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JEREMIAH CHAPEL
Pages 33-36

CEDARVILLE

MAGAZINE



1,000 DAYS

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for the WORD OF GOD and the TESTIMONY of JESUS CHRIST

“**DO NOT CONFORM** to the pattern of this world, but **BE TRANSFORMED** by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to **TEST AND APPROVE** what God’s will is — His good, pleasing and **PERFECT WILL.**”

Romans 12:2



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1,000 Days

by Thomas White

If you look at Scripture, you see a pattern of 1,000 days used for the purpose of personal formation. For instance, in the opening chapter of Daniel, we find King Nebuchadnezzar commanding Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring the best and brightest of the conquered Israelites before him. For three years, these “youths without blemish” were acculturated into a Babylonian worldview. They read Chaldean literature, learned their language, adapted their diets to Nebuchadnezzar’s personal meal plan, and received new names in order to remove any explicit connection to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. This intentional training resulted in a useful citizen for the Babylonian king.

Additionally, as you read the Gospels, you find Jesus devoting Himself to His disciples for three years. From the time He called them out of their relatively obscure lives, every moment was fraught with intentionality, whether it be in the guise of a parable, a meal shared with sinners, or with a washcloth and a basin full of water. Every moment with Jesus had deliberate meaning, all toward the end of preparing them for His commission to go into all the earth and make disciples.

Finally, the Apostle Paul had a three-year waiting period of sorts, writing in Galatians that he “went away into Arabia and returned again to Damascus,” and “after three years I went up to Jerusalem” (Gal. 1:17–18). While we do not know what happened to Paul or exactly how long his “wilderness experience” was, it is possible that God had a deliberate purpose in mind that prepared Paul for his unashamed ministry of the Gospel.

Whether it be living in the midst of Babylon, walking in Galilee with the Messiah, or dwelling in the desert, 1,000 days is a significant amount of

time, and one that God can and has used to shape a person for His kingdom purposes. As Providence would have it, Cedarville University also has its undergraduate students for about four years, amounting to just more than 1,000 days once breaks and holidays are considered.

With the Apostle Paul, we want to intentionally develop our students for God’s mission in their lives, to teach them to look carefully how they walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time (Eph. 5:15–16). At Cedarville, we have deliberately shaped the 1,000 days students have on this campus toward this formative endeavor. From the classroom to the residence hall room, each facet of the Cedarville experience is framed to set students on a Gospel trajectory and help them “understand what the will of the Lord is” (Eph. 5:17).

At the heart of their 1,000 days at Cedarville is chapel. Students, faculty, and staff set aside 10 a.m. each weekday to gather with the Word of God at



the center of their attention. We bring in some of the best preachers from all over the world, such as David Jeremiah, David Platt, J.D. Greear, Al Mohler, Russell Moore, and many others. These world-class Bible teachers train our students and challenge them to grow in their walk with Christ.

From chapel, students go into the classroom, where each of their degree programs is built on our Bible minor. As one might expect, the focus of the Bible minor is just what the name advertises — the Bible. Through courses focused on the spiritual discipline of Bible-reading tethered to prayer, studies on the Old and New Testaments, as well as a survey of theology structured around our doctrinal commitments, the Cedarville student leaves equipped with a passion for God and His Word, and a drive to be a producer and not merely another consumer within the local church.

With this biblical foundation, our students work through the classes of their chosen degree fields, whether it be engineering, pharmacy, history, sports management, or any of our other excellent programs. Regardless of the degree program, each class is taught from a biblical worldview, as our professors shepherd our students in understanding how biblical principles impact their own vocational callings.

Moreover, along with this biblical worldview comes our liberal arts emphasis. At Cedarville, we believe the liberal arts are essential in equipping students to think and write in a clear and compelling manner. Such an approach leaves the budding history teacher and the aspiring engineer not only competent in their given field, but prepared to lead wherever the Lord might send them. The nature of this academic task is precisely why highly trained professors, rather than teaching assistants, fill our classrooms. Indeed, Cedarville is blessed to have men and women who consider the classroom not only a high privilege, but also their God-given mission to train students in a deliberate fashion for academic excellence with a Gospel purpose.

Intentionality is also brought to our student-athletes. Our Yellow Jackets are not just concerned about winning, although I don't mind saying we have been quite successful in that category. What is far more important is infusing our athletic teams with God-honoring sportsmanship. For instance, our volleyball team plays by the time-honored tradition of the "honor call." The honor call happens when the opposing team attacks the ball, it goes out of bounds, but — unseen to the official — grazes the finger of a Yellow Jacket player. In this example, the official would call the point for the Jackets. Instead of taking the point and proceeding with the game (which has become the practice of nearly all other volleyball programs), Yellow Jacket players have been coached to approach the official, let him know of the touch, and the score is reversed to the other team.

Some of our teams write notes to their opponents letting them know they are praying for them. Our teams often travel together on missions trips and study together in Bible study groups. Throughout our entire Athletics Division, our coaches seek to put teams on the court, field, course, or diamond that play first and foremost with a Christlike attitude and know how to win and lose well as they practice and play hard in Christ's name.

Undergirding our students' entire experience at Cedarville is the Student Life and Christian Ministry Division. At the center of our Student Life stand our four core values that we intentionally try to instill in every student: 1) Love for God, 2) Love for Others, 3) Integrity in Conduct, and 4) Excellence in Effort. A life lived with these values will never be a life full of regret. With core values built on the Great Commandment and the Great Commission arise such programs as CU LEAD, which aims to equip leaders around the principles of stewardship, influence, and service, or our discipleship small groups where students can lead and participate in book discussions centered on God's Word. Through our Global Outreach (GO) office, we actively encourage all students to go on a missions trip before they graduate, with the hope that they might put their arms around the world and wed their vocational calling to God's heart for the nations. Whether it be from programs such as these to the life-on-life discipleship opportunities our Resident Directors and residence hall life affords, every facet of student life is deliberately shaped to maintain our students on a Gospel trajectory.

Inside the pages of this magazine, you will read more about this intentionality. You will hear Jason Lee, the Dean of our School of Biblical and Theological Studies, explain the purpose and makeup of our Bible minor. You will read of the legacy of Don Callan, our former Athletic Director, who taught his athletes to use their athletic gifts as an avenue to take the Gospel to the nations. You will also hear from some of our former students, who recount how even years after graduating from Cedarville, they are still benefiting from their deliberately shaped education.

In every way, we want to be intentional. Every meeting with a professor, every meal in the dining hall, every hallway conversation, every chapel, every event, every class, and in every degree, we intentionally design our efforts to develop students for what God has called them to do. We then pray that our graduates will use their God-given talents to get involved in God's great plan and to be on mission for Jesus wherever God places them.

You see, we have to be intentional and clear with these efforts because we only get 1,000 days. So we desire to use every one of those days wisely and intentionally to develop our students for God's purposes. In 1,000 days, we want to equip our students to stand for the remainder of their lives for the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ. 🙏

Thomas White became Cedarville's 10th President in 2013. He received his B.A. from Anderson University (South Carolina) and both his M.Div. and Ph.D. from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the author and editor of numerous publications and is a contributor to Baptist Foundations: Church Government for an Anti-Institutional Age, released June 15, 2015.

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Why a BIBLE MINOR?

by Jason K. Lee

Christian higher education is most relevant to life when it is biblically and theologically grounded. Cedarville University has set the high goal of developing an atmosphere and programs that are, as stated in Cedarville's mission statement, "grounded in biblical truth." Our daily chapels, our Student Life and Christian Ministry programs, and our emphasis on biblical integration in every course demonstrate the rule of Christ over every area of life, including our personal character, behavior patterns, life choices, and areas of knowledge.

Since Cedarville University is committed to do things "For the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ," the Bible minor just makes sense. Cedarville's Bible minor provides the means for all students to develop biblical and theological competence. These courses give Cedarville graduates the building blocks to engage their academic disciplines and professional fields with a theological framework that distinguishes them from their co-workers in integrity and ingenuity.

Cedarville's Bible minor consists of five core courses: Spiritual Formation, Old Testament Literature, New Testament Literature, Theology 1, and Theology 2. Spiritual Formation, the first course in the Bible minor, deals with three big questions that every Christian student faces: "How is the Gospel good news (still)?," "What is my calling?," and "What role does the Bible play in my life?"

Having clarity on the Gospel can help settle a student's questions about whether he or she is in Christ and what relevance that has for daily life. "Calling" is often misunderstood in Christian communities, but it is necessary for every Christian to recognize the call of God to glorify Him in all things, at all times, forever, including in our occupations. The Bible serves as the Christian's guide for life. To access the wisdom of the biblical texts, students learn helpful tools for interpreting the biblical authors' theological purposes in order to develop spiritual maturity.

One important tool learned in Spiritual Formation is the discipline of meditating on God's Word through a consistent habit of Bible reading, memorizing Scripture, and searching for the textual meaning of the Bible. This Bible-centeredness guides the Christian disciple's interactions with others as a friend, family member, church member, colleague, or citizen. The result of being grounded in the Word is a desire to serve others by sharing biblical truth with those in the church and with those who have yet to believe.

The trajectories from Spiritual Formation are then developed in the remaining four courses. Old Testament

Literature and New Testament Literature focus on the biblical texts themselves and their intended meaning. These survey courses demonstrate how the biblical canon establishes the "big picture" message about Christ through various textual features, including historical narratives such as 1 and 2 Samuel and Matthew and poetic wisdom like that of Genesis 49 or Psalm 8.

Through descriptive texts and prescriptive commands, prophecies, and letters, the Bible speaks to today's disciples with clarity and authority. Cedarville's approach is that studying the biblical texts (Old Testament and New Testament) should deepen our love for God, stoke a passion for His purposes, and grow our certain and true knowledge of our Creator as believers who are in Christ (Col. 3:10–11).

Knowing and loving God through our study of the Scripture is central to the Bible's theological purpose. The last two courses in the Bible minor are guided by the Bible's theological core. To complement the biblical canon's own presentation of theology, attempts have been made throughout church history to gather the biblical data under doctrinal headings (i.e., theology proper, Christology, ecclesiology). At Cedarville, the core matters of our Christian faith are addressed in Theology 1 and Theology 2. These courses feature the rich tradition of the church's teaching on essential doctrines like the triune nature of God (as Father, Son, Spirit), the person and work of Christ, and the exclusive nature of salvation for sinful humanity found in the union with Christ.

Additionally, these courses demonstrate the significant value of a specific confessional tradition that is identified by its high view of Scripture and its understanding of biblical teachings on church government, the ordinances (communion and baptism), and the end times. In each of these courses, professors expose students to a broader Christian tradition, but also delineate the strengths of Cedarville's theological positions expressed in our doctrinal statement.

The goal of the Bible minor at Cedarville University is to equip every student, regardless of his or her major,



with the biblical and theological foundation that they need to Be Bold ambassadors for Christ in a secular culture and in their local churches. From the Bible minor, students receive the biblical and theological data they need to join professors in their majors in engaging their specific fields through integration and Gospel witness. Every disciple is a theologian (and, hopefully, a good one).

Cedarville's Bible minor helps produce engineer-theologians, nurse-theologians, musician-theologians, educator-theologians, CEO-theologians, scientist-theologians, and so on. The churches and new church plants that receive Cedarville

graduates have gained church members who are producers, not just consumers, who want to contribute to the church's work in making God's name great in our neighborhoods and to the nations.

As an educator, I am excited about the scope and sequence of Cedarville's Bible minor. It provides rich perspective and academic challenges. As a theologian, I am excited that our approach is biblically grounded. It takes the biblical heritage of our students and plunges them to new depth and understanding of biblical faithfulness.

However, I am most excited about Cedarville's Bible minor as a dad. With my own six children, I recognize the pivotal role

that college will play in taking the truths that my wife and I have imparted to our kids and either sharpening those truths or undoing them. Parents and churches have labored for years to train children and youth in the faith. The Bible minor at Cedarville University is designed to help those students make that biblical faith their own, for life. 🙏

Jason K. Lee is Dean of the School of Biblical and Theological Studies and Professor of Theological Studies at Cedarville University. He earned his Ph.D. in historical theology from the University of Aberdeen. Follow him: [@DrJasonKLee](#)

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Cedar Lake 10
times. Log
PACL exercise
for the day.

Find campus job.
Spend first check on
Young's run.

Join Discipleship Group.
Connect with friends
who love God.

Try out for athletic
team. Win NCAA
championship.

Experience
Syllabus
Shock. Get
semester
calendar in
order.

Go to chapel
first time.
Meet God in a
life-changing
way.

Meet
roommate
at Getting
Started.
Make first
friend for life.

**START
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Play laser tag and watch
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JACKETS

INFLUENCING THE INFLUENCERS

by Mark Womack '82



I don't personally know many people who have a building named after them. I doubt anyone sets out in life with that honor as one of their ultimate goals.

However, I do know this ... If your name is on a building, you've influenced people in some incredible fashion. Period.

Such people like Don Callan, or "Coach" to many of us, are difference-makers in their own special way.

And, so reads the plaque upon entering the Callan Athletic Center, which I see nearly every day upon heading to my office:

"In grateful recognition of the Christian testimony and faithful service of Donald E. Callan as a coach, missions leader, athletic director, professor, department chair, and dean at Cedarville University."

And those titles? Amazingly, he held five of them at one time during his career on campus, which began in 1960.

A man raised out of humble beginnings in southern Indiana, he is still crafting a lasting legacy to match the Bible verse attached to the very building named in his honor.

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2:2).

I've had the privilege to play for him, win championships with him, travel internationally with him, broadcast with him, receive counsel from him, pray with him, and, most importantly, call him a close friend.

I was able to catch up with Coach, who is supposedly retired, late this summer — one day before he was leaving on yet another sports ministry trip.

"I always knew what I was going to do in life," he proclaimed. "Even though I didn't know where I would be, God had put me into athletics to minister.

"After 50 years at Cedarville, I did everything I wanted to do in my life. I just wanted to provide a good example of following Christ and being a witness for Him throughout the world. I've been able to do that."

As a young man, Callan himself was the recipient of the "teach others also" command by his former coach and influencer, the late Don Odle at Taylor University.

"Don Odle had the biggest impact on me, and my life has demonstrated that. Everyone that knew us said I was a clone.

"He may not have been the best coach, but he was the most influential man I was ever around because he was so committed to reaching the lost with the Gospel of Christ."

One three-month trip through East Asia with Odle and the Ventures for Victory basketball team was all it took.

"It was the 1950s, and I think we were the first team to ever use sports for evangelism," he recalled. "It's where I caught the real vision of ministry."

That vision evolved into a worldwide passion for evangelism, much of it involving athletics as the common denominator, spanning seven decades. Callan is also co-founder of Cedarville's Missions Involvement Service (MIS), now known as Global Outreach, in 1970 along with "PG," the late Pastor Harold Green.

Their ambition was the same as that of the current President, Thomas White. "Our desire was to have every student, faculty, and staff member experience what we'd experienced in evangelism," Callan said. "We wanted them to get out and see how the world really is, who the people are, how

lost they are, and how Christ can change their lives. That was always the objective."

That desire alone has influenced scores of people.

Callan ventured out to East Asia with his own team during the summer of 1970. One of the members of that initial squad was Cedarville's current Vice President for Academics and Chief Academic Officer (Interim), Loren Reno '70.

A native of the village of Cedarville and a former Yellow Jacket on the hardwood, Reno is credited with actually coming up with the team's name, Athletes for Christ. "Loren is so special," said Callan. "I'm not sure that he didn't influence me more than I did him."



Reno has a different take.

"Coach Callan taught me much more than basketball. He taught me character, hard work, teamwork, and serving. He modeled all these along with a love for missions.

"Though 15 years his junior, I had trouble keeping up with Coach on and off the court, here at home, and on the missions field. Coach used basketball to teach about life and living for the Lord. He still 'coaches'

many of us today."

Another local product and Cedarville grad, Tim Walker '99, has been the head men's basketball coach at Malone University since 2009. He added, "Outside of my father, no man has had a greater impact on my life. So much so that my wife and I named our youngest son 'Callan' to honor the legacy that Coach has had.

"Whether I am in coaching or any other field, I will always owe a great deal of my commitment to discipleship, local church ministry, and world missions to the impact that Don Callan has had on my life."

True "retirement" doesn't appear to be on the horizon. Coach and Brian Hanson '89 of GateKeepers Ministries continue their work locally with the Central State University football team and the Wilberforce University basketball teams, with many of the players coming to Christ.

God opened the door a few years ago in professional hockey with the old Dayton Gems. When the Lord closed it, He miraculously led them to become the chaplains of the NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets last season.

"I'm not spectacular, but I'm not bashful," Callan explained. "I'll talk to anyone. I've met leaders of countries, ambassadors, and I share the same message with them.

"I meet with the Senior Jackets at the fitness center on campus. Many of them don't know Christ as their personal Savior. I tell them the same stories that I've witnessed in my life and that God does spectacular things in spite of us."

Look at those titles again — coach, missions leader, athletic director, professor, department chair, and dean — and, a godly example in every one of them.

Several years ago, I developed a short list of men who've influenced my life the most.

Coach Callan is on it. 🏀

Mark Womack '82 has been the Sports Information Director at Cedarville University since 1983.

CALLAN'S LEGACY CONTINUES ...

PATRICK ESTEPP '97



Cedarville Men's Basketball Head Coach Pat Estep '97 had moved away from basketball, but Don Callan gave him a chance to step back on the court.

"I transferred to Cedarville from the University of Kentucky, largely due to Don Callan staying in touch with my dad and offering me a walk-on spot with the JV team," he noted.

Callan touched Estep's life again when he was deciding his major. "I was thinking about athletic training," he recalled. "He said, 'I always thought you would be a coach.' God used that to lead me to coaching here."

Estep's third interaction with Callan came on a five-week missions trip to the Philippines.

"I really got to see his heart for missions and people who need the Lord," he said.

"As head coach of a program that Don Callan essentially built, I try to live up to the standard he set," Estep added. "This program should represent Cedarville University and, more importantly, our Savior, Jesus Christ. I hope that what we do is making a lasting impact in the lives of our players and the people we cross paths with."

"We have former players who are missionaries, pastors, coaches, engineers, and teachers. You hope as their former coach they learned something to impact their world for Christ."

TERESA CLARK '75



"During my interview process, he wanted to make sure I was on the same page about using sports as ministry — that's who Don Callan is," commented Teresa (Cooper) Clark '75, Cedarville's volleyball coach from 1996–2005.

Clark, an Associate Professor of Kinesiology, is also Cedarville's Title 9 Coordinator and the NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative. "I serve as a mentor to athletes and a mediator between athletes and faculty," she explained.

Clark had Callan as a professor, and he was the one responsible for hiring her as a coach. "He encouraged all of us as head coaches to be involved with teams through MIS," she said. "He wanted us to do ministry not just here, but abroad. I ended up taking seven MIS trips

with my volleyball teams. He influenced me to influence them to use sports to lead others to Christ."

Three of Clark's former volleyball players are head coaches — one at Lancaster Bible College in Pennsylvania and two at high schools. Last summer, Kelsey (Jones) Carter '06 took some of her players from Cedar Cliff Local Schools on a trip to Costa Rica.

"Coach changed my mindset that missions should be a goal for my coaching, and I'm so glad. And now the next generation is influencing their athletes to do the same, and that's exciting," Clark said.

KIRK MARTIN '76



"The greatest thing that happened in my spiritual walk was the day I was hired at Cedarville," noted Women's Basketball Head Coach Kirk Martin '76.

"When the people who hire you convey nothing but confidence, it allows you to move forward believing in what you're doing," Martin said. "(Coach Callan's wife) Nedra and he have been phenomenal encouragers."

Callan strongly urged Martin to take his teams overseas through the former MIS. "I'd never been on a missions trip in my life," Martin said. "Through his encouragement, I took my team on one every other year for eight years."

"When I was hired here, the godly leadership was amazing," he added. "It wasn't

about basketball but using basketball for Christ."

Among those influenced by Martin, who are now influencing others, are Cedarville assistant coaches Kari (Flunker) Hoffman '05 and Stacie Travis '07. "I have former players coaching middle school, high school, and at the collegiate level," Martin said. "I have one playing professional basketball in Australia, Brittany Smart '07. Raegan Ryan '15 went on an Athletes in Action basketball trip to Israel this summer."

"This is what Don would have hoped for us and what I hope my legacy will be," Martin noted.

CORE VALUES BUILT ON THE SOLID ROCK

by Clem Boyd



LOVE FOR GOD · INTEGRITY IN CONDUCT
EXCELLENCE IN EFFORT · LOVE FOR OTHERS

The foundational truths that guide Cedarville University are clearly on display between DeVries Theatre and the dining hall in Stevens Student Center: LG, LO, IC, and EE.

"This covenant is in everything we do: Love for God (LG), Love for Others (LO), Integrity in Conduct (IC), Excellence in Effort (EE)," noted Jon Wood, Vice President for Student Life and Christian Ministries. "Those are our core values."

"Those core values have been the bedrock of what we've tried to do and what Cedarville has always done in the lives of students," observed Brian Burns '95, Director of Student Life Programs.

"I remember Dick Walker '74 talking about your commitment to love the Savior; Paul Dixon asking how we love others and if we were serving; that you were doing what you said you would do, your integrity; saying everything done in the name of Christ should have quality stamped all over it — excellence."

Such values have always been important because of their biblical underpinning in the Great Commandment (Matt. 22:37–40) and the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18–20). In a day when rapid change is the norm, these values are more important than ever.

"We stand in the great tradition that higher education is built on the foundational truth that God is the Creator of the universe," Wood said. "And the study of all knowledge is worship and pursuit of Him."

"We define leadership with three key words: stewardship, influence, and service."

There's always been spiritual darkness, Wood affirmed, but over the last two centuries there's been a deepening antagonism to a Christian worldview in Western culture. "This is our opportunity to equip students to stand as those who speak to the culture around us with the specific truth of the Gospel and the general truth of human origins and marriage and sexuality," he said.

"This isn't just about wanting to be right, but it's the way God designed life. Human flourishing depends on society living according to His truth. The more culture deviates from this into darkness, the more it will ultimately break down the flourishing of our society and the people around us. It's really a matter of love that, as the darkness increases, we take seriously our stewardship to equip students to engage the world around them."

MAKING STUDENTS BETTER

Student Life and Christian Ministries (SLCM) is a large umbrella at Cedarville, capturing just about every aspect of a student's nonacademic experience, from living in a residence hall, to growing in a discipleship group, to singing with HeartSong. It encompasses nine different departments: Student Development, Student Life Programs, Career Services, Church Relations, University Medical Services, Campus Recreation, Production Services, Global Outreach (GO), and Discipleship Ministries.

"They all fill one of three functions," said Wood. "They provide campus services to students, they equip students, or they provide opportunities for students to reach out and impact the world."

In today's higher education terminology, SLCM is responsible for the cocurricular side of the Yellow Jacket learning environment.

"We come alongside the academic foundation of the University to help students grow in their spiritual depth, moral character, and professional and

God that is day in and day out, where they're engaging in a prayer life and have a mindset of service and discipleship."

It's really the big picture of Christian education — helping shape minds and hearts transformed by the Word of God. "They will be able to know and approve what God's good, pleasing, and perfect will is," Wood said, citing Romans 12:2. "He wrote a book for us to know Him and know the world He created from His perspective. When we pursue that, we can think rightly and develop professionally in a way that will glorify Him, whether we go out as nurses, accountants, or missionaries."

The tagline of a familiar ad campaign expresses SLCM's mission well — we don't make the products you use, but we make them better. "The core of accomplishing this is the faculty, who model a Christian commitment and deep walk with God and exhibit professional excellence in a particular field," said Wood. "Our job is to augment and enhance what they do."

LEADERSHIP DEFINED BY GOD

Part of that enhancement is helping Cedarville students know and live out the Bible's view of leadership. "Leadership is discipleship," Wood said. "Leadership is not just tied to being in front of people, or even having an obvious title. We define leadership with three key words: stewardship, influence, and service."

Burns added, "Leadership is the stewardship of one's God-given gifts, abilities, and opportunities in seeking to influence and serve others."

That definition is rolled out, explained, and discussed during Getting Started Weekend. "If you wait till they're sophomores, you've missed it," Burns said. "When they're with their Resident Assistants (RA) and they hear, 'We need to be good stewards,' there will be that connector right from the beginning."

Not all Cedarville students will hold leadership positions, but it's hoped that by beginning the discussion early on, they'll retain a stewardship-influence-service definition of leadership by graduation. "The University's mission is to create lifelong learners," Burns said. "We better make

sure everyone has heard a good definition of leadership.”

Regardless of your role in life, you can exercise biblical leadership, Wood affirmed. “An average person has a sphere of 40 people,” he said. “In that sphere, however humble it may seem, think of yourself as a leader pursuing influence and providing an example. It’s not about speaking on stage, or being a boss, but about seeking to influence others for their good, their maturity in Christ, and their flourishing.”

A right view of leadership begins with stewardship. “It’s the idea that everything is from God,” Burns said. “Students usually think they’re going to earn positions. Yes, that’s part of it. But the employer or the board is the one that says, ‘Yes, I want you to be the CEO.’ Every position we will ever have in life has been given to us by humans and by God.”

For Rachael Tague ’16, who serves on the Executive Board for the Stevens Student Center information desk, that idea has been revolutionary.

“I was class president for three years and I enjoy being able to have a say,” Tague said with a smile. “God gave me this position to honor and glorify Him. It’s not something I should take lightly. The people around me have also been given their positions by God. I need to respect where they’re coming from.”

The Student Life definition of leadership, and all of its ramifications, is discussed by each organization on campus as it trains leaders for the coming school year, whether the leaders be tour guides, club leaders, RAs, HeartSong team members, or Discipleship Council participants. Then in January, Student Life puts on a two-day CU LEADership Conference where the biblical message about leadership is emphasized through plenary speakers and workshops. The 2016 conference will be January 22–23 (cedarville.edu/culead).

“I went to a conference session last year led by Dr. [Jeremy] Kimble [Assistant Professor of Theology] where he talked about Jesus as a leader,” noted Carly Conley ’17. “He showed different aspects of Jesus’ leadership, as a shepherd, as a king, and as a humble servant. Then he broke that down to how we should lead

if we’re working at the help desk, or as an organization adviser, or as a barista at Rinnova.”

Rodrigo Reis ’16 led a group of nine leaders last school year as part of Discipleship Council. “I learned from CU LEAD that discipleship is supposed to happen everywhere at any time,” he said. “It is a lifestyle that requires the leader to walk close to Christ, filled with His Spirit. That pushed me to cultivate with Christ a life of prayer and daily meditation on the Word of God. I knew and still know that I need to be filled in order to pour in the lives of others.”

Abigail Hile ’16, an RA in Printy Hall, said the January conference challenged her to reflect on the outcome of her influence.

“Paul tells people to ‘imitate me as I imitate Christ,’ and that was a difficult question to process in my own heart,” Hile said. “If the girls I was leading were to imitate me and follow my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith [as in 2 Tim. 3:10], would that make them look more like Christ? Or more like sinful Abigail?”

Before the end of each academic year, nearly 1,000 student leaders meet for a brief session in their respective organizations to pray for people they will influence during the next school year. This is meant to propel them to pray throughout the summer.

“Leadership begins with prayer, because prayer is the first and most important way you can serve other people,” Wood explained. “We urge our student leaders to humbly get before the Lord and seek His direction and guidance about how to really steward, influence, and serve. He’s the one who taught us how to do it, so we need to rely on Him to make it happen.”

“Equipping students to lead in a way that stands on the four core values and emphasizes prayerful serving will set them up to make a lasting impact in the world,” he stated.

And that’s the kind of change that could shore up the foundations of a society that keeps slipping into sinking sand. 🙏

Clem Boyd is Managing Editor of Cedarville Magazine.

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CEDARVILLE SHOUTOUT

#CVILleshoutout

Who made a difference in your life for Christ during your 1,000 days at Cedarville University? That's the question that went out over email and social media this summer, and the response was tremendous in its variety and sincere in its depth. Check out these responses. Maybe you'll be reminded of someone who touched your life deeply.



Ves Rieches '11 with
Thomas Mach '88

I will always remember the day **Thomas Mach '88**, department chair and professor in the history department, said, "I am never too busy to meet with you." He is one of the best examples of an educator I have ever had. I am thankful for our friendship that remains today.

Like Comment Share



As Mainers, my husband and I were always blown away by the annual gatherings at **the Dewhursts**! We weren't his students, but Tim and his family went above and beyond to make the students from New England feel a little less homesick.

MICHELLE (CORNING) WHEELER '02



**DAVID
WOODMAN '65**

Early '60s ... **Charlie and Betty Tartar**, he in maintenance, she in the dining hall. But their home was ALWAYS a haven for us homesick freshmen. And they always had fresh popcorn and an encouraging word.

Retweet Star More



Chuck [McKinney, former Director of Food Service], you gave me a GREAT job for four years!! Long live the hairnets and the dish pit.

BECKY (KLOPP) INMAN '87



Patricia (Cook) Kreuger '66 with **Dale Thomson '56, Donald Baumann, Daniel Wetzel, Floyd Elmore '77, and Bert Frye**

I would like to thank **Dale Thomson '56, Donald Baumann, Daniel Wetzel, Floyd Elmore '77, and Bert Frye** for all their support and encouragement during the three years I was secretarial support for the science department. There were times I was tired and pressured with classes at both Cedarville and Central State, and they gave me time to catch my breath. They also taught me science lessons I was able to use later when I taught in Africa.

Like Comment Share



Teena (Coronato) Bryson '86 with
Jane Travis, and James Phipps '68

Jane Travis, who worked in the bakery at Chuck's, was my mentor and friend. **James Phipps '68** was my spiritual encouragement while I was going through some trials. God provided him with great wisdom.

Like Comment Share



Sherri (Wilson) Patterson '84 with
Pat Dixon

If it were not for **Mrs. Dixon**, I probably would not have graduated. She got me back on track after struggling with too many classes in the wrong major. She helped me learn how to take the necessary steps at the right pace to complete my degree. I will forever be grateful to God for her.

Like Comment Share



I will never forget **Dwayne Frank '60** and what he did for me 46 years ago while I was student teaching. I had a very positive experience in my first half of student teaching sixth grade. The teacher I worked with was very positive, encouraging, and friendly. For the second half, I was going to be with a teacher who was thought to be unfriendly and did not relate well to students and fellow teachers. I dreaded the transition and Dr. Frank understood.

On my first day with the new teacher, I was feeling down. I looked up and Dr. Frank came into the room. He talked to me in the hallway and said, "I thought you could use a friend today." I was touched by Dr. Frank's thoughtfulness, and I have never forgotten it. I was not even a student of Dr. Frank, yet his caring, sensitive, and nurturing heart caused him to drive all the way to my school when he was so busy.

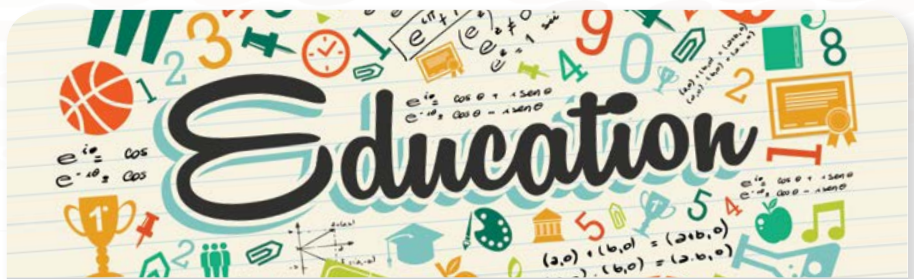
ROBERT PEREIRA '69



ANDY CHESTERMAN '10

Brian Burns '95 was over us at the time I served on the Student Center Activity Board (SCAB). I grew so much as a leader under him. I learned how to inspire others, how to work hard, and how to go the extra mile. He always pushed us to do better and to do the very best we could in everything, if it was emceeing an event, planning a concert, vacuuming popcorn, or decorating the SSC all night for Christmas.

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My field experience for the elementary education program was with sixth graders at a Christian school, and I was miserable the whole week! I felt awkward, I couldn't connect with the kids, I had to dress up, I didn't think I could be spiritual enough, and I didn't enjoy any of it! As I wrote my response paper, I had no confidence in myself and thought that I had probably picked the wrong career. I was waiting for **Merlin Ager '60**, my adviser, to tell me to hit the road and find another major! Instead, he encouraged me not to give up and helped me work through my fears and doubts. It turns out that I just didn't enjoy sixth graders! (Still don't!) And public school teaching was where God was calling me to serve. I ended up going on to become an elementary teacher and have spent many years working with younger students and special needs students in the public schools. Teaching is truly my God-given calling and passion. I will be forever grateful for Dr. Ager's encouragement and belief in me!

JOANNA (GRISSOM) EHLERS '95



Judy (Runge) King '86 with
Dan Estes '74

One day I stayed after Inductive Methods of Bible Study class to speak with **Dan Estes '74**, ashamed for not having the work completed, close to tears, and considering dropping out. With great compassion, he listened to my explanation, prayed with me, and then offered me a way to keep up. I was so touched and later realized what a picture of grace he was illustrating for me. He later sent me a personal note of encouragement through intercampus mail, which spoke volumes to my heart. I am delighted that my son Andrew can experience Cedarville now, too. Thank you, Dr. Estes!


Like Comment Share

Kim Jenerette '83 was a cocky freshman when he arrived in Cedarville from Long Island, New York. "I did not care how I treated other people," he noted.



Unexpected **HARVEST**

by Clem Boyd

A man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a blue and white striped button-down shirt and dark pants, stands in a field of tall green plants. He is smiling at the camera. The background is a dense field of similar green plants.

Evan English '88 pushed the envelope on the University's code of conduct. "I was seeking the wrong crowd," he admitted.

Julia (Moran) Mueller '09, M.S.N. '15

lived an isolated life her last two years of her undergrad studies. "I was weary from my struggle with sin," she explained.

Yet today, one serves as Cedarville's **Executive Director of Financial Aid**, another serves on the **Board of Trustees**, and the last recently completed a **master's program** here.

Like seed that germinates late, all three of these alumni are examples of the Lord's unexpected harvest from Cedarville University.

SELFISH GUY

"My first two years at Cedarville, I basically led a very selfish life," Jenerette said.

But he had an epiphany one summer. "I began to question why I was still at Cedarville," he said. "I decided to either make changes or transfer." His



conclusion? "I came back junior year and was a lot friendlier. But I recognized there was still a void."

A soccer injury left Jenerette, a Yellow Jacket winger, feeling more unsteady. "That fall, the Lord began taking some things from me," he said. "I broke my right big toe, and that took playing time away. The Lord took away 100 percent

health. It just made me think more and more."

At the winter Missions Conference in 1982, God spoke to Jenerette through a speaker. "I vividly remember him pointing his finger in my general direction and saying, 'You're not living your life right for the Lord and you know it; you need to get right with the Lord.'"

Jenerette wrestled with going forward, but decided to wait. The call to action came again. "I remember thinking, 'I'm going to live for you, Lord,'" he said.

He spoke briefly with Pastor Harold Green, former Campus Pastor and Vice President for Christian Ministries at Cedarville, and then walked to the back of Jeremiah Chapel to receive one-on-one counseling.

He spoke with John Hart '81, Cedarville University's General Counsel today, but a first-year Admissions Counselor then. "I prayed with him to accept Christ," Jenerette said. "At that moment, I didn't realize that's what I needed to do. I just knew I wanted to live for Christ now."

Jenerette had a new direction and began reading four Bible chapters a day, growing in his faith. But he needed outside involvement. After a heart-to-heart conversation with Don Callan, then Athletic Director at Cedarville, he knew what he needed to do. He reached out to Green, affectionately known as PG, to mentor him and his roommates.

Graduating with a bachelor's degree in education, Jenerette taught for several years at a Christian school, then switched to business, working for Crown Home Furnishings in product management, production control, and engineering.

He returned to college at Coastal Carolina University to earn his social studies certification. While

there, he began working in the financial aid office part time. He has continued to work in that capacity ever since, including three years ago when he was hired as the Executive Director of Financial Aid at Cedarville.

Jenerette admitted he was in a dry spell for several years before returning to his alma mater. Friends all over the country, including Cedarville alumni, loved him and prayed for him. "There's a Bible verse I use: 'A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out' (Isa. 42:3). That was me. The Lord remained faithful to me as I was not faithful to him."

RULE-STRETCHER

English came to Cedarville University with a chip on his shoulder. "I wanted to look at other schools," he related. "But my mom told me I had three choices: Cedarville, Cedarville, or Cedarville." He started at Cedarville thinking he would do his time and then switch schools in a couple years.

His poor attitude worked itself out in a lifestyle that showed disregard for Cedarville's standards — but just far enough so he wouldn't get caught. "I was a fence walker who regularly jumped on the wrong side, but then I'd jump back on to look respectable again," he



explained. Then a friend confronted his hypocrisy. "She looked at me, and with love and honesty, said, 'If you expect me to think that behaving outside of the code of conduct that we both signed is cool, then you are sorely mistaken. As a matter of fact, I think it means your word is worth nothing. If you don't value your word, how can I value your word?'"

That friend was Layne Etchison '88, whose last name just happens to be English now.

"I heard everything taught in chapels and in my fundamental Bible classes," he said, "but it was one of those moments, when someone speaks in your life, and it started a train of thought: 'What are you going to do with your life? Are you throwing away your time at Cedarville? What is your spiritual worth?'"

From that point on, English started investing more seriously in his spiritual growth. He drew up a philosophy of business while a member of Cliff Fawcett's business seminar class: God, family, then business.

"Those were the three main points," he said. "Over the next 27 years since graduation, I've been constantly returning to that philosophy of business."

He and Etchison also started dating. "That strengthened my resolve for the battle," he said. "I wanted to do it not only for myself and for God, but I also didn't want to let her down."

He might have escaped his spiritual slide without Etchison's rebuke. But maybe not. "I could have skated through without Cedarville's message gaining traction in my life," he said. "My tires were just spinning. I was headed back to our family business after graduation where I would have to toe the line again."

"Still, I would say that accountability is key. It's easy to live a two-faced life when you are not transparent with someone who will speak the truth to you. I don't know who that would have been if it wasn't Layne."

English, CEO and President of Olde English Outfitters, joined the Cedarville University Board of Trustees in May 2015.

HURTING HEALER

Mueller was excited to attend Cedarville. "My brother had attended Cedarville," she said. "I'd attended a Christian school my whole life, and there were a lot of people from my church who went to Cedarville. There was a long history there."

Her first two years were all that she had hoped. "I played JV volleyball freshman year," she said. "I went on a missions trip sophomore year. I was involved and had a large friend group."

But an internal battle sidelined her. "My sophomore year into junior year, I started struggling with body image and an eating disorder," she said. "It affected my whole life: My grades started to suffer; my friendships suffered; even my relationship with my family suffered."

She stepped away from Cedarville in the spring. "I took the semester off my third year for some intensive counseling at home," Mueller explained. "I returned junior year, but I was still struggling."

Taking a semester off set Mueller back socially, as well as academically. "I lost some of my friend groups because they kept going and I was a year behind," she said. "I became pretty secluded even though I lived on campus. It was by my own choice." Her fifth

and final year she lived off campus and the seclusion worsened.

In spite of her withdrawal, close friends — Casey O'Neal '06 and Julie (Martz) Anderson '08 — and her adviser, Sharon (Klopfenstein) Christman '92, never gave up on her. "Sharon met with me weekly to talk about nursing, but she'd ask me about life, too,"

Mueller said. Christman asked tough questions and wouldn't let her get away with easy answers. She was the mentor Mueller needed at that point in her life.

She is also thankful for Angelia Mickle, currently the Interim Dean of the School of Nursing. "She really advocated for me in the nursing program."

By Mueller's senior year, she had recovered academically, making the dean's list. Despite her internal battles, God was using Cedarville people to help her begin to heal.

After graduating in 2009, Mueller lived in the Cincinnati area two years, then moved to Dayton to work as a cardiovascular intensive care nurse at Good Samaritan Hospital. She lived with Cedarville alumni Devon '95 and Beth (Irving) Berry '93.

"God used them to help me understand how to apply the Gospel to the way I saw my body," Mueller said. "I wanted my body image and eating disorder to be gone. I missed the point that God was trying to use it to make me more like Himself. God didn't look at my performance and equate that to my standing before Him."

In 2012, she married husband Trevor '06, whom she'd met her fifth year at Cedarville. They live in Springboro, Ohio, and are expecting their first baby next year.

Mueller finished her Master of Science in Nursing degree at Cedarville this summer. Although the seed planted underwent a harsh growing season, Mueller has experienced the fruit of her Cedarville experience. "I have a greater appreciation for Cedarville today due to God's work in my heart," she explained.

And that's a harvest worth celebrating. 🌾

Clem Boyd is Managing Editor of Cedarville Magazine.





MONU- MENTOR



CEDARVILLE PROFESSORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE, ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

by Michele (Cummings) Solomon '91

In light of findings from a 2014 Gallup study on college outcomes, it turns out Cedarville has a decisive advantage over other institutions of higher education. "Feeling supported and having deep learning experiences during college means everything when it comes to long-term outcomes after college," noted Gallup's Brandon Busteed. "Unfortunately, not many graduates receive a key element of that support while in college: having a mentor. And this is perhaps the biggest blown opportunity in the history of higher ed." (To read the study, visit cedarville.edu/gallupstudy.)

But Cedarville University is different. What is a glaring omission in many U.S. institutions

of higher education is a shining and prominent feature of Cedarville's mission. From Discipleship Ministries to Residence Life, students at Cedarville have people who intentionally build into their lives. But perhaps the greatest source of mentoring is from faculty members. They are highly credentialed professionals who choose to pour their lives into students, modeling their passion for Jesus as well as their field of study.

Throughout its history, Cedarville has been blessed with faculty members who are selfless in their pursuit to influence the next generation of students. Whether they serve at Cedarville for five or 50-plus years, Cedarville professors give of themselves to their students at just the right time, in just the right way. It is who they are and what they do.

GIVING TIME

Faculty members at Cedarville know that time inside the classroom is just the beginning of forming relationships with their students. To make a difference — a real, lasting difference — professors spend time outside of class, and it may not be during regular office hours.

Stephen Boalt '62 transferred to Cedarville University with a passion for music. He played the trumpet but dreamed of being a vocalist and ultimately serving as a music minister. Something always held him back from being the singer he wanted to be. Enter Richard Cooke, Boalt's trumpet and vocal instructor at Cedarville, who served on the faculty of the music department from 1958–1962. After spending time with Boalt, Cooke determined something was restricting his throat.

Using his personal time outside of class, Cooke drove Boalt to a specialist in Columbus who diagnosed the problem and provided corrective surgery to remove growths from Boalt's throat. "Following the surgery and a period of healing," said Boalt, "I was able to sing like never before, with a three-octave range in full voice." He has since gone on to record nine full orchestral solo albums with some of the greatest musicians in the world. And it all began when a professor took the time to dig deeper.

Beth Cram Porter, current Chair of the Department of Music and Worship, is impressed — but not surprised — by Boalt's story. That same legacy of mentoring continues with the music department today. "Mentoring students is one of the highlights for faculty at Cedarville. We take this very seriously in our department," she said.

Mark Tucker '07 was a senior when he discovered the value of having a professor willing to go above and beyond to help a student. Tucker was interested in learning a skill outside of his electronic media major, but couldn't afford to take an extra course. His adviser, Clark Greer, an Assistant Professor of Communications from 1999–2007, gave up several hours a week to meet with Tucker and teach him Adobe Photoshop.

"He and I met regularly and worked our way through the tutorial, from page one to nearly the end," Tucker explained. "By the end, I was able to master the software and achieve a marketable skill, all without adding to my debt." Jim Leightenheimer '80, Associate Professor of Communications, confirmed Tucker's recollection of Greer. "Dr. Greer definitely spent significant time not only with Mark, but with other students pursuing research interests," he recalled. "My colleagues and I still value these mentoring relationships as some of the best things that we are able to invest in here at Cedarville," Leightenheimer continued.

Looking back at her four years at Cedarville, Lauren (Hanna) Sterrett '06 recognizes that the time April Crommett, Associate Professor of Exercise Science, spent with her outside of the classroom was as important — or even more important — as the time they spent inside the classroom. Sterrett recalled trips with Crommett to two national exercise science conferences as pivotal in helping her choose a career path. "We had hours to discuss the most fitting career choice for me," Sterrett explained. "My education was expanded far beyond the classroom."

When it was time for Sterrett to investigate graduate schools, Crommett went along with her to visit two programs, helping

her reason through a tough decision. Years after Sterrett's graduation from Cedarville, Crommett witnessed her master's thesis defense from the graduate program she helped her enter. "She still sends me notes and gifts of encouragement nine years later," Sterrett shared. "I am so thankful for her investment in me." Crommett remembered Sterrett as a student with great energy and charisma. "It was easy to come along beside her and encourage her dreams," she recalled.

Jamie (Widman) Koser '11 asked Sharon (Klopfenstein) Christman '92, Professor of Nursing, to mentor her during her final year in the nursing program. The two met together regularly throughout that last year. "Looking back now, I realize how much our regular meetings were a sacrifice to her," Koser recalled. "Often, we'd meet in the later afternoon and her two young kids would be around." Koser was an "out-of-the-box thinker" who always had big questions, Christman recalled. "It was a pleasure to meet with her regularly to talk about God, life, and nursing," she added.

SHARING TALENT

As with any professional field, experience brings insight and perspective that can make your work more enjoyable and your end results outstanding. Instead of holding onto that prized knowledge, Cedarville's professors share it freely. Boalt recalls his time spent in class with James T. Jeremiah, Cedarville's then President, fondly and with deep appreciation. "I knew that I didn't have the means to attend seminary like some of my classmates," he explained, "so I made the most of the classes taught by Dr. Jeremiah."

He was riveted by courses such as Bible Doctrine, Baptist History and Polity, Systematic Theology, and others, soaking up every bit of knowledge he could glean from his esteemed professor's compassion and powerful ability to teach. "These classes put some tools in my tool kit for serving the Lord in later years," he said. It was Jeremiah who recommended Boalt for his first ministry position, setting the course for a lifetime of service in music evangelism, preaching and singing in 35 countries, traveling two million air miles, and reaching countless souls for Christ.

Koser described Christman as being able to "teach the socks off any subject." Her greatest lesson, perhaps, was teaching students to have confidence in themselves as superior nurses because they were Christian nurses. "She explained to our class that because we have the power of God in us, we have the ability to see, hear, feel, smell, and sense things that other nurses cannot," Koser explained. "I was shocked,

and excited, to discover after graduation that what she said was actually true!"

Sterrett recounted the "infectious enthusiasm" Crommett had for exercise science and applying its principles to promote healthy living, which made her students want to learn. Crommett had worked and studied in Christian and secular universities, giving her a wide breadth of knowledge to pass along. She nurtured Sterrett's interest in research, teaching her the research process and helping her present her first research project at a conference in Washington, D.C. And, according to Sterrett, "She even encouraged my crazy notion to write a book and helped me write a first draft." Passing along knowledge, encouraging scholarship, building confidence ... just another day's work for a Cedarville professor.

POINTING TOWARD TRUTH

At most universities and colleges across the country, you'll find professors who spend time with and impart knowledge to their students. So, what's really different about Cedarville? More than anything, professors here point their students to the truth of God's Word, integrating it into every lesson in every course. Students don't just learn facts and figures; they learn how to live a life that honors God in whatever profession He leads them to.

Tucker prayed with Greer before choosing a class schedule for an upcoming semester. A small thing, perhaps, but a reminder from a professor that every decision — whether small or large — should be committed to God first.

Sterrett recalled discussions with Crommett about living out her faith in any environment. "Dr. Crommett encouraged me to trust the Lord and His ways as I navigated life during college and graduate school," she shared. Crommett's personal story of trusting God in her own life — and a drastic move from the South to Cedarville — was an important example to her students then and now. After teaching at secular schools, Crommett enjoys the difference she finds teaching at Cedarville. "It is a blessing to teach at a university that promotes relationships that go beyond just student-professor," she explained. "I can pray with my students and encourage them

in their struggles as they grow and develop."

While a student, Koser marveled at how Christman balanced all the roles in her life — Christ-follower, wife, mother, nurse. "I knew she was so connected to Jesus, and I yearned to figure out how to balance life the way she did," she explained. Those lessons still impact Koser today, now that she is balancing faith, family, and career herself.

"Dr. Christman didn't just challenge me academically," Koser explained. "She challenged me spiritually, speaking words of healing, wisdom, and hope — always in a way that seemed supernatural in timing and tone."

For Porter, influencing a student's spiritual walk is more important than anything her department's faculty does in the classroom. "If a student graduates as a stellar musician or worship leader but is a mediocre person, we have failed. We are called to make disciples of our students, and that means engaging them beyond notes and rhythms," she explained.

ACHIEVING TODAY

Boalt currently serves as the Founding Pastor of Grace and Mercy Fellowship in Glendale, California, and radio host for Salem Interactive Media's KDAR-FM in Ventura County, California. Tucker spent seven years as the Media Director for a church in Florida before recently returning to Cedarville as the University Videographer. He is excited to work with current students who are interested in video production, passing along his expertise and investing in their lives as Greer did for him. Koser works part time as a registered nurse for Heartline Pregnancy Center in Warsaw, Indiana, and serves as the Mission Coordinator for Mission Point Community Church, where she plans, coordinates, and oversees outreach activities that impact her community — and the world — for Christ. Sterrett recently completed a second Master of Science program. She is now a physician assistant working in pediatric cardiovascular surgery at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

Lives that were touched, now touching others. 🙏

Michele (Cummings) Solomon '91 is the Copy Editor for Cedarville University Marketing.



A MENTOR'S LEGACY

Thomas Mach '88, Chair of the Department of History and Government, shares how Murray Murdoch, Senior Professor of History, had a monumental impact on his life.

Murray first impacted my life when I was a student at Cedarville. His stimulating lectures breathed new life into my interest in history.

Murray helped foster a call on my life that kept me focused through the long years of graduate school. He had faith in me when I did not. I loved history, but that did not draw me to graduate school. It was a call to teach, to mentor, and to disciple that I had seen modeled by Murray.

I taught six years before returning to Cedarville. Murray had always been my teacher and mentor, but now he became my friend. Through some of the most difficult challenges of my life, Murray's door was always open for godly counsel, encouragement, prayer, and, when needed, a hug. Murray elicits both respect and love. He has both from me.

Now, our roles have reversed. I serve as chair of the department he led for 25 years. He delights in calling me "boss." While our responsibilities have changed, our relationship has not. I regularly seek his counsel and listening ear, and he is always available. I strive each day to be the type of leader he is. He facilitated the success of those that worked under him. He quickly sized up a situation and proposed a solution that everyone could accept. Without fail, he pointed us to the Word of God, whether for encouragement or correction. And he did it all with grace and kindness. I do not have these wonderful attributes, but Murray has set a standard for which I strive.

I am so grateful for his investment in my life. I can honestly say, I would not be at Cedarville University today, doing what I love, had not God put him in my life.

At His Weakest, Jesus Was Strong to Save



The following is an excerpt from an August 18, 2015, chapel presentation by Clayton King. King was this year's speaker for the 2015 Fall Bible Conference. Listen to his full remarks and other conference messages at cedarville.edu/chapel.

You're going to be surprised to find that Jesus was never stronger than His weakest moment, and His weakest moment was when He was nailed to a cross. Join me in Luke 23 as I show you a God who is strong enough to save even in weakness.

in time when you were born. It's on your birth certificate. You didn't just sort of come alive. You were born.

How do we see this here in the Bible? We see this right there in verse 42. The thief says, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Best sinner's prayer anybody ever prayed in the Bible. He believed heaven belonged to Jesus. So he prayed a simple prayer, "Will You save me?"

CONFIDENCE

Jesus makes a promise to the thief in verse 43, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise." Yes, I was born for this moment that in My dying breath I will save you. And then Jesus gives him confidence. Today you'll be with Me in paradise.

You want to be saved? Ask Him. Feel this conviction. Confess that sin. Convert and ask Jesus to save you, and you can walk out of this house tonight with confidence that you are in Christ. Not because of anything you've ever done, but because of what He did on that cross, when He took your place and died the death you deserved.

Clayton King is the Founder of Clayton King Ministries and Teaching Pastor at NewSpring Church in Anderson, South Carolina.

CONVICTION

Conviction is the first step of salvation. Both thieves are literally, legally convicted. But on a spiritual side, one thief doesn't feel conviction and the other does.

Conviction is that inner voice telling you not just that something's wrong, but *you're* wrong. I'm not a sinner because I sin. I sin because I'm a sinner. When the Holy Spirit convicts you and tells you you're wrong, He's not doing that because He's mad at you. He loves you.

Some of you know you need to quit being your own god and let Jesus save you. You have wondered whether you're truly a Christian, and you know you need to give your life to Jesus. That's the conviction of the Holy Spirit. Don't deny it.

CONFESSION

Confession is when you're weak enough to admit your sin. You are saying with God, "I am guilty." The thief does that. He's in the presence of God Almighty and confesses, "I'm a sinner. I'm getting what I deserve." You cannot be saved unless you're convicted, but you cannot be saved unless you confess what God convicts you of. You confess your sin to God. You own it.

CONVERSION

Conversion is when you're desperate enough to ask for help. That's the moment when you convert. Jesus uses the analogy of being born in John 3. You must be born again. There is a moment

AMAZING RESPONSE AT FALL BIBLE CONFERENCE

During this year's Fall Bible Conference (Aug. 17–20), more than 100 students made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and another 93 committed to serve in some kind of mission.

"We praise God that each of these students responded in faith, moving forward toward what they felt God wanted them to do," said Cedarville University President Thomas White. "It was an amazing week, and we are praying that it is only the beginning of even more spiritual awakening."

Watch or listen to past messages at cedarville.edu/chapel or stream them as they speak at cedarville.edu/chapel/live:

Oct. 21 Chip Ingram
Senior Pastor of Venture Christian Church
Los Gatos, California

Nov. 10 Duke Crawford
Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church
Toledo, Ohio

Nov. 13 9Marks Pastors Conference
Danny Akin
President of Southeastern Baptist
Theological Seminary
Wake Forest, North Carolina

Dec. 2 Charles Ware
President of Crossroads Bible College
Indianapolis, Indiana

Jan. 12–14 Missions Conference
David Platt
President of International Missions Board
Richmond, Virginia

Jan. 20–21 Trip Lee
Teaching Pastor at Cornerstone Church
Atlanta, Georgia

CRASH COURSE

A TEST DRIVE OF THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE (WITHOUT THE FINAL EXAM)

COURSE TITLE

The Christian in Theatre

INSTRUCTOR

Rebecca Baker
Associate Professor of Theatre

DESCRIPTION

The Christian in Theatre course highlights issues young Christians face as they evaluate career choices and ethical priorities in professional theatre. A biblical view of the arts provides students a foundation for exploring how to be salt and light in the culture-shaping world of stage and screen. They learn how to weave excellence in creative work with authentic integration of faith. Recent interaction within the community has led to service-learning projects with women at the Safe Harbor House in Springfield, Ohio; young girls in a detention center; and an after-school workshop with children.

BIG IDEA

- Creativity reflects being made in God's image, a gift to be used for His glory.
- Theatre can use storytelling as Jesus used parables, to engage others with familiar situations and characters to teach them truth they might not otherwise understand.
- The best time to grapple with critical ethical issues is before entering the profession and facing choices about content, behavior, and priorities.
- Our work ethic and relational interaction as Christians has significant impact as we seek to genuinely share our faith with co-workers.

LEARN MORE:

cedarville.edu/theatre

"The Christian in Theatre course really strengthened my understanding of what it means to be a Christian artist. It challenged me to think beyond the halls of Cedarville and prepare for what might lie ahead in a secular theatre environment. This course also showed me the necessity of doing art well for the sake of my testimony. Nothing turns someone off more to an artist and their story faster than poorly done art."

Rebecca Levergood '16
Theatre

Commencement Honors Outstanding Graduates

Seven hundred and two undergrads and 43 graduate students became the most recent Yellow Jacket graduates during Cedarville University's 119th commencement last spring.

Two undergraduate students especially reflected the academic quality and personal integrity of the graduates. Katie Goehring '15, from Reynoldsburg, Ohio, became the first Cedarville student awarded a Fulbright Scholarship. She earned a bachelor's degree in Christian ministries (with highest honors) and then traveled to Germany for a yearlong study opportunity.

Another Columbus-area student, Rachel Zeiter '15, excelled academically in her pursuit of a degree in special education (with honors) — without the benefit of vision. Zeiter, from Worthington, Ohio, came to Cedarville University with very limited eyesight.

Her lack of vision didn't deter her from accomplishing great things — on or off campus. Prior to the start of her senior year, she went tandem skydiving. After graduation, Zeiter was hired as a ninth-grade special education history and English teacher at Hamilton Freshman School in Hamilton, Ohio.

President's Trophy winners at this year's commencement were Sydney Bissonette '15 from Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, and Samuel DeLoye '15 from Wausau, Wisconsin. Bissonette graduated with a bachelor's degree in allied health and plans to pursue a Doctor of Occupational Therapy at The Ohio State University. DeLoye earned a bachelor's degree in Bible and will pursue further education at seminary, with the goal of serving in ministry. The President's Trophy is awarded to graduating seniors who excelled in the areas of academics, leadership, service, and Christian character.

Eight students were presented with the Faculty Scholarship Award for achieving a perfect grade point average. They included: Christian Carroll '15, Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences; Joella Gerber '15, Bachelor of Arts in psychology; Andrew Gutberlet '15, Bachelor of Arts in Christian education; Shane Johnson '15, Bachelor of Arts in chemistry; Jennifer Knepel '15, Bachelor of Science in molecular and cellular biology; Abby Sherman '15, Bachelor of Science in social work; Kelsey Weir '15, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; David Yoder '15, Bachelor of Science in biology.

Reno Takes on New Leadership Role at Cedarville

Loren Reno '70, a 38-year veteran of the United States Air Force and the inaugural Dean of Cedarville University's School of Business Administration, was appointed Interim Vice President for Academics in June 2015.

As the Dean of the School of Business Administration since 2012, Reno increased enrollment, bolstered career placement, and saw higher passage rates for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam. According to Cedarville's Career Services, in 2014, graduates from



five business programs had 100 percent job placement within six months of graduation. Cedarville University ranked 25th in the nation for graduates passing the CPA exam

and in the top 4 percent among all 776 universities with an accounting major.

"Gen. Reno is a godly, humble follower of Jesus who personifies Micah 6:8. I have the utmost confidence that he will lead our academic programs well," said Thomas White, President of Cedarville University.

During his distinguished military career, Reno was a navigator and then the Air Force's senior logistician. He led teams that bought and delivered jet fuel to front-line military operations around the world; repaired and overhauled jet engines and large military aircraft; provided logistics support to U.S. air mobility warfighters; and wrote the policy and advocated for the budget

for 207,000 mechanics, civil engineers, and security forces.

"I am eager to use the benefit of all the Lord has done through me for His glory, leading and serving here at Cedarville University," Reno noted.

In 2015, Reno was inducted into the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges Hall of Excellence for his work in the military and tenure in higher education.

He earned his undergraduate degree in comprehensive science and education from Cedarville before receiving a master's degree in systems management from the University of Southern California. Reno has also completed graduate studies at Harvard University, Syracuse University, and The University of North Carolina.

Radical Author to Speak at Missions Conference

David Platt, President of the International Mission Board and author of the best-seller *Radical*, will be the featured speaker at Cedarville University's Missions Conference January 12–14. He will speak at 7 p.m. on Jan. 12 and during Chapel at 10 a.m. on Jan. 13.

Platt is also the founder of Radical, a parachurch ministry providing multilingual biblical resources to local churches to support disciple-making around the world.

"David Platt is a passionate communicator with a heart for the nations," commented Cedarville University President Thomas White. "He has challenged us all to live radical lives for the Gospel. I cannot think of a better speaker for the 2016 Missions Conference at Cedarville University.

"I am praying that God will use him to stir in our students, faculty, and staff's hearts a passion for the Gospel to

be heard by every tribe and tongue for God's glory."

Platt earned a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from the University of Georgia. He has a Master of Divinity, Master of Theology, and Doctor of Philosophy from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

He served as Dean of Chapel and Assistant Professor of Expository Preaching and Apologetics at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Staff Evangelist at Edgewater Baptist Church in New Orleans, and Senior Pastor of The Church at Brook Hills in Birmingham, Alabama.

Besides *Radical*, Platt has written *Radical Together*, *Follow Me*, and, most recently, *Counter Culture*. *Radical with David Platt* can be heard on Moody Radio and features past sermons and teaching from his ministry.



Upcoming Events

October

- 8–11 Fall Play: *Father of the Bride*
- 10 Junior Jam
- 13–14 Gospel@Work Conference
- 23 CU Friday
- 29–30 Pharmacy Mini-Camp

November

- 12–13 9Marks Pastors Conference
- 13 CU Friday

December

- 4 Campus Christmas
- 6 Community Christmas Celebration

January

- 12–14 Missions Conference
- 22–23 CU LEADership Conference
- 29–30 Track & Field Preview

February

- 4–13 Spring Play: *Cyrano de Bergerac*
- 11–13 Music Showcase
- 15 CU Friday*
- 19 CedarMania
- 19–20 Li'l Sibs Weekend
- 20 Engineering and Computer Science Preview Day

March

- 18 All-Access Orientation

*CU Friday on Presidents Day

cedarville.edu/events

Re-Tweets Tweet Tweet



Angela Schweinitz @angelaschwei · Aug 11
The President of my university just asked me about my internship. I didn't even know he knew. I'm lucky to go to a school like @cedarville

Greg Wells @gregwells · Aug 14
Digging the new water tower paint job @cedarville. The whole campus looks awesome for #CvilleGS2015

Abigail Hile @abihile · Sept 1
So thankful for this place and the people here and the way that the LORD has used it to grow me @cedarville

Emily Brown @EmmaBear246 · Sept 7
I cannot wait until I get to visit Cedarville University. I thank God for my acceptance to @cedarville

Pat Estepp @CoachEstepp · Aug 18
Thanking God for bringing 109 people to himself tonight @cedarville #FallBibleConference including 1 @CedarvilleMBB player

Brooke Dodane @brookedodane · Aug 19
Transferring to Cedarville University is one of the BEST decisions I have made! God really does GREAT things! #WeBelieve





RECORD ENROLLMENT!

Cedarville University posted its ninth consecutive record enrollment this fall, with 3,711 students now attending. On Getting Started Weekend, 819 freshmen and nearly 100 transfer students moved in, with the help of current students and alumni.



YELLOW



Track All-American Runner Focuses on Continued Success



Carsyn Koch '18 runs at the front of the pack in the NCAA 800-meter final.

Carsyn Koch '18, from Washburn, Maine, became Cedarville University's first female NCAA All-American in any sport during this past spring track and field season.

Koch placed second in the 800-meter run at the 2015 NCAA Division II Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championship

at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan. Koch, as a freshman, broke her own school record with a time of 2:05.21.

"Carsyn made the most of her opportunity by running with confidence and pushing the pace right from the beginning," noted Head Coach Jeff Bolender '91. "In all her races in the outdoor season, she was beaten by only one collegiate athlete in an individual race, and that was in the NCAA final at the national championship."

Koch joins Matt Brooker '14 (2013 men's cross country) as Cedarville's only NCAA All-Americans to date. The Yellow Jackets just completed their third active year of Division II membership.

During the spring track and field season, Koch also broke a school record in the indoor 500 meters and was part of record-setting performances in the indoor distance medley and the outdoor 4-x-800 open, 400, 800, and 1,500.

"Carsyn is hard-working, humble, motivated, and focused in her training and racing," Bolender said. "She is a joy to work with and a wonderful Christian young lady."

Record Number of Athletes Earn Academic Honor

One hundred and one. That's how many Cedarville varsity athletes were named to the Great Midwest Athletic Conference (G-MAC) Academic All-Conference Team, representing more than half of all sophomore through senior varsity athletes at Cedarville.

The 2014-15 G-MAC Academic All-Conference Team was composed of a record 416 student-athletes from nine member institutions while covering 18 championship-sponsored sports.

For the third consecutive year, Cedarville University had a conference-high number of student-athlete selections, while Trevecca Nazarene University was second with 57 honorees.

There were 282 Cedarville varsity athletes in 16 NCAA Division II sports for the 2014-2015 school year. Since only sophomore through senior varsity student-athletes are considered for the honor, Cedarville's total eligible number was 201. There were 81 freshmen participating in varsity sports last year.

To be named to the G-MAC Academic All-Conference Team, a student-athlete's cumulative grade point average must be a minimum of 3.30 based on the 4.0 system, and he or she must have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing while completing at least one full academic year at the nominating institution.



JACKET SPORTS



“God brings us some great student-athletes,” noted Alan Geist ’83, Athletic Director. “Our coaches, many of whom graduated from Cedarville, understand our mission as a Christian organization and a strong academic university. We also have a very strong faculty that works with our kids very well.”

The recent Academic All-Conference honor coincides with findings from the NCAA regarding Cedarville’s graduation success rate. According to Federal Graduation Rate (FGR) data from 2014, Cedarville tied for 12th nationally among 313 Division II schools with a 78 percent FGR. The FGR computes the percentage of

student-athletes who earned their degree during a six-year window, starting their freshman year in the 2007–08 academic year through 2012–13.

The Academic Success Rate (ASR) was created by the NCAA as a more complete measurement of college completion. According to that metric, Cedarville, at 91 percent, tied for 21st in the country in that category. The ASR starts with first-time fall freshmen on scholarship; adds non-scholarship athletes, midyear enrollees, and those who transfer into the school; and doesn’t count student-athletes who leave the school while still eligible to compete.

Yellow Jackets Earn Presidents’ Cup and Many Individual Honors

The Yellow Jackets captured nine Great Midwest Athletic Conference (G-MAC) titles in 2014–15 to claim the Presidents’ Cup all-sports award for the second straight year.

Cedarville won G-MAC championships in men’s cross country, women’s cross country, men’s soccer, women’s volleyball, men’s indoor track and field, women’s basketball, men’s outdoor track and field, women’s outdoor track and field, and women’s tennis.

Cedarville finished as the runner-up in women’s indoor track and field, men’s tennis, and softball.

The Yellow Jackets totaled 93 out of a possible 110 points.

Individual G-MAC honors for Cedarville in 2014–15 included:

- Men’s Golf Coach of the Year – Zach Brown ’13
- Men’s Soccer Offensive Player of the Year – Connor Gilmour ’16
- Men’s Soccer Defensive Player of the Year – Jarrett Kersten ’15
- Men’s Soccer Coach of the Year – Brett Faro
- Indoor Men’s Field Athlete of the Year – James Blackwell ’15
- Coach of the Year for Indoor/Outdoor Men’s Track and Field, Men’s and Women’s Outdoor Track and Field, and Women’s Cross Country – Jeff Bolender ’91
- Women’s Basketball Player of the Year – Raegan Ryan ’15
- Women’s Basketball Coach of the Year – Kirk Martin ’76
- Women’s Tennis Coach of the Year – Dee Morris
- Volleyball Freshman of the Year – Krissy Pratt ’18
- Outdoor Women’s Track and Field Freshman of the Year – Carsyn Koch ’18
- Co-Outdoor Women’s Field Athlete of the Year – Ruth Towne ’16



Cedarville University earned the G-MAC Presidents’ Cup for the 2014–15 season. Yellow Jackets won conference titles in nine different varsity sports and claimed the all-sports award for the second year in a row.

2014 Graduate Sailing Along in First Teaching Job



Kayla Girtz's '14 career path would make a great riddle at a dinner party. Members of her class are from all over, but they don't take a bus to school. Her students are always moving, but they never change rooms. She works "floating" hours, even though her schedule is fixed.

Any guesses? No? Then you're in the same spot Girtz found herself when she noticed a classified ad for a third-grade teaching position in Africa for "Mercy Ships."

"This was not the first time I had looked for a school outside the U.S., but Africa has always sparked my interest," she wrote in her blog. "Who names a school 'Mercy Ships'?"

Since 1978, Mercy Ships, (mercyships.org), has taken state-of-the-art medical care to countries with minimal health care services. Its physicians have

performed 79,000 life-saving surgeries free of charge at 587 different ports. According to the Mercy Ships website, 50 percent of the world's population lives within 100 miles of a coastline, making the Mercy Ships strategy an efficient way to get medical services closer to millions who wouldn't receive it otherwise.

After 30 email exchanges, a completed application, and a phone interview, Girtz was hired to teach third-grade children of parents who serve on the boat. Her charges include children of the chief officer, supply manager, ships' engineers, the on-ship academy's assistant principal, and a chaplain. She had a classroom of five students her first year, but found the responsibilities just as rigorous as when she student-taught 30.

"There are daily rewards in teaching," Girtz noted, "but the students I'm teaching, their parents are the ones who have jobs more directly related to patients."

"If I weren't here, or their second-grade teacher, or the high school math teacher, their parents couldn't do their jobs. I'm part of something that is changing lives more than just in my classroom, but in the country of Madagascar."

Girtz's ship, the *Africa Mercy*, is in the middle of a two-year commitment to Madagascar, the island nation famous for its unique primate, the lemur. The ship anchored at Toamasina, Madagascar, from October 2014 to June 2015, but was taken

to Durban, South Africa, over the summer for repairs and maintenance. The ship anchored again at Toamasina in August this year and will remain until June 2016.

Although she wasn't seeking a missions opportunity, Girtz admits that her 1,000 days at Cedarville prepared her heart for anything. "Attending Cedarville University, I was surrounded by people who poured truth into my life," she said. "My peers, my professors, the many pastors, and speakers were used by God to show me that loving others is simply doing something. For me, that looked like traveling across the globe and living in a floating metal box."

Even though Mercy Ships is known for its medical mission, sharing the Gospel is woven into everything they do, from doctors and nurses counseling patients, to chaplains comforting those waiting for or recovering from surgery. "Crew members volunteer at orphanages, prisons, and other ministries," Girtz said. "Through these opportunities, we are able to interact with the local people and share the Gospel. In my job as a teacher, I am able to share the Gospel daily with my students — the people I serve."

"Knowing the Lord personally and the desire to serve and follow Him is why the majority of us choose to volunteer with Mercy Ships." And that's not much of a riddle at all.

Keep up with Girtz's adventures on her blog, seasideclassroom.wordpress.com.

IX 9Marks at Cedarville

Expositional Preaching *What is it? Why is it important?*

November 12–13, 2015
SAVE THE DATE

cedarville.edu/9marks

Speakers include:

- Danny Akin
- Thomas White
- Garrett Kell
- And others

IX 9Marks
Building Healthy Churches

 **CEDARVILLE**
UNIVERSITY

MOMENT in Time



*sent to all faculty
about 4/14*

**NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES
AND SCHOOLS**
COMMISSION ON INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

April 21, 1975

President James T. Jeremiah
Cedarville College
Cedarville, OH 45314

Dear President Jeremiah:

This is to inform you officially that the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education at its meeting on April 9, 1975 voted to grant accredited status to Cedarville College as a Bachelor's degree-granting institution. The action was effective April 9, 1975.

In accordance with the policies of the Commission, the Institution will be placed on the five-year review cycle for newly accredited institutions. This evaluation will take place in Spring 1980.

The Institution will be added to the list of Member Institutions published in the Summer, 1975 issue of the North Central Association Quarterly.

The action of the Commission was based on the evaluation report and discussions before the Committee of the Commission at the meeting in Chicago. The Commission recognizes the progress that has been made in developing the institution. However, the Commission also wishes to call attention to the areas of concern needing further improvement which were cited in the evaluation report. A copy of the Summary of Accrediting Recommendations/Actions is enclosed for your files.

We wish to thank you and your staff for your cooperation in the evaluation and to extend our congratulations to everyone at the institution. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the Commission action with you in more detail in our office should you so desire. If we can be of further assistance, please call upon Joseph Simon of our staff, who is assigned to your institution.

Sincerely,

Joseph Simon
Joseph J. Simon
Executive Director

JJS:lm
cc: R. Shilling, J. Beaty
R. Cowler, C. Elsemann
N. Jantzen

Meeting and Exceeding Standards, 1975 and Today

In 1975, news that Cedarville College had been fully accredited as a bachelor's degree-granting institution was greeted with a hearty "Hallelujah" by the *Whispering Cedars* student newspaper.

By the time then-President James T. Jeremiah received the confirmation letter from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Cedarville had been on an 18-year journey to make sure its programs met the governing body's stringent guidelines for excellence regarding professors, curriculum, and facilities. Accreditation was, and still is, essential for Cedarville's degrees to be accepted in graduate programs and in the workforce.

This year, as part of the reaffirmation of accreditation process, Cedarville University faculty and staff are working hard to complete a review of more than 100 programs of study, plus all cocurricular programs, all of which demonstrate that the University still meets these high standards. This reaccreditation process will culminate with a Higher Learning Commission team visit to campus in fall 2016.

Accreditation Ends 18-Year Quest



Cedarville College

Whispering Cedars

"For the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ"

Curriculum Committee Okays Changes

1,000 Days Remembered

Two years ago, our daughter, Brie Ahlgrim '13, walked across the graduation stage, shook the President's hand, and received her degree in nursing from Cedarville University. It seems like yesterday we dropped her off at Getting Started Weekend with a dream to become a nurse.

During her preceptorship prior to graduation, she cared for a baby in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Dayton Children's Hospital who was 2 pounds and could fit into the palm of her hand. This opportunity was a dream come true. As she told me of this little baby, my mind flashed back to Brie as a child playing on the sidewalk of our little country home. Today she is a compassionate, strong, and professional nurse. My heart is full of gratitude for Cedarville University — for its passionate and professional faculty and staff, for the transformational experiences, and for the encouraging and supportive friends.

When we built our first home, we had the task of seeding the surrounding three acres. Brie, 4 years old at the time, had to stay on the cement patio as the grass slowly grew. Soon, green, lush grass surrounded our home. One day as she played on the patio, we realized she was not venturing out to play in the yard. She would carefully put her little toes out to touch the soft blades of grass, but she would quickly pull her foot back with a giggle. On one hot July day, I was sitting on our blue front porch swing watching Brie play. I called out to her, "Step onto the grass." Because she had spent weeks avoiding the unknown territory, she looked at me with surprise in her face. I said again, "Step onto the grass. It is OK. Go explore."

At that moment I didn't realize that "step onto the grass" would be a key phrase in our relationship. As I think of her years at Cedarville, she not only stepped onto the grass, she jumped. Cedarville University gave her opportunities to explore, share the Gospel, and serve Christ on the other side of the world — as she cared for rescued prostitutes and their children on the brothel-lined streets of Chiang Mai, for the sick in a remote jungle village of Cambodia, and for families in the slums of poverty-stricken areas of Asia. She became the hands and feet of Jesus while sharing the good news of salvation.

Passionate and professional faculty and staff stepped into her life and made a difference. After watching our daughter journey through university life, I observed the impact of the great men and women of faith who inspired her. They took the time to encourage, direct, and guide her. Brie graduated with an incredible education from outstanding faculty.

Brie experienced transformational opportunities in her time at Cedarville. She worked as a Resident Assistant; she served as the Communication Director for the Student Government Association; she traveled on the Civil Rights Bus Tour; she studied in Spain for a summer with Cedarville's International Programs; she was involved in community projects, professional development opportunities, and much more. Opportunities abounded all along the way.

The encouraging, fun, supportive friends she made will last a lifetime. Cedarville is more than just what occurs inside the classroom; it is outside the walls of academia, too. I could not recount all the stories she told me about her four years at Cedarville. I heard stories full of adventure, silliness, and fun; conversations about life, God, and relationships; and grand memories of concerts, Elliv, sporting events, and more.

Because of her time at Cedarville University, I saw Brie become more of the woman God designed her to become.

Because of my faculty status, I sat on the platform during graduation in my own regalia and got to meet Brie on stage to congratulate her. Brie and I cherish this moment and have talked about it often since she graduated. It was just a few seconds in time, but it took my breath away. I looked into her eyes and said, "Step onto the grass."



At Cedarville University since 1989, Kim Ahlgrim serves as Associate Dean for Academic Enrichment and Director of The Cove.

Cedarville Magazine

251 N. Main St., Cedarville, OH 45314

1-888-CEDARVILLE | magazine@cedarville.edu

cedarville.edu/magazine

Expanding and Renovating the Jeremiah Chapel



by Thomas White

As the clock strikes 9:55 a.m., a phenomenon happens every weekday on the campus of Cedarville University. Students, faculty, and staff stream into an auditorium where for the next 50 minutes, they will sing, pray, and listen to the Word of God. We call it chapel.

THE HEARTBEAT OF CAMPUS

To realize the importance of chapel, one need only look at our self-study and our history books. Our last self-study states that 89.75 percent of alumni listed daily chapel as a significant contributor to personal spiritual growth, and 51.80 percent noted the Fall Bible and Missions Conferences



James T. Jeremiah, Cedarville University President from 1954 to 1978, speaking in the nearly completed chapel, then at Apple Technology Resource Center.



Paul Dixon, Cedarville University President from 1978 to 2003, broadcasts live on radio while students carry hymnals to the new James T. Jeremiah Chapel.

as additional contributing factors. Almost 25 percent of our alumni continue to listen to chapel on the radio or over the Internet.¹

Murray Murdoch indicated in *Cedarville College: A Century of Commitment* that the importance placed on chapel began at the top. James T. Jeremiah added a chapel to the campus landscape in 1976 as the center for spiritual development. A former pastor and

always a minister of the Gospel, Jeremiah gave great emphasis to chapel, so much so that our current facility still bears his name. Near the completion of the chapel, he engaged students in a walkathon to raise the necessary funds to purchase pews for the building.²

When evangelist Paul Dixon became President, the chapel maintained its central

importance. Murdoch wrote, "One of Dixon's first priorities as President was the chapel service. He viewed this as the primary responsibility for a Christian college president."³ Dixon stated, "Historically the direction you give the chapel ministry determines the future of the institution. The heartbeat of every Christian college is what happens in chapel."⁴ Dixon



Chapel renderings courtesy of Worship Space Advisors

raised money and built the Dixon Ministry Center, which houses the Jeremiah Chapel. As the new facility opened in 1996, Dixon signaled the transition to the new chapel with students carrying hymnals from the old building into the new.

William Brown continued the traditional emphasis on chapel by speaking every Monday, training his beloved students to think with a biblical worldview. He dismissed students each day with the memorable, “Have an awesome day in Christ.” Through four different buildings and four different presidents in the last 60 years, alumni, students, faculty, and



William Brown, President of Cedarville University from 2003 to 2013.

staff will all testify to the importance and centrality of chapel.

This August at the annual Fall Bible Conference, nearly 100 students professed faith in Christ while more than 90 answered a call to ministry. Whether professing faith, repenting of sin, answering the call to ministry, or making other spiritual decisions, students have been significantly impacted by their chapel experience.

STONE OF REMEMBRANCE

The summer of 2016 will be the 20-year anniversary of the Jeremiah Chapel in the Dixon Ministry Center. While this facility has served Cedarville well, the time has come for renovation. The life expectancy of the pews has expired, while the color of the carpet and pattern on the fabric testify to the style of a time gone by. Additionally, our video and sound equipment is greatly out of date. Moreover, the student body has grown from 2,509 in 1996 to 3,711 in the fall of 2015, thus requiring additional space through expanding the auditorium into one of the classrooms along the back. Yet, for all the expanding, updating, and renovating, the foundation for chapel remains the Word of God, and the message of chapel is still the Testimony of Jesus Christ.

As we renovate every area of the chapel — the sound, video, carpet, seating, paint, rails, lights, and stage — we ask for your

help. We want to provide an opportunity for alumni and friends of the University to invest in the most important part of Cedarville — to invest in eternity for generations to come. We are also raising money for this renovation because we don’t want these upgrades to be financed in any way through student tuition or fees. Your support will provide a state-of-the-art chapel facility that does not depend at all on current students’ funds.

After the Israelites had finally crossed over the Jordan River in Joshua 4, the Lord commanded Joshua to take 12 representatives from the tribes of Israel and have them construct a memorial out of 12 stones from the Jordan. This memorial was to serve as a reminder to future generations of God’s faithfulness to His people and His promises, signaled by the Jordan’s waters drying up as the Ark of the Covenant passed over.

Establishing a memorial can serve as a reminder to those to come of God’s faithfulness, just as it was for the people of Israel. As part of our chapel renovation, we invite you to raise up your own “stone of remembrance” through placing a plaque on a seat in chapel, signifying all that God has done in this place, and thereby reminding future students of God’s faithfulness to

Whether professing faith, repenting of sin, answering the call to ministry, or making other spiritual decisions, students have been significantly impacted by their chapel experience.

Cedarville University throughout its 127-year history.

For a gift of \$250 dollars or more, we will place a plaque of remembrance on a seat in the renovated chapel. On this plaque, we will inscribe a Bible reference of your choice, along with your initials, and your year of graduation (if applicable). Some may choose only the Bible reference, which can be a life verse, something you heard in chapel, or a special verse representing a time when God worked in your life. The seats will be randomly assigned to avoid any appearance of violating James 2 and valuing one area over another, and we will map out where each plaque is placed. Imagine



visiting with your children or friends and showing them your plaque of remembrance and sharing what God has done in your life. Future students may see your verse at the precise moment when God knows they need it. At \$250 or more, not only will your gift help provide a state-of-the-art facility for generations to come, but also ensure the same life-changing opportunities for future generations that you experienced in chapel.

Regardless of whether you have experienced chapel firsthand, we want

Will you pray about raising your stone of remembrance? Will you invest in the Cedarville chapel renovation and expansion project?

you to contribute to this exciting project. For alumni giving anything, your name will go on a donor wall to honor your gift. Alumni who give a gift of \$100 or more will have their name placed on the donor wall and receive a 9:55 commemorative coin to remind them to pray for chapel every day. For a gift of \$250 or more, you will receive a plaque of remembrance on a new Jeremiah Chapel seat. For additional information about other ways to support the chapel renovation and expansion project, please contact our Advancement Division at 1-888-233-2784.

Altogether, this renovation will cost around \$3 million. We are thankful to announce that a \$750,000 lead gift has already been provided. Your investment to help us complete the project is worthwhile not because of the importance of the facility itself, but because of the importance of what takes place inside the facility.

MY PERSPECTIVE

Chapel will always be the heartbeat of Cedarville University. Mondays when I stand on the stage and look around at more than 3,000 students, faculty, and staff, I feel the

weight of the responsibility and the stewardship entrusted to me. One day, I will stand before Jesus Christ and give account for how we led these students. That's one reason I desire intentionality

with each of their 1,000 days on campus. I pray that each chapel will guide them one step deeper in commitment, to be firmer in their faith, to repent of sin, to be good spouses and parents, and to live a life for the glory of God in a world full of chaos. In chapel, we deal with eternal matters. In this time of cultural confusion we must present compassionate conviction as we continue to stand for the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ.

We need your help. Will you pray about raising your stone of remembrance? Will you invest in the Cedarville chapel renovation and expansion project? Will you invest in eternity, praying that future generations will see God move in a mighty way?

Thomas White became Cedarville's 10th President in 2013.

1. Accreditation Self-Study Report Spring 2007, 102.
2. J. Murray Murdoch, *Cedarville College: A Century of Commitment* (Cedarville: 1987), 145.
3. J. Murray Murdoch, *Cedarville College: A Century of Commitment* (Cedarville: 1987), 152.
4. Ibid.



Thomas White, Cedarville University President since 2013.



Celebrating 20 years in 2016, the Jeremiah Chapel is beginning to show signs of extensive and fruitful service.

Join us in renovating and expanding this special place that has inspired countless Cedarville students, faculty, and friends.

- Gift any amount and your generosity will be remembered on a donor wall.*
- Gift \$100 and your name will appear on a donor wall, plus you'll receive a 9:55 commemorative coin.
- Gift \$250 and your support will be honored on a brand-new Jeremiah Chapel seat.
- Gift \$1,000 and your support will be honored on a brand-new Jeremiah Chapel seat, and you will be listed on a special donor wall.

For any questions or other ways to support the chapel renovation and expansion project, please contact Advancement at 1-888-233-2784.

**Donors who did not graduate from Cedarville will be added to the donor wall for gifts of \$1,000 or more.*



cedarville.edu/ChapelCampaign

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