also developed great friendships with some of the young leaders and found that relationship-building was the most important work we did while we were there.

How did this trip benefit the Golden Gate students who joined you?

Our students learned how people in another culture think and worship. The trip gave them hands-on experience in cross-cultural living, communication, and adaptation toward effective missionary strategy and service. Our students gained direct experiences in understanding the culture of this people group, adapting lifestyle and methods of approach to the cultural context, understanding how to communicate the gospel meaningfully within the context of a culture, and observing how indigenous churches are planted in the cultural context of India. Mission studies are incomplete unless supported by mission field exposure and experience. ☐



Why I Refer

STUART SMITH

- Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Trustee
- Real Estate Broker, President of Smith & Co.
- Member, First Baptist Church, Spartanburg, SC
- Master of Arts in Biblical Studies, Dallas Theological Seminary



"I recommend people to Golden Gate because I believe in the quality and professionalism of the faculty. The commitment to the Lord of the staff, administration and faculty is exemplary. This Seminary is a good educational model.

"I think Golden Gate is forward thinking, and proactive rather than reactive. The leadership has vision about where the school is headed.

"I attend a large church of about 7,000 members. I have referred several people to Golden Gate Seminary. I have probably sat down and discussed Golden Gate with at least 12 prospective students. I've emailed links to the website, sent the president's eNewsletter, *Your 3-Minute Briefing*, and given Dr. Iorg's book *Is God Calling Me?* to a number of people."

COURTNEY VEASEY

- First year Master of Theology student
- Serves with Young Life Marin, an outreach to high school youth in Marin County
- Co-leader of a college girls discipleship group at Dominican University
- Itinerant conference speaker at teen girl and women's conferences nationwide



"I was serving with a church in South Carolina and was coming to the next step of my journey. I knew God was leading me in the direction of another theological degree, but I didn't know where He wanted me to study. As I began to pray about different schools, I met Stuart Smith from my church, who told me about Golden Gate Seminary. As a trustee, he had seen firsthand how God was moving on this campus, and he believed so strongly that this was the place for me that he flew me out to get a feel for the school. I met professors, sat in seminars, and saw the program in person. I really felt God leading me to have a theological experience on the west coast.

"In the few short months that I've lived here, I've experienced God broadening my horizons. At Golden Gate, as well as the Bay Area, there are so many people from different parts of the U.S. as well as around the world. It's been very enriching to me both living here and in the classroom."

Golden Gate Seminary Receives Funds for Master of Christian Counseling Degree

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary has received a \$200,000 gift for the purpose of launching a new degree program, the Master of Christian Counseling. The degree, to be offered at both California campuses, will be designed to equip men and women for a Christian counseling ministry to individuals, couples, and families in a congregational, denominational agency, counseling center, or missions setting. The gift was given by Naomi and John Paget, from Bellville, TX.

Naomi Paget graduated from Golden Gate Seminary with a Master of Divinity in 1995, and a Doctor of Ministry in 2003. She was also selected as one of the Seminary's Distinguished Alumni in June 2011. She is a Mission Service Corps missionary with the Southern Baptist Convention, and also trains chaplains and other volunteers to minister in crisis situations. Her husband, John, is the CEO of Pivot Acquisition Corp.



"We believe there is a great potential for Kingdom growth when ministers serve effectively in times of crisis... the eternal impact on lives during these times is tremendous."

– John and Naomi Paget

The Pagets said, "The need for trained counselors is so great and we are confident that this program will help provide the trained workers needed."

The development of this program will begin with a search for a new professor of Christian Counseling, who is projected to be in position by fall 2012. Other current Golden Gate faculty will also be assigned to the new counseling department. "Once we have appointed the new professor, we will begin the process of designing, accrediting, and delivering the program," said Dr. Michael Martin, Vice President of Academic Affairs for Golden Gate Seminary. He expects that process to be completed and the program to begin during the 2012-13 academic year.

Students who want to begin the program immediately may take course work in the Seminary's existing counseling concentration as part of the Master of Divinity curriculum. They may take up to 20 hours of biblical, historical, and theological studies, and then include the counseling component hours when the Master of Christian Counseling launches.

"We are grateful for the Pagets and their generosity in helping to launch this valuable degree," said Dr. Jeff Iorg, Seminary president. "Providing this program will enable the Seminary to provide desperately needed ministers in this critical area of Kingdom work." ■

Contextualized Leadership Development Celebrates 30 Years

The thirtieth anniversary of the Contextualized Leadership Development (CLD) program was celebrated in January 2012 on the Northern California campus of Golden Gate Seminary. Attending were several CLD leaders and long-time supporters, including Dr. Fermín Whitaker, Executive Director of the California Southern Baptist Convention.

Dr. Whitaker recalled that in 1982 the Home Mission Board contacted every Southern Baptist seminary to ask for help teaching in languages other than English. "Only Golden Gate, under the leadership of then-president William Pinson said 'We will help. Tell us what you need us to do.'"

"The vision for training ethnics to start churches, to develop into pastors, to become missionaries, originated with Oscar Romo, a pioneer in ethnic evangelism," noted Don Beall, Golden Gate Seminary's current CLD Director. "Whitaker, Pinson, Joe Hernandez, and Joshua Grijalva (who became the first CLD director), were responsible for the strategic planning and implementation of the program."

Originally called Ethnic Leadership Development, in 1983 the hope was to have 12 centers. Today the program now known as Contextualized Leadership Development has 66 centers in 19 states teaching in 12 different languages.

"Contextualized" means the curriculum is tailored to and taught in the language of that specific people group.... One of the most unique groups has been inmates, with the first four graduating within the walls of San Quentin Prison in 2010.

"Contextualized" means the curriculum is tailored to and taught in the language of that specific people group. Groups have included Native Americans, Karen (Burmese), Cambodians, Spanish, Brazilians, Thai, and Vietnamese. One of the most unique groups has been inmates, with the first four graduating within the walls of San Quentin Prison in 2010.

"I'm delighted with the progress of this ministry," said Golden Gate President Jeff Iorg. "It represents the heart of what Golden Gate Seminary is, and wants to be. We are committed to shaping leaders who will expand God's kingdom around the world. And shaping leaders means

we start with people who are emerging in their culture, or in their context, or perhaps in their ethnic group. And we help those people to develop the initial skills of leadership required to propel their church, their ministry, their organization forward."

Beall added, "This successful program continues to develop local church leaders to serve as pastors, church planters, church staff, and local missionaries. Our CLD students and graduates are making an impact across the West, North America, and the world." ■

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While pursuing a Master of Divinity degree, Chris Seng is serving with a church plant in San Francisco. Big Fish for God was started during the 10-10-10 church planting campaign. In addition, Chris works two part- time jobs, as an audio visual technician at the Seminary and a sales associate at Pottery Barn.



“The scholarship has taken a big chunk of the burden off me,” said Chris, a 28-year-old second-generation Filipino/Cambodian/American from Fresno, CA. Once he graduates, he plans to continue his involvement with urban church planting.

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EMILY BEJAR

“My scholarship from Golden Gate is the reason I’m here,” said Emily Bejar, 26-year-old first-year Missiology student. Emily came to America from Peru in 2001 to attend college. After graduating with her RN degree at age 20, she moved to California and worked for 2½ years before being accepted into the IMB’s Journeyman program, because she wanted to do something more with her life. After serving in South Asia from July 2009- April 2011, she came back to Southern California to attend seminary.

“I really enjoy the fellowship with classmates, professors, and staff. It’s not just about the education. They also care about me as a person.”

While attending Golden Gate full time, Emily serves at Voice of the Refugee, a Christian organization where she teaches English to refugees from Iraq, Egypt, and Iran. She is also involved with an evangelistic outreach to the Hispanic congregation at First Southern Baptist Church of Anaheim. Plus, she works part time in the Seminary’s library at the Southern California Campus. She plans to return overseas after graduation, and the scholarship enables her to finish her education more quickly.

“I’m so thankful for those providing funds for the scholarship. It’s hard to transition and it’s such a relief both financially and emotionally that there are people out there who don’t even know me, but want me to be educated. I am thankful for each one of them.”

Her first name is “Auxiliadora” and she was born and raised in Nicaragua. Lucy has been in the U.S. for 15 years, and is a first-year Master of Divinity student.

“I could not attend seminary without this scholarship. It is a blessing. Currently, I am only able to attend part time because I must work also. As a single parent, I provide everything for my 19-year-old daughter.”



She has several part-time jobs which allow her a flexible schedule. She translates documents, and provides oral translation. She tutors students in Spanish who want to study abroad, and she provides life skills for youth at risk.

“I like the curriculum and the academic resources which are available at Golden Gate. The professors are direct

LUCY ZELEDON

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with their explanations, and are not afraid to say what they think. They also encourage me to think for myself.”

Lucy serves as translator and support for the Hispanic ministry at North Metro Church in Thornton, CO. She is also working to start a teen girls ministry for Federal Heights Outreach and supports the church plant in the area of Federal Heights, CO.

“After I graduate, I want to have a ministry through Federal Heights Church to women and teenagers, to support them and tell them God loves them, and show them how to live a Christian life in a practical way, every day. I want to teach them how to advocate for themselves, to give them freedom without fear. I want to give them the support that I wish I had, that I needed: self-esteem, empowerment with God’s support – from a Christian perspective.”

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LIAM HUGHES*



“I live several hours away from the Pacific Northwest campus of Golden Gate Seminary, and like other students, have strived to balance my commitment in academics with the practicality of paying the bills. The scholarship I received has helped me reach graduation in good financial position to head overseas without debt. I praise God for the generosity of donors!”

In addition to attending seminary full time, Liam currently holds two jobs – one as a construction worker and the other renovating and managing a property.

Calling Chattaroy, Washington his home town, the 26-year-old anticipates graduating with a Master of Divinity this spring. His current ministry includes interning at Salt Creek Baptist Church in Dallas, Oregon. He teaches adult Sunday school and assists with Wednesday night senior high youth group.

Liam chose Golden Gate after looking at several seminaries in the area. “When I sat in on classes, the other seminaries were full of my peers – zealous and idealistic recent graduates from college, young and passionate. At Golden Gate, the students were older; many of them seasoned pastors, often with decades of experience. I found that at Golden Gate I am able to soak up a wealth of knowledge from professors and classmates who are drawing from years of practical experience in addition to their passion. What a treasure. I’m excited to join with those who have been doing ministry for a long time, even now while in my studies.

“I am extremely grateful for the scholarships. They are really quite valuable to me. It was the final component required to get through seminary with as little debt as possible.”

*Name changed for security purposes.

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 Mr. Jedidiah B. Mincks
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faculty NEWS



Gary Arbino



Phil Conner



Leslie Dodrill



Faith Kim



Dave McCormick



Shera Melick



Glenn Prescott



Steve Veteto

Gary Arbino, Professor of Archaeology and Old Testament, and Curator of the Marian Eakins Archaeology Collection, served as a Visiting Scholar at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in October 2011. While there, he gave a public lecture on “Persians, Jews, and Greeks: Aspects of the Early Second Temple World.” Arbino co-authored the article “Tel Gezer: The First Four Seasons,” which was published in October 2011 in the online journal of the Israel Antiquities Authority, *Hadashot*. In November 2011, he completed installation of a new display in the Seminary’s Marian Eakins Archaeological Collection Museum, “Transmitting the Text: 2000 Years of Hebrew Scriptures,” which featured a recently acquired North African Torah Scroll from the late 19th Century. In November, he presented at the National Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, “Fortifying Gezer Through Two Millennia.” In January 2012, Arbino published “Moriah: Its Biblical and Historical Significance” in *Biblical Illustrator*, Winter 2012. Arbino presented in March 2012 at the regional meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature “What Is For You Here? Geography and Setting in the Elijah Narratives.”

Phil Conner, Director of Doctor of Ministry Program and Professor of Ministry, presented a day of training on Spiritual Assessment and the Comprehensive Spiritual Care Plan for chaplains and chaplain assistants assigned to the Warrior Transition Battalions throughout the U.S. Army. The Department of Pastoral Ministry Training, Army Medical Department Center and School sponsored the training, which took place in San Antonio, TX.

Leslie Dodrill, Associate Director for Student Affairs, Arizona Campus and Associate Professor of Educational Leadership with **David Johnson**, Director, Arizona Campus and Associate Professor of New Testament Studies, joined by several students from the Arizona campus who took the course taught by Dodrill “Ministering to Families Affected by Disabilities,” were interviewed for a fundraising video by the Phoenix Office of Joni and Friends. The organization is dedicated to ministering to individuals with disabilities so that they may hear and receive the Gospel.

Faith Kim, Chair, Intercultural Education and Professor of Intercultural Education, received an honorary Ph.D. from Korean Baptist Theological University and Seminary. The degree was granted for her support of intercultural education of Korean leaders through the courses she taught related to global awareness. The presentation in Deajon, Korea was made by the Trustees and Chairman of KBTUS and attended by nearly 2,000 people.

Dave McCormick, Senior Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling, spoke to a group of Chinese young adults on the topic of Improving Listening Skills in Gospel Presentations. They were members of five different fellowships of the Sunset Baptist Church located in San Francisco. The meeting, conducted entirely in the Cantonese dialect, included a presentation followed by a Q/A session.

Shera Melick, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, has written “The Handmaiden of the Lord,” a devotional to be included in *The Hidden Person of the Heart*, by Janet Wicker, Ed.D. The devotional was produced for the Ministers’ Wives Conference to be held prior to the Southern Baptist Convention 2012 in New Orleans.

Glenn Prescott, Director of Theological Field Education and Associate Professor of Ministry, was elected an Executive Board member of the California Southern Baptist Convention. He also blogs for the Christian Post, an online Christian news resource. Look for his blog at blogs.christianpost.com/view-from-the-back-pew.

Steve Veteto, Director, Rocky Mountain Campus and Associate Professor of New Testament Studies, was interviewed several times on various local radio stations, prompted by the April 16, 2012 Seminary Preview Day. Interviews covered general Golden Gate and Rocky Mountain Campus information, and included discussions on theological education.

BOOK COLLECTION DONATION

Ronald E. Chandler, 1970 Golden Gate alum, has donated his extensive collection of stewardship books and materials spanning his 30-year career.

Chandler was the Director of the Department of Stewardship for the California Southern Baptist Convention for 20 years and the Stewardship Commission President of the Southern Baptist Convention’s Cooperative Program for ten years.

“Gifts like this are valuable because they help support the library to meet the Seminary’s mission,” said Kelly Campbell, Golden Gate’s Director of Library Services.

Alumni & Friends LUNCHEON

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 in New Orleans, LA

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1950s–1960s

Sheldon Russell (1954) received The Heritage Award of the California Southern Baptist Convention.

Daniel Hayden McClung (1957) and **Nona Lee McClung** (1954) planted 6 churches in California after graduating Seminary. Hayden also served as camp chaplain in California state parks for 15 summers, taught 3 years at Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, MO and 24 years at California Baptist University in Riverside, CA. He retired and moved to Arizona where he volunteered at Habitat for Humanity. He also served as hospital chaplain and currently is assistant pastor of Common Ground, a church serving alcoholics and street people. They celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary in August 2011.

Johnny (1963) and **Vivian Wang** (1963) served in the San Francisco Bay Area first as missionaries of the Language Department of the Home Mission Board, then after graduation through the Victoria Park Baptist Church reaching out to Chinese in what is now the Silicon Valley. In 1980, Johnny became pastor of Sunset Chinese Baptist Church, which they founded in San Francisco. After retiring in 1995, they went to Macau as missionaries for two years, working closely with the Hope Clinic, a Southern Baptist ministry. From 1997-2003 Johnny became the General Secretary of the Chinese Christian Missions, and has been doing pulpit supply ministry throughout the San Francisco Bay Area since 2004. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June 2011.

D. Glenn Saul (1966) serves as pastor at First Baptist Church, in Sun City West, AZ.

1970s–1980s

Fred D. Kerr (1972) recently retired as pastor of Greenville Southern Baptist Church after 39 years as pastor. He remains in Greenville, CA and continues to serve in the church and with community volunteer activities. He also serves as moderator and supply preacher in the Feather River Baptist Association.

John R. Christy (1978) served 4 years after seminary as a bi-vocational pastor in Vermillion, SD, where he also taught college math. He began studying global climate issues in 1987 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, where currently he is the Distinguished Professor of Atmospheric Science and Director of the Earth System Science Center. Since November 2000, he has been Alabama's State Climatologist. In January 2002, Christy was inducted as a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society.

George Anthony "Tony" Pfeffer (1979) was appointed academic dean of Castleton State College, Castleton, VT. Pfeffer lives in West Rutland with his wife of 35 years, Myra.

Greg Wilson (1981) serves as Director of Communications for Southern Wesleyan University. He also serves as Weekend Care Pastor at Newspring Church, Anderson, SC.

K. Galen Greenwalt (1982) has written *Don't Say You Can't: A Personal Guide to Reading the Bible*, published in June 2011 by Vision Plus Recovery Publishers. Serving in the pastoral ministry for 40 year, he currently serves as pastor of the Vision Plus Church in Riverside, CA.

Jerry Martin (1984) and wife, Bonnie, celebrated 40 years of marriage in December 2011. They served 4 years with NAMB as church planters. Jerry served as DOM for 17 years at Valley Rim Southern Baptist Association in Mesa, AZ, and 4 years at Gila Valley Association in Casa Grande, AZ.

Patrick T. O'Brien (1985) is currently serving as church librarian at Church of the Holy Spirit (Anglican) in Roanoke, VA.

Steve Schenewerk (1987) was recently elected President of the Northwest Baptist Convention. Steve has served as pastor at Community Baptist Church in Winston, OR since 1991.

Robert "Bob" Stuckey (1987) and his wife, Suzanne, retired in 2005 after 20 years as pastor of First Baptist Church Ft. Myers Beach, FL. They then served for 4 years as International Service Corps missionaries teaching at the Baptist Seminary in Meda, Sumatra, Indonesia.

Miguel "Mike" Rodrigues (1988) serves as an elementary school principal at Estes McDoniel Elementary School in Henderson, NV, and has been a principal in Clark County for 12 years.

Boyd Pelley (1989) served for 18 years on staff at churches in New Mexico, Nebraska, and Texas. He is currently co-founder and president of Churchteams.com, a web-based, complete church management system focused on small groups and discipleship.

Mark L. Chamberlin (1991) is currently serving as interim pastor at Gatetree Baptist Church in Danville, CA.

Michael Steven Mendoza (1991) serves as an adjunct instructor for Central Texas College teaching US History, Philosophy, Western Civilization, Ethics, and World Religions to enlisted men and women onboard navy ships while they are deployed. He has also written *Glorious Reality of War*, an historical fiction novel published by AuthorHouse Publishing in 2011.

Charles Richardson (1993) retired from Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, TX, in 2005 after 30 years as news officer. In retirement, he serves as a volunteer chaplain for Abilene Regional Medical Center and Hendrick Hospice. He formerly was news director at Golden Gate Seminary, assistant editor of the Texas Baptist Standard, and North Carolina Biblical Recorder.

James Stacy Broadwater (1996) is co-owner and head instructor at Christian Tae Kwon Do Academy, Jackson/Byram, MS.

Robert E. Rainey (1997) is serving at McLane Food Service as a chaplain from Marketplace Chaplains USA. He also serves at Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Independence, KY.

Glen Edward "Eddie" Robison (1997) serves with the International Mission Board with his wife, Kimberly, and 4 children in South Asia.

Christy Danelle Howe (1999) served as Children's Pastor at Sonrise/Bayside in Auburn, CA, for 11 years.

Send the latest news of your current ministry activities to alumni@ggbts.edu.

2000s–2010s

Loren Ward (2000) was called as pastor at First Southern Baptist Church of Joshua Tree, CA in August 2011. Prior to that, he and his family served on the mission field for 7 years in Mexico, until returning to the states in November 2010.

David Lee Daffern (2001) has moved to Michigan and serves as the senior pastor at Crossroads Community Baptist Church in Ann Arbor.

Steve Orr (2001) served for 4 years with the International Mission Board working to support business platforms, before leaving to become an international economic development consultant. He has been a managing director/lead consultant for development projects in Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Zambia, and Afghanistan. He earned a joint MBA from Purdue University and Central European University in Budapest. He is currently serving as a senior development advisor in Afghanistan for the US Agency for International Development.

Joseph T. Garfield (2002) serves as pastor at Faith in Christ Fellowship of Daly City, CA. He also serves as a teacher at Equipping Bible Institute, and has been involved with a dental ministry in Mindanao, Philippines.

Garrett Holmes (2007) is serving as senior pastor at Towers Baptist Church in the Vancouver, BC area. His wife, Jessica, serves as Catalyst Coordinator with Canadian National Baptist Convention and "SEND Vancouver." They have 4 children.

Chris Andre (2008) is serving as Graduate Program Chaplain for Union Gospel Mission in Seattle, WA.

Matthew L. Ellis (2008) is currently serving as a full-time secondary school Bible teacher at Fremont Christian School. He is also the interim pastor at Hill View Baptist Church in Union City, CA, and is a U.S. Air Force Reserve Chaplain.

Jon Edward Stepp (2009) serves as pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Hugo, CO as a bi-vocational pastor and also serves as substitute teacher in the towns of Strasburg, Bennett, and Byers, CO.

Darrell Cortez Hartley (2010) serves at Centre Advocacy in Whittier, CA, providing addiction, family, and relationship counseling.

Nathan F. Ogan (2010) serves as pastor at Calvary Baptist Church, Los Banos, CA.

Jill Marie Sornson Kurtz (2011) married Preston Tyler Kurtz on June 18, 2011. They reside in Bethlehem, PA, where she is involved with an organization called Rebuild Sudan serving as President of the Board.

Lewis Eldridge (2012) is serving as executive pastor, Zion Baptist Evangelistic Temple in Compton, CA.



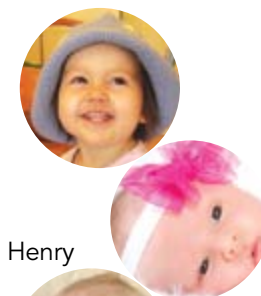
If you are an alumnus (grad or former student), and would like to include your 18-month-old or younger child in an upcoming issue, please send a high-resolution jpg. Include the name of your child, you and your spouse's names, the dates you graduated/attended, and email to alumni@ggbts.edu.

In Memoriam

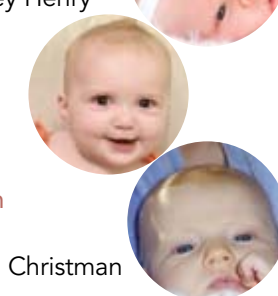
Kenneth Doyle Hawkins (1958)
Charlie Smith Mills (1958)
Edward Wyatt (1958)
Bonna Faye Conner (1959)
Moses L. Yu (1961)
Joan Threet (1962)
Calvin M. Sandlin (1963)
Thomas F. Hutson (1965)
Milton E. Merritt (1968)
Richard L. Adams (1970)
James L. Browning (1984)
Steven Paul Henderson (1986)
Vicente G. Garcia (1996)
Cecil C. Sims (Trustee 2003-2008)
Henry Lee Moore (2008)
Josefina Dulce Guerrero (2012)

Seminary Sprouts

Selah Kathryn Paleo
Born May 18, 2010
Tony (2008) and
Michelle (2008) Paleo



Claire Addison Henry
Born February 28, 2011
Adam (2007) and Lyndsey Henry
Toni (2006) Shumaker



Eleanor Jane Christman
Born October 21, 2011
Adam (2009) and Rachel Christman



Nathanael Tony Cannon
Born December 22, 2011
Shane (2011) and
Stephanie Cannon



Annalita (Lita) Marilee Mathews
Born February 7, 2012
Josh (2011) and Stacy Mathews

Micah Bryan Brooks
Born February 15, 2012
Jonathan and
Tamara (2003) Brooks



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