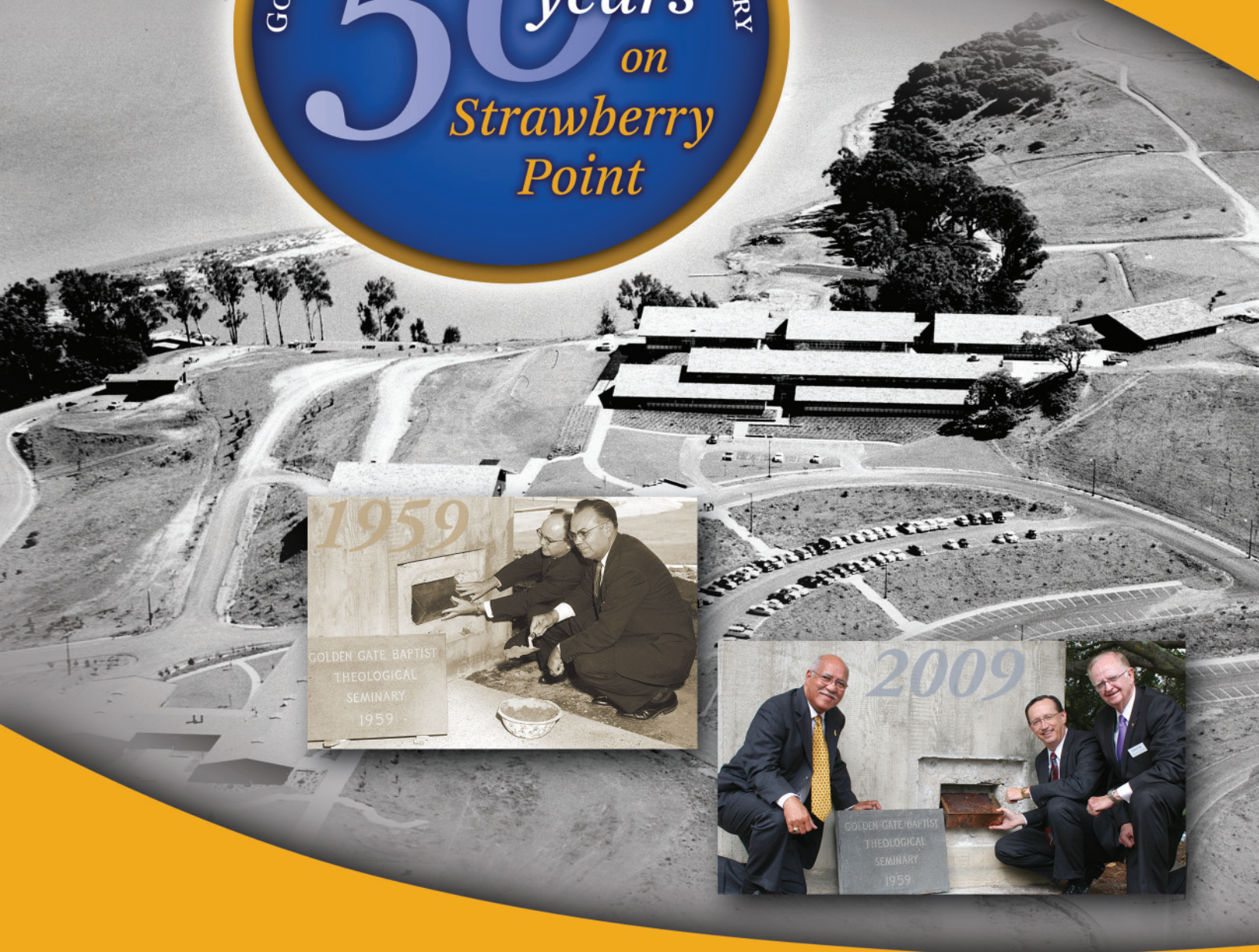
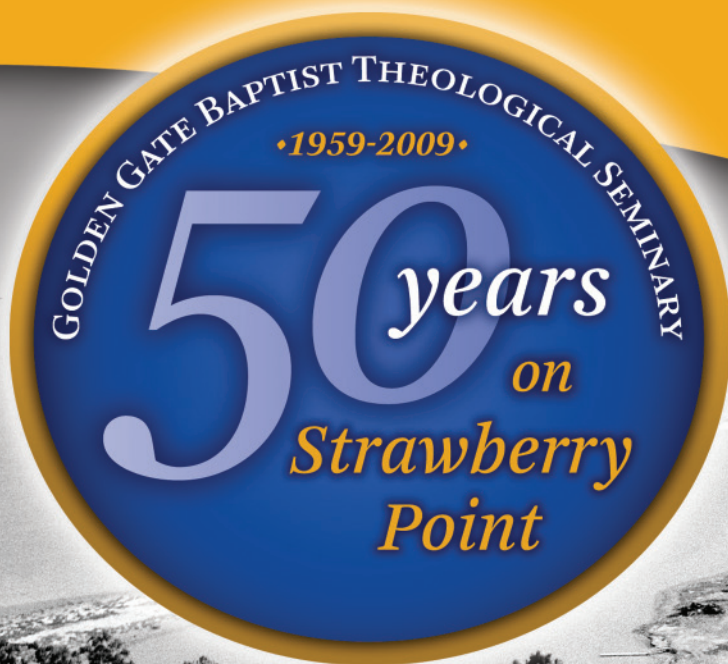


SPRING 2009

*A Magazine for Alumni and Friends*

# gateway

GOLDEN GATE BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



*"Our Heritage and God's Plan"*



## “Our Heritage and God’s Plan”



With a grateful look to the past, confidence in our current direction and optimism for the future, Golden Gate Seminary marks 65 years of preparing effective Christian leaders for churches in the west and on mission to the world. This year, we are celebrating “50 years on Strawberry Point” by recalling our heritage – the people and events which achieved God’s plan for a western seminary.

God’s plan for this seminary remains firm as we stand strong in these difficult economic times. We are finding new ways to do more with less and are prioritizing people, in every reasonable and prudent way, in our future budget planning. These are challenging times but God is enabling us to successfully move forward and continue to accomplish our mission to shape effective Christian leaders.

During the past 65 years we have educated thousands of men and women who are now involved in strategic ministries around North America and the globe. This spring the 7,000th person graduated from Golden Gate! Each graduate becomes part of our history, and part of God’s plan around the world.

In this issue, you will read about some of the history of Golden Gate Seminary, especially the Northern California Campus on Strawberry Point. You will enjoy the memories of several of our earliest graduates and see highlights from our Homecoming celebration. You will see a list of Seminary supporters along with profiles of a few individuals who explain why they generously give to empower Kingdom growth.

Beginning with the first class more than six decades ago, Golden Gate Seminary has been committed to shaping effective Christian leaders who accelerate the fulfillment of the Great Commission around the world. On behalf of our Seminary family, I ask for your prayers, support and continuing partnership in this rich heritage of God’s mission through Golden Gate Seminary.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Iorg". The script is fluid and cursive.

**Jeff P. Iorg**  
*President*

## Spring 2009

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

### Golden Gate Mission Statement

*Shaping effective Christian leaders who accelerate the fulfillment of the Great Commission in the churches of the West and on mission to the world.*

### President

Jeff P. Iorg

### Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Thomas O. Jones

### Editor/

### Director of Communications

Phyllis Evans

### Contributing Writers

Sara Heck

Joe L. Morris

### Contributing Photographers

George Casey

Craig Holt

Harry Weaver

### Design and Layout

Suzanne Lee Design

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

### Subscriptions/Address Changes/ Alumni Updates

Institutional Advancement

GGBTS-963

201 Seminary Drive

Mill Valley, CA 94941

[alumni@ggbts.edu](mailto:alumni@ggbts.edu)

Toll free 888-442-8709

To contact the *Gateway* editor, email [communications@ggbts.edu](mailto:communications@ggbts.edu)

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# Table of Contents

## 2 Letter from the President

## FEATURES

## 4 50 Years on Strawberry Point

## 6 Anecdotes and Memories

From the Golden Grads of 1949-1959

## 11 Dr. B.O. Herring Comes to the Seminary

A Golden Grad's Story

## 12 Homecoming 2009

Photo Retrospective

## 14 Why I Refer Students to Golden Gate Seminary

Interview with Joseph Chan

## 18 2008 Sustaining Gifts

Profiles of Donors

## DEPARTMENTS

## 15 Golden Gate News

## 17 Faculty News

## 22 Alumni Updates

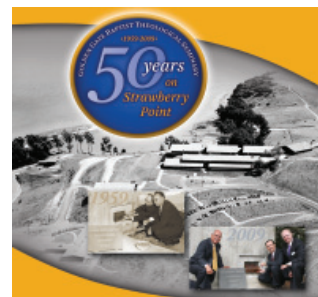
## 23 Seminary Sprouts

## ON THE COVER

*In 1959 the Strawberry Point Campus was completed.*

**1959 inset:** *A time capsule is inserted inside the cornerstone of the administration building by President Graves and Trustee Chair Westmoreland during the dedication ceremony.*

**2009 inset:** *Executive Director of the California Southern Baptist Convention Fermin Whittaker, current President Jeff Iorg and President Emeritus William Crews insert the time capsule during the 50 year anniversary ceremonies.*



# 50 Years on Strawberry Point

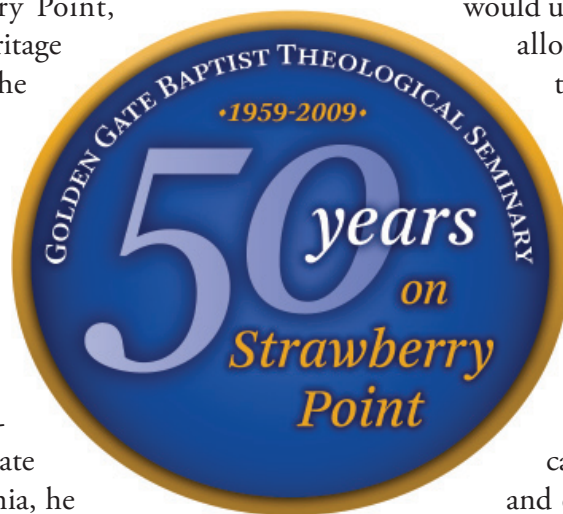
Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary opened the doors to its Northern California Campus in Mill Valley fifty years ago, in September 1959, after six years of planning and construction. The 148 acres of former dairy land called Strawberry Point became home to the first Southern Baptist seminary in the west, and today the five-campus system is known as the 10th largest seminary in the United States.

Celebrating 50 years on Strawberry Point, Golden Gate Seminary enjoys a heritage that is rich in western history. The Seminary's roots can be traced to California's Gold Rush days when the population on the West coast was exploding.

Isam B. Hodges was a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1924 when he first considered the challenge of a western seminary. As pastor of Golden Gate Baptist Church in Oakland, California, he acted on his vision and the charter was issued for Golden Gate Southern Baptist Theological Seminary on July 24, 1944. Classes began on September 4 of that year, with 16 students. Hodges was the first president and the instructors served without pay. Benjamin O. Herring was elected the second president in 1946, and it was during his tenure that the Seminary moved its campus to Berkeley, into

a three-story brick building at Grove and Addison streets. The Seminary graduated 17 students in its first graduating class in 1949.

Harold K. Graves became the first president to be named after adoption by the Southern Baptist Convention, which took place in 1950 after years of waiting. For the next quarter-century under Graves' leadership, Golden Gate would undergo dramatic changes which would allow it to become one of the finest theological seminaries in the world.



Under Graves' direction, the Seminary purchased a large piece of land in 1953 on Strawberry Point in Marin County, six miles north of the famous Golden Gate Bridge. The 148 acres was once the proposed site for the United Nations building. The beautiful park-like campus was opened on July 1, 1959 and classes were held in September of that year for the first time on Strawberry Point, just eleven miles from where Harvey Gilbert attempted to begin a theological school 100 years before. With the new campus, Graves sought out a strong faculty and, in 1961, the Seminary gained full accreditation. In 1973, during Graves' presidency, the Southern California Campus opened in Orange County.

## Golden Gate Timeline 1959-2009

1859



Five years after John Lewis Shuck becomes the first Southern Baptist missionary in California, his co-laborer **Harvey Gilbert** establishes the San Rafael Bible Institute at the corner of 4th and E Streets. Despite its good beginning, the fledgling school closes after a few years.

**March 31, 1944** – **Isam B. Hodges** initiates the legal organization of the brand new Golden Gate Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Hodges, pastor of Golden Gate Baptist Church in Oakland, joins Dallas Faulkner, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of San Francisco, in founding the school.

1944



**July 24, 1944** – The State of California grants the school a charter. Hodges serves as its first president, and the Seminary's sixteen students first meet in his church's facility.

1945

**November 1945** – Golden Gate Seminary becomes an institution of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California.



1946



**April 1946** – **B.O. Herring**, a Bible professor at Baylor University, accepts the invitation to become the second president of Golden Gate Seminary.



# Golden Gate

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



Upon Graves' retirement in 1977, William M. Pinson, Jr. became president. Under his leadership, new student housing and a new library were constructed, and enrollment continued to increase. In 1979 Pinson negotiated with Oscar Romo to establish what is now known as Contextualized Leadership Development (CLD), an educational outreach program providing quality, Bible-based ministry training in geographically convenient and contextualized settings. Today 55 CLD centers operate throughout North America, currently taught in 19 states and 7 languages. In 1980, during Pinson's presidency, the Pacific Northwest Campus was established in Vancouver, Washington.

Franklin D. Pollard was inaugurated as the fifth president in 1983. During his three-year tenure, the Seminary experienced significant enrollment growth. Pollard resigned in 1986 to become pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi. Upon his departure, Graves returned as interim president.

In 1986, William O. Crews became the sixth president of Golden Gate. During Crews' tenure, the Seminary established two new campuses in Phoenix, Arizona in 1995 and Denver, Colorado in 1996. The Seminary also achieved accreditation approval to offer full master-level degrees at all five of the Seminary's campuses.

The Seminary's current president, Jeff P. Iorg, previously served as a pastor in Missouri and Oregon, and as the Executive Director/Treasurer of the Northwest Baptist Convention, prior to his election in 2004. Under his leadership, the Seminary launched the Partners for the Future Campaign (reaching one of its financial goals 18 months ahead of schedule), established the eCampus (which

offers fully-accredited, master-level courses 100% online), re-launched and re-formatted the Seminary's electronic communication tools (website makeover including a blog and a bi-monthly e-newsletter). He facilitated the rebuilding of the playground and creation of wireless capabilities for the entire Northern California Campus academic facilities. Dr. Iorg continues to lead the Seminary - while publishing three books, maintaining an extensive speaking ministry, and managing a personal ministry with baseball organizations.

Since its founding, Golden Gate Seminary has expanded its influence beyond its vast 11-state region and has conferred degrees on 7,041 men and women, many of whom are now involved in strategic ministries all over the globe as pastors, missionaries, chaplains, educators, and administrators in Christian service. Once a fledgling institution that began in a small church in Oakland, the vibrant Northern California Campus is now the nerve center for a seminary system that reflects its visionary heritage. [9](#)

**April 1947** – California Baptists approve the purchase of property for the burgeoning Seminary. Its new Berkeley location, a former lodge building purchased from Calvary Baptist Church, is located at Grove and Addison Streets.

1947



1950



**May 1950** – The Southern Baptist Convention votes to make Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary a Southern Baptist institution.

**May 1952** – After President Herring's resignation in December 1951, **Harold K. Graves** is elected the third president of Golden Gate Seminary.

1952



1955



**October 14, 1955** – Ground is broken at the Strawberry Point campus site in Marin County.

# Anecdotes and Memories

## From the Golden Grads of 1949-1959

**"In the early days** of the Seminary, when something needed to be built or repaired, students pitched in and helped. On one occasion, Hardy Childress and I were called on to help install a new gas furnace to replace the old oil burner. Hardy had to go for additional parts, and while awaiting his return, I inspected the gaping hole where the old furnace had tied onto the heat ducts. I was amazed how far I could see up into the heart of the building. On impulse, I checked out the acoustics by mewing like a kitten. The sound echoed back and forth. I mewed several times. Because Hardy still had not returned, I decided to go home.

"What I did not know at the time was that the first duct was in the side room next to President Herring's office and he was entertaining a guest. They both heard the 'kitten' and were convinced it was trapped in the heat duct and needed to be rescued. They went to the basement and for half an hour tried to coax that kitten out.

"Believe me, I never told Dr. Herring I was that cat!"

**Sam N. Jones**, class of 1950

**"There were two doctors** who had regular office hours for the Seminary students and staff. Dr. John Binkley was an OB/GYN and Dr. John Lee was a GP. We all went to see them for checkups or any medical needs, including pregnancies. I used to tell people my kids were \$50 a piece, because that was all we paid, while the Seminary insurance paid the rest."

**Nancy Graves McLaughlin**

(husband **Homer**, class of 1962)

**"I worked in the library** during my three years as a student. Grace Jackson, a trained librarian, was my supervisor and later became the first salaried librarian of the Seminary.



"Mrs. Jackson told me I needed a 'Cutter Table' for the library and I presented the matter to the president, Dr. B.O. Herring. He also served as the Chancellor, Chief Financial

Officer and bookkeeper and was constantly 'walking a tight rope' to bring in enough money for Seminary expenses. The Seminary had little or no steady income at the time and depended on whatever money Dr. Herring could bring in.

"When I mentioned the matter of the 'Cutter Table' to Dr. Herring, he told me to write for the price, which I did. When I presented the price to him, something less than ten dollars, he was astounded while I was at a complete loss to understand why. He replied that it would 'cost a fortune' to have that shipped across the country. When it finally dawned on me that he was thinking about a piece of furniture, I told him a 'Cutter Table' was a book. It was a chart for alphabetizing authors' names numerically – i.e. a 'table'. The author's name was 'Cutter,' hence 'Cutter Table'. I doubt that any other incident could be more illustrative of the financial situation of the Seminary at that time."

**Helen Nixon**, class of 1949



1958

**May 1, 1958** – Evangelist Billy Graham, in the area for his San Francisco crusade, delivers the Seminary's baccalaureate address.

**July 1, 1959** – Marin County supervisors give permission to occupy the new campus.



1959



**September 1959** – A copper time capsule is inserted inside the cornerstone of the administration building by President Graves and Dr. Westmoreland, Chair of the Board of Trustees, during the dedication ceremony.



## Quick Facts About Strawberry Point

**“When I started at Golden Gate Seminary in 1947,** many of the students were ex-military men attending under the G.I. Bill. We were family men and lived in a low-cost housing project in Richmond, California. To conserve costs and time, we shared rides to the Seminary, with four or five to the car. Each day en route to and from the Seminary, we would discuss what we had learned in the various classes that day. Sometimes the temper of the discussions became rather heated. We got a double exposure to all the material.”

**A.L. Davis**, class of 1949



**“The Seminary had** a football team. In 1952, we played Berkeley Baptist Divinity School, and we won. We had a basketball team for several years. One year our coach was Dr. Fred Fisher, who taught New Testament and was one of the favorite professors.

“Many of the students worked while going to school, and several of us worked nearby in Emeryville at General Cable Corp. We called it ‘Generous’ Cable because they hired a lot of the students. We could work the night shifts or swing shifts, and then still attend classes.”

**John McDoniel**, class of 1957

- ✓ The undeveloped land known as Strawberry Point was often described as “a great bear rug spread on the surface of Richardson Bay.”
- ✓ Strawberry Point was considered as the site for the United Nations, had the institution been established on the west coast.
- ✓ Golden Gate’s first semester as a Southern Baptist institution, in the fall of 1950, was marked by an enrollment of 177 students.
- ✓ In 1950, Golden Gate students baptized 466 people in student-led churches as well as started 14 new churches and 27 missions.
- ✓ In 1959, Marin County required Golden Gate Seminary to construct a road around the western edge of Strawberry Point at a cost of more than \$135,000. The road was appropriately named Seminary Drive.
- ✓ The stone and bronze gate at the main entrance to the Northern California campus was funded by alumni.
- ✓ The twelve-foot width of the halls in the academic building was mandated by the California state fire marshal and based on the anticipated 1959 enrollment of over 2000 students at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.
- ✓ The Seminary was accredited by the American Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in December 1961.
- ✓ Dr. and Mrs. H. I. Hester, of Liberty, MO, endowed the Hester Lectures. The first lecture was delivered in March 1969 by Theodore F. Adams.
- ✓ The Doctor of Ministry program was added to the curriculum in 1972.
- ✓ The first Deere Lecture, named for former Old Testament faculty member Derward Deere, was delivered in 1971 by Wayne E. Ward.



**1969**

**March 1969** – The Seminary celebrates its 25th anniversary.

**1973**

**April 1973** – Trustees vote to begin developing a teaching center in Southern California.



**1977**



**July 1977** - Harold K. Graves retires as president. **William M. Pinson, Jr.** becomes the school's fourth chief executive, effective August 15, 1977.

**1980**

**November 1980** – The **Pacific Northwest** Campus is established in Portland, OR. It moved to its present location in Vancouver, WA in 1997.





**“In 1955 about 15 students** put in \$150 each and bought a Cessna 120 with metalized wings. We formed the Baptist Missionary Pilots Association (BMPTA) and I believe we incorporated. The plane we bought was white with red trim. After the Seminary moved to Mill Valley we bought another plane. I had to drop out of the BMPTA because I went broke trying to fly. Is the group still in existence?”

**Pat Lewellyn**, class of 1960

**“In 1954, James and I** drove out from Kentucky in a Chevrolet with a trailer, bringing our four kids and everything we owned, in order for James to receive a Seminary education. When we got to the old Masonic building in Berkeley, we spoke to Dr. Graves. After our conversation, he told the Registrar, ‘Enroll these people.’ Then someone helped us find an apartment. James worked swing shift at the General Cable Corp. in Emeryville, and went to school four days a week. He went to the skid row missions in San Francisco every Saturday night. In order for those down and out to receive a meal, they had to listen to the sermon. Often, it was James who preached. I recall serving a lunch at the dedication of the groundbreaking of Strawberry Point.”

**Geneva Dunn** (husband **James**, class of 1957)

**“While a full-time student,** I worked for a candy factory and for General Cable Corp. in Emeryville. My wife, Eloise and I had four children while I was going to Seminary. She also attended classes, but didn’t get a degree. We lived in government housing in Oakland, underneath the freeway; then moved to a house in Berkeley. The professors who affected me the most were Dr. Fisher, who taught New Testament, and Dr. Carlton, who was a church history professor. One of the highlights was Billy Graham speaking at our commencement ceremony, in May 1958.”

**Max Kell**, class of 1958

**“I remember wandering** over the campus as it was being built, sitting on the concrete floor of what would later be offices and practice rooms, and swinging our legs (with my sister and the Fisher girls), and looking at San Francisco. I collected the silver ‘coins’ that were found all over the construction site (punch-outs of pipes and other metal). I think we also helped plant a tree or two (or at least watched).”

**Judith Harrop Franklin**

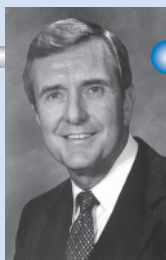
(**Clayton and Shirley Harrop**’s oldest daughter)



**October 1981** – The new \$4.5 million library is dedicated.

**1981**

**May 1983** – **Franklin D. Pollard**, pastor of the First Baptist Church of San Antonio, TX, becomes the Seminary’s fifth president.



**1983**



**1985**

**Fall 1985** – Golden Gate Seminary exceeds 800 in enrollment for the first time.

**1986**



**December 1986** – **William O. Crews** leaves the pastorate of Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church, Riverside, CA, to become the Seminary’s sixth president.



**“I came to GGBTS as a bride** in 1951. My favorite memory was an Old Testament class under Dr. Deere. He shared events of their ‘Tweetie bird’ with us, along with making the Old Testament come alive and relevant.

“Seven of us were pregnant at the time. As soon as our son was born in 1952, we moved to the church field. Those days were hard ones financially, but God was always faithful to provide.”

**Elizabeth Scott Cox**

(husband **Andrew**, class of 1952)

**“As a seminary wife,** I attended a seminary wives organization headed by Mrs. Aulick, Dr. Aulick’s wife. She chose our name ‘Lamba Delta Sigma’. Oh me, we were referred to as the ‘LDS Club.’

“I served as President of the club one year and fearfully took baby son Merrill to visit in their home and plan for meetings. We all joyfully survived.

“Thank you for allowing me a P.H.T. (Pushing Hubby Through) award from the Seminary!”

**Joyce Smoak** (husband **Alfred, Jr.**, class of 1955)

**“When I attended Golden Gate,** there were too many girls for all to live in the main dorm, so four of us lived above the cafeteria. We called it ‘Angels’ Annex.’ We had no excuse for being late for classes.

“Some of my best memories were in conducting classes with Dr. Carlyle Bennett. He was adamant about the way you announced the hymn number. If you said ‘250’ everyone turned to that number while you directed, but if you said ‘200 and 50’ part of the class would turn to 200 and rest would turn to 50. Mrs. Orine Suffern, the pianist, might turn to either. It made for some fun and interesting times.”

**Ruby Wright Rose**, class of 1956



**August 1995** – Golden Gate Seminary opens its fourth regional campus in Phoenix, **Arizona**. It moved to its present location in Scottsdale, AZ in 2002.

**1995**



**1996**

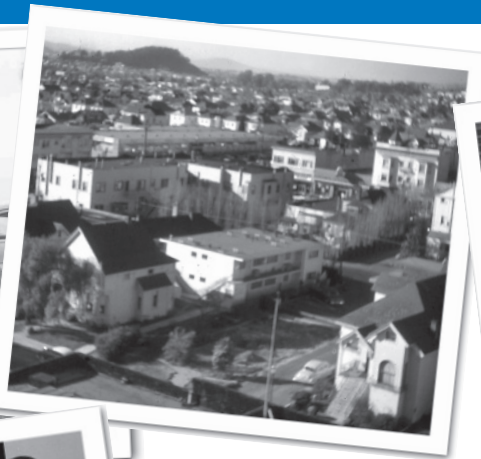
**August 1996** – Golden Gate’s **Rocky Mountain** Campus begins classes in Denver, CO.

**February 2004** – The Seminary’s **Rocky Mountain** Campus receives full accreditation status by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). Thus, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary becomes a truly unique system of five fully-accredited campuses, delivering quality theological education throughout the American West.

**2004**



**September 2004** – **Jeff P. Iorg** is inaugurated as the seventh president of the Seminary. He came to Mill Valley from the Northwest Baptist Convention in Vancouver, WA, where he served as Executive Director/Treasurer.



**“Many people may not remember me** and for good reason: I attended Golden Gate Seminary for only eight months. In 1953, I was pastoring a half-time church in East Texas while attending Baylor. Gradually I began to formulate an opinion that my ministry as a pastor, following training, might one day find me in the West. I never lost that vision.

“I finished Baylor and went directly to Southwestern Seminary. In 1958 I felt persuaded to transfer to Golden Gate for my final year in order to find out what Western Missions were all about.

“When I enrolled at Golden Gate, I was unaware of the move from Berkeley to Marin County, but because of the move, commencement would take place in April of 1959.

“I spent eight happy months on the Berkeley campus, and when I received my degree (a D.D. which was soon commuted to an M.Div.), my wife and I moved without delay to the pastorate of a church in Loveland, Colorado.

“Dr. Graves, President of Golden Gate at the time, spoke at the annual meeting of the Colorado Baptist General Convention that fall. He said, ‘Charles Bass did not get his total seminary education at Golden Gate, but we did put the curl in his tail.’”

**Charles D. Bass**, class of 1959

**“Some of us who had come from** mid-America were not very familiar with earthquakes, and were bug-eyed when a rather strong quake struck Berkeley in the mid-fifties, and rattled the Calvary Church/Seminary building. The evidence was graphic when we looked at the long crack in the plaster on the wall of the auditorium. That was part of our ‘welcome to California.’”

**Max Alexander**, class of 1958

**“One of the professors**, when asked a question, always replied, ‘That is a good question.’ Yet he never did answer any question. My favorite teacher was Dr. Aulick. Times were tough but God provided. The Seminary and faculty struggled but persevered. It was a happy three years for me.”

**Walter L. Phillips**, class of 1950

**“In 1954 I was drafted** as social vice president of the student body. Jerry, my wife-to-be, was a natural to help me plan the ‘program’ aspects of a get-acquainted party, a Mission Tea and the Seminary Banquet. We honored Dr. and Mrs. Harold Graves as the King and Queen (kept it a secret from them, too!) at the banquet, entitled ‘Ye Royal Banquet!’ All the entertainment and program was in their honor. Dr. Graves was our Seminary president, our pastor, and a good friend.

“During those days, everyone knew everyone else. We were serious about our studies, but also had a lot of fun. During the 1954-1955 academic year there were 17 marriages and/or engagements!

“Jerry and I became engaged in June 1955 and married a year later. We’ve shared many ministries together during the past 53 years. There were a lot of blessings at Golden Gate. The most memorable one to me was starting a life together that has lasted many years.”

**George Casey**, class of 1957



# Dr. B.O. Herring Comes to the Seminary

## A Golden Grad's Story

By Joe L. Morris



I had a unique involvement in the coming of Dr. Herring as president. It was during the spring semester of 1946, when I was one of only two students at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, that Dr. Herring resigned from his professorship in the Bible Department at Baylor University. I had studied under him at Baylor.

When Brother H.H. Stagg, my Evangelism professor at Golden Gate, heard about Herring's resignation from Baylor, he asked me to write Dr. Herring and ask him to come to California for a look at "the work" before he made a commitment to any other calling. I was dumbfounded to think that my invitation would be worthy of any consideration, especially with no promise of any financial assistance for the trip. Almost with the tone of a spoiled child, I responded to this preposterous proposal: "I can't do that! What could I tell him?" With the calmest confidence Brother Stagg said, "Tell him about 'the work' and tell him about the Seminary. Ask him to 'come and see' for himself."

I tried to pass on to Dr. Herring some understanding of what we were about in California, why the Seminary was such a vital part of it and simply asked that he "come and see." I told him that I was writing at Brother Stagg's request and that Brother Stagg wanted him as a houseguest during his stay in California. I really didn't expect to hear more than a courteous acknowledgement of the letter with a pledge to pray for us in such a challenging field of service. In about ten days, I was almost tearfully overjoyed when I met Brother Stagg in Evangelism class with a letter in hand from Dr. Herring. He thanked me for my letter to him, said he was impressed by what I told him, and said he was deeply impressed by the Holy Spirit to "come and see." After Brother Stagg read the letter, he said, "It pays to trust the Lord, doesn't it? Let's thank God for what He is doing."



Dr. Herring

The week that Dr. Herring was in the Bay Area passed rapidly. Dr. Herring conducted a revival and spoke in the Seminary chapel services one morning. All the Baptist pastors in the area attended the service along with the Seminary faculty and the two students.

In the Friday Evangelism class, Brother Stagg made another request of me. Knowing I was to attend the Sunday School Convention in San Diego on Monday, he gave me the names of the Seminary Board of Trustees who were on the faculty committee and said, "You get them together down there and tell them to get in touch with Dr. Herring before he leaves California."



Joe Morris

Class of 1949

We had another episode of "I can't do that" and "Who's going to listen to a first-year seminary student on an important matter like this?" Brother Stagg countered with "You brought him out here, didn't you?" Only two of the five faculty committee members were at the Sunday School Convention. I was able to get those two together and made my presentation. They withdrew from me for a brief conference, then motioned me to join them. One of them wrote out a message and said, "Send this telegram to Dr. Herring and sign my name." In that meeting, Dr. Herring was called as President of the Seminary.

When I get to heaven I'm going to ask Brother Stagg why area missionaries stay in the background and do not take the credit for some of the beautiful things they do. I still feel singularly blessed for the small part I had in the life of the Seminary, and the marvelous privilege of association with deeply-dedicated Christians who literally gave themselves in the California effort. 9

*Joe L. Morris, class of 1949, is a retired Air Force chaplain and lives in San Antonio, Texas.*



# Homecoming 2009



1. The Golden Grads, wearing their gold graduation gowns and medallions, pose with President Iorg before the commencement ceremony.
2. Accompanied by enthusiastic applause, the Golden Grads walk to their seats during the commencement processional.
3. Jane Pollard, wife of fifth Seminary president, Frank Pollard, places photos in the copper time capsule. President Iorg waits to present Mrs. Pollard with a commemorative trowel.
4. Deane Langdon, wife of 1955 grad Bert Langdon, shares a laugh with Sylvia Cunningham, wife of 1959 grad C.T. Cunningham.

5. Jerry Horning Casey, class of 1957 and wife of alum George Casey (1957), enjoyed visiting with friends from Seminary days.
6. John Carl Warnecke, the notable 92-year old architect who designed the Strawberry Point campus. Among other prominent buildings, Mr. Warnecke later designed the John F. Kennedy Memorial in Arlington Cemetery, the Hart Senate Building in Washington, D.C., and the Capitol Building in Hawaii.
7. Wade, class of 1961, and Alice Robertson (1960), found their names in the 1960 student directory. Alice's name was also in the student paper found in the time capsule, where she was listed as one of the "Girls Trio" with her maiden name "Mehrlie."





8



9



10



11



12



13

8. Earl Bigelow, Wayne Eurich and Joe Morris stand in front of the Berkeley campus building.
9. Seminary faculty, staff and students applaud Golden Grads, who are raising their hands to identify themselves at the time capsule ceremony.
10. The Golden Grads and their relatives, who came from all over the country, boarded buses to revisit the Berkeley campus building and surrounding neighborhood. Afterwards everyone enjoyed an international lunch at the Emeryville Public Market.
11. Virginia and John McDoniel, class of 1957, suggested the Homecoming event. Thanks for your outstanding idea!
12. Fermin A. Whittaker, Executive Director of the California Southern Baptist Convention and a Golden Gate graduate, Jeff Iorg, current President and William O. Crews, President Emeritus, insert the time capsule into the cornerstone.
13. President Iorg holds up the 1925 *Baptist Faith and Message*, which was one of the items recovered from the 1959 time capsule.

# Why I Refer



## Joseph C. Chan

- Master of Divinity 2004 from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary
- Pastor of Tucson Chinese Baptist Church, Tucson, AZ
- Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Trustee
- Referred 10 people to Golden Gate Seminary

*Whenever I meet people who are thinking about going into the Gospel ministry or want to better equip themselves in serving in their local churches, I encourage them to take classes at Golden Gate Seminary. I know this is where they will receive a solid biblical education.*

*The Seminary not only trains effective church leaders, but encourages students to develop a deeper, broader and more flexible perspective of what it means to serve God. The faculty, which is excellent, challenges students to think critically and to develop a strong connection to the truth of the Bible.*

Joe Chan has served as a field supervisor and spiritual mentor for students in Theological Field Education classes. A member of the Seminary's Board of Trustees, Chan believes in and actively embodies the mission of Golden Gate Seminary, and his referrals have made a positive impact on the growth and development of the Seminary. [g](#)

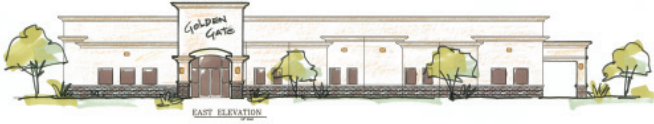
*"If you're considering ministry, seminary can be one of the best decisions you can ever make. Joe Chan was very helpful to me. He told me that seminary would aid me in every area of my ministry, and would help me grow as a pastor. He was right!"*

**Robert Landry** MDiv. student at Golden Gate Seminary's Arizona campus



## Golden Gate News

### New Building at Golden Gate's Arizona Campus



Founded in 1995 as a partnership between Golden Gate Seminary and the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention (ASBC), the Arizona Campus is currently located in a building shared with, and provided by, the ASBC in Scottsdale. The facility has one large classroom which seats 40 students, two smaller classrooms and limited office and library space.

The Arizona Southern Baptist Convention approved a building project to provide for the growth of the Arizona Campus and other educational strategies of the Convention. The new plan includes 14,000 sq. ft. of classroom, library, administrative and interactive space for students. The facility will be built adjacent to the current building in Scottsdale and construction will begin once the funds are raised. No Cooperative Program funds will be used, nor debt incurred, to build the facility.

The estimated cost of the project is \$2 million with \$350,000 committed to date. For more information, contact [arc-info@ggbts.edu](mailto:arc-info@ggbts.edu).

### College Students Volunteer



“It’s so pretty here, it’s like we’re working in an oil painting,” said one of the 24 college students from Itawamba Community College in Fulton, Mississippi, who volunteered at the Northern California Campus of Golden Gate Seminary in March. He and the other students from the college’s Baptist Student Union spent their spring break painting, cleaning, filling potholes and clearing out storerooms at the Seminary – supplemented with trips to nearby San Francisco during their off hours.

“They were enthusiastic and energetic,” said Burtis Williams, Golden Gate Seminary’s Volunteer Coordinator. “We appreciate their can-do attitude.”

### Oscar Romo, Golden Gate Seminary’s CLD Founder Dies



Oscar I. Romo, a pioneer in ethnic evangelism and church planting, died January 16 of pneumonia related to Parkinson’s disease.

“Romo had a vision to train ethnics to start churches, to develop into pastors, to become missionaries,” recalled Don Beall, Golden Gate Seminary’s CLD Direc-

tor. “In 1979 he negotiated with Dr. Bill Pinson, then the Seminary’s president, to partner to establish Ethnic Leadership Development (ELD), which is now known as Contextualized Leadership Development (CLD).”

Romo was the Southern Baptists’ first non-Anglo elected to a national leadership position. For 25 years, Romo led efforts in evangelism and church planting among the nation’s growing multi-cultural groups.

Two years ago, during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in San Antonio, Romo was honored by Hispanic Southern Baptists for his nearly 50 years of strategy development and work with non-Anglo groups, dating back to his first pastorate in 1948 until his retirement in 1995.

During that era Southern Baptist multi-cultural congregations grew from less than 1,000 to 9,000. His groundbreaking work helped establish the denomination as the nation’s most ethnically-diverse faith group, a position it maintains today.

Beall described Romo’s influence with an example. “One Hispanic pastor in Southern California graduated from CLD and began a Spanish Southern Baptist Church. That church now runs 2,300 on Sunday, and is sending out other church planters. All because God gave Oscar Romo a vision to train men and women in their language, where they lived, starting where they were. What a vision!”

## Frank Pollard, Former Golden Gate President Dies



Dr. Frank Pollard, former president of Golden Gate Seminary and pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi, died at his home in San Anselmo, California on Sunday, November 30, 2008.

Dr. Pollard was the fifth president of Golden Gate Seminary, serving

from 1983-1986. He led in the redevelopment of the Northern California campus master plan and enrollment at the Seminary grew significantly during his tenure. He left in 1986 to become pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi, a position he held previously from 1974-1980.

“Dr. Pollard was a great advocate for Golden Gate,” said the Seminary’s current president, Dr. Jeff Iorg. “I appreciated his support and encouragement of the Seminary community.” He noted that Dr. Pollard had recently relocated back to California with his wife, the former Jane Shepard.

Dr. John Shouse, professor of Christian Theology, said of Dr. Pollard, “In word and life, he reflected the grace and truth of the gospel. He was the consummate minister’s minister. Quite simply, he gave the Lord his best.”

A native of Texas, Dr. Pollard was featured in *Time* magazine in 1979 as one of seven leading Protestant preachers in America. In addition to First Baptist Church of Jackson, Mississippi, his pastorates included First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, and Shiloh Terrace Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. Golden Gate Seminary honored Dr. Pollard with the Distinguished Service Award in 1993.

In 1976, Dr. Pollard became the preacher for “The Baptist Hour,” produced by the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Pollard also hosted the radio and television program, “At Home with the Bible,” from 1978-1984.

Dr. Pollard, who wrote five books during his career, was born in Olney, Texas on February 25, 1934. He was a graduate of Texas A&M University, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and held a Doctor of Ministry degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. California Baptist University and Mississippi College awarded him honorary doctorates.

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## Lila Fae Vance Langford Butler Goodbye to Longtime Seminary Friend



Lila Fae Vance Langford Butler, a member of the Golden Gate Seminary original faculty, died on January 1, 2009. Butler had a long, close relationship with the Seminary, having served on the founding music faculty, and as secretary to President B.O. Herring. In 1950, she earned a Bachelor of Sacred Music degree from the Seminary.

Married to and widowed by two California Southern Baptist pastors, Butler was recognized in the early days of the Convention as the Pastor’s Wife of the Year by the Southern Baptist Convention of California. Her estate has funded the Will Edd and Lila Fae Langford Endowed Scholarship. Memorial gifts may be sent to: GGBTS/Langford Scholarship, 201 Seminary Drive, Mill Valley CA 94941.



## Faculty News



**Chris Chun**, Assistant Professor of Church History, authored “Alternative Viewpoint: Jonathan Edwards’ Life and Career” in *Understanding Jonathan Edwards: An Introduction to America’s Theologian*, ed. Gerald R. McDermott (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), 29-36. Dr. Chun also presented a paper at the University of Glasgow in Scotland on March 30-31. “The Legacy of Jonathan Edwards: Eighteenth Century Catalysts for the Revivals among Presbyterians and Baptists in Scotland” Jonathan Edwards and Scotland Conference, sponsored by Yale University and University of Glasgow, Scotland, U.K. (March, 2009).



**Allan Karr**, Director, Nehemiah Project and Associate Professor of Church Planting, is a 2009 recipient of the Oklahoma Baptist University Alumni Association’s Profile In Excellence Award. The award is given to a former student who has “demonstrated recognizable accomplishment in his or her profession, business, avocation, or life service in such a way as to bring pride and honor to the University.”



**Faith Kim**, Chair, Intercultural Education; Director, Orange County CLD Center; and Professor of Intercultural Education, has worked with Korean Baptist University and Theological Seminary to establish a two-year program on Intercultural Studies. Dr. Kim also spoke at the Ethnic America Conference in Phoenix, Arizona in March 2009.



**Jim Wilson**, Associate Director, Doctor of Ministry Program and Associate Professor of Leadership Skills Formation, authored *Soul Shaping Disciplines That Conform You to Christ’s Image*. Published by LifeWay, the book will be used as the 2010 Doctrinal Study for Southern Baptists. Dr. Wilson is author, contributor or co-author of more than a dozen books.

## Volunteer at Golden Gate What Can You Do?

It was a cold, rainy morning on the Northern California Campus – the kind of day when you don’t want to get out of bed. But that didn’t stop nine volunteer tree cutters from the Shasta Baptist Association Disaster Relief organization. Most of us would avoid working in a downpour that lasted two days, but not this group. “We can work as long as it’s not windy. We do it all the time,” was the working theme throughout the week, which ended in sunshine.

Over the course of five days, this hard-working group cut down trees, stacked tree rounds and piled branches of 22 dead Monterey pine and oak trees.



This dedicated group saved the Seminary more than \$35,000 in expenses that would have been spent on a tree cutting service.

You don’t have to be a tree cutter to volunteer. We are looking for painters, attorneys, engineers, architects, photographers, graphic designers, archivists, maintenance handymen, welders, file clerks and more.

If you would like to offer your skills and services as a volunteer at any of our Golden Gate Seminary campuses, please visit our website [www.ggbt.edu/volunteer](http://www.ggbt.edu/volunteer).

# 2008 Sustaining Gifts

Golden Gate Seminary is committed to training effective leaders for the churches of tomorrow, and strives to produce graduates who are as free of educational debt as possible. Through the sustaining investments of supporters around the globe, the Seminary is able to provide high-quality theological education at an affordable price to those who have answered God's call to leadership. Our deepest appreciation and gratitude are extended to the following friends who have so generously given to empower Kingdom growth:

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## Charlie & Dottie Boyd

Charlie and Dottie Boyd are avid Southern Baptist Convention mission supporters. In 1996, they established the Graves/Boyd Endowed Mission Fund to provide scholarships for Golden Gate Seminary students committed to service as full-time missionaries with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

## Why we support Golden Gate Seminary

"We have been strong believers in foreign missions for many years. The tour to Israel and Jordan, which we took in 2008 with the Seminary and the California Baptist Foundation, was a highlight for us. We were able to speak with missionaries now living and working in Jordan, and their insights impressed us so much that we wanted to do something extra to support their activities. Over many years, we have been favorably impressed with Golden Gate Seminary and their work. The Seminary, a most worthy institution, is in excellent hands and we are pleased to support it."

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## Jay W. Badry

Jay Badry is a 2005 graduate of the Seminary's Rocky Mountain campus. He ministers in the Denver area with Marketplace Chaplains, a ministry providing chaplain services to businesses.



## Why I support Golden Gate Seminary

"I am honored to partner with Golden Gate in training the next generation of ministry leaders. I don't view my support as a monthly contribution, but as an investment that will give a return for all eternity."

## Naomi Paget



Naomi Kohatsu Paget, pictured here with her husband, John and their grandchildren, is a 2003 Doctor of Ministry graduate and serves as a chaplain and crisis interventionist for the FBI, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, The Salvation Army and American Red Cross.

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“It is exciting to partner with Golden Gate to accomplish significant ministry in so many places around the globe. We give because Golden Gate equips people to be informed and intentional leaders in many contexts of Christian ministry.”

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## Janie Finlay

Janie Finlay and her husband, Ed, have lived in Houston for almost 50 years and are members of Houston's First Baptist Church. Janie has been a Golden Gate trustee since 2002, and is currently serving a second term.



## Why I support Golden Gate Seminary

"As a Texan, I didn't know much about Golden Gate until I became a trustee. Now, I'm fervent in my support. I give because, having observed staff, faculty and students, I'm convinced this school is passionate about fulfilling the Great Commission and is effectively training leaders to lead in that cause."

# Alumni Updates

## 1940s

**A.L. Davis** ('49) wrote his autobiography, *My Memoirs: The Tapestry of a Life*, describing 23 years in Montana and South Dakota as the first Southern Baptist Missionary to the Sioux Nation. After retiring from mission work at age 65, he planted four churches in South Dakota. Currently 98 years old and living in Mena, Arkansas with his wife, Opal, he is writing a book on the Civil War.

## 1950s

**Mark Fite** ('52) retired from the Navy in 1972 after serving 20 years as a chaplain. Since then he has served 28 years as staff chaplain at St. Mary's Hospital in Athens, Georgia. During these years he continued to serve as pastor of several local churches. His wife, Pat, retired from her position as a staff nurse at St. Mary's Hospital. They live in Athens, Georgia.

**Stanley D. Stamps** ('58) wrote the book, *Following the Vision: A History of Baptists in Honduras*. It was published November 2008.

**Jack Carter** ('58) lives with his wife, Geneva, in Mechanicsville, Virginia and teaches a men's Sunday School class at Mechanicsville Baptist Church. After graduating from GGBTS, he pastored a church in Germany, where he also worked as Army Education Advisor. He and his family were missionaries in Thailand; he was a professor in the Business School at Florida International University and earned an MBA and PhD in business from University of Cincinnati.

## 1960s

**Jerry Brumbelow** ('61) and his wife Billie moved to Chandler, Arizona from San Diego, California in August 2007, after 13 years in retirement in San Diego. They moved to be nearer to their adult children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Since retirement, they are Bible teachers and leaders in their church.

## 1970s

**Ren Adams** ('73) is chaplain at Kaiser Medical Center in Fresno, California. His wife, Judy, works at the Newborn Screening Program as a community liaison. They have three adult daughters and three grandchildren.

**Ubirajara De Silva** ('73) and his wife, Alya, continue to pastor Gospel Baptist Church in Cambridge, Ontario, Canada.

**Ted Wright** ('73) retired from Verizon Communications June 21, 2008, after a 35-year career. He and his wife, Mary, are involved with WeeCare, a teen/parent support group at their church.

## 1980s

**Clyde E. "Van" Vanworth** ('80) served as an Air Force chaplain for 20 years. After serving six years in their local church in New Jersey, he and his wife, Jane, are going to South East Asia for mission service.

**James "Jim" L. Bush** ('81) has served as chaplain at San Angelo State School, Carlsbad, Texas since 2003.

**Dan Hill** ('81) is the senior pastor of Spring Hills Baptist Church in Granville, Ohio.

**Paul K.S. Kim** ('82) has recently authored his third book, *The Fulfilling Life*. Kim is the founding pastor of Berkland Baptist Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Jerry Waddell** ('82) is living in Lincoln, Nebraska with his wife, Judy. He works for Crete Carrier Corporation as an OTR (Over the Road) Truck Driver.

**Robert E. Ryan** ('85) has served as the Director of Missions, Mile High Baptist Association, Denver, Colorado since 2006. He is the author of *Back to the Stone Age: Men Returning to the Fire*, 2008.

**Gary Lynn Buckner** ('87) has been pastor of First Baptist Church, Batesville, Arkansas since 2002.

**Dale Garland** ('87) is the senior pastor at Hemet Valley Baptist Church in Hemet, California.

## 1990s

**Danny Griffin** ('94) and his wife, Jonnye, are living in Russia, teaching English for a private Russian company.

**Michael Lukche Li** ('94) leads a Chinese language ministry at Hacienda Heights, Baptist Church in Hacienda Heights, California.

**Gary Ross Thornton** ('94) serves as Navy Chaplain and is also currently Command Chaplain, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, Beaufort, South Carolina.

**Katherine Hyunjoo Lee Ahn** ('95) (previously Hyun-Joo Lee) received her Ph.D. in Church History from Fuller Theological Seminary in 2003. She is an adjunct professor at Fuller, and has written a book, *American Women in the Hermit Kingdom: Pioneer Women Missionaries to Korea* (William Carey Library, 2009).

## 2000s

**Daniel Zwiesler** ('00) completed his residency in June 2008 in OB/GYN. He and his wife, Kimberly, moved to Spokane, Washington where Daniel joined Northwest OB/GYN. They have three children.

**Lazaro Chapa** ('01) and his wife, Ana, serve with the International Mission Board as evangelists and church planters in Uruguay. Chapa previously served as an intercultural team leader/Director of Missions for the Colorado Baptist General Convention in Centennial.

**Ocean** ('02) and **Nicole Oh** ('02) are living in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, where Ocean is teaching a Korean class. They



## Seminary Sprouts

have two children, Johnson, 3 years old and Julia, 1 year old.

**Carol Camille Smith** ('03) serves with the International Mission Board in Moscow.

**Tom Cullen** ('04) has served as pastor of The Church on the Corner in Albany, California, since 2002. He also serves on the staff of Growing Healthy Churches, helping to plant new churches across the nation. He lives with his wife, Dorothy, in Pinole, California.

**Frederick Lewis Combs** ('06) has been pastor of Mount Gilead Baptist Church in Gilmer, Texas since 2007. He is presently enrolled in Golden Gate Seminary's Doctor of Ministry Program, Northern California Track 2008.

**Toni Lynn Shumaker** ('06) and her husband, **Dan** ('05), are now living in Petaluma, California. Toni is the Communications Coordinator for the Blood Bank of the Redwoods. Dan works for a movie special effects company in San Francisco called Slash FX.

**John Knipp** ('07) is serving as a full-time youth pastor at Bloomington Baptist Church in Bloomington, Minnesota. He and his wife, Tiffany live nearby in the town of Savage.

Here are a few children of Golden Gate alumni. If you are an alumnus and would like to include your 18-months-old or younger child in an upcoming issue, please send a 300 dpi photo. Include the name of your child, you and your spouse's names, the dates you attended and email to [alumni@ggbts.edu](mailto:alumni@ggbts.edu).



**1) Samuel Daniel Phifer**

Born December 21, 2007  
first child of two GGBTS alum,  
Amanda ('08) and Daniel Phifer ('08)

**2) Joshua Dalton Brooks**

Born June 6, 2008  
Jonathan and Tamara ('03) Brooks

**3) Gabriel Aaron Womack**

Born June 29, 2008  
Wayne ('01) and Kelly ('03) Womack

**4) Charles Andrew Granade**

Born January 21, 2009  
Charlie ('08) and Brooke Granade

## In Memoriam

Leonard Jackson Boyette ('49)  
Sunny Madge Lewis ('49 & '50)  
William Truett Myers ('49)  
A.J. Hyatt ('50)  
Robert E. Townsend ('50)  
Harry E. Maxson ('52)  
Marjorie Moore Moratto ('52)  
Harry V. Morotto ('53)  
William "Bill" Clarke Smith ('53)  
Clovis J. Strickland ('53)

James Willie Bell ('54)  
John Claude Burnham ('54)  
Kenneth Lee Hollinsead ('54)  
Allen Hull, Jr. ('55)  
Albert W. Gammage, Jr. ('55 & '58)  
Betty Joyce Bush ('56)  
Robert Joseph Goodbarn ('56 & '59)  
Edith Hawkins ('56)  
Bobby Warren Murphree ('56)  
John Guy Shannon ('56)

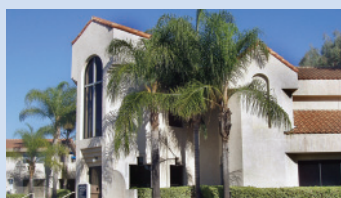
James M. Dunn ('57)  
Mervin R. Megill ('57)  
Joyce Travers Fox ('58)  
Ernest M. Friesen ('58)  
Buford Harry Lee Wheeler ('58)  
Charles M. Hobson ('60)  
Marshall R. White ('62)  
Kathryn White (staff) ('62)  
Glen W. Roloff ('74)  
Richard D. Cunningham ('80)

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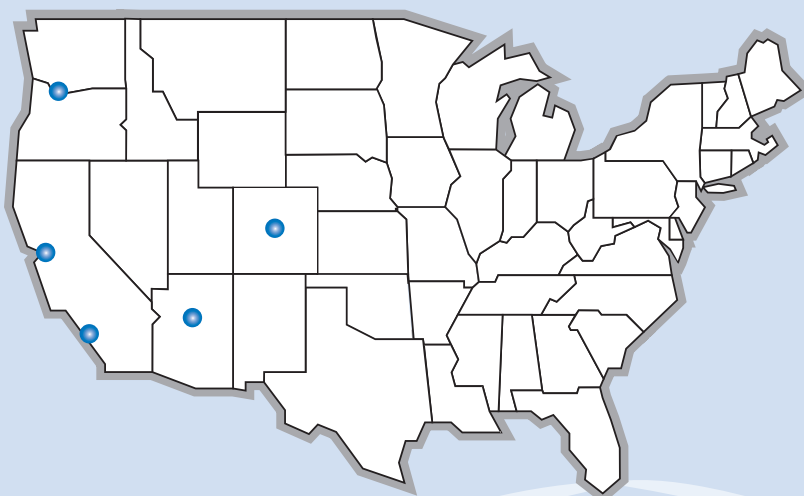
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