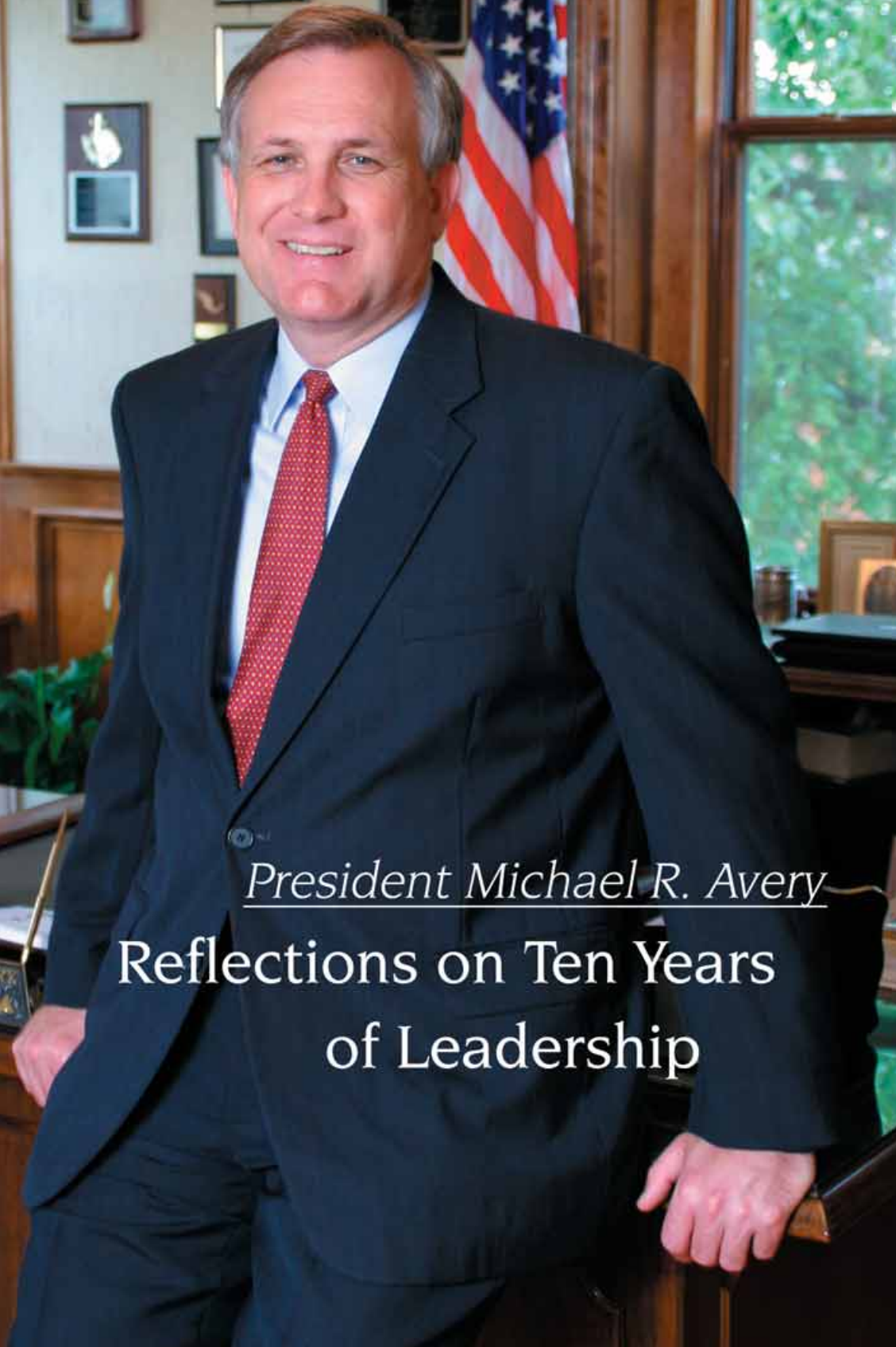


GOD'S REVIVALIST

Summer 2005

and Bible Advocate



President Michael R. Avery

Reflections on Ten Years
of Leadership

introduction

TEN YEARS ON THE HILLTOP

For ten years Michael Avery has been president of God's Bible School. At his installation, June 4, 1995, we heard him say, "I stand before you...a common man with feet of clay, but a man who's been called to a responsibility and armed with a promise." The responsibility was his alma mater's call to leadership, while the promise was God's assurance of His presence and direction.

Six months earlier I had been appointed editor of *God's Revivalist*. My new assignment was awesome—even intimidating. But GBS's new president-elect, who had wanted me here, also fortified me with this charge: "Larry, fight for the old Methodist doctrines!" I was determined to do that anyway, as he knew; but his encouragement confirmed my purpose, as it has continued to do in every *Revivalist* that I have prepared.

For Michael Avery believes—as I believe—that the "old Methodist doctrines" are also the old Bible doctrines which undergird everything we believe and everything we do on the Mount of Blessings. The horror of sin, the power of grace, the pursuit of holiness, the unselfishness of ministry, the passion of evangelism, the conquest of perfect love—these are the constant themes we have sounded on this campus since 1900 and on these pages since 1888. These are also the touchstones of President Avery's administration.

Thus, GBS remains "the grand old school which [has been] the flagship of the holiness movement since the days when William McKinley reigned as President of the United States." Mike Avery has given every impulse of his soul and every ounce of his energy to keep it that way. "The historic purpose of God's Bible School, College, and Missionary Training Home remains firm," as he emphasizes. "Our mission and core values still drive and direct all that we do."

You will find these words in this *Revivalist*, together with his reflections on the past decade on the Hilltop. He lists the priorities he established at the beginning, traces his efforts to actualize them, and then evaluates the results. He concludes with his vision for the future—a GBS that remains staunchly grateful for its heritage and robustly hopeful for its future.

President Avery has informed us that this issue is not to flatter him but simply to summarize the course of his administration. We have followed that directive, of course; but neither do we conceal our admiration for the devout, creative, and courageous president who has commissioned us to "fight for the old Methodist doctrines" and who has also taken that commission for himself. Armed with God's promise, President Avery has given noble response to his alma mater's call to leadership. —Larry D. Smith, editor ■

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by Larry D. Smith

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the president's report

REFLECTIONS ON TEN YEARS AT GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

By Dr. Michael R. Avery, President
God's Bible School, College, and Missionary Training Home

This summer marks the end of ten years of my stewardship as president of GBSC, and it is time to discuss what has happened on the Hilltop during that period. What a delight to do so through the pages of *God's Revivalist*, addressing you, the alumni and friends of the school, with substantially the same message that I shared earlier with the Board of Trustees. Grace and peace to each of you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

In retracing the years since 1995, it is clear that much has changed. It is also clear that the most important things remain the same. The historic purpose of God's Bible School, College, and Missionary Training Home remains firm. Our mission and core values still drive and direct all that we do. After 105 years, GBSC has been able to remain true to its founding purpose, yet relevant to the needy world that surrounds us.

BALANCING THE CHANGING AND THE CHANGELESS

This task of balancing the changing and the changeless has always been a slippery slope to travel. John Stott said, "It's easy to be contemporary if you don't care about being faithful. It is also easy to be faithful if you don't care about being contemporary." Finding middle ground between these two is at times trying. But doing nothing and falling to one side or the other is treacherous. So many institutions in their breathless chase after relevance without a matching commitment to faithfulness have become not only unfaithful but irrelevant. Their determined efforts to redefine themselves in ways that are more compelling to the modern world have cost them their identity, their authority, and their relevance. They honestly wanted to make a difference, but they mistakenly thought they could only make a difference by becoming more like the culture around them.

You cannot make a difference by adding more of the same. To make a difference, you must be willing to be different. By God's grace, GBSC has been able to balance commitment to a sacred trust with the advancement of a sacred task. The sacred trust is the mission, doctrinal beliefs, and core values of our school. The task is preparing Christian workers to serve their present age. Graduates who received their degrees in our recent commencement service are as well-trained, spiritually-minded, others-oriented, and committed to biblical holiness in message and lifestyle as any that have turned the tassel in the last 105 years.

Nothing happens by chance. The strong leadership of the Board of Trustees and the day-to-day work of the administrative team, faculty, and staff have made this possible. We have all embraced a deep commitment to our heritage while forging ahead with a vision to train 21st century Christian workers.

MY OWN STRATEGIC PLAN: 1995

In my installation remarks on the last Sunday of camp in 1995, I presented four initial goals that I felt had to become the focus of my first few years. I did not know at that time that (p6)➡

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, or e-mailed to revivalist@gbs.edu. Letters reprinted here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor of God's Revivalist nor those of the administration of God's Bible School. Names and locations of writers will be withheld at their specific request or at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit and condense.

THE SABBATH AND THE CHRISTIAN

The study "The Sabbath and The Christian," by Dr. Allan P. Brown, is one of the most well-written and documented studies I have ever seen on this subject. I have a high regard for the Sabbatharians among us, but agree with Dr. Brown that, in this case, the church tradition is on solid biblical and theological footing. This scholarship is in my "keeper file" to be used with my confirmation classes.

PASTOR MENDE ADAMS
St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Cincinnati, Ohio

REPRINT PERMISSION

We have just read Larry Smith's excellent article, "The Disease And The Cure" in the April 2005 issue of the *Revivalist* and was wondering if we could reprint the article in our church newspaper.

STEVE BAGBY
Attica Methodist Church
Knoxville, Iowa

Thank you so much for sending me copies of your paper. I do appreciate it and enjoy it very much. I surely appreciated the article in your recent copy, "The Sin of Prayerlessness." May I copy that to share with others?

(MRS.) FERN COOPER
Oakton, Virginia

Editor's Note: In general we are pleased to give reprint permission for Revivalist articles written by our own staff, as we did in this case. Of course, we cannot give reprint permission for articles which we have published with permission from other writers or publications. —LDS

the world to win

Each month we publish brief "field reports" from missionaries around the world. Missionaries are invited to send us their newsletters and other information about their activities. GBS graduates are especially urged to respond, but we also wish to include others who uphold our vision and our commitment.

NICARAGUA. "The Latin temperament is emotional and colorful. A Corinthian-style pandemonium in church is easily accepted. Thank God this has not gotten into the Holiness Church of Nicaragua, but the appeal of the high-pitch emotionalism is there for young, unstable Christians. The second prong of the attack is simply everyday worldliness. **The leadership of the Holiness Church of Nicaragua (EWM) has stood strongly.** There was a positive response to [my] admonitions [at a recent convention] about the areas of slippage. The last day was a wonderful time of outpouring of the Holy Spirit." —Raymond Shreve, *Evangelical Wesleyan Mission*

RUSSIA. "We are proclaiming the message of freedom only Christ can give throughout the vast nation of Russia and even to the regions beyond. Our mailing ministries currently are corresponding with people from more than forty of the major regions of Russia. We are continuing evangelistic meetings in Vyborg and in the village of Vozrozhdeniye. Our humanitarian aid program continues to reach many of the poorest people in Vyborg." —Richard Grout, *Russian Lifeline*

TIBET. "A new plan is in motion to attempt to establish a 'widow's' home in Dazi county, about 20 kilometers east of Lhasa. We have already talked with these county officials about this proposed project and are waiting for their response. Actually, what we are really looking for is a door by which to enter Tibet long term to carry on quiet Gospel work among the Tibetans, some of the least evangelized people on planet earth. Please pray with us that God will open an effectual door of access and utterance to this needy land." —John E. Knight, *Far East Newsletter* ■



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Newest Choir Release





SERVICE OF INSTALLATION, JUNE 4, 1995

➔(p3) I was developing a strategic plan. I only knew that God wanted me to major on these four specific areas:

1. *To address the school's financial concerns.* This meant stabilizing cash flow in order to meet payables in a timely manner, addressing payroll concerns, and reducing the debt.

2. *To restore the core.* The ministerial and missions programs had diminished in both emphasis and size. These are the programs that make a Bible college a Bible college, and these are the programs that GBSC has been renowned for. I knew they must be restored to numerical strength and to a place of significance on our campus.

3. *To enhance the faculty.* This meant bringing in new faculty and pushing ahead with continuing education for present faculty.

4. *To increase enrollment.*

Though this plan was never formalized, it became the guiding philosophy for the first few years.

THE FIRST FORMAL STRATEGIC PLAN: 1999

In 1999, the Board held its first strategic planning session and adopted five major goals. This five-year plan called for the following:

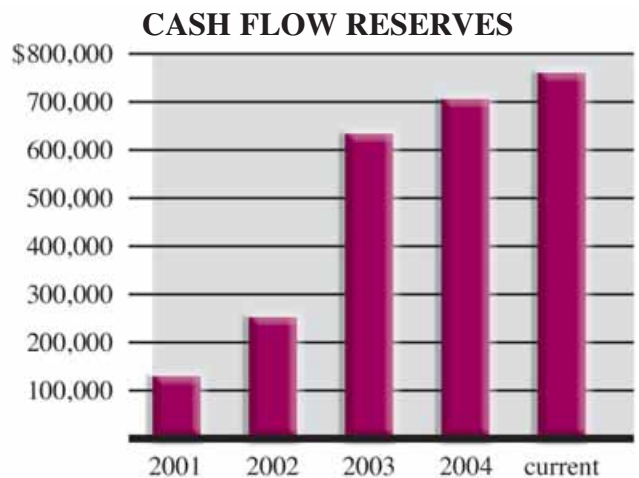
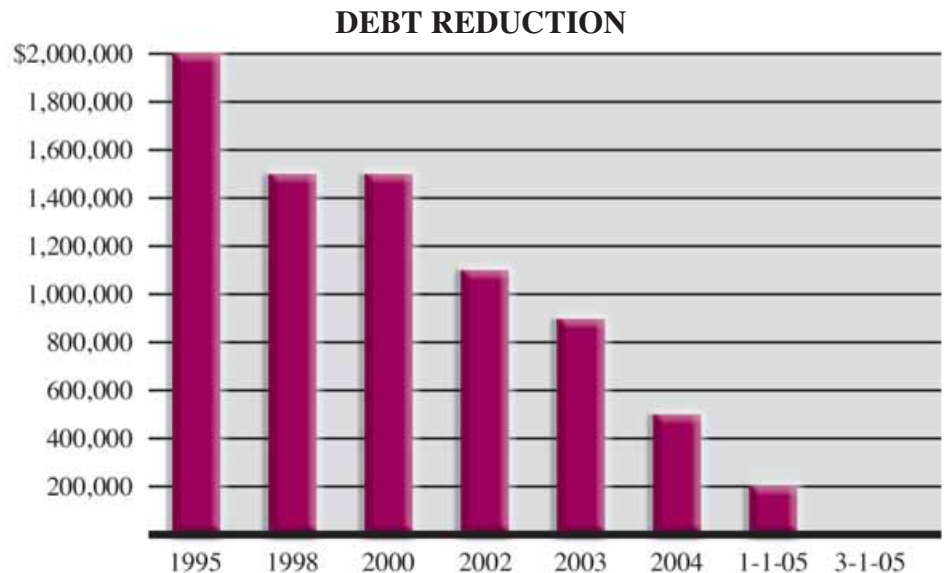
1. *Preparing an enrollment plan with specific goals of enrollment increases.*
2. *Hiring new faculty to give leadership and strength to existing programs.*
3. *Beginning a facilities study that would develop a master plan to guide campus development and growth.*

4. *Launching a capital campaign to address financial and facility issues.*
5. *Exploring the possibility of North Central Association accreditation.*

This second strategic plan was similar to the first. But the second plan was much more formalized, and it became the focus of both the Board and the administration. The following graphs will show the effectiveness of planning and committing to that plan.

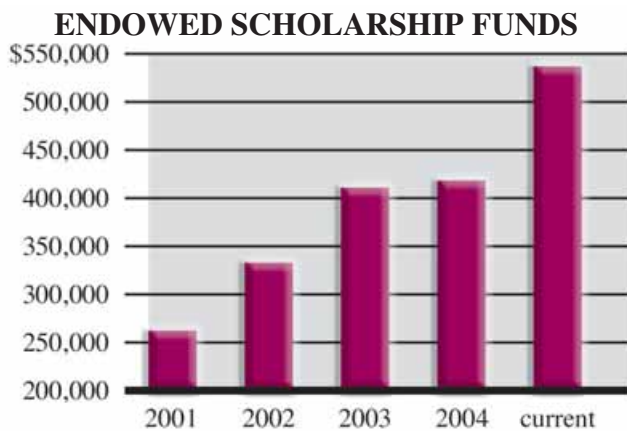
Goal Number One: Address Financial Concerns

The team began to tackle payroll, payables, and cash flow problems with daily intensity. This narrow focus began to pay off. Payroll was never missed, the payables age sheet was quickly brought down to nothing due over 30 days, and the debt began to be reduced. Budgets were carefully planned and followed. By the year 2000,



we began to build cash flow reserves to help smooth out day-to-day operations. This was done by isolating and restricting bequests.

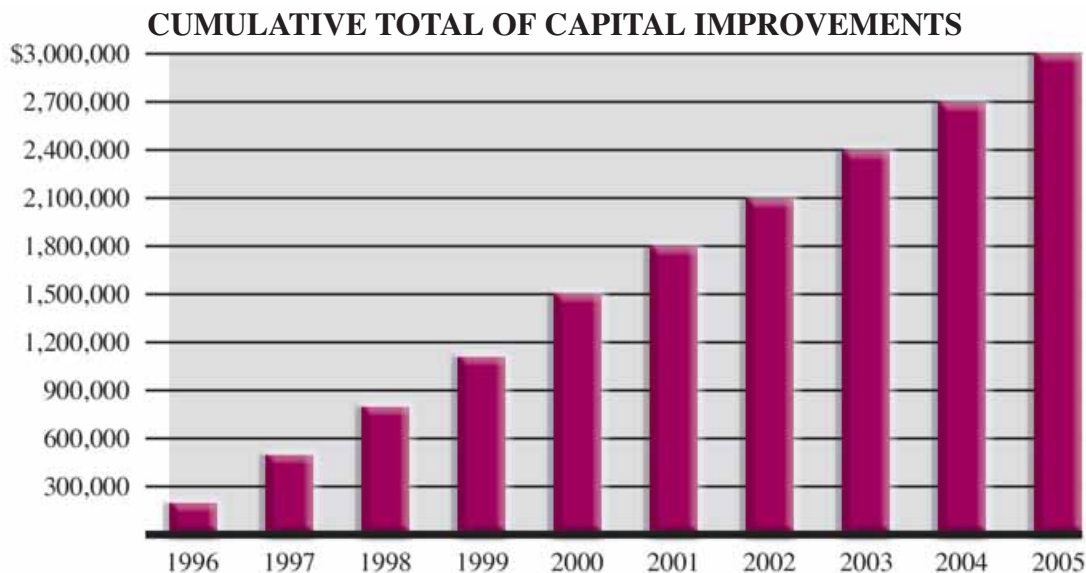
We were also able to focus on permanently restricted scholarship funds. Friends of the school have given generously to these funds which have enabled us to grant 40 cash scholarships each year. When all pending gifts are secured, this fund will exceed \$640,000. Our goal is to reach \$1,000,000 in scholarship funds by 2007.



While all of this was happening, campus renovation had to continue, and our loyal friends have helped us invest approximately \$3,000,000 in campus improvements over the past ten years. A partial listing of those improvements is given below.

1. Complete renovation of the chapel, including sound system, lighting system, and furnishings.
2. Complete renovation of all four floors of the Ladies' Residence Hall.
3. Addition of a fountain and landscaping on main campus.
4. Addition of the Schmul Ministerial Resource Center that houses a preaching chapel and library.
5. Construction of new Revivalist offices.
6. Construction of Aldersgate Academy classrooms.
7. Renovation and restoration of the old Administration Building parlor into the Oswald Chambers Room.
8. Renovation of the entire Administration Building, including 14 offices.
9. Addition of the new Gale Center/Library with a new office for the ISWM Division.
10. Development of Charles and Lettie Cowman Archives Center.
11. Purchase and remodeling of Tiffany House with seven apartments.
12. Purchase and remodeling of 1908 Young Street residence.
13. Purchase and remodeling of 535 Channing residence.
14. Purchase and demolition of a home at 1910 Young Street and the building of parking area there.
15. Purchase and demolition of a home on Ringgold Street, thus adding green space to the campus.
16. Purchase of three vacant lots on Carmalt Street.
17. Remodeling of 12 apartments.
18. Remodeling of six faculty and staff homes.
19. Renovation of dining hall.
20. Renovation of snack bar area and furnishings.
21. Addition of the Martin Dining Room.
22. Purchase of a new motor coach for touring.
23. Addition of a heating system for the entire campus.
24. Addition of the Centenary Walk and Monument.
25. Renovation of old Revivalist floor for high school.
26. Demolition of old dining hall and maintenance building.
29. Construction of facilities building in process.
30. Wiring entire campus for computer network and establishment of wireless areas.
31. Construction of smart room / electronic classrooms in process
32. Renovation of old high school floor into Men's Residence Hall in process. *(continued on page 15)*

1. Complete renovation of the chapel, including sound system, lighting system, and furnishings.
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4. Addition of the Schmul Ministerial Resource Center that houses a preaching chapel and library.
5. Construction of new Revivalist offices.
6. Construction of Aldersgate Academy classrooms.
7. Renovation and restoration of the old Administration Building parlor into the Oswald Chambers Room.



Camp Meeting and commencement





Superb preaching, earnest seeking, and a pervasive sense of God’s presence marked this year’s camp meeting on the “Mount of Blessings,” May 17–22, which for many was a time of spiritual renewal. Evangelists were the Rev. E.R. Trouten, the Rev. James Plank and Dr. Wingrove Taylor. Trouten and Plank alternated morning and evening services with their pointed and impassioned presentations of truth, while Taylor continued the tradition of his stirring “holiness heart talks” in the morning Bible study hour. Dr. Philip Brown, GBS faculty member, gave afternoon lectures on St. Paul’s prison epistles, while GBS students conducted services for children.

Special services included commencement exercises and the tribute for President Avery’s ten years of service, both of which are reported elsewhere. The Sabbath began with a service of Holy Communion; and later, eleven young men and women received the sacrament of baptism. In the afternoon “school service,” students described their ministries, while the evening service closed with a massive response to Evangelist Plank’s stirring challenge to renewed loyalty to Christ’s exalted sovereignty. ■





FORTY-SEVEN GRANTED DEGREES AT 2005 COMMENCEMENT

GBS's Adcock Memorial Chapel was packed to capacity for 2005 commencement exercises, Saturday morning, May 21. Forty-seven college graduates and eighteen high school graduates received diplomas. Delivering the address was the Rev. James Plank.

President Michael Avery conducted the service. Offering the invocation was the Rev. Darrell Stetler; reading the scripture was Mr. Mark Going; and concluding with the benediction was the Rev.

Walter Hedstrom. Special music was by Aaron Terry and Rhoda Miles, who sang Charles Wesley's "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling." Mr. David Crosley, Aldersgate Christian Academy principal, presented high school graduates; and Dr. Kenneth Farmer, Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented college gradu-

ates. Board President Dr. Leonard Sankey conferred the degrees. Divisional chairs Dr. Allan Brown, Dr. Marcia Davis, Prof. Daniel Glick, and Prof. Garen Wolf I presented the following college honors:

- (1) Ministerial Education:**
Outstanding Achievement in Biblical Greek: Stephanie Joy Smith;
Outstanding Achievement in Biblical Hebrew: Joseph David Ratcliff;



GBS COLLEGE GRADUATES

REVIVALIST FAMILY

On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, vital statistics, significant events scheduled throughout the "Revivalist family," and brief news notes from across the holiness movement. An item for inclusion in the "Revivalist Family" must be submitted within four months of the event which it reports and should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202; or revivalist@gbs.edu.



BIRTHS

To Chris ('97 AA) and DeAndrea (Cable) Arndt, Erie, Colorado, a daughter, **Chloe Hadassah Arndt**, born February 18, 2005.



To Mark (GBS '95-'97) and Jana (Englund) (GBS '98 BA in CTE) Burley, El Dorado Springs, Missouri, a son, **Kaden Mark Burley**, born May 25, 2005.



To Jeffrey and Dixie (Weingard) ('92 BA) Epp, Noblesville, Indiana, a

daughter, **Julissa Anne Epp**, born February 21, 2005.



To Justin and Brandy Singleton, Cincinnati, Ohio, a daughter, **Sophia Karis Singleton**, born May 21, 2005 (the day her mother was to have received her AA degree at GBS). Both parents are currently Bible/Theology students.



To Wallace Thornton, Jr. (GBS, '92 BA; '94 ThB) and Janice (Eckert) (GBS '95 BA) Thornton, Moberly, Missouri, a son, **Wallace William Bruce Thornton**, born May 2, 2005.

Ministerial Leadership Award: Joseph Micah Reimann;

(2) Christian Teacher

Elementary Education: *Excellence in Student Teaching:* Michelle Lynn Hopkins;

(3) Intercultural Studies and

World Missions: *Charles Cowman Missions Leadership Award:* Dorcas Ruth Byer and Jaron Roy Bovard;

(4) Music: Academic Excellence

and Outstanding Musical Achievement: Amanda Lynn Whitmer.

Rev. Steven Hight, Vice President for Evangelistic Faith Missions, presented the Mary E. Gaunce Missionary Scholarship from EFM to Alisa Street and Stephanie Smith.

The congregation gave a standing ovation as President Avery conferred honorary doctorates on mis-

sionary educators Charles and Lottie Tryon (see separate report).

RON SEDLACEK RETIRES AFTER 15 YEARS AT GBS

After a 15-year tenure of dedicated service, most of which was in the high school, Ron Sedlacek has retired as a teacher at GBS. In the final days of the spring semester, several tokens of appreciation were presented to him. The high school student council presented a beautiful picture to him, as well as a bouquet of flowers to his wife, who has faithfully supported him.

During a special chapel service, two former students, a current student, Principal David Crosley, and Dr. Kenneth Farmer read letters of appreciation, sharing memories of Mr. Sedlacek's great ability to teach and instill knowledge and (p16)➡



DEATHS

Robert E. Cravens, Sr., 79, died May 1, 2005. A native of Clarksville, Indiana, and a Navy veteran of World War II, he was a retired first class millwright with Colgate-Palmolive Company and attended the Bible Wesleyan Church.



Survivors include his wife, Thelma R. Cravens; sons, James E. Cravens, Rev. Robert E. Cravens, Rev. Mark L. Cravens, and Rev. Chris D. Cravens; daughters, Theresa Roberson and Bobbie Kaye Theisen; two sisters; three brothers; one step-brother; seventeen grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Colgate Baptist Church, with Rev. Philo Jones officiating, with burial in Walnut Ridge Cemetery with Revs. Robert, Mark, and Chris Cravens officiating with full military rites.

"Daddy never would have dreamed that he would be recognized in The Revivalist. It is just difficult to explain and comprehend the journey on which God has brought us. Dad would have wept, had he known this great honor would be given him." —Rev. Chris Cravens

Gertrude (Nesbitt) Hoffman, 89, Grand Rapids, Michigan, passed away peacefully May 13, 2005, knowing that her Lord was waiting for her to come home. She graduated from Battle Creek High School in 1932 and later attended God's Bible School. In 1937 she married Hollis Hoffman, who preceded her in death in 1994. Mrs. Hoffman was a retired (p18)➡

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21 years of pastoral experience
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Visiting professor: Peking University
and Free Baptist Seminary,
Johannesburg, South Africa
Author, Division Chair



PHILIP BROWN

BA MA PhD

8 years of teaching experience
5 years of pastoral experience
Lecturer and Author



MARK BIRD

BA MA DMin

16 years of teaching experience
7 years as Christian Service Director
Author



LARRY D. SMITH

BA MS

40 years of teaching experience
30 years of pastoral experience
25 years as editor of two magazines
including *God's Revivalist*
Author



RICHARD MILES

BRE MA in counseling

Member of American Association of
Christian Counselors
12 years of teaching experience
15 years as Christian school principal
10 years of pastoral experience
8 years as Vice President of Student Affairs



BEN DURR, JR.

BRE MAR

9 years of teaching experience
20 years of pastoral experience



MICHAEL AVERY

ThB DD

10 years of teaching experience
11 years of pastoral experience
5 years as church administration
10 years as college president

MUSIC

Combined 80 years of teaching experience



GAREN WOLF I

BME MM

33 years of teaching experience
29 years as music division chair
4 years as minister of music
Author of 3 books
Frequent seminar speaker



DEANNA WOLF

BA MM

6 years of teaching experience
6 years of orchestra experience
Accomplished violinist



MARTHA MILLER

BSM graduate studies

24 years of teaching experience
32 years as piano instructor
27 years as GBS choir accompanist



PHILIP BISHOP

BA MCM

2 years of teaching experience
12 years of church music ministry
6 years as song evangelism
5 years as piano instructor



TIM CRATER

BA MM candidate

15 years of teaching experience
5 years as minister of music

For more information contact:
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Speaker at marriage retreats and
seminars



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BA MA
4 years of teaching experience
Director of Admissions and
Financial Aid



BRENT MILES

BS MS
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5 years as Coordinator of
Information Technology



CHRIS LAMBETH

BA Working on MBA
3 years of teaching experience
College Registrar

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MARCIA DAVIS

BA MEd EdD
14 years of teaching experience
12 years as Christian school principal
Division chair



KRISTEN BIRD

BS MA
15 years of teaching experience
Taught all grades pre-K–high school



DAVID CROSLY

BRE
18 years of experience as teacher
and principal
Principal of Aldersgate Christian
Academy



CRYSTAL WOLF

BA MA
3 years of teaching experience



JANNA HOOKER

BA Working on MEd
4 years of teaching experience



Dear Phil

TITHING part III

Does God require NT believers to tithe? Isn't the NT principle that everything belongs to God and we should want to give more than OT believers gave? In other words, is a tithe all God requires from us in our giving? Or should we be giving more than the tithe?

—Jim

Dear Jim,

With my previous two articles, I have only begun to touch the OT data on giving beyond tithing. The idea that tithing was a minimum OT standard is false. God expected His people to give offerings at the three pilgrim feasts: Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles (Deut. 16:16-17). In addition to these offerings, God provided means for His people to offer thank offerings (Lev. 7:12-15), vow offerings (Lev. 23:38), and other kinds of offerings.

I'm afraid many Christians have completely lost sight of the biblical purposes for tithing. Foremost is God's desire to remind us that He is the center and focus of our lives, including our finances. Tithing promotes the fear of the Lord by reminding God's people that He owns it all, that He is the source of all bless-

ings, and that He is worthy of our joyous thank offerings of tithe. Further, tithes (and offerings) are God's method of providing for spiritual leaders whom He has chosen to serve Him and His people. How many churches are suffering spiritually because they fail to provide even a tithe of their increase to support their spiritual leader? And let's not forget that God designated the tithes of the third and sixth years to provide for the poor and needy!

You ask, "But what about the New Testament?" On two separate occasions, Jesus pronounced woe on the Pharisees' hypocrisy regarding tithing. In Luke 11:42a, Jesus said, "You pay tithe of mint and rue and every kind of garden herb, and yet disregard justice and the love of God." The Pharisees were tithing "down to the penny," but missing the main things: justice and love for God. We must make sure that we are not guilty of this kind of myopic attention to detail that loses sight of loving God and others. At the same time, we must not overlook what Jesus said in the second half of Luke 11:42, "but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others." In other words, it is not tithing versus loving God. It is both. We should tithe (a small concern) and not fail to love our neighbor and God (the biggest concern). Here then is our Lord Jesus Himself affirming the necessity of tithing (see also Mat. 23:23).

Because I find nothing in the Apostle Paul's writings or other NT writings that states the OT requirements for tithing were fulfilled in Christ or annulled by Him, I assume the principles they represent are still valid. When we study the NT, we find that it teaches that giving should be proportionate, reciprocal, systematic, and generous (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:14-15; 9:6). Our giving should encompass needy saints (Rom. 12:13; 2 Cor. 9:12), the sick and aged (Acts 20:35), ruling and teaching elders (1 Tim. 5:17), Bible teachers (Gal 6:6-10), widows (1 Tim. 5:8-16), strangers (Heb. 13:2), and missionaries (3 John 5-7).

So, in answer to your questions, Jim: Yes, God requires us to tithe. No, I see no essential differences between the NT and OT principles for giving. No, a tithe is not all God expects from us. And, yes, we should be giving more than the tithe, as we are able (1 Cor. 16:2). Let's remember 2 Cor. 9:6, "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

Sincerely,
Philip Brown

Dr. A. Philip Brown II is a member of the ministerial faculty of God's Bible School and College. He may be contacted by e-mail at pbrown@gbs.edu.

Investing in Tomorrow's Christian Leaders

Examples of Single-Life Gift Annuity Rates

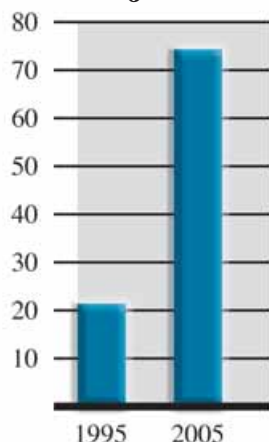
Age of Donor	Rate of Return	Age of Donor	Rate of Return
60	5.7%	76	7.2%
62	5.9%	78	7.6%
64	6.0%	80	8.0%
66	6.1%	82	8.5%
68	6.3%	84	8.8%
70	6.5%	86	9.9%
72	6.7%	88	10.6%
74	6.9%	90+	11.3%

GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL & COLLEGE
OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT
1810 YOUNG STREET • CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202
PHONE: (513) 721-7944, EXT. 223

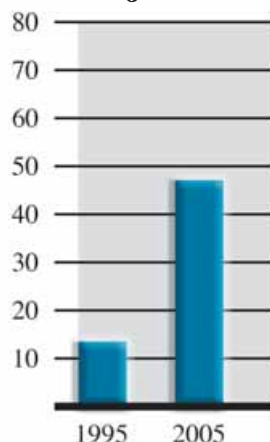


- **Lifetime Income**—at attractive payout rates for one or two people.
- **Tax Savings**—a large part of your amount is a deductible charitable gift.
- **Tax-Free Income**—a large portion of your annual payment is a tax-free return of your principal.
- **Capital Gains Savings**—when you give appreciated securities for a gift annuity, you minimize taxes on your "paper profit."
- **Special Blessing**—in securing the future of GBS

MINISTERIAL MAJORS



MISSIONS MAJORS



Goal Number Two: Restore the Core

The heart of any Bible college is its Bible/Theology program. GBSC, however, has had such a strong historical emphasis on missions that at the core of its identity is not only Bible training but also missionary training. These two programs are the historical heart of our school. Unfortunately, these both had declined significantly. After addressing the issues related to their decline, these programs have rebounded as the graphs above show.

Goal Number Three: Encourage Faculty Development

We have initiated a continuing-education program for our faculty that has enabled a number of them to complete a needed degree. We have put into place a system for incremental annual raises and have given summer bonuses (equivalent to 10 percent of annual salary) the last four years.

Goal Number Four: Increase Enrollment

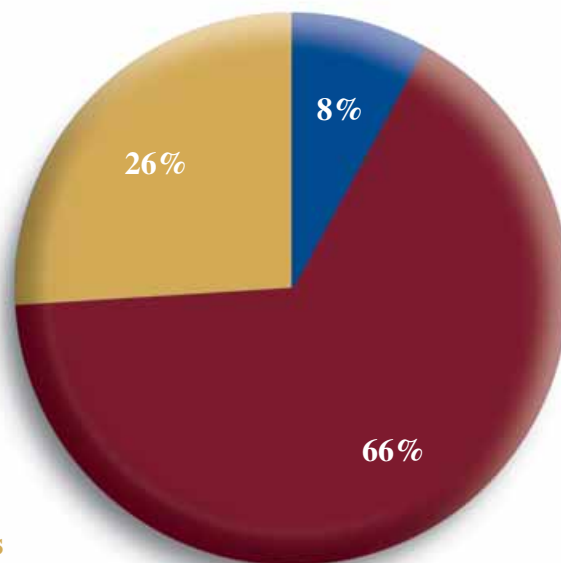
We took the following steps to address declining enrollment:

1. Hired a full-time student recruiter and a part-time assistant.
2. Developed a five-year enrollment plan.
3. Created a Cross Functional Retention Team to intervene proactively with at-risk students.

We are pleased at our dramatic increase in enrollment, as the chart demonstrates.

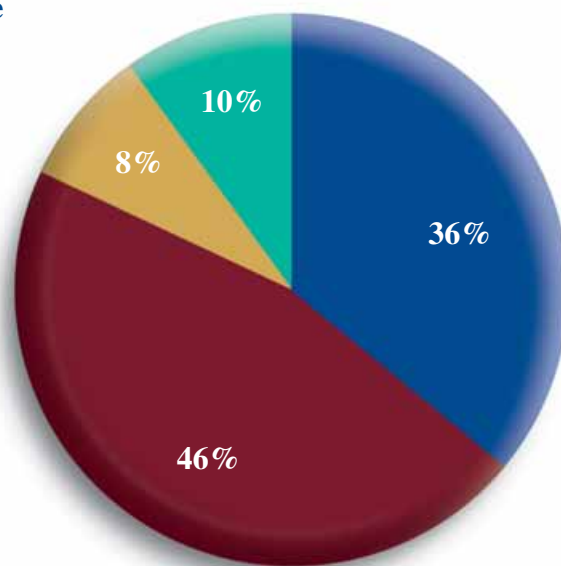
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FACULTY DEGREES 1995-96

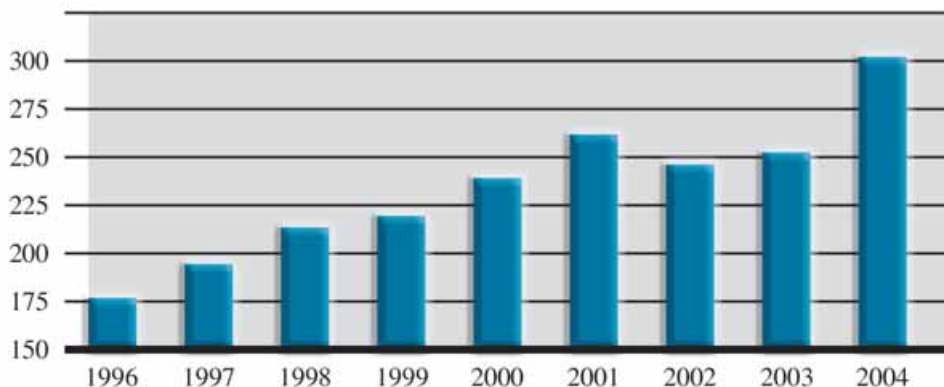


Bachelors
Pursuing Masters
Masters
Doctorate

FACULTY DEGREES 2004-05



STUDENT ENROLLMENT



➡(p11) congratulating him on his retirement. President Avery added words of kindness and thanks for all that the Sedlaceks have meant to God's Bible School and for all that they have given to it. Later, at the end-of-year staff meeting, Mr. Sedlacek was given a plaque, a gift of \$100 for each of his years at GBSC, and a card shower from the faculty and staff.

Let me add that words cannot express all the thanks that he deserves for the time, energy, prayer, and many other ways that he gave of his time. May God bless Ron and Lois Sedlacek as they settle into their retirement years back in Virginia. —*David Crosley, Principal, Aldersgate Christian Academy*

DR. MICHAEL AVERY RE-ELECTED GBS PRESIDENT

At its regular spring session, held on campus, Monday, May 23, the Board of Trustees unanimously re-elected Dr. Michael R. Avery to another four-year term as president of God's Bible School and College. Avery, a GBS alumnus ('79 BRE), came to his alma mater as its seventh president in the summer of 1995.

At a special surprise service during the GBS camp meeting, Saturday evening, May 2, Avery was honored for his ten years as president. A video created by *Revivalist* Art Director Kevin Moser and including many tributes and photographs was shown. Board member Robbie England presented a summary of the accomplishments of the Avery administration. Dr. Avery, his wife Ruth (GBS '80 BA), and his two sons, Josh and Jonathan, were then brought to the platform and presented with gifts from the Board of Trustees, the staff and faculty, and the student body. Following appropriate remarks, Board chairman Dr. Leonard Sankey received a love offering for the Avery family. Following the service, a reception in their honor was held in the Student Center dining room.

In other action, the Board of Trustees re-elected Mr. Jimmy Wilcox and Dr. Stephen Miller to four-year terms



CELEBRATING TEN YEARS AS GBS PRESIDENT

as trustees, then added the Rev. Carl Eisenhart as a new member. Dr. Leonard Sankey was re-elected board chairman, and Robbie England was elected vice chairman.

CHARLES AND LOTTIE TRYON GIVEN HONORARY DOCTORATES

Founders and retiring directors of GBS's highly-successful Aldersgate Distance Education Program (ADEP) Charles and Lottie Tryon were each granted the honorary degree Doctor of Christian Ministries at the 2005 commencement. President Avery spoke of their early response to Christ's call, first to conversion and then to service. "Love brought them together. Their love for each other birthed five sons and fifty-five years of marriage. Their love for the Lord led them to fifty years of ministry."



Dr. Avery noted that the Tryons had "pastored churches in Colorado, Iowa, and Oklahoma; worked as missionaries in the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Guam, Saipan, Japan, and Hawaii; opened Bible schools for training pastors and lay people; founded the International Association of Bible Fellowship Centers; helped create the world's first Braille New Testament for blind Philippine students; at the request of the US government, went to Japan to work with an adult high school program; assisted in turning traditional classrooms into "Open Learning Centers"; and reopened Open Learning Centers in Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan, Japan, and Okinawa."

At a regional IHC in 2001, as the president noted, the Tryons had shared with him their "burden to educate workers for the Kingdom. Lottie talked and Charles cried and I listened. And out of that discussion, Aldersgate Distance Education was born. The Tryons moved to Cincinnati and launched the program. The rest is history. Men and women in Christian ministry who have not completed a degree are doing so today. Some of the graduates from this graduating class are from the Aldersgate program. They are walking the aisle and turning the tassel because of Charles and Lottie Tryon."

After four years at GBS, the Tryons are returning home to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where they will continue to develop college curricula for use on mission fields. Such materials are now used by 32 overseas missions in Australia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, South America, the Hispanic ministries in Florida, Papua New Guinea, and Haiti.

The new director of ADEP is Paul D. Wolfe. Watch for further information in the September *Revivalist*.

2005 GRADUATES OF GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL, COLLEGE, AND MISSIONARY TRAINING HOME

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Trisha Ayars
Fred Bales
Brent Becker
Kristi Burkett
Tyler Campbell
Cheyenna Childress
Joey Cook
Sarah Cox
Daniel Davis
Nathaniel Davison
Alicia Durham, Salutatorian
Diana Helton
Jewel Hooper
Marty Jamison
Melanie Jones
Stephanie Jowers, Valedictorian
Andy Kline
Aaron Miller

Olena Gurova,
magna cum laude

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN GENERAL STUDIES
Lisa Erin Derscheid
Sherilyn Leigh Stetler

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES AND WORLD MISSIONS
Elizabeth Davis
DeAnne L. Davolt,
cum laude
Ashley Renée Turner

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHRISTIAN TEACHER ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
Amanda Jennifer Akers
Mary Louise Hollenbach,
magna cum laude
Michelle Lynn Hopkins
cum laude

Amy Nicole Morris, *cum laude*
Benjamin Edward Morris

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHURCH AND FAMILY MINISTRY
Ruthanne Marie Ayars,
magna cum laude
Sarah Elizabeth Burkett
Angela Ann Burton, *cum laude*
Jennifer Renee Eckert
Joseph Edward Hedstrom
Brenda Diane Herring,
cum laude
Marjory Ann Sedwick-Pieplow
Meredith L. Moser
Arlette Jeanine Silva

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHURCH MUSIC (NON-PERFORMANCE)
Sandra Jeanne Brown,
cum laude
Rhoda Faith Miles

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES AND WORLD MISSIONS
Jaron Roy Bovard
Dorcas Ruth Byer, magna cum laude, Salutatorian
Joseph Joshua Kretoski IV

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN MISSIONS FOR NURSES
Yorika Sherlynn Hammett

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN MINISTERIAL EDUCATION
Benjamin Locklin Crawford
Curtis Randall Going,
cum laude
Mark Robert Mander,
cum laude
Mark Lee Marriott,
cum laude

Donald Eric Nichols
Joshua Paul Peck
Jonathon Marion Phillips,
cum laude

Joseph Micah Reimann,
cum laude
Gordon Clair Sams, Jr.
Andrew David Street, summa cum laude, Valedictorian
Seth Daniel Wetherald

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MUSIC EDUCATION (K-12, NON-PERFORMANCE)
Aaron Joseph Terry

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MUSIC EDUCATION (K-12, PERFORMANCE)
Amanda Lynn Whitmer,
cum laude

COLLEGE GRADUATES

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN BIBLE AND THEOLOGY

Jonathan David Avery,
summa cum laude
Jeremy R. Robison,
cum laude
Brandy Elice Singleton,
magna cum laude
Paul David Wolfe,
cum laude

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN GENERAL BUSINESS

Jonathan David Avery,
summa cum laude
Jonathan Edward Bartolomeo,
cum laude
Stacey Nicole Burket
Mark David Burton, Jr.,
cum laude
Kristina Dawn Chadwick

FRED BALES RECEIVES HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA 47 YEARS LATER

Forty-seven years after he left high school at GBS, the Rev. Fred Bales of Friendship, Ohio, has received his diploma. According to David Crosley, principal of Aldersgate Christian Academy, Bales, then in his late teens, enrolled as a high school freshman in 1955. He successfully pursued his studies, but only weeks into his senior year in 1958, he was forced to leave campus because of his wife's illness. In the years since, Bales became a successful pastor and evangelist but always wanted to finish high school at GBS. In the fall of 2004 he re-enrolled, taking classes alongside youngsters fifty years his junior. He received his high school diploma at the May 21 commencement as the whole audience gave him a standing ovation. He is pictured in the collage on page eight.

PRESIDENT AVERY CHALLENGES ALUMNI AT IHC ALUMNI RECEPTION

At least 250 people gathered at the Dayton Convention Center, Wednesday, April 20, for the annual GBS alumni reception held in conjunction with the Inter-Church Holiness Convention. Alumni and friends

heard the GBS male quartet Assurance sing several selections. President Avery gave a PowerPoint overview of his ten years as President, as well as his goals for the future. Alumni President Dennis Joslin brought greetings and closed in prayer. The reception was a great time of fellowship for the alumni in attendance. —*Jack Hooker, Vice President for Advancement*



NEW MINISTERIAL SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

Jack Hooker, Vice President for Advancement, announces the creation of a new scholarship endowed by funds from the sale of an historic church building. "In 1870 a small band of Christians began a meeting that would later become South Bend Union Chapel," he explains. "This church along River Road in



Cincinnati had a number of pastors affiliated with GBS including: Richard Miles, Henry Miller, Dennis Sheposh, C. Bonnie Sanders, Kevin Baron, Joe Mears, Gregory Hudson, and Rodney Jackson." In January the congregation disbanded, designating part of the proceeds from the sale of its church building for the South Bend Union Chapel Scholarship Fund for GBS ministerial students. "Our special thanks to this congregation," Hooker adds.

CRYSTAL WOLF RECEIVES WAL-MART TEACHER AWARD

David Crosley, principal of Aldersgate Christian Academy, announces that academy teacher Mrs. Crystal (Reece) Wolf, has been chosen "Teacher of the Year" at the West Chester, Ohio, Wal-Mart on the nomination of her student Nick Fishesser. On May 5, Mrs. Lori Fishesser and Nick presented Mrs. Wolf a Wal-Mart check (p18) ➡



➡(p17) for \$1,000 to be used for learning enhancements and supplies in her classroom. In related news, Principal Crosley presided May 12 over eighth-grade graduation for ACA, GBS's campus K-12 day school. Sheressa Kelso was recognized as valedictorian and Heather Couch as salutatorian.

BRIEFLY NOTED.... "It's the chance of a lifetime! Travel with GBS faculty to Israel," comments Dr. Allan P. Brown concerning **GBS's projected tour to the Holy Land, February 22–March 3.** Be watching in upcoming issues of the *Revivalist* for information about itinerary, price, and other arrangements.... Jack Hooker, GBS Vice President for Advancement, has announced that **Aldersgate Christian Academy has received a grant from the Akron General Development Foundation for a Medtronic LIFEPAK 500 Automated External Defibrillator.** This life-saving device will be available to trained personnel in the



event that a student, staff member, or visitor suffers cardiac arrest. Grant funds have also underwritten the cost of implementation and the training of five GBS staff members in the use of the AED. Miss Janna Hooker is serving as Site Coordinator... **The GBS Student Ministerial Organization held its first Holiness Rally,** Sunday evening, May 15, 2005, with minis-

terial students Ben Crawford, Curtis Going, and P.D. Wolfe, speaking. The rally was hosted by Loveland Wesleyan Chapel, Ray Campbell, pastor. This is the first of what is planned to be an annual event on the Sunday night before the GBS camp meeting. Next year, the holiness rally is scheduled for the Christian Nation Church, Carl Eisenhart, pastor.

**ACCREDITATION VISIT:
SEPTEMBER 19–21**

God's Bible School and College (GBSC) is scheduled for a comprehensive evaluation visit, September 19-21, 2005, by a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The Higher Learning Commission is one of six accrediting agencies in the United States that provide institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Institutional accreditation evaluates an entire

REVIVALIST FAMILY

continued

➡(p11) bookkeeper-secretary and was a member of Christ United Methodist Church choir. She is survived by her daughters, Nancy, Martha, and Susan; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at Christ United Methodist Church with entombment in Memorial Park Cemetery.

Shirley Sherrard Waggoner. "My mother, Shirley Sherrard Waggoner, went to God's Bible School in 1936-37. I want to report to you that she died on March 7 in New Bern, North Carolina. —Wayne Waggoner, email

NOTICES

The Central Pennsylvania GBS Alumni Banquet is scheduled for 10:00 AM, October 22, at the Country Fare Restaurant, Palmyra, Pennsylvania. —Rachel and Robbie England.

The family of the late Rev. Dr. Kenneth Powell, former GBS Vice President for Administration, wishes to obtain copies of any video or audio sermons or lectures of his that are available. They will pay costs of duplication, shipping and handling. Please contact Miriam E. Powell, 1117 Hickory Road, Charleston, WV 25314; phone (304) 345-2205; or email mpowel@baileyglasser.com; or Stephen M. Powell, 303 89th St., Marmet, WV 25315.

"There has been a change in our camp evangelist. Instead of Mark Cravens for the evangelist, it will be James Keaton. This would be for the Ono Camp (also known as the Lebanon Valley Holiness Association), Ono, PA. (August 12-21, 2005)." —Bradley Spitler, President

Jack Hooker, Vice President for Advancement, met recently with seventeen former GBS students

institution and accredits it as a whole, in contrast with program-level agencies, which provide accreditation for specific programs. Accreditation is voluntary. The Higher Learning Commission accredits approximately 1,000 institutions of higher education in a nineteen-state region and is recognized by the US Department of Education and the Council on Higher Education Accreditation.

Since the spring of 2004, GBSC has been engaged in a process of self-study, addressing the Commission's requirements and criteria for accreditation. Among the strengths of the institution identified in that process are the very high student-satisfaction ratings given for faculty, building and grounds, social life, and student body. In all these areas on this nationally-recognized inventory, GBSC students in the fall of 2004 ranked the institution close to the top (above 5.99 on a 7-point scale).

GBSC has also enjoyed enrollment increases and improved reten-

tion rates. In addition, the self-study has noted the significant and positive impact of strategic planning throughout the institution, the progress in assessment of student learning outcomes, and the sound fiscal management that has allowed the institution to pay off all debt while growing its cash-flow reserves and its scholarship funds.

The self-study, which involved all segments of the GBSC campus, also identifies areas for further improvements. GBSC is currently in Phase Three of "Faith in the Future," the first capital campaign in its 105 year history.

In September 2005, the evaluation team from the Higher Learning Commission will visit the institution to gather evidence that the self-study is thorough and accurate. The team will submit a recommendation to the Commission concerning candidacy status for the institution. Following a review process, the Commission itself will take the final action.

PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED

In relation to the upcoming accreditation review by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, the public is invited to submit comments regarding God's Bible School and College:

Public Comment on God's Bible School and College
Higher Learning Commission
North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs, and the comments must be in writing and signed. Comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the comments, and the comments cannot be treated as confidential.

All comments must be received by August 19, 2005. ■

and staff in Cedar Springs, Michigan. The alumni are pictured as follows: *Front row:* Tom and Denise (Joslin) Raisch, Mim Parson, Dave Hoffman, former cook Betty Truesdale and husband Bob. *Second Row:* Chip and Nichole (White) Bullock, Sonja (Stitt) Bishop, Sandra (Brander) Bishop, Danella Joslin, Jonna McCaman. *Third row:* Les and Diana (Cremer) Eckert, Sherry (Walker) Joslin, Jonathan McCaman, Michael Temple. ■

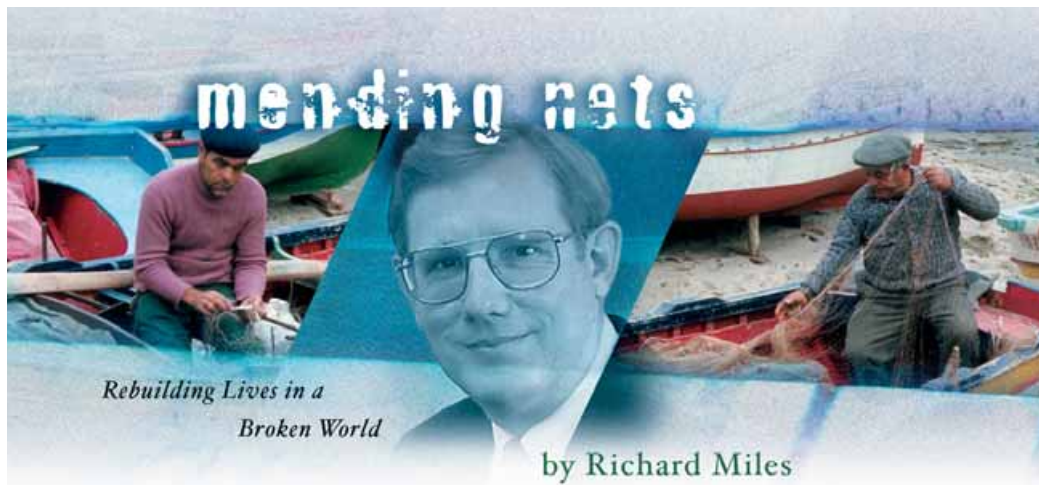


For example, as a Bible college, our main task is to develop a thorough knowledge of the Bible in our students. The accrediting body will insist that our program offerings are geared to do that and that outcomes-assessment testing is done to prove that we are graduating students with a mastery of the Bible. Another example is that we tell students that if they come here we will help them gain a Biblical worldview. The accrediting body will make us show proof of that. (Please note that comparisons of test scores between freshmen and seniors show that our seniors score more than twice as high on a biblical worldview test.)

Our mission is to train preachers, missionaries, teachers and musicians. So the accrediting association will make us prove through outcomes assessment that we are accomplishing that mission and that our students have been given the level of education they were promised. As an institution of higher education, we must make sure that we give students a solid general-education core no matter what their majors may be. The accrediting associations insure that this happens. In short, the accrediting associations insist that we act with integrity and excellence in the training of students.

Let me remind our alumni and friends that the only ones who can change the identity and direction of any institution are the governing board (trustees) and the administration (president). Religious schools have not drifted because of accreditation, but because of the kind of board members who were elected to their governing bodies. Everything rises and falls around leadership and the decisions leaders make. They control the future of their institutions. Let me remind you that the GBSC Board and this president are deeply committed to the historical mission, doctrinal positions, and biblical lifestyles for which the school stands!

The next question is this: "Will GBSC have to hire faculty who are not compatible with its (p22)➡



THE "SHOCKING" PEOPLE IN OUR PEWS

"I was shocked at what someone in our church confided to me. This person needs help, but I promised not to tell because this person did not think the people of the church could accept someone with this problem. What can the church do for someone like this?"

We would be shocked at who are sitting in our pews if they had the nerve to tell us all their problems. We are commanded to "confess [our] faults one to another" (James 5:16) and also to share in our hurting and rejoicing (1 Cor. 12:26). The church must be a place of safety and healing. Note that James 5:16, already cited, commands confession for prayer and healing, not for condemnation or ostracism. Remember also that Paul used his authority for edification, not harm (2 Cor. 10:8).

These "shocking" people in our pews need to believe that the church is for healing and not for harm. Just as Jesus reached out to rescue Peter, so the Church, which is His earthly body, should reach out to rescue all those who are in need of help. Keep in mind, then, that the church is the life preserver, not the drowning weight. When we react to someone different from us with faith and support, we engage that person with grace as Christ would have done.

I once knew a pastor who expressed his fear that when he was visiting in the community he would meet those who were divorced and remarried. So he left such persons alone because he theologically did not know what to do with them. I also know divorced people and people who are remarried after divorce who sometimes believe that their acceptance is questionable in the church; or if they are accepted at all, they fear that they will be relegated to a sort of "second-class" citizenship in God's kingdom. Granted, consequences from past failures may live with us for life, but God's love and grace are no less for any truly born-again believer.

Hear the despair of a non-practicing homosexual: "I hate these struggles, pain and confusion. I hate myself more days than not. I want to be normal with normal friendships and normal sexual desires. Why do I sit here feeling so little hope and like I'm wasting my time going to church because there's no help for me here? Why do I feel such a need for people to tell me that they love me and that I'm important to them? Why do I long so desperately to be a part of the conservative (p23)➡

➡(p21) historic positions?" The answer again is NO! No faculty member can be hired without the approval of the Board of Trustees, and this only after an interview process. Each faculty member has to sign the Statement of Faith that is in the Ministry Bylaws and reaffirm it annually. You can read these bylaws on our website.

More importantly, our program offerings are highly focused by the very nature of our mission. Our mission is to train Christian workers within the Wesleyan/Holiness tradition. Our majors are few and are centered in Christian service. That allows us to capitalize on our strengths and offer a program rooted in excellence. The faculty we need for the degrees we offer can be secured from sound, conservative graduate schools. Future faculty can also be mentored and trained in advance to insure that highly qualified, as well as experienced, people stand before our students. This allows us to maintain program integrity as well as doctrinal purity.

We are now in the self-study phase of the accreditation process, which is the third of five required steps. Step four will be a team visit, which is scheduled for this fall. Step five will be notification of candidate status or notification of issues yet to be resolved.

LOOKING AHEAD

The future promises both significant challenge and glorious opportunity. God has a great deal of work to do in His world and will need young men and women to do that work. He needs people who are thoroughly converted, entirely sanctified, and capably trained to send to the front lines of kingdom expansion. He needs workers who are capable of following wherever He is leading and working within whatever method He is using to redeem the lost.

Muslims are finding the Gospel through websites and Internet links. Discipleship material and Bible classes are going online every day all around the world. Educational missionaries are going into the large urban areas of the world both to educate and evangelize some of the most neglected people on earth. Christian schools are springing up in second- and third-world countries. Cheap travel is turning career missionaries into the equivalent of old-fashioned Methodist "circuit riders," though now on a global scale. These short-term visits offer consulting and training to nationals who can do the job of evangelizing their own people.

GBSC must position itself to educate and equip 21st-century soldiers of the cross. John Wesley used field preaching, societies, and class meetings. Francis Asbury used circuit riders and the camp meeting. Martin Wells Knapp used the printed page, picture placards, and the magic lantern. M.G. Standley used Thanksgiving Day dinners, house-to-house evangelism, and the GI's of the

Cross with their caravans of jeeps, trailers, and tents. We must also engage our day with diverse methods, while at the same time we must remain faithful to the eternal message of God's Word.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: 2005

GBSC held its third strategic planning session in March of this year. A group of about 30 key trustees, administrators, faculty, and students came together to discuss and formulate a comprehensive plan to give the school direction for the next three years. The result was the STAND plan (Strategic Thought and Action for New Developments). This plan will help to keep us focused on fulfilling our mission and prioritize the things that are central to that task. At the same time a strategic planning process will be institutionalized that updates our progress each year. There are four major strategies that we will pursue:

1. *Strengthen Financial Health*

- Continue to identify opportunities for revenue growth, expense containment, and attainment of reserve-fund levels while fulfilling our overall plan.
- Seek to enlarge our donor base and student body.
- Implement a structured plan for faculty and staff salary increases.

2. *Evaluate Organizational Capability*

- Continue to evaluate the organization's strengths and weaknesses.
- Expand and track faculty and staff professional development, adding master- and doctoral-level faculty to all key departments.
- Create and implement a business plan for Aldersgate Distance Ed. growth and curriculum development.
- Update the master facilities plan, including *Faith in the Future* capital campaign completion, funding, revised site layouts, and long-term vision for property acquisition.
- Pursue additional properties adjacent to our campus.
- Expand the Men's Residence Hall using space on the current high school floor.
- Continue with our plans to change the campus entrance.
- Explore the possibility of a campaign for an educational building.
- Engage a technology advisory group to ensure hi-tech classrooms, innovative library resources, online presence, and distance learning program expansion.

3. *Pursue Growth*

- Endeavor to maintain a yearly three-percent increase in enrollment.

- Conduct a market analysis to identify and reach new markets.
- Continue to improve our Attrition/Retention Plan by providing one-stop student services, including Student Learning Center, enrichment resources, and a seamless system of communication between Retention Team, faculty and other constituents.

4. Monitor Mission Impact

Continue to evaluate our programs through testing and tracking to make sure that our students are fulfilling the mission of God's Bible School and College.

YOU AND THE FUTURE OF GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

God's Bible School and College is what it is today because of the faithfulness of God and the faithfulness of His people. Friends of the school like you have stood by her over the years and have given regularly and sacrificially for her support. I couldn't recount all the times when the school had a need and someone sent a letter with a check enclosed, explaining how God had spoken to him or her about the school.

This has been our story—a story of God giving through His people to meet the needs of His school. The alumni and friends of GBSC are the vital link to its future. I thank God for all of you who give and pray regularly for the school.

As we remain true to our mission, demand excellence in our work, remain good stewards of God's gifts, and seek to honor and follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit, we are confident that GBSC's brightest days are still ahead. We need your prayers and support as we continue to do what God has raised up this school to do. ■



By Anita K. Brechbill

ONE SLEEPLESS NIGHT

“On that night could not the king sleep.” Esther 6:1

God is not mentioned in the entire book of *Esther*, but nowhere is His Governing providence more grandly displayed. The fate of a nation hung in the balance. The vice-regent of the most powerful kingdom on earth was well on his way to carrying out the destruction of God's chosen people. Overshadowed by an unseen Presence, guided by an unseen Hand, Mordecai and Esther moved onto center stage, unconscious of the Divine Engineer at the controls. God observed the thoughts of wicked Haman afar off. By the simple expedient of a sleepless night, the victims became the victors, and the course of history was changed.

God is the Master Strategist. To watch the networking of His providential dealings with men is the thrill of a lifetime. Seated upon the circle of the earth, every detail within His vision, He “knoweth the way that we take,” fights our battles for us, and—if we let Him—charts our future. Our part is to obey and trust Him fully. ■

Anita Brechbill, Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania, is editor of *RopeHolders* and a regular contributor to the *Revivalist*.

➡(p21) holiness movement, while at the same time feeling like I never can be? Why does church leave me feeling depressed and more useless and worthless than ever, instead of giving me hope? I just want to feel accepted by them...even by one of them...to feel like I'm important...that I'm connected...that I'm a part of their group...that I'm not some freakish outsider who has never fit in with them and never will.”

Let us not ever forget that the church, reacting as Christ would have done, is to rescue the perishing and to “mend” the broken (Lu .4:18).■

“Mending Nets” explores God's readiness to “mend” the breakdowns which so often mar our lives. It is written by the Rev. Richard Miles, GBS Vice President for Student Affairs. Send questions to be addressed in this column to Mendingnets@gbs.edu



Faith in the Future

Historic Opportunity

Recently five properties that border our campus have become available for purchase. The school has prayed for these properties for at least 30 years. We believe this is an historic opportunity for the expansion of our campus. These buildings will add considerable housing for staff and married students. Acquiring these areas will also help us to beautify the entrance to our campus. This is why we are adding this project to Phase II of the *Faith in the Future Capital Campaign*. Our goal is to raise \$250,000 to purchase these five buildings. Naming opportunities are available for each building or for individual apartments. Please contact the Advancement Office for more information. You may do so by calling Jack Hooker, VP for Advancement, at 513-721-7944, ext. 223, or by emailing jhooker@gbs.edu.



The Campaign For God's Bible School And College



Jack Hooker
Vice President for Advancement

"Thank God for President Avery's vision of 'Faith In The Future.' Join me in also making it our fruitful faith in the fine future that the Father has planned for His school and ours!"

Dr. Wingrove Taylor,
Church Administrator and Evangelist,
GBS Board Member,
Indianapolis, Indiana