

# Reflections

LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



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Honors Dr. Dobbs

LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS,  
WILLIAMS & CO. AND AIMBANK PRESENT

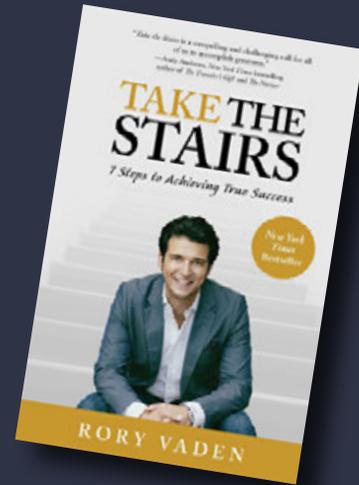
# RORY VADEN

Co-founder of Southwestern Consulting &  
New York Times bestselling author of *Take the Stairs*

**APRIL 19, 2018**  
**MOTIVATIONAL SEMINAR**

**2-5PM | Collier Auditorium,**  
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**Tickets on sale February 1, 2018**



**RORY VADEN** is a self-discipline strategist, co-founder of the multimillion-dollar international training company Southwestern Consulting, and New York Times bestselling author of *Take the Stairs: 7 Steps to Achieving True Success*. His insights on improving self-discipline, overcoming procrastination, and enhancing productivity have been shared on Oprah radio, Fox News, CNN, CNBC, CBS, in Businessweek, Entrepreneur, Inc, Fast Company, USA Today, and in SUCCESS™ Magazine. Rory has an MBA and is a two-time world champion

of public speaking finalist for Toastmasters International. His presentation will share profound truths coupled with humorous anecdotes to empower professionals to conquer their fears and take immediate action in all aspects of their lives. Learn more and see Rory speak at [www.RoryVaden.com](http://www.RoryVaden.com).

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*Reflections* is published two times a year by Lubbock Christian University and produced by the Marketing Communications Department.

The mission of *Reflections* is to provide alumni and friends of LCU with news, information, and inspiration regarding the university and each other.

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FRONT COVER

Dr. Christa Dobbs stands in front of the rendering of the new home of the School of Business, which will be named in her honor.

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# Caught Being Blue



# R | from the president



Daily chapel at LCU dates back to its founding. While much has changed around here, chapel is still a place where the amazing and unexpected happen. College students say and do the most remarkable (and surprising) things! There are plenty of lighthearted moments, but there are even more times of deep insight or of renewal and restoration.

Our gathering on October 31, 2017 was a most memorable chapel. While the world was celebrating Halloween that day, our chapel centered on commemorating Reformation Day, marking the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martin Luther nailing his *95 Theses* to the church door at Wittenberg.

The chapel service included remarks from Dr. Jeff Cary and Dr. Mark Wiebe, both professors in LCU's Bible Department, and the singing of "A

Mighty Fortress Is Our God," Luther's famous hymn, with the help of the LCU Praise Choir. Dr. Cary concluded our time with a powerful reflection on the meaning of the day, reminding us that the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the protestant reformation is "an opportunity to reflect on the divided and broken body of Christ." He invoked Jesus's call for the unity of his followers in John 17, and he concluded with these words: "[F]ollowers of Jesus need to make unity one of their primary witnesses in this world."

No one loved the story of Martin Luther and the Reformation more than my dad. He taught thousands of LCU students about Luther's discovery of the free gift of God's grace, and he would have loved our Reformation Day chapel as much as anyone. A friend recently shared with me a picture of my dad from the 1970s. He is in his classic teaching pose, perched on the edge of the desk and teaching without notes. I can just imagine him telling one of his favorite Luther stories or helping another group of students catch a glimpse of God's love.

There are plenty of changes happening at LCU—new buildings and programs and people—and, for all of that, we are grateful. There are also things that are not changing, such as the university's core values and Christian identity. That unexpected Reformation Day chapel was LCU at its best as we reflected together about a deep conviction that has animated the university since its founding.

LCU has not been around for 500 years, but I give thanks for its faithful witness over the course of six decades. And I'm thankful that the story continues to unfold on days like October 31, 2017, which is now an all-time favorite chapel memory.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L. T. Perrin". The signature is stylized and fluid.

**L. Timothy Perrin**, President  
Class of 1984

around campus





The campus mall after a late afternoon rain in early fall. Evidence of renovations to the CDC can be seen in the distant background.



# Faith, Hope, & Love

## LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT'S GALA

President Tim Perrin hosted the third annual President's Gala in October, recognizing the members of the President's Circle for their involvement in the ongoing support of the university. He also recognized their significant investment in the university, acknowledging the great momentum that they are helping to create.

The theme of this year's gala was Faith, Hope, and Love, and featured special guest artists, Jack and Jill Maxwell. The Maxwells are nationally-recognized West Texas artists, known by many for their work titled "Jacob's Dream" at ACU. During the event, the unique husband and wife team painted live on stage, while guests observed their talent and passion for showing Christ's love through art and creativity.

The painting that was created right before the very eyes of the guests at LCU's President's Gala depicted Christ holding a tiny mustard seed.

Jack explained, "We felt like it was a really positive image, and it made us think about this university – how things can start small and that they can just keep growing and growing and do huge things for the kingdom of God."

As the couple painted, guests heard the LCU Praise Choir perform and a presentation from President Tim Perrin, who recounted how faith, hope, and love have been a part of the very core of the university since its beginning. In addition, the first ever Heart of Service Award was presented to LCU alumna Maddie (Reaves '16) Hettick,

*"It made us think about this university – how things can start small and that they can just keep growing and growing and do huge things for the kingdom of God."*

–JACK MAXWELL

a former member of the Student Development Board, for identifying a need for renovation on the children's memorial garden and providing leadership in making that renovation happen.

The painting itself was auctioned during the gala to Linda Gaither ('72) and Emily Ratcliff ('72), who promptly donated the painting back to LCU, saying, "It is a beautiful painting, and it is so special because our friends Jack and Jill painted it – it needs to be at LCU." Gaither jokingly added, "Also, we gave it to the university because Emily and I would fight over it if we kept it!"

*"When we think about God and reaching people, I think we need to do it in such a way that we touch their very souls."*

-JACK MAXWELL

To conclude the event, the Maxwell's answered questions posed by President Perrin about their life, their faith, and their work as artists. When asked about how connections between art and Christianity were formed for them, the Maxwells agreed that the two overlap and complement each other completely.

For Jill especially, art has enabled her to draw near to God. "When I think about His incredible creativity, it has deepened my faith and has helped me process in time of grief and in times of pain," Jill said.

Jack added, "Art has a way of communicating like none other. Images, poetry, literature, and especially music – they reach down into the very soul. And, when we think about God and reaching people, I think we need to do it in such a way that we touch their very souls."

To watch this special event, please visit: [LCU.edu/PresidentsGala](http://LCU.edu/PresidentsGala).



*The Maxwells begin their painting as the Praise Choir sings.*



*Maddie (Reaves '16) Hettick speaks from her heart after receiving the first ever Heart of Service Award.*



*Linda Gaither ('72) (far left) and Emily (Potts '72) Ratcliff (far right) pose with Jack and Jill Maxwell after purchasing their painting at the dinner.*



BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

TO JOIN THE PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE,  
visit our website: [LCU.edu/Presidents-Circle](http://LCU.edu/Presidents-Circle)



## Dr. Ken Jones Named Chancellor Emeritus

Dr. Ken Jones arrived on campus as the fifth president of Lubbock Christian University in 1993, and he served as president and CEO for 19 years and for six years as chancellor. His last official day as LCU chancellor was October 31, 2017, as the LCU Board of Trustees announced that Jones was becoming chancellor emeritus in recognition of his many years of distinguished service to and effective leadership of Lubbock Christian University.

While there are many notable and very significant achievements during his time as head of the university, an excerpt from the recently published *Pioneering Spirit – Extraordinary Faith* commemorating the university's 60 years succinctly describes Jones' influence. In his essay regarding The Presidency of Ken Jones, Dr. Brian Starr, executive vice president, wrote of Jones:

*"People." That single word described one of the core values Dr. Jones espoused and formalized when the University's mission, vision, and values were recast. When reflecting on his tenure, he eagerly gives honor to the "wonderfully talented and spiritually minded faculty" with whom he worked. Among those who know him best are Anita Mansell Price ('69) and Rhonda Shooter, who served alongside Marilyn Fannin as his assistants. They are quick to point out how much Dr. Jones loved students and how much they admired him in turn. He and his wonderfully gracious wife, Suzie, created a comfortable atmosphere where ranchers, farm hands, businessmen, civic leaders, preachers, professors, college students, and children could all take their ease and know they were respected and loved as unique creations of God. His door was wide enough to let in the wounded and narrow enough to keep out the egos that might harm such.*

*At the end of the day, Dr. Jones would have us remember that sacrifice, character, leadership, and even people are not the things that matter the most at Lubbock Christian University. As his beloved family and the LCU community gathered in the Rip Griffin Center to celebrate an excellent presidency and the transition into his [role] as the university's chancellor, Dr. Jones summed up his presidential tenure in a very simple way: "I tried to make Lubbock Christian University a place where God would be glorified."*

*It is a timely and timeless reminder of our mission.*

Copies of *Pioneering Spirit – Extraordinary Faith: Stories and Essays About LCU's First 60 Years* are available for purchase at [LCU.edu/60thBook](http://LCU.edu/60thBook).

# *James & Jeannette*

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## LING SCIENCE CENTER



*"A vision without resources is just a dream."*

-HANSON LING

What began as nothing more than a dream became a reality when the LCU community gathered on August 30, 2017 for the dedication of the James and Jeannette Ling Science Center. The state-of-the-art facility provides more than 35,000-square-feet of space for LCU science faculty, staff, students, and guests to teach, research, and learn.

At the dedication ceremony, President Tim Perrin reflected on the significance of the new facility: "LCU folks have been dreaming and planning and working toward this moment for a very long time. This is a day of thanksgiving, a day of looking back and looking ahead, a day of celebrating God's goodness and His gracious provision. It's another great day to be a Chap!"

The dream began to take shape when Hanson Ling ('69) committed the lead gift to the project. Hanson's significant investment in the science center, which is named in honor of his parents, provided the needed momentum to propel the project forward. The resources for the new facility came from a host of gifts, large and small. The names of the many friends who supported the science center project are included on page 13.

Perhaps the first person who dared dream about a new science center was Dr. Gary Estep, who played such a formative role in the growth and development of the sciences at LCU. Dr. L. Ken Jones, LCU's president from 1993-2012, nurtured Estep's vision, prioritizing the



*During the building dedication ceremony, Hanson Ling ('69) speaks about the significance of the new science center.*

importance of the university's significant investment in the future of science education and research. Appropriately, both Estep and Jones were on hand at the dedication to share in the celebration.

Dr. Andy Laughlin, chair of the Department of Natural Sciences and the faculty ambassador for the project, reflected on why the entire process, from dream to reality, felt so special.

"Early on, some of our architects went with me to a conference in Arizona that was specifically about how to build new science buildings. One of the keynote speakers for that conference was giving advice for those about to start their own projects, just as we were. The advice he gave was for us to appoint a 'shepherd' over the building project, and he ended up using lots of biblical analogies, unintentionally, in a room filled with Harvard and Yale architects."

Laughlin explained that this position functioned as a facilitator between the administration, architects, faculty, and contractors, and that he was appointed to that "shepherd" position for the new science building.

"Anyone who was involved and had a history with this university will tell you that this was one of the smoothest building processes we've ever had. Not because of me,

personally," he added, "but because of the implementation of that shepherd position, and the benefit that gave the team."

Laughlin shared that another integral part of the project that really had an impact were the five 'non-negotiables' that the core design team felt were absolutely critical to maximizing the impact of the building.

"We wanted to get our faculty in the same place. We wanted dedicated soft spaces—places for students to call their own, to eat, to hang out, and to study. We wanted an atrium that could be flexible. We wanted as many rooms to be as flexible as possible. And we wanted our building to be the most technologically-advanced building on campus."

Dr. Laughlin was also surprised by some of the connections to the project held by LCU alumnus David Coggins ('81), the project manager for Lee Lewis Construction. Laughlin was unaware of this connection before they first met but was immediately struck by how passionate Coggins was for the project.

"Dave told me that this building was special to him because he had graduated from here and knew what this place was about," Laughlin recalled. "He even told me that he had already had faith-based discussions about this place with his contractors—that was powerful."

For Laughlin, everything about the project had to be intentional. “Faculty designed their own space, so they feel ownership—it wasn’t done by some committee.” He explained, though, that there was a group of students, both current and former, who gave valuable input for the design of the building.

Construction continued throughout the 2016-2017 academic year, until the finishing touches were added during the summer of 2017. The building opened its

doors to students on the first day of the Fall 2017 semester, and Laughlin was excited to share how being in the new building has already made a significant impact on the university, especially for those students who get to experience the transition from the old building to the Ling Science Center.

“It’s a living building. It’s cleaner, and brighter, and fresher, with the newest safety innovations. And students absolutely love the dedicated student spaces, where we

## THE JAMES & JEANETTE LING SCIENCE CENTER IS A REALITY TODAY BECAUSE OF THE FAITHFUL GENEROSITY OF MANY INDIVIDUALS, COMPANIES, AND FOUNDATIONS

This List of Friends Gave Gifts of \$500 or More Toward the Completions of the James & Jeanette Ling Science Center

Associates of Lubbock Christian University	Dr. John and Becky Epperson	Dr. Tim and Susan Leslie	Dr. Kent Rhodes
Dr. Neil and Dr. Iona Baldrige	Dr. Travis and Hollie Epperson	Royale and Carol Lewis	Dr. Kerry and Kris Rhodes
Dr. Richard and Dr. Nadine Bartsch	Dr. Gary and Pat Estep	Hanson Ling	Kevin and Julie Rhodes
Kenneth and Betty Basye	Bill and Joy Foster	Lytle Arche Ranching LLC	Raymond and Laci Richardson
Dr. Tom and Cherise Basye	David and Kimberly Futrell	Brock and Dr. Julie Marshall	Dr. Byron and Karen Rogers
Vanessa Bearden	Yancey and Arin Galbraith	Dr. Charles and Stephanie Maupin	Dr. Toby and Jessica Rogers
Dr. Rod and Sandra Blackwood	Garrison Family Foundation	Dennis and Betty Maupin	Rusty and Sue Russwurm
Bradley and Wendy Blasingame	Nick and Susan Gaultney	Dr. Paul and Elizabeth Maupin	Dr. Lynn and Marjorie Sherrod
Ben and Dr. Amanda Boston	Helen Geick	Craig and Ann McDonald	Shane and Heather Shuttlesworth
BRL Analytical Services, LLC	Kathleen Gibson	Tim and Terri McGraw	Alfred and Patricia Smith
Dr. David and Vicki Brown	Dustin and Lissa Gilliam	Ben and Jackie Mereness	Charles and Karen Smith
Bruce J. Stevens Estate	Lynn and Janie Harms	Dr. Foy and Mitzi Mills	Chase and Cara Smith
Bill and DeeDee Bundy	Dr. Caleb and Cindy Heatwole	Dr. Michael and Tamara Mimms	David L. Smith, Ph.D. and Allene B. Smith, M.S.
Charles and Kelli Childre	Brent and Dr. Bralie Hendon	Gabe and Jill Moudy	Dr. Alvin and Iris Sneed
Brenda Chrane	Bobbie Hicks	David and Kay Oakley	Dan and Lynn Snow
Wayne and Paula Clark	Don and Lynnitia Hufstедler	Osteogenics Biomedical, Inc	Dr. Ken and Jana Stephenson
Smitty and Louise Covey	Royce and Barbara Hunter	Chad and Whitney Pacanowski	Dr. Lewis and Janice Stephenson
Terry and Cherie Creech	Linda Hutchins	Jerry and Alejandra Pardue	Lewis and Charlene Stewart
Dr. Reagan and Michelynda Crossnoe	Joe Jackson	Dr. Patti Patterson	Jim Bob and Kay Swafford
Floyd and Lauwanna Crume	Stuart and Allyson Joy	Tim and Lucy Perrin	Joe and Jerry Tarbet
Jason and Dr. Camie Davis	Dr. Gary and Molly Keener	Dr. Garrett and Casey Phipps	The <u>CH</u> Foundation
Dr. Doug and Janet Dillard	George and Rita Kelley	Jimmy and Rebecca Poindexter	The J. E. and L. E. Mabee Foundation
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Dr. Bart and Cassie Durham	Johnette Kelly	Lucy Porter	Rory and Lynne Waide
Sheila and Howard Dye	Dr. B. Ward and Patricia Lane	Grady and Jan Preston	Dr. Jerry and Sharyn Webb
	Dr. Andy and Gina Laughlin	Bryan and Dr. Ronna Privett	Rob and Keva Wilkinson
	Donnie and Charlotte Laughlin	Keyes and Glenda (King) Ramee	



*ABOVE: Jessica (Dahlstrom '96) Rogers teaches a large group of students in one of the new labs.*

*LEFT: Teagan Duran conducts an experiment using new equipment in the updated lab space.*



have set aside areas that aren't offices or classrooms, but places that students can take pride in and really call their own. That was very intentional."

Other faculty can feel the difference too. Because of the large number of science majors and faculty, the sciences have been in two separate buildings for the last several years.

"It has more of a close-knit feel, because we're all together here – faculty and students," explained Dr. Donna Harmon, assistant professor of biology. "Space is important for teaching and learning. My lab is much bigger, and our classrooms are as well, so it allows us to offer more opportunities for experiential learning for our students."

Junior biology major Victoria Acosta agrees. "The full access to every single room, and the fact that it's open late every single night is huge. The labs all have windows, and the way that students can just walk down the halls and see how their various work and contributions are making a difference is awesome. This place has definitely been a blessing."

The Ling Science Center boasts two large lecture halls, multiple labs designed specifically for individual disciplines

(chemistry, physics, biology, natural resources, animal science, and undergrad and faculty research), and a new freestanding greenhouse. Additionally, the building contains a spacious atrium, public computer banks, student commons areas, and offices for all science faculty. The main atrium, while predominantly used as a common area for students, is equipped to accommodate more formal gatherings and lecture presentations, and it has already been used for several events, including the annual Science Lectures and Chuck Wagon Dinner.

The university is in the process of adding more than 100,000-square-feet of new academic space on campus as part of the 2020 Vision Campaign. The James and Jeanette Ling Science Center is the latest of this additional academic space, and it stands as a testament to LCU's momentum, a momentum that is clearly evident to Dr. Laughlin.

"This building shows that we aim to educate students who not only understand their own particular discipline, but who also understand and experience the importance of community and collaboration for success," said Laughlin.

"This building shows that LCU continues to be fully-engaged and fully-invested in pursuing academic excellence. I am so very grateful that God brought together Hanson Ling and all of the other generous donors who dreamed our dream with us, and who helped make this wonderful science center a reality for our students."

**"This building shows that LCU continues to be fully-engaged and fully-invested in pursuing academic excellence."**



# *Christa Dobbs Center for Business*

## Friends Honor Longtime Mentor with Gift

The transformation is already underway – in the fall of 2018 the old Mabee Science Building will become the Christa Dobbs Center for Business, the new home for the LCU School of Business.

Last spring, a donor approached LCU about supporting the School of Business. In making a gift in excess of \$2 million for a new School of Business building, the donor had only two requests: to remain anonymous and to name the new home for the LCU School of Business in honor of Dr. Christa Dobbs, a beloved faculty member and leader in the business department at LCU for many years. This gift, along with a commitment of an estate gift from another donor, launched

a \$15 million campaign initiative for the LCU School of Business, falling within the scope of the larger LCU 2020 Vision Campaign. To date, LCU has raised more than \$8 million in gifts and pledges to support and ensure the success of the School of Business. The initiative will bring a significant increase in student scholarships, funding for the newly-formed Center for Faith and Business, faculty development opportunities, and expanded learning experiences for students.

Renovating and expanding the recently-vacated Mabee Science Building, the Christa Dobbs Center for Business will offer more than 21,000-square-feet of beautiful and functional space for business students, faculty, and guests.

Over the past few years, the study of business at Lubbock Christian University has undergone some major changes. The LCU School of Business was formed in 2015, a Business Advisory Board was established, and the Center for Faith and Business was created. As often occurs in times of growth, there has been a great deal of reflection upon the beginnings of this program. When asking alumni about their memories and experiences with the business program at LCU, many names come up, but one name in particular always brings a resounding response: Dr. Christa Dobbs.

Business classes were taught at LCU from the very early days of the college, but Dr. Dobbs and her coworkers really laid the foundation for the study of business at Lubbock Christian University. Over her three decades of teaching, she experienced a lot of growth with the university as well. She was highly involved in the accreditation process that helped Lubbock Christian College become Lubbock

Christian University. Dr. Dobbs described the “meetings and meetings, day and night” that occurred to make such a monumental transition as some of her greatest memories during her time at LCU.

When it came to the business program, Dr. Dobbs did it all. She taught various skills classes like Typing, Shorthand, Business Machines, and Key Punch, but she says some of her favorite classes to teach were Principles of Accounting and Cost Accounting. She was well-known for her strict routine in each of her classes: any student who ever had Dr. Dobbs will tell you that every day, without fail, there was a quiz starting promptly two minutes after the officially established class start time. Dr. Dobbs recalled, “I tried to make my classroom something that the students would expect when they went into a business. They were to be on time, and they would work until the end of the class. So they got a day’s work for their day’s pay.”

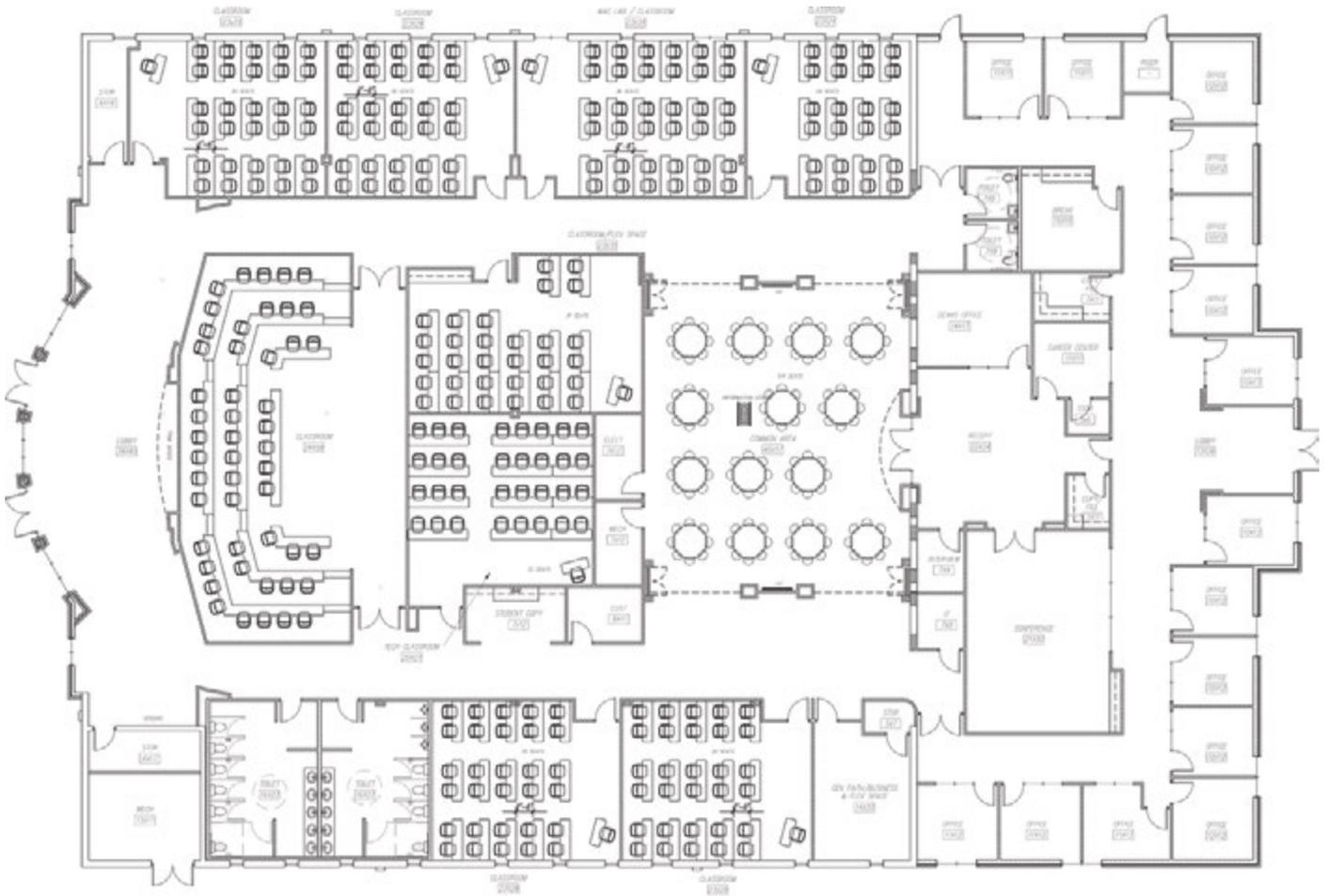
Dr. Dobbs may have been renowned as a difficult teacher, but she was beloved by all of her students. She took the time and effort to invest in her students’ lives both inside and outside of the classroom. She would join them for lunch from time to time, and even went skydiving with a group of students once. Every year, she hosted a big Christmas reception at her house with over 100 students in attendance. She shared one of her favorite stories, saying, “I remember one time I found out that the students were all studying for an exam we were going to have the next day. I knew where they were



*“I think that the former students will be equally proud of [the new building because] they can come back and say ‘I remember when...’”*

CHRISTA DOBBS



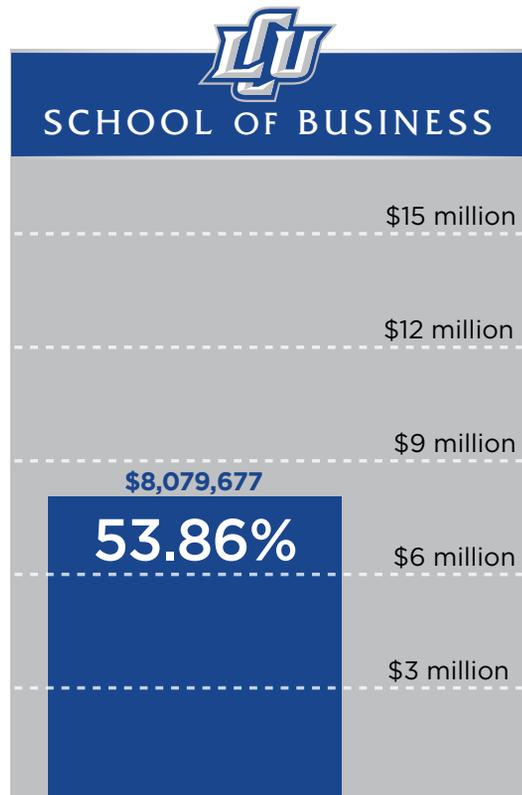


getting together at one of their apartments. So, after midnight that night, I went over there and knocked on the door; I had a big plate of cookies for them. Things like that made them think that I wasn't *really* too hard all the time.”

When asked if her students would say that she was a hard teacher, Dr. Dobbs responded “yes” without hesitation. She went on to explain, “I think the students would say that I was a hard teacher, but I think they respected [me.] After they went into their own employment, then they respected [that discipline] even more, knowing that they had the skills it took to carry on the job they were hired for.”

In regards to the new building, Dr. Dobbs said, “I am so excited to think that the future students there are going to have a wonderful place for new courses, new degrees, new faculty, and everything we [will be able] to accommodate. Also, I think that the former students will be equally proud of [the new building because] they can come back and say ‘I remember when...’”

*For more information on how to support the LCU School of Business, visit [LCU.edu/2020](http://LCU.edu/2020).*



# scholarship





Bonnie Njafuh was only 15 years old when she came to the United States from Cameroon. Bonnie was the student speaker at winter 2017 commencement exercises, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.



# WARRIOR GOD

MAKING PEACE  
with DIVINE VIOLENCE  
in the Old Testament



The university setting affords opportunity for dialogue and intellectual discussion on a number of topics. As a faith-based, Christian university, Lubbock Christian University is privileged to explore important theological questions. LCU takes advantage of this opportunity in many ways, but one of the university's most recent ventures into the intersection of faith and learning was initiated in 2011 through a partnership with the Lanier Theological Library and benefactor, Mark Lanier, a Lubbock native and nationally recognized as one of the nation's top trial lawyers.

The Lanier Theological Library Lectures have become a popular annual event on campus, bringing in premier theological scholars and thinkers of our time to discuss complex issues such as the Bible and slavery, tolerance in the Bible and society, and The Dead Sea Scrolls. Open to the public, these events foster

deep theological thinking not only among those at LCU, but also for the surrounding churches and local community. This year's speaker was Dr. Tremper Longman III, distinguished scholar of biblical studies at Westmont College, whose keynote lecture was entitled, "Warrior God: Making Peace with Divine Violence in the Old Testament."

Dr. Longman's talk made the case that the depictions of God shown in both the Old and the New Testaments, which often seen as having opposing views on violence and mercy, are not contradictory, but instead form an overarching narrative of redemption. By surveying the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, Longman argued that the Bible tells one coherent story for how God defeats evil. "The most difficult ethical issue for us," he said during his presentation, "is the commandment not only to turn over all plunder to God, but also in the

case of the people within the land, the commandment to execute every prisoner of war.” Longman argued that God’s commandments to Israel, while harsh, come as the result of divine judgment as a measure to combat the evil in humanity. That war on evil is foreshadowed in the latter part of the Old Testament in the words of the prophets, who foretold the coming of Jesus and of the time when things would change forever. “The message [to Israel] on which the Old Testament ends,” explained Longman, “is the message: ‘your warrior God will come back to rescue you from your oppressors.’”

**“THE MESSAGE [TO ISRAEL] ON WHICH THE OLD TESTAMENT ENDS IS THE MESSAGE: ‘YOUR WARRIOR GOD WILL COME BACK TO RESCUE YOU FROM YOUR OPPRESSORS.’”**

Longman argued that Jesus heightened and intensified the fight from the earthly battlefield to the heavenly realms and opponents, where victory is no longer achieved by killing, but instead by dying, as the Christ would demonstrate ultimately on the cross. It was this distinction, Longman asserted, that pulled these two pieces of the Bible together. The final phase of that story, which tied everything up to that point together, is the final return of Jesus. Offering multiple examples from Revelation, Longman sought to show that the Warrior God of the Old Testament is every bit as fierce in the New Testament, but that his focus has turned from the evil in humanity to defeating evil itself.

At the close of his talk, Dr. Longman made several ethical connections from this paradigm, including the distinction that violence in the name of God is not something to which the Bible calls the modern-day believer; in fact, he says quite the opposite.

“We live in a time of spiritual warfare, not physical warfare,” he said. “The exercise of violence in the name of or on the behalf of Christ is inexcusably sinful.” Longman concluded his presentation by explaining the reason that this topic was so important to him—because it affects not only how outsiders view God, but also how those within the church do so. “There has been a growing attempt to move away from the view of God who is a God who loves, but also who judges,” he said. “We should not back away from God’s self-revelation in scripture. Our perspective on God should be informed by scripture; we should not conform scripture to our preconception on who we think that God should be.”

## TREMPER LONGMAN

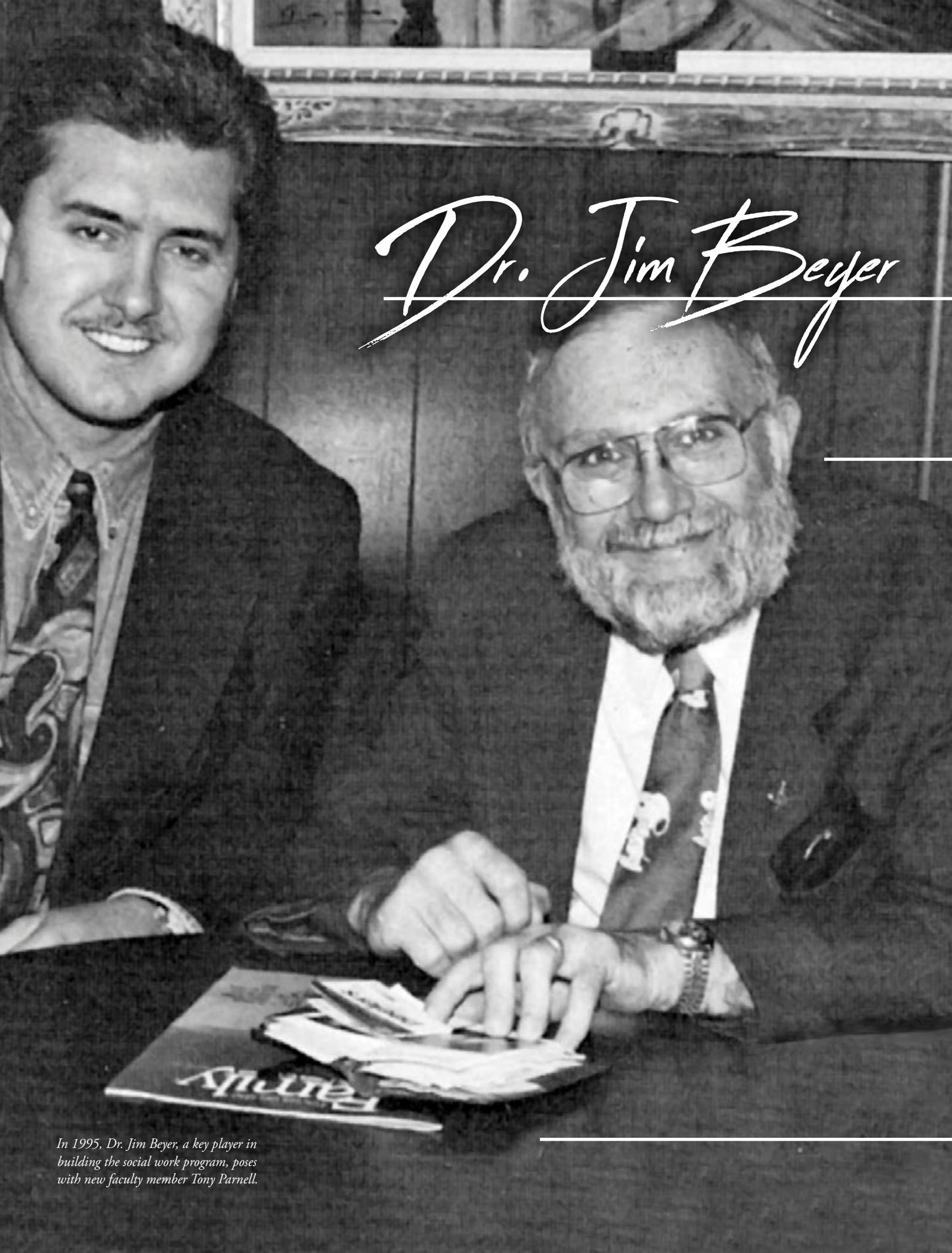


Dr. Tremper Longman III is the distinguished scholar of biblical studies at Westmont College. Tremper has authored or co-authored over 30 books and written numerous articles. His books have been translated

into 17 different languages. He earned his B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University, his M.Div. from Westminster Theological Seminary, and his M.Phil. and Ph.D. from Yale University.

Prior to joining Westmont in 1998, Longman taught for 18 years at Westminster in Philadelphia. He has also served as visiting professor at The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology, an adjunct professor at Fuller Theological Seminary, and a guest lecturer at Regent College and the Canadian Theological Seminary.

Longman has contributed to a number of commentaries, including the *New International Commentary on the Old Testament (The Song of Solomon and Ecclesiastes)*, *NIV Application Commentary (Daniel)*, *New International Biblical Commentary (Jeremiah and Lamentations)*, and the *Baker Old Testament Wisdom series (Proverbs)*. In addition, he was the senior translator for the wisdom books on the central committee that produced and now monitors the *New Living Translation*.



# Dr. Jim Beyer

*In 1995, Dr. Jim Beyer, a key player in building the social work program, poses with new faculty member Tony Parnell.*

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# Receives Tribute

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## FOR FOUNDING SOCIAL WORK AT LCU

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*B*ased on the very definition of the word, Jesus Christ was the consummate social worker, bringing good news and much-needed help to the leper, to the blind man, and to the woman caught in adultery. We are all called to be imitators of Jesus Christ, but those who answer the calling of the social work profession may see with more clarity how their Christian service truly helps those in need.

Dr. Jim Beyer saw an opportunity to create an academic program to train professionals in the art of being the very hands and feet of Jesus. He made a lasting difference when he began the social work program at LCU in 1983.

Beyer was hired at LCU in 1970 as a professor of psychology, but he quickly recognized that some students in the psychology program wished to become social workers. Having identified the need, he began to enthusiastically engineer a solution: an academic degree program specifically for social work.

Despite having two master's degrees and a doctorate when he began at LCU, he completed a Master of Social Work degree to make it possible for LCU to begin offering classes in the social work discipline. He later earned a PhD in social work.

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# so·cial work sōSHəl wərkw/

*noun*

1. work carried out by trained personnel with the aim of alleviating the conditions of those in need of help or welfare.
- 

LCU's Bachelor of Social Work degree was established in 1983 and received national accreditation in 1989. Beyer became chair of the Department of Social Work, and as he built the program, he oversaw the hiring of many staff and faculty, including the iconic Inez Baucum and several others who carry on the great work he began.

"Dr. Beyer was a mentor, respected colleague, and friend. He hired me to join the faculty in 1993," said Tony Parnell, an associate professor of social work at LCU. "From the beginning, he allowed me to grow in my faculty role, making it 'my own.' He was supportive, kind, humble, and steadfast."

At a luncheon in September 2017, Beyer was posthumously honored for the lives he changed with an induction in the LCU Social Work Hall of Honor. Family, friends, colleagues, and LCU social work alumni attended the luncheon to honor Beyer's work as a professor, his initiative in advocating for a social work program, and his great dedication to positively influencing those around him.

President Tim Perrin spoke at the lunch, sharing his experience growing up in the same neighborhood as the Beyer children and offering his appreciation for Beyer's founding of the social work program. Dr. Don Williams, founding communication and fine arts professor at LCU and co-worker of Beyer, shared memories of Beyer's spirit and dedication. Parnell also spoke at the luncheon, reflecting on the professional and personal impact that Beyer had on those around him.

"Dr. Beyer was a true pioneer," Parnell said, "as he went to great lengths to begin our social work program. We have maintained continuous program accreditation since 1989 and now occupy our own building. If Dr. Beyer were here today, he would be proud of the program's success, but humbled by it all... displaying his characteristic grin."

Parnell also noted that students came first for Dr. Beyer. Beyer likely never thought that his work to establish a program would eventually benefit a student very close to him—current social work student Taylor Haynes, who is Beyer's granddaughter. It was with great pride that Haynes read the inscription from the Hall of Honor plaque at the luncheon that now hangs in the Social Work building.

## **AS HIS HALL OF HONOR PLAQUE STATES:**

"Dr. Beyer was a strong Christian man who exemplified humility and compassion. He dedicated his life to helping those in need and effectively trained others to do the same. Dr. Beyer's legacy of service continues to live on in the LCU Social Work Program and in the social workers it develops."

"It was an honor to be involved in his induction, and it brought back many fond memories of him from my childhood," Haynes explained. "Through his life of service, my grandpa inspired me to one day become a social worker also."

In addition to his granddaughter, Beyer inspired numerous other social work students with his passion and initiative. Each person in attendance at the luncheon had been positively influenced by knowing him and had witnessed how his efforts changed lives. Because of the foundation that Beyer built during his lifetime, the LCU Social Work program continues to thrive and to train LCU students to follow their calling of helping those in need.

# FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

**The work that faculty members do outside of the lecture halls, seminar rooms, and laboratories on campus is fundamental to the mission of Lubbock Christian University: “to transform the hearts, minds, and hands of students for lives of purpose and service.”**

LCU Faculty have a well-deserved reputation for how they mentor students in and out of the classroom. By remaining active in academic life at the local, national, and international levels, our faculty are better equipped for their lives of service here on campus. Their dedication to scholarly projects enhances the student experience at LCU, advancing greater knowledge and inspiring further research.



**Dr. Russell Dabbs**

*Professor of Economics*

“The Economic Supernaturalist.” *Journal of Faith and the Academy*. (Fall 2016)

In his book *The Economic Naturalist* and elsewhere, Cornell economist Robert Frank likens economics to biology, suggesting that just as

evolutionary processes explain natural phenomena, similar processes are at work with respect to economic phenomena. The discipline of economics, from the perspective of the economic naturalist, thus appears to be exclusively grounded in the material world, with little or no relevance for exploring issues of spiritual concern such as sin and salvation. “The Economic Supernaturalist” highlights connections between basic economic principles and Biblical principles, and argues that economics is, in fact, useful for finding insights beyond the material world, for apprehending—to borrow the words of the 19th century economist Frederic Bastiat—not only “That Which is Seen” but also “That Which is Unseen.”



**Dr. Ashley Cherry**

*Assistant Professor of Mathematics*

“Piecewise Linear Approximation for Nonlinear Programming Problems.” Dissertation, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX. Aug. 2016.

This paper introduces an algorithm for solving optimization problems which have a nonlinear separable

objective function of multiple variables. The algorithm begins with a coarse piecewise linear function consisting of only one-line segment, and this coarse approximation is used to relax the original problem to a linear programming problem (LP). The LP is then solved using an optimization software package, and the resulting optimal solution is used to determine additional breakpoints for new piecewise linear function approximations in the next iteration.



### Dr. Andy Young

*Professor of Psychology and Counseling*

“Police Hostage (Crisis) Negotiators in the US: A National Survey.” *Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology* 30 (2016): 1-12.

“Police Hostage (Crisis) Negotiators in the US: A National Survey” was published in the *Journal of Police*

and *Criminal Psychology* in 2016. This article surveyed 514 hostage negotiators from across the US about how many and the type of SWAT callouts they’ve responded to and their personality, coping styles, and decision-making, since no one has ever looked at these factors before. From these results the characteristics of experienced and successful negotiators could be outlined and recommendations for negotiator training, new negotiator training, and how to respond well to future SWAT callouts was outlined and discussed.



### Dr. Kenneth Hawley

*Professor of English*

“Sir Harry Coningsbye’s Translation of *De Consolatione Philosophiae*: An Introduction and Critical Edition.” *Carmina Philosophiae* 24 (2017): 1-163.

The International Boethius Society dedicated this volume of the journal

to Dr. Hawley’s introductory essay to and complete edition of this rare English translation of Boethius’s *Consolation of Philosophy*. In 1664, Coningsbye printed a few personal copies of his poetic rendering of the *Consolation*, dedicating it to the memory of his departed father, Thomas Coningsbye, who had served Charles I faithfully as High Sheriff of Hertfordshire until his arrest and imprisonment by Oliver Cromwell and his soldiers during the English Civil War.



### Dr. Mark Wiebe

*Assistant Professor of Theology*

“A Green Augustine: What Augustinian Theology Can Contribute to Ecotheology.” *Augustine and Ecology*. Ed. Kim Paffenroth. Lanham: Lexington Books, 2016.

“This chapter undertakes an examination of two central theological

loci and the link between them in Augustine’s thinking: his doctrine of God and his conceptual distinction between “use” and “enjoyment.” This work paves the way for a response to some of Augustine’s recent critics and also makes it possible to flesh out Augustine’s powerful insights with respect to the value and moral significance of creation.”



### Dr. Lamar Reinsch

*Distinguished Professor of Business Management*

with Paul N. Reinsch, “Python Beyond Python: Critical Engagements with Culture,” in *Palgrave Studies in Comedy*. Ed. Paul N. Reinsch, B. Lynn Whitfield, and Robert G. Weiner. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing AG, 2017.

Relatively few people are aware that

British actor John Cleese (*Monty Python’s Flying Circus*, etc.) helped found what is probably the world’s most successful—and certainly most consequential—business training film company, Video Arts. This chapter traces the on-screen evolution of Cleese in masterpieces such as “Meetings, Bloody Meetings.” The chapter appears in the inaugural volume in a new series of books (by Palgrave) on the subject of comedy.



### Dr. Amanda Boston

associate professor of chemistry and associate dean of the Honors College, has been selected as a fellow in the Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford Program for Research in Science and Religion. This appointment signals Dr. Boston’s commitment to the highest standards of research and teaching and her desire to work for interdisciplinary learning in the Honors College and across campus.

Dr. Boston will join fellow scholars at Oxford University in the summers of 2018 and 2019, focusing on interdisciplinary skills and understanding central to the field of science and religion.

“Social and natural scientists will join those in the humanities to explore established and emerging science-and-religion issues, guided by eminent scholars in the field, in a respectful and research-rich learning environment. The seminars aim to train a new generation of leaders in science and religion. Campus activities at the participants’ home institutions will develop young scholars, support conversations across the wider student body, and help campus leaders to engage with current issues in science and religion.” (SCIO website)

# PURSUE PERSIST *grow*

*Learning through*  
**CHALLENGE**

Good things are happening at LCU. Just ask any student or member of the faculty or staff about the University's new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The QEP is a university-wide endeavor that has been designed with students at the heart of this initiative, and it is guided by the desire to equip our students for 21st-century living. Students walk through our doors from a vast array of life experiences and backgrounds, and some are more prepared than others to face the challenges associated with college life. In fact, our University recognizes that students, especially in their

early college years, often face significant challenges that have the potential to derail them and keep them from fulfilling their dreams of completing a college education. Some challenges that students face are beyond our control—challenges such as balancing family and/or work obligations or navigating limited financial resources. Nevertheless, many are the result of social or academic interactions that occur on a routine basis and cause students to question whether they will be able to succeed in college or even belong there in the first place.

Challenges that hinder students' success were identified during the 2016–2017 QEP topic selection process conducted by a committee of LCU faculty and staff. Consequently, a determined focus toward addressing these challenges was made a priority by the university in an effort to serve the needs of our students and strengthen the mission of the university, preparing students for lives of purpose and service. To do so, we recognized that we must purposefully attend to factors that affect students' potential for success and their ability to persevere through adversity. Based on this ideal, we determined that the purpose of our QEP would be to instill and foster academic tenacity among beginning undergraduate students in order to both establish and bolster persistence.

Academic tenacity refers to mindsets and metacognitive skills that allow students to look beyond short-term concerns to longer-term or higher-order goals and then withstand challenges and setbacks to persevere toward those goals (C. Dweck, Walton, & Cohen, 2014). According to psychologist Carol Dweck and her colleagues, students who are academically tenacious feel apparent academic and social belonging, see school as relevant to their future, work hard with the ability to postpone immediate pleasures, abate intellectual or social difficulties, seek out challenges, and remain engaged over the long haul.

Students with a  
**GROWTH MINDSET**  
appear to experience  
**LESS ANXIETY**, put  
forth **GREATER**  
**EFFORT**, and increase  
their engagement  
in the work at hand,  
accepting and even  
**ENJOYING THE**  
**CHALLENGE.**

Important to note within this discussion is that the mindset that students have about their own intelligence or other personal attributes affects their learning, learning behaviors, and tendency to stay the course when things get difficult. According to Dweck in her book *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* (2006), these mindsets refer to assumptions that students make about the malleability of personal attributes such as intelligence or morality. Some students have a fixed mindset—the belief that these traits are fixed, unchangeable entities—while others have a growth mindset—the belief that attributes such as intelligence or morality are indeed malleable and able to be changed or developed. Findings in cognitive and neurosciences fully support the second supposition. The brain is much more adaptable than we ever knew, and intelligence is certainly not fixed; it can be cultivated. In fact, contrary to popular belief, the brain does in fact change in structure and function in response to experiences throughout one's life, even into old age.

As one might expect, most students demonstrate a fixed mindset about some traits and a growth mindset about others. However, problems arise from a fixed mindset when it is linked to a student's academic development. Students with a fixed mindset are inclined to pursue performance goals rather than learning goals. In other words, they tend to worry about proving their intelligence and getting good grades, thereby preferring tasks that will verify how smart and capable they are. These students live under the assumption that they were not gifted with specific intellectual capabilities and will often say things like "I'm just not a math person" or "I can't write; it's not my thing"—or other various comments about their perceived inabilities. When tasks become challenging or difficult, fixed-mindset students often disengage or exhibit other avoidance behaviors, because they are ill-equipped to cope with failure. In contrast, students with a growth mindset both see and believe the possibilities that exist through effort. They value hard work and tend to pursue learning goals. They focus on learning new concepts as well as improving their competence. When tasks become challenging, students with a growth mindset appear to experience less anxiety, put forth greater effort, and increase their engagement in the work at hand, accepting and even enjoying the challenge. With this in mind, a goal of the QEP, therefore, is to instill a growth mindset in our students and eliminate the inaccurate beliefs and misconceptions about intelligence that hinder success.

Equally important is the realization that the development of tenacity requires more than possessing a growth mindset; students must also be equipped with a repertoire



Developing a  
**GROWTH  
MINDSET**

# ACADEMIC TENACITY

starts with

**EFFORT,**

**GOOD STRATEGIES,**

**and HELP**



# Students need **METACOGNITIVE** skills to support a **GROWTH MINDSET** and conversely need a growth mindset to **FULLY EMPLOY** their metacognitive skills.

of metacognitive skills if they are going to be able to put their growth mindset to work. Broadly defined, metacognition is knowledge about learning as well as having control over one's own learning. Students who exercise metacognition are able to assess and monitor their current level of understanding, predict their own performance on various tasks, and manage learning processes that lead to understanding. Evidence from the research (Conley & French, 2014; Cury, Da Fonseca, Zahn, & Elliot, 2008; Jones, Slate, & Blake, 1995) indicates that students who hold a growth mindset tend to utilize more effective study practices and monitor their own learning. They are more likely to set learning goals, discover gaps in understanding, decide when and where to engage in learning tasks, and demonstrate efficacy in both self-assessment and study habits. Thus, it appears that growth mindset and metacognition are interdependent. Students need metacognitive skills to support a growth mindset and conversely need a growth mindset to fully employ their metacognitive skills. Accordingly, it stands to reason that metacognition has been strongly linked with improved college GPAs, college readiness, and retention (Conley & French, 2014; Lamar & Lodge, 2014; Mytkowicz, Goss, & Steinberg, 2014) making it all the more salient as we find ways to support students. Unfortunately, metacognitive acuity is often lacking in college students and must be purposefully developed if these skills are to be fully realized and leveraged to work in conjunction with a growth mindset. Developing these skills is another goal of the QEP.

In light of these goals of developing a growth mindset in students and honing their metacognitive skills, faculty at LCU are learning how to adapt their coursework and curricula. In order to do so, faculty are studying principles of growth mindset and metacognition, utilizing practices that develop and support adaptive mindsets, and finding ways to implement assessment measures that allow for a greater capacity of learning through practice.

The QEP is working diligently to create a campus culture that fully embraces the power of a growth mindset and fosters academic tenacity in students. The ideas that emanate from this initiative transcend academia and have far-reaching implications in all aspects of students' lives. While it has the potential to affect personal relationships, marriages, jobs, parenting, and achievements in athletic or other extracurricular endeavors, it more importantly has the potential to affect students' spiritual lives. As Christian educators, we are dedicated to caring for the whole student by preparing them for lives of purpose and service. For this reason, it is vitally important that we acknowledge each student as a beautiful gift from God and affirm the potential that lies within each and every one. We firmly believe that the QEP will go a long way toward contributing to that goal.

To view our Quality Enhancement Plan video, visit [LCU.edu/QEP](http://LCU.edu/QEP).

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# athletics

Katie Pullano, junior, double-major in middle school education and English literature and a member of the Honors College, has been a staple for the Lady Chap soccer team since her debut in the 2015 season. Head coach Alex Denning and his team enjoyed three All-Heartland Conference selections, one All South Central Region honoree, two Academic All-District award winners, and one Academic All-American.

For the latest news about Chap athletics, visit [LCUchaps.com](http://LCUchaps.com).





LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC

# HALL OF HONOR



## HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEES

The LCU Athletics Department inducted four individuals into the LCU Athletics Hall of Honor in October of 2017. Chap Nation gathered with friends of the inductees for a very special weekend of activities to celebrate the accomplishments of the inductees. Along with reconnecting with several former teammates and friends over the weekend, the former athletes enjoyed a reception held in their honor on Friday evening, were introduced during the Lady Chap Volleyball game on Saturday afternoon, and were inducted into the Hall of Honor at a dinner held in their honor that evening. A very special part of the evening was to have the former coaches for each of the inductees on hand to assist in bestowing the honors.



## THE COMPETITOR

Courtney Yonke-Boyd was a four-year star on the volleyball court from 2006-2009 for the Lady Chaps. As the program's all-time digs leader, she holds a mark that sits at 4<sup>th</sup> in NAIA history with 3,018. During her

time at LCU, she played first as a defensive specialist, and then transitioned to the libero position in her sophomore year. "She [understood] the game very well," explained coach Jennifer Lawrence. "She would always be in the right spot because she always knew what was going to happen. It was just her competitiveness." In 2007, her first full season at the libero position, Yonke set the program's single-season digs record and claimed the program's first NAIA Libero of the Week honor. She helped lead the Lady Chaps to three conference titles and several playoff runs, including the 2008 Elite 8 appearance.



## THE NATURAL

Kenny Hewitt enjoyed a four-year career at LCU in basketball, leaving in 2011 as the program's all-time leading scorer. Suiing up for 118 games, Hewitt produced 1,835 points, and was a two-time NAIA All-American. "Kenny

knew how to score, no doubt about it," said Coach John Copeland. "He was a come-early-and-leave-late kind of guy. He put in the work." Hewitt ranks second in program history in field goal attempts, made field goals, and three-point attempts. He also ranks third in free-throws, both attempted and made. After his time at LCU, the three-time All-Sooner Athletic Conference selection embarked on a pro career with the Dallas Impact in the American Basketball Association, where he was a SouthWest Division All-Star in 2013.



## THE PROFESSIONAL

Buck Britton played baseball for the Chaps under head coach Nathan Blackwood during the 2007 and 2008 seasons, where he batted .387 with 18 home runs, 99 RBIs, 164 hits, and seven triples in 111 games. It

wasn't the stats that stand out with Coach Blackwood, however. "Buck's character was just unbelievable, as a team-leader," he said. "He was one guy who had a team-first mentality. He did everything right, every single day. You wanted him on your team, because you knew he was going to make you better." Following his time at LCU, Buck was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in the 35<sup>th</sup> round, and he stayed in their system for seven years before brief stints with the Dodgers and the Twins. While he never was officially called up to the big leagues, after retiring as a player, Buck has become a batting coach within the Orioles Organization, with hopes to eventually manage in major league baseball.



## THE MENTOR

Gary Hix joins the Hall of Honor not only for his on-field accomplishments in college, but also for his contributions once leaving LCU. Hix was a member of the LCU baseball team from 1979-1983, and was a member

of the 1983 NAIA National Championship squad. He hit .316 for his LCU career, was awarded the program's Frank Hord Award for the team's most courageous player, and was awarded the team's Golden Glove in 1982. After his time at LCU, Hix took his first coaching job at Lubbock Christian High School, and then at Amarillo High School, where he stayed for seven years before moving to coach at Canyon High School for the next 15 years. During his careers at those two schools, Hix led his teams to the postseason a combined 17 times, including the 2003 state tournament with Canyon. In 2011, he led Coronado High School to the State Championship game, and the following year was named the District 4-5A Coach of the Year. "He was a great player—and he understood *why* we do things," said Coach Larry Hays. "That has carried into his coaching career. He has had all kinds of honors, both as a player, and now as a coach. He represents all things that are good about athletics."



MICHAELA YANDELL:

THE RACE SET

# BEFORE HER





IN EVERY RACE, for every runner, there are obstacles to be overcome.

Hebrews 12:1-2 encourages us that through endurance – and with our eyes set on Jesus at the finish line – we can overcome those obstacles and finish the race set before us.

Michaela Yandell, a freshman exercise sports science major from Wichita Falls and a current member of the cross country team at LCU, has learned what it means to run the race with endurance, both spiritually and physically.

She started running in the seventh grade, inspired by her older sister, Morgan. Yandell ended up loving it. To this day, Yandell's sister is her favorite running partner.

“When they say it’s the ultimate stress-reliever, they’re not lying,” Yandell explained. “When I run, it makes everything kind of go away. When I’m running, no matter how nervous I feel at the start of a race, it just feels right – like I’m doing what I’m supposed to be doing. There’s a lot of freedom to it, so I fell in love with it and can’t imagine doing anything else now.”

Despite her passion for it, running hasn’t always been easy for her.

Yandell has been visually impaired her entire life. She was born with crossed eyes, a condition known as strabismus, and had corrective surgery to recenter them. After the surgery, her acuity improved drastically, but not enough to reach perfect 20/20 vision. Her right eye functions at 20/70, but her left only functions at 20/200.

In fact, Yandell said her left eye doesn’t function at all most of the time. Because of her early surgery, she also never developed depth perception and peripheral vision.

At first, she was told: “You realize that normal people who are visually impaired don’t run cross country. You shouldn’t be able to do that.” Yandell, undaunted, found ways to improve her experience in the classroom and on the course.

Her eyes are constantly moving and can’t adjust to corrective lenses, so Yandell has had to adjust in different ways. She obtained some magnification devices that made the classroom easier to navigate; she sat at the front of the classroom; she walked cross country courses before running them to get a sense of the ground.

“When I’m on the course, not a single person in the world has any idea that I’m visually impaired,” she said. “So I can let go of that and just run. It freaks people out [that I run], but I just roll with it.”

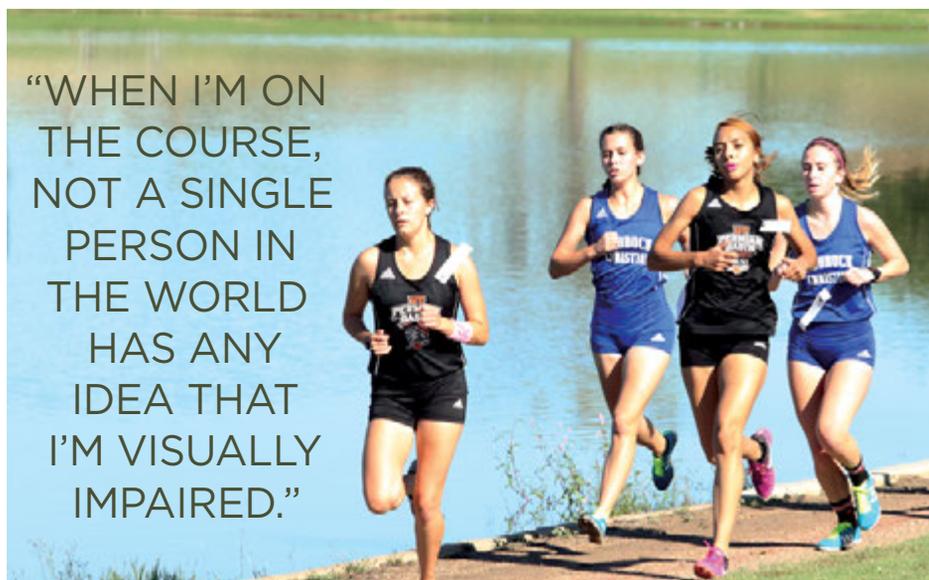
Throughout middle school and high school, Yandell also faced multiple injuries, including a torn meniscus. As part of the recovery, she visited physical therapists and sports training facilities, where she began feeling increasingly interested in helping other athletes.

Physical therapy fell out of the range of her interests, so Yandell started with exercise sports science and began to discover her passion once getting to LCU. Now her goals include opening her own gym with athletic training and nutrition plans.

“The more I think about it, the more excited I get, so I know I’m in the right field,” she said.

When she was looking for colleges, Yandell was active on College Board, trying to find scholarships and apply to schools. LCU popped up as one of the recommendations.

Yandell had never heard of LCU but found that a number of things about it appealed to her: a strong Honors College, a sense of community, a college town, and good race times from the Cross Country team.



Yandell had her coach set up a meeting with Leigh Cordes, the women's cross country coach, and she and her mom made the trip to Lubbock.

"As soon as I stepped on campus, I knew I was supposed to go to school here," Yandell recalled. "The community atmosphere isn't just a ploy at LCU. I applied to a couple of other schools to make my mom happy, but I never really wanted to go to them."

Since starting at LCU, she's discovered that her interactions with her peers and professors are her favorite things about the university. Her professors have worked with her since she first talked to them about her vision. She sits up front, takes large-print tests, and communicates with them regularly.

She's also found an incredible support system in the cross country team.

The team sits together in chapel and at lunch, becoming more like family than friends. They share a passion for running and a Christ-centered lifestyle.

Every morning before they run, the team prays together. Yandell noted the passion that the coaches, Nick and Leigh Cordes, have for both Christ and running, and how those two passions collide.

Nick and Leigh started coaching at LCU in 2015. Nick serves as the director of cross country and track and head coach for the men, while his wife, Leigh, serves as head coach for women's cross country. Leigh was a national track and field champion during her collegiate athletic career. Both coaches have made a positive impression on the teams through their marriage, their faith, and their commitment to their runners.

Yandell has seen the coaches continually work with athletes who have injuries to help them keep running. For Yandell specifically, they

check in often to make sure that her impaired vision doesn't affect her running experience.

"They want us all to be able to run," Yandell explained. "And they want us all to be able to run our best times. They take care of their athletes. They're invested and involved, and they're amazing people."

Yandell's biggest challenge is anticipating the course. She can't tell where the ground is uneven, so she tries to walk a course before to tell where holes, rocks, or tree roots may trip her. She also watches the feet of other runners to see if she needs to adjust her own steps. She falls – sometimes she falls a lot – but she just gets up and keeps running.

"I think that's part of why I'm so close with the team — they take care of me," Yandell said. "They let me know if something's come. Having that team helps me out mentally and physically when I'm running. I don't think there's another team that could be more supportive than the one at LCU"



*Track and cross country coaches, Nick and Leigh Cordes pictured with Michaela Yandell.*

## DESPITE THE OBSTACLES, YANDELL RUNS WITH PERSEVERANCE AND ENDURANCE TOWARD HER GOALS IN LIFE AND TOWARD HER SAVIOR AT THE FINISH LINE.

Yandell, with the support of her team and her community, keeps running the race set before her. When she can't see, she runs anyway. When she falls, she gets back up. Despite the obstacles, Yandell runs with perseverance and endurance toward her goals in life and toward her Savior at the finish line.

*To hear Michaela Yandell's presentation made in Chapel, visit [LCU.edu/Michaela-Yandell](http://LCU.edu/Michaela-Yandell).*

community





The LCU Community gathered at the Fountains on the Mall and at the hospital to pray for Nolan Wilkinson when he encountered a serious medical condition that threatened his life. But with God's providence and a supportive community, Nolan was able to return to his classes and catch up with his studies in time to finish the semester.



# Writing

## MAKES WORD

The Annual Writing Carnival celebrated its eighth year in September with the return of *Harry Potter* by J. K. Rowling as the featured series. The carnival is a fixture on campus every fall, featuring a number of book series over the years and engaging students and volunteers from all corners of campus.

The carnival was inspired when English professor and coordinator for the yearly carnival, Jana Anderson, and head of the English department, Dr. Ronna Privett, saw an idea of how to get students creatively involved with writing implemented at another university. They began work on a writing carnival that would feature a book series as the theme and encourage students to participate in fun and creative writing on campus.

Over the years, the Writing Carnival has grown tremendously in size, attendance, and the number of events featured. It involves coordination from multiple departments on campus and relies on volunteer efforts of students, faculty, and staff to work smoothly.

The theme changes annually, but every theme has a common thread: redemption.

“What we’re looking for in a book is a redemptive story. There are some stories that are great, but that don’t have the redemptive model that we see in

Christ. That’s the message we want to share with students. That’s what makes these stories beautiful,” said Anderson.

Other series that convey a message of hope have been featured, including J.R.R. Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings* and C.S. Lewis’s *The Chronicles of Narnia*. The theme this fall was particularly fitting as 2017 was the 20th anniversary of the publication of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* and the year in which the epilogue of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* took place.



Each year, the Writing Carnival incorporates different experiences, although some events have become tradition: a movie night, a 24-hour reading marathon, and the carnival itself. This year, the carnival featured a *Harry Potter* movie marathon, a glow-in-the-dark Quidditch game, and a horcrux scavenger hunt on the mall.

At the beginning of the week, professors greeted students attending chapel in their

regalia robes and various costumes in homage to the Writing Carnival theme.

A number of professors, students, and staff took shifts reading during the 24-hour reading marathon, including President Tim Perrin—who reads during the midnight time-slot each year—and Josh Stephens, dean of students—who read his shift in costume as Voldemort, the main antagonist of the book series.

Following the 24-hour reading marathon, the actual carnival began with carnival-style food catered by LCU Dining Services and a number of activity booths, each dedicated to a writing or *Harry Potter*-themed activity.

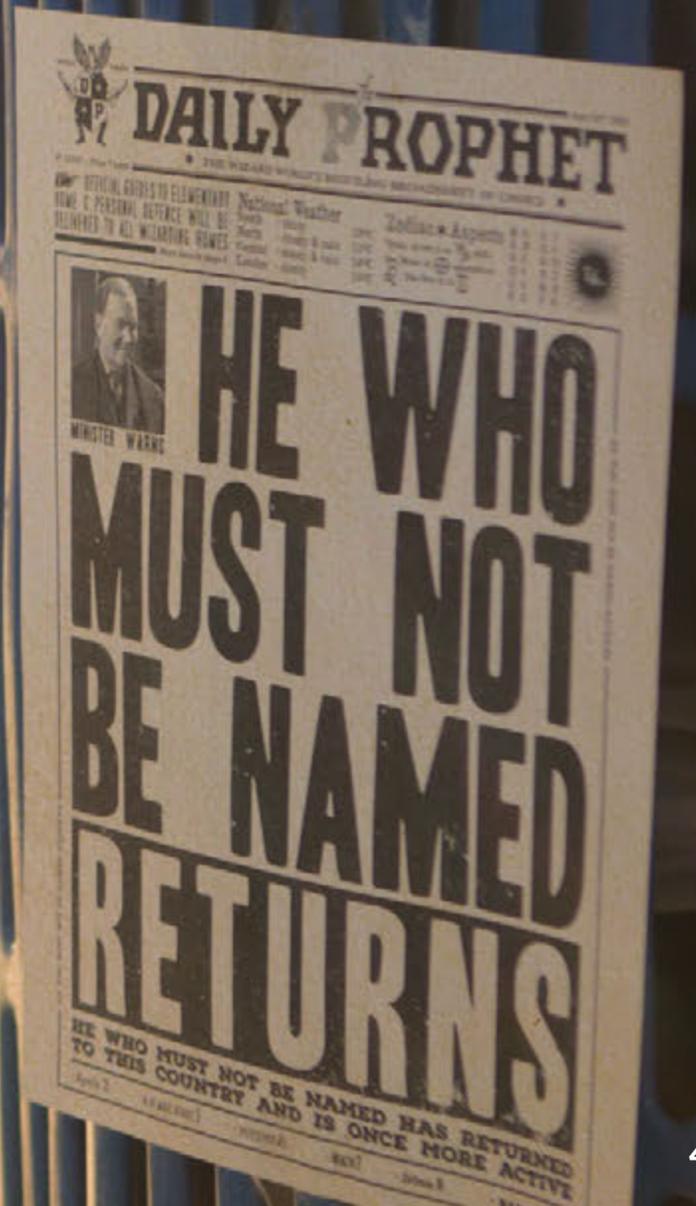
Students submitted haikus, photo captions, and six-word-stories at these various stations. Winners in each category were announced in chapel by the end of the week. In addition, students could write notes to friends, dress up for a photo booth, and participate in contests based on the book series.

Anderson wants the event to show students that there are more to words than work, essays, and tests. They don’t have to be intimidating; they can be fun.

“Words have such power,” Anderson explained. “They aren’t just for grades. They actually can convey beautiful things, sorrowful things, wonderful things, and clever things.”

# Carnival

S F U N



# WRITING CARNIVAL

## Winner's Circle



### SIX-WORD STORY

1 Slytherin robes.  
For sale. Slightly singed.  
-HUDSON LEE

2 "Yer a wizard,  
Luke!" -Wrong movie  
-ANONYMOUS

3 Climate change  
is real. Ocean mad.  
-ANONYMOUS

**Honorable Mention**  
Moaning Myrtle.  
Kecia Jackson.  
No difference.  
-TOSH TEPHENS

**Honorable Mention**  
"Unlimited tacos?"  
My time has come.  
-CATHERINE KAMAGAJU

**Honorable Mention**  
Harry Potter?  
Ten points to LCU!  
-CALEB HENDRIX

### THE QUIBLER HEADLINES

1 Ringless girl terrified  
as spring draws near!  
-MICHAEL PUGH

2 Breaking news.  
Students found selling  
Gillyweed at the  
Writing Carnival.  
-LIZZY WOODY

3 Butterbeer: not a  
Tier 1 infraction.  
-ETHAN BLACKSTONE

**Honorable Mention**  
Dr. Carroll missing.  
Rita Skeeter under  
investigation.  
-BENJAMIN HETTICK

**Honorable Mention**  
Dr. Owens delays class!  
Students worried. Has he  
gone soft? Or has he been  
bewitched?  
-AARON PECKHAM

**Honorable Mention**  
Is Dr. Hawley  
Harry Potter's dad?  
-ANDREA SANCHEZ

### SPELL WRITING

1 Petrificus Partialus:  
to make an enemy's arm  
or leg fall asleep.  
-ANONYMOUS

2 Logos Osmosis:  
to gain knowledge from  
a book by touching it.  
-SAMANTHA GILCHRIST

3 Instrumentalis  
Acceptorum: to turn  
a CoC person to a  
Baptist Pentecostal.  
-LUKE SHELburne

**Honorable Mention**  
Answerous Appearous:  
for test taking.  
-BERKLEE CLARK

### HAIKUS

1 Give me a hero.  
I'll write you a tragedy.  
Good tales end like this.  
-AUBREY WILSON

2 Reading HP at  
Seven. Cold. Still no cof-  
fee. What we do for love.  
-SARAH FANTINEL

3 Kecia wails and moans.  
Abby takes Josh in a duel.  
This is all normal.  
-RENEE RHODES

**Honorable Mention**  
Lubbock fall colors:  
Leaves are turned shades  
of brown.  
The ground looks...browner.  
-LUKE SHELburne

**Honorable Mention**  
Jake Andrew Weathers  
Should win this haiku contest  
Because he's the best.  
-ANONYMOUS

To view the complete list of Writing Carnival winners, visit [LCU.edu/WC-Winners](http://LCU.edu/WC-Winners).

## Business as a Calling



"You can have a business, and you can have a faith. There is no contradiction between the two," said Tracy Mack, dean of the LCU School of Business, during his opening statements at the annual Business as a Calling luncheon hosted on September 19, 2017. The capacity crowd in the LCU Baker Conference Center included local business leaders, civic and community leaders, and LCU School of Business students who attend because they understand the importance of the intersection of faith and business.

Presenters at the event reflected on the perceived tension between the spiritual life and business life of business professionals. This event fosters conversations about successfully navigating that perceived tension.

"We encourage business leaders to merge those two aspects of their lives so their faith can be reflected in their business and to reconcile our creative, economic selves with our Christ-centered, spiritual selves," said Mack.

*Lubbock Mayor Dan Pope (pictured) and Amanda Hale ('98), managing director for Deloitte Tax LLP, were the featured speakers for the 2017 Business as a Calling luncheon.*

# The Addams Family

## THE MUSICAL

They were spooky; they were altogether ooky. Most of all, though, the cast of *The Addams Family* musical were kooky and entertaining.

*The Addams Family* was performed as the fall 2017 musical at LCU over the weekend before Halloween, directed by Dr. Don Williams and Dr. Laurie Doyle. In Andrew Lippa's musical comedy, the reimagined members of the Addams family are thrown into chaos when teenage Wednesday Addams falls in love with a "normal" boy from a "normal" family and invites them over for a dinner party.



The cast as the classic, creepy family had the audience laughing at each morbid quip, cheering for each memorable character, and applauding after both the upbeat and the melancholy musical numbers.



## SPOOKY HOUSE

Prior to the musical, the LCU Friends of the Arts organization, along with the creative and talented assistance provided by the University Events team, hosted a family-friendly Spooky House in the Arnett House on campus. Families and visitors of all ages made their way through the darkened halls to rooms with crafts and candies. Fog filled the halls, ghosts cackled from the corners, and a skeleton tickled the ivory keys in the dining room.

Adding to the spooky experience were members of the notorious Addams family: Gomez, Morticia, Uncle Fester, Wednesday, and Pugsley. The scary hosts welcomed visitors and directed them around the house. After visiting the Spooky House, guests were encouraged to attend the musical in the McDonald Moody Auditorium.

The whole weekend really was a scream. \*snap, snap\*





# HOMECOMING

## FEBRUARY 8-11, 2018

Go to [LCU.edu/Homecoming](http://LCU.edu/Homecoming) for more information and RSVP details.

### DAY 1

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

#### '57 - '69 ALUMNI DINNER & GAME

5PM | Rip Griffin Center

All students from the classes and years of 1957–1969 are invited to start Homecoming weekend early with a complimentary dinner and Chaps basketball game at the Rip. *RSVP required*

#### ANNUAL NURSING ALUMNI EVENT

6:30–8:30PM

Atrium, Margaret Talkington Center for Nursing Education

This annual event featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres and live music is open to all nursing alumni! Business formal attire requested. *RSVP required*

### DAY 2

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

#### CORONATION OF 2018 KING, QUEEN, & COURTS

10–10:30AM | McDonald Moody Auditorium

#### ANNUAL QUEEN'S TEA

4–5PM | Home of First Lady Lucy Perrin

Queens and Courts from years ending in '3' and '8' are invited. *RSVP to 806.720.7218*

#### DECADE EVENTS:

#### ALL YEARS, CLASSES, & DECADES

5:30PM | Check Website for Locations

#### MASTER FOLLIES

7:30PM | McDonald Moody Auditorium

This event is one of the longest-standing traditions at LCU and is for the whole family. *Tickets required, go to [LCU.edu/Tickets](http://LCU.edu/Tickets)*

### DAY 3

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

#### VETERANS OF FAITH

8–9AM | LCU Starbucks

Complimentary breakfast gathering for alumni and current/former students with military service. *RSVP requested*

#### SOCIAL CLUB BREAKFASTS

8–9:30AM | Check Website for Locations

#### CHORUS & CHOIR ALUMNI

9:15–10AM | CDC Theater

Visit and sing together before participating in Alumni Chapel.

#### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

9:45AM | Chap Statue near McDonald Moody Auditorium

School of Education alumni and former students enjoy time together before Alumni Chapel.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

9:45AM | Christa Dobbs  
Center for Business

Alumni and former student business majors meet together before Alumni Chapel under the tent in front of the future home of the Christa Dobbs Center for Business.



## FAMILY LUNCHEON

12:15–2PM | Cafeteria

All homecoming attendees are welcome. Adults and children over age 10 - \$6.00 (plus tax); children ages 4-10 - \$5.00 (plus tax); children under age 4 are free.

## ALUMNI CHAPEL

10:15–11:25AM | McDonald Moody Auditorium

Worship with current and future alumni, and celebrate what God has done for us and our alma mater.

## LCU MARKETPLACE & BOOK FAIR

11:30AM–1:30PM | Mabee Student Life Building (SUB)

Items available for purchase or with donation. Featuring: Nathan Dahlstrom (former student and award-winning author), Dr. Andy Young ('93, faculty), Ruth Holmes (former faculty), David Langford (MS '13), Autumn (Justus '06) Corn, LCU Best Friends (directed by Gary Moyers, '87, faculty), Kelli Rogers (former student & staff), Dr. Beth Robinson (faculty), Ron Bontrager ('76), Alicia (Williams '11) Parker, Mandy (Timmons '06) Justus, Hal Blackburn ('80), and more. Graduate Studies table also available for those interested in LCU's Master-level programs. Stop by the Alumni Relations table to get your limited-edition license plate holder.

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE & REMEMBRANCE

11:30AM–12PM | Astyn's Garden

*Immediately after Alumni Chapel*

Remembering our LCU family who have passed from this earthly life. Flowers & memory cards available for a small cash donation.

## LETTERMAN'S LUNCHEON

12–1PM | Rip Griffin Center Hospitality Room

Complimentary luncheon for former athletes of all athletic programs and sports. *RSVP required*

## ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF THE SMITH COLLEGE OF BIBLICAL STUDIES LUNCHEON

12:15–1:30PM | Cardwell Welcome Center

Hear how the Lord is working through the Bible Department, and learn how to become a member of the Friends of the College of Biblical Studies. *RSVP required*

## AGGIES BBQ LUNCHEON

12:15–1:30PM | James & Jeanette Ling Science Center

The Aggies BBQ tradition is back. Come see the new Ling Center and visit with alumni, former students, faculty, and staff from the sciences. *RSVP requested*

## HONORS ALUMNI RECEPTION & REUNION

1:30–2:30PM | LCU Starbucks

Honors alumni are invited to enjoy fellowship together while enjoying a complimentary Starbucks drink. *RSVP requested*

## MASTER FOLLIES

3:00PM | McDonald Moody Auditorium

This event is one of the longest-standing traditions at LCU and is for the whole family. *Tickets required, go to LCU.edu/Tickets*

## ALUMNI AWARDS BANQUET

5:30–7PM | Baker Conference Center

Celebrate and recognize the 2018 Alumni Award recipients while enjoying an evening meal together. Watch the Lubbock Christian University Alumni Facebook page and LCU.edu/Homecoming for updates and announcements. Individual ticket and reserved or sponsored table options available. Prices vary. *Ticket or table purchase required*

## MASTER FOLLIES

7:30PM | McDonald Moody Auditorium

This event is one of the longest-standing traditions at LCU and is for the whole family. *Tickets required, go to LCU.edu/Tickets*

# DAY 4

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

## PASTRIES, JUICE, & COFFEE

8–8:30AM | Cardwell Welcome Center

## ALUMNI DEVOTIONAL & COMMUNION

8:30–9:15AM | Cardwell Welcome Center

Join in devotional and communion time together for the perfect way to end the weekend.



A STEP

IN FAITH



If someone had told Staci Erickson ('05) she would finish this year with one fewer kidney, she probably would have told them they were crazy. Today, however, she wouldn't hesitate to tell you her story and the role her faith played in someone else's life.

It all began late summer 2017, when the wife and mother-of-two was simply looking through social media.

As she was scrolling through Instagram, she noticed a post from Ron Clark, a well-known educator, author, and motivational speaker. The post showed an image of a family—a mother, father, son, and daughter—with a caption explaining that Carlos, the father, was in need of a kidney transplant and included a number for a transplant center.

"I remember reading that post, and thinking, 'Man, I feel for this family. I hope they find a kidney soon,'" Staci shared. "I said a quick prayer, and then tried to go on with my life."

At first, Staci was reluctant to do anything, not because she feared the possibility of donating a kidney, but because of how out-of-the-blue her inquiry would be. "I was this random girl from Texas," she said, "and they had no idea who I was—I was sure they were going to think that I was crazy."

Nevertheless, the family in the photo weighed heavily on her mind over the next two weeks. The unshakeable feeling that she needed to do something more pushed Staci to finally pick up her phone, find the number from the post, and make the call.



“I spoke to a nurse, Jill, from the donation center, and I just asked a lot of questions,” she explained. “I asked what it meant to be a living donor; I asked her what would it mean for him; I asked how well does a recipient take a living-donor kidney compared to a deceased-donor kidney; I asked every question I could think of.” Throughout the conversation, Staci grew more and more certain that this was something that she could do and needed to do for this family. Before she had even hung up the phone, she told Jill, “Let’s do it.”

There was one catch—Staci hadn’t spoken to anyone else, including her family, about this decision. “I was sitting outside, and my husband joined me and asked who I had been talking to. Of course, I hadn’t said anything to him yet, so I said, ‘So, funny story... I’m going to give away my kidney. What do you think?’” She explained to her husband, David (’05), what she had learned from her conversation with Jill.

“THERE’S GOT TO BE CRAZY  
PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD  
WHO ARE WILLING TO DO  
THINGS LIKE THIS SO MEN  
LIKE CARLOS CAN LIVE TO  
SEE HIS KIDS GROW UP.”

STACI ERICKSON

“He teased me a bit, saying, ‘You know you’re a little bit crazy, right?’” Staci recalled. “I just told him, ‘You know, I am a bit crazy, but there’s got to be crazy people in this world who are willing to do things like this so men like Carlos can live to see his kids grow up.’” David supported her decision, and together they began to move forward with the donation process.

It took Staci about a week to get in touch with the family through Instagram. She messaged them who she was and that she was going to Alabama to see if she could be a match. The news was met with gracious joy, and Staci said their ongoing conversations increasingly assured her that she was doing the right thing.

On August 6, Staci traveled to the donation center in Alabama for extensive testing. Not only did the doctors need to find out if Staci was a match for Carlos, but also if she was healthy enough to donate. They would be unwilling to clear Staci to give her kidney to Carlos if there was even a chance that they would have to add her to the transplant list later in life. In the end, however, the preliminary testing came back overwhelmingly positive.

“Everything looked great—apparently, I have some amazing kidneys,” Staci said. She had to wait three weeks to find out the results of whether she was a match for Carlos, but in the end, that also came back positive. At this point in the process, she now represented the closest that Carlos had ever been to actually receiving a transplant. The only step that stood between Staci’s kidney and Carlos was The Kidney Transplantation Committee.

“The Committee is made up of some amazing medical professionals,” explained Staci. “They want donors to be able to do this, but they also want to make sure that donors are without a doubt healthy enough to donate. They can deny a donor for one tiny thing, and it was absolutely nerve-wracking.”

On the day of the verdict, Staci went out to do some “retail therapy” to distract her from her anxiety. She was out shopping at a boutique in town when her phone rang. “I answered hesitantly,” she said, “because I was excited and nervous of what the phone call could mean.”

However, Jill said the words that they had all been dying to hear: “Congratulations, you have been approved to be a donor!”

Staci began screaming with excitement, right there in the dressing room. “The store owner and another employee were right outside and were asking me, ‘Are you pregnant?’”

What's happening?!" she recalled. "So, I told them the whole story. I was crying, they were crying, and we were celebrating together, right there in that store. The owner even pulled out one dress from what I'd picked out and told me, 'why don't you pay for this; I'm going to pay for the rest of it,' because she was so excited for what I was getting to do."

Staci couldn't wait to tell Carlos the news. "I went out to the car and immediately dialed Carlos' number, but he didn't answer!" He texted that he was in a meeting and asked whether she had heard something. "I wasn't about to tell him this over a text!" Staci said. "One of the big things that he had told me was how excited he was to someday get 'the call' that he would actually get a kidney. So, I told him to call me as soon as he could. When he finally did, I told him, 'Congratulations, we're going to surgery—we've been approved!'"

Staci recalled that it was an incredible moment, one that she would never forget. Carlos was lost for words, overcome by the impact that this news would have on his life.

Carlos had been on dialysis, a medical process where a machine filters the toxins from the body since the kidneys can't on their own, for over five years. "He had to do that every single day," explained Staci. "When he went on vacation, he had to take this giant machine with him. He never got a break from it."

## "CONGRATULATIONS, WE'RE GOING TO SURGERY—WE'VE BEEN APPROVED!"

STACI ERICKSON

Carlos went home and told his family the good news, and they all celebrated together. The following day, they scheduled the transplant for September 28, and all began counting down the days until the surgery.

Staci said, "I just kept praying, telling God, 'I'm ready; I'm willing; just make me able.'"

Finally, the day arrived, and Staci and Carlos went into surgery. Both families waited anxiously outside. But the operation went off without a hitch.

"The doctors were amazed, and it was definitely a God thing," Staci recalled, "because the kidney started working immediately. His numbers were outstanding, and they said it could not have gone any more smoothly." Not only was the surgery a major success for Carlos,

Staci's recovery was as quick and easy as anyone could have hoped. Within two weeks, she was back at work. Within four weeks, she felt completely normal.

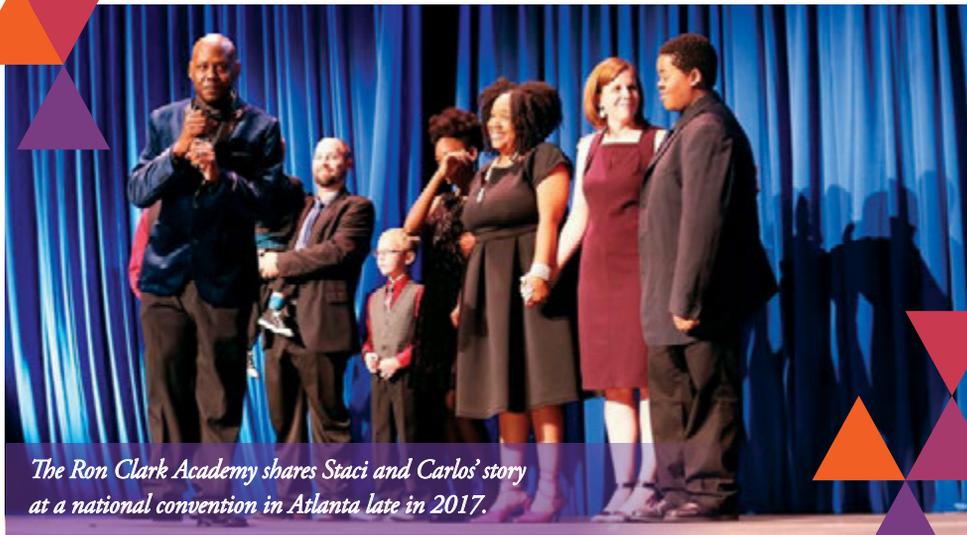
The surgery didn't affect her physically hardly at all. The most noticeable difference during her recovery was an aching pain in her one remaining kidney, which was expected as that kidney grew to take on the full load that had previously been a shared effort.

"That's one of the reasons that the doctors do so much testing early in the process," Staci explained. "They want to make sure that your body can handle the donation."

The process was eye-opening for Staci and her family, and she hopes that sharing her story may help inspire others to consider living donation.

"Strangers have to help strangers," she said simply. "If that doesn't happen, then you have people like Carlos, who is an amazing dad, who has to miss out on most of his kids' lives. It's doing something to save a life, and we can't just limit that to our inner circles."





*The Ron Clark Academy shares Staci and Carlos' story at a national convention in Atlanta late in 2017.*

Staci believes that the benefits of donating far outweigh the costs. “They won’t let you donate if your body can’t handle it. The fact that Carlos can go and be with his family again is incredible. He looks and feels like a completely different person, and he has told me that he feels like he has been given his life back.”

As far as how affordable donation is, Staci has other good news: all of the medical expenses were completely covered. Travel expenses were not, for legal reasons, so Staci raised funds for those additional costs through Go-Fund-Me. “It was so much easier than I imagined, because people really want to help with stuff like this,” she said.

Staci says that the real heroes in Carlos’s story were the family and friends who stuck with him from the beginning, through his illness and the years of lengthy treatment.

“His friends, his kids, Jacobi and Maya, and especially Tatanisha, his wife—they’re the real heroes,” she emphasized. “My part was easy—they did the hard part.”

Staci also sees this journey of donation as a huge step in faith.

“I saw the post, I listened to what God was telling me, and I just went for it,” she said. “We can talk ourselves out of anything, but if you just trust God and trust that everything will be okay, then He will take care of everything you need.”

Staci credits her time at LCU as a significant part of her spiritual formation, which ultimately helped enable her to give this life-changing gift.

“When I was at LCU, I grew a lot as a Christian,” she said. Through her time at LCU and over the years since, God continually challenged Staci to grow in her faith, and that faith was the foundation for this decision for her. “I could tell that this was something that God wanted me to do,” she said simply.

There are approximately 101,000 people who need a kidney transplant each year, and only about 17,000 receive an organ. Every day, 12 people die waiting for a kidney.

“It’s just a little bit of pain, a little bit of time, and you can help give someone their life back,” Staci said. “And you don’t even have to donate while you’re alive—you can also register to donate after you die.”

“Don’t overthink things,” she encouraged. “The reward is so much greater than you can imagine. It has been a huge blessing to me to see how God used me to give Carlos his life back, to give Tatanisha her husband back, and to give Jacobi and Maya their father back.”

For more information about living kidney donation, or other ways to help those affected by kidney disease, visit [www.kidney.org](http://www.kidney.org).

**LCU strives to create a culture that fosters decisions to donate like Staci’s.** In addition to regular blood drives on campus, LCU has hosted numerous representatives from the Delete Blood Cancer organization since 2015, including former Olympian gold medalist Earl Young, to encourage students, faculty, and staff to sign up to donate stem cells and bone marrow. Through these drives, LCU has registered 636 potential donors to date, and two community members, senior student Austin Hayes and staff member Bobby Hooten, have been matched as donors.



# encounter LE

What began four years ago as an idea to provide a spiritual break from school and hectic schedules in the fall semester for a few hundred teenagers has turned into a weekend-long spiritual retreat for over 800 teens, 150 sponsors, and 50 volunteers. Encounter LE (Light Edition, as compared to the week-long Encounter camp held during the summer) provides students the opportunity to turn their focus back toward God. High school and middle school teens were able to hear practical and thought-provoking messages from keynote speakers, join together in meaningful worship, attend classes taught by inspiring youth workers, and also have fun with various forms of entertainment.

Mark Hadley ('02) talked with the teens on Friday evening about overcoming the temptation to be relevant, spectacular, and powerful. He reminded the students that their focus should not be on themselves, rather it

should be on Jesus. On Saturday, Marty Baker ('06) spoke about how we are all invited to take a seat at the table of God—a God about openness, unity, hospitality, and overcoming division. He encouraged the students to embrace their place at the table.

Josh Stephens ('00), LCU dean of students and LCU summer camp director said, "Simply put, Encounter LE was a huge blessing for students and their youth groups, as well as for group sponsors and LCU staff! It allowed old relationships to be rekindled and new relationships to be formed. The Spirit moved through energetic keynote speakers, engaging classes, and exceptional entertainment. It was a great weekend, and we look forward to reconnecting with everyone at Encounter in June!"

**PICTURED ABOVE:** *Colton Dixon performed at Encounter LE.*



# BIG BLUE CHRISTMAS



**BIG BLUE CHRISTMAS WAS THE PERFECT WAY TO BEGIN OUR FAMILY'S HOLIDAY SEASON.**

The Christmas music, lights, endless activities, and refreshments were enjoyable for kids and adults of any age. We always enjoy being on the LCU campus, and we appreciate LCU for graciously hosting this amazing event!

Jenny Denman Reeger ('11)

**CHRISTMAS 2017 CAME A BIT EARLY** for friends, alumni, students, and staff at Lubbock Christian University. The Big Blue Christmas event was held on a brisk November evening just after the Thanksgiving holiday in order to give the LCU community a flavor for Christmas before the end of the semester and final exams.

This year marked the fifth year LCU has hosted the event with varying themes, with this year's theme being the "Wonderful

World of LCU." The campus mall was decorated and a growing number of LCU buildings were outlined in blue and white lights.

Children played in the man-made snow falling from the sky and threw snowballs made

from Bahama Bucks Shaved Ice. Themed decorations, enthusiastic campus spirit, and cheerful students and volunteers created a Christmas atmosphere, helping guests get into the holiday spirit a little early.

Held on November 28, the annual Big Blue Christmas

drew a large crowd with the opportunity to participate in a one-of-a-kind Christmas extravaganza. Children of all ages made Christmas-themed crafts, played games, and had their photos taken with Santa. Families also had the opportunity to enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner in the LCU Dining Hall, Frito pie provided by the LCU alumni team, and s'mores provided by the LCU Admissions crew that they could roast over several fire pits around the mall.

LCU Sophomore student Mikeilah Foust volunteered at one of the craft stations during this year's Big Blue Christmas. She said, "Big Blue is one of my favorite traditions here at LCU. Kids from all over Lubbock visit campus... for clean family fun! I absolutely love being part of a community that welcomes and loves on the younger generation. I look forward to many years of Big Blue to come!"

Big Blue is one of my favorite traditions here at LCU. Kids from all over Lubbock visit campus... for clean family fun! I absolutely love being part of a community that welcomes and loves on the younger generation.





# Chap Notes

Send updates on your career, location, & family. Contact us at Alumni@LCU.edu or 806-720-7218

## '70s Decade

**Bruce Gleim ('75)** and wife, Joan, live in La Vergne, TN. Bruce has been preaching for 35 years and currently works with the Church of Christ in Christiana, TN. Bruce and Joan recently celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Johnny ('75) and Toni (Smithson '73) Stephens** live in Hewitt, TX. Johnny is the dual credit supervisor at Axtell High School and a minister at Columbus Avenue Church of Christ, Toni is a sales associate at JoAnn Fabric and Crafts.

**Pat Craig ('76)** lives in Norman, OK. He is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade math and technology teacher at Central Elementary and an evangelist for the Eastside Church of Christ in Lexington, OK.

**James Johnston ('77)** and wife, LuAnn, live in Corning, AK. James is the minister at 4<sup>th</sup> & Vine Church of Christ.

**Teresa (Snow '78) Harris** and her husband, Ron, live in Clarksville, TN, where Teresa is the director of a child care center.

## '80s Decade

**David ('80) and Michele (Roper '79) Wilson** live in Whiteriver, AZ, where they moved to work with the Whiteriver Unified School District on the White Mountain Apache Reservation. David is serving as an associate principal and athletic director at Alchesay High School, and Michele is teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

**Stacy (Williamson '85) Beasley** and her husband, Robert, live in Sugar Land, TX, where they are both attorneys.

**Debbie (Denison '89) Hendricks** lives in Littleton, CO and is a real estate investor.

## '90s Decade

**Steve Simpson ('91)** and wife, Kristen, live in Waxahachie, TX. Steve is an assistant boys' basketball coach and dual credit speech teacher at Red Oak High School, and Kristen is a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at Shields Elementary in Red Oak, TX. They are the parents of future Chaps, Madison and Ella.

**Nicole (Craig '92) and Doug Austin ('95)** live in Roswell, NM. Nicole is the executive vice president and chief lending officer at Pioneer Bank. Doug has been the senior minister at Country Club Road Church of Christ for the past 18 years.

**Beth (Richardson '95) McCauley** and husband, Terry, live in Gordon, TX. Beth is a credit recovery teacher at Granbury High School.

**Rachel (Pittard '96) and Richard Rinehart ('04)** live in Midlothian, TX. Rachel works at Odd Fellow & Rebekah Nursing Home, and Richard owns Simple Lawn Service.

**Brett ('98) and Tauna (Cook '95) Ramsey** live in Big Spring, TX. Brett is an assistant principal at Goliad Elementary, and Tauna is an 8<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher for Greenwood ISD. They are the parents of Tristan, Kincade, and Zona.

## '00s Decade

**Michael Kuhn ('00)** and wife, Kari, live in Lubbock, where Michael is a financial counselor, and Kari is a cashier at UMC.

**Jason Massey ('01)** and wife, Kate, live in Sumter, NC. Jason is the staff chaplain at Palmetto Health Toumey.

**Tarrah-Shea (Kohnhorst '01) Waller** and husband Chad live in Lubbock with their three future Chaps: Presley, Piper, and Paylen. Chad is the CEO of Hi-Fidelity.



Leighton was born on October 19, 2015. He is the son of **Valarie (Boston '03)** and Brandon Berkshire.

**Clint ('04) and Kendra (Heatwole '04) Clark** live in Lubbock. Clint is an independent sales agent for Aflac.



Jackson Lee was born on May 13, 2017 and is the son of **Susan (Scarborough '04)** and **Nick Gaultney ('04)**.



Maycee Joy was born on June 17, 2017. She is the daughter of **Miranda (Jones '05)** and **AJ Bloodworth ('06)**, and the little sister of 5-year-old Teagan.

**Brian ('05)** and Kasindra Jones live in El Dorado, AR. Brian is the president/CEO of the SHARE Foundation.



**Renee (Gause '05) Prince**, CPA, CGMA is one of only 38 CPAs nationwide and one of only two in Texas honored by the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) as a member of the Leadership Academy's ninth graduating class. Prince was selected based on her exceptional leadership skills and professional experience for the program, which was held from October 1-5, 2017 in Durham, North Carolina. A graduate of LCU and the University of Texas at Dallas, Renee has been working side by side with small businesses for more than ten years. Her experience working in mid-sized public accounting firms in Dallas gave her the business acumen to advise on all aspects of her clients' financial decisions—from tax filing and document preparation to independent auditing capabilities and maximizing profitability—and she founded her own firm in 2012.

**Autumn (Justus '06) Corn** lives in Plains, TX, where she is a stay-at-home mom to future Chaps Tucker, Knox, and Lathe. She also assists in running their cattle feeding business and is a children's ministry director. Autumn recently authored a Christian children's book based on Hebrews 11:1. *Texas Size Faith* is the story of Tucker, a young cowboy named after her son. As the young cowboy grows into his identity, he struggles with what his heart desires and what he portrays on the outside. Through a series of comical incidences, the boy discovers that his faith in what God has created him to be allows him to explore many desires of his heart as long as he keeps his Texas size faith in the Lord. The young cowboy depicts what it means to have a "childlike faith," as he makes the connection that God's desires for our lives are big....bigger than Texas!

**Isaac Garcia ('06)** and wife, Camille, live in Amarillo, TX. Isaac is a transformation coach at Cornerstone Church, and Camille is a vocal instructor at Pop Star Vocal.

**Lindsey (Joiner '06)** and **Kolbyn Joy ('07)** recently moved back to Lubbock. Kolbyn works for Monsanto. They are the parents of three future Chaps.

**Jeremy ('06)** and **Kimberly (Kurtz '07) Lukas** live in Aubrey, TX with their three future Chaps: Kayla, Emma, and Carter. Jeremy is the director of Texas for GOBA Sports, Inc.

**Bric Turner ('06)** and wife, Tanya, live in Meadow, TX, where Bric is the principal of Meadow ISD and Tanya is a teacher.



Kolbe James is the son of **David Duguid III ('07)** and the little brother of Fulton John.



**Talin ('07)** and **Amanda (Mahaney '05) Pepper** live in Burleson, TX. They are the parents of future Chaps Gavin, Owen, and Laynee.

**Pat Perryman ('07)** lives in Heartland, TX and is the Dean of Nursing at Carrinton College.

**Emmanuel ('07)** and **Christina (Banda '08) Ramirez** live in Lubbock with their two future Chaps, Emma and Christian. Emmanuel currently serves as the director of finance at Ronald McDonald Charities of the Southwest. In his spare time, he is a CrossFit instructor.

**Rynn (Miller '08)** and **Jeff Day ('10)** live in Lubbock. Rynn is a vision trip coordinator for Cornerstone Business Holdings/Betenbough Homes, and Jeff is the student minister at Raintree Christian Church.



Cannon was born on July 14, 2017 and is the son of Abigail and **Cole Jones ('08)**.

**Michael Martinez ('08)** lives in Midland, TX, where he is a drilling buyer for the Apache Corporation. He is the father of future Chaps Faith, Hailey, and Noah.



Luke Rainier was born on November 21, 2016. He is the son of **Mandy (Prude '08)** and **Kory Mereness ('08)** and the little brother of Peter.



Adleigh Elizabeth was born on March 24, 2017. She is the daughter of **Lexie (Scarborough '10)** and **Kelly Futrell ('08)** and the granddaughter of Alex and **Shellie (Bills '83)** Scarborough and **Billy ('77)** and Kathy Futrell.



Jocelyn Kay was born on May 29, 2017 to **Joy (McLendon '08)** and **Casey Spencer ('08)**. Jocelyn is the little sister of Jude.



Easton is the son of **Albert ('10)** and Tristan Gillispie. He was born on October 6, 2016. The Gillispie family lives in Lubbock.

## '10s Decade



Drew Elizabeth was born on March 19, 2017. She is the daughter of **Kaitlyn (Copeland '12)** and **Andy Brewer ('10)** and the little sister of Marley Jo.



Rylee is the daughter of **Mitchell ('11)** and Callie O'Briant. Mitchell is a youth minister at the Tamarack Road Church of Christ in Altus, OK.

## Send updates on your career, location, & family.

At your request, we will send you a complimentary LCU onesie or size 6, 12, or 18 mo. t-shirt for your new baby's photo representing LCU as a future Chap. Wedding photos of you and your LCU guests throwing the Chap sign will also be accepted for print. Always include LCU alumni class year, married and alumni maiden name, career and job position, mailing address, email address, and phone numbers. Also, we invite you to join us in celebrating the lives of alumni, former students, and others among our LCU family listed in the In Memoriam section.

**Contact us at Alumni@LCU.edu or 806.720.7218**



Peter was born on April 25, 2017. He is the son of **Alicia (Williams '11)** and **Matt Parker ('10)**.

**Kiersten (Russell '11)** and **Christopher Parker ('10)** live in Lubbock, TX. Kiersten is a math teacher at Terra Vista Middle School, and Christopher is a registered pediatric nurse at Covenant's Pediatric ER. They are the parents of future Chap, Claire.

**Rachael Dansby ('12)** is a licensed associate marriage and family therapist at Broadway Church of Christ, as well as a doctoral research assistant for the Department of Community, Family, and Addiction Sciences at Texas Tech University.

**Barrett ('12)** and **Breana (Maxfield '12) Dickson** live in Athens, TX, where Barrett is the youth and worship leader for Eastern Hills Church of Christ.

**Whitley (Gillit '12)** and **Jason Nutt ('11)** live in Floydada, TX with their two future Chaps, Paisley and Stetson. Whitley is a math teacher at Floydada High School and is also an owner of Nutthouse Designs, and Jason is a farmer and rancher.



Zoe Madison was born in July of 2016. She is the daughter of **Jillian (Johnson '12)** and Caleb Turk. Jillian and Caleb both work for Johnson Cabinets and Woodworking, INC.

**Karen Smith-Will ('12)** lives near Richmond, VA and is president of Valutivity LLC. In October 2017, Valutivity Press published a fantasy novel, *The Long-Lost Troll*, a sequel to *A Fine Basket of Fish*, written by Karen's husband, Barry Will. Their son, Ashton, is the book's illustrator. Barry is also the technology director at Fairmount Christian Church.

**Brent Johnson ('13)** is a quality engineer for JLG Industries in McConnellsburg, PA.

**Joshua Weldy ('13)** and wife, Rachel, live in Lubbock. Joshua is a business coordinator with Cornerstone Business Holdings Inc., and Rachel is an attorney. They are the parents of future Chaps Jaxon and McKenzie.

**Aryn (Stark '13)** and **Jordan Withrow ('11)** live in Lubbock. Jordan is a physical therapist with UMC Team Rehab at Zach's Club, and Aryn is an auditor with D. Williams & CO. She received her CPA license in December of 2016.

**Nichelle Bailey ('14)** is a probation and parole officer for the Department of Criminal Justice in Indian Trail, NC.

**Theresa Basile ('14)** lives in Montgomery, AL, where she is a law student and works at the District Attorney's Office in the 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit.

**Niko Valenzuela ('14)** lives in Albuquerque, NM and is a staff auditor at Hinkle & Landers, PC.

**Becca (Biard '14)** and **Nathan Webb ('17)** were married on July 2, 2017. They live in Seminole, TX, where Becca is a sophomore English teacher at Seminole High School.

**Zach Woodbridge ('14)** and wife, Shelley, live in Lubbock. Zach is the newsroom clerk for the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

**Robert ('15)** and **Micaela (Counts '15) Brown** live in Lubbock with their son and future Chap, Roland. Robert is the lifestyle director and TDADS certified activities director at The Legacy at South Plains.

**Amanda (Brace '15) Herrera** and her husband, Christian, live in Lubbock. Amanda is a 4<sup>th</sup> grade writing teacher at Willow Bend Elementary, and Christian is the receiving supervisor at Osteogenics Biomedic.

**Judith Jenkins ('15)** teaches at Trinity Christian School. She graduated with a master's in special education from LCU in December. After graduation, she plans to begin certification classes to become an educational diagnostician.

**Clarice (Gerbl '15)** and **Cole Long ('16)** live in Lubbock. Clarice is currently completing the physical therapy program at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.



**Masy (Miller '15)** and **Clint Scott ('13)** were married on October 21, 2017. Masy is a gift accountant at LCU, and Clint works for Plainsmen Moving Company and is a member of the band Fellow American.

**Shelby (Foshee '16) Garrett** and husband, Taylon, live in Lubbock. Shelby is a pre-k teacher for Anton ISD, and Taylon is an oilfield pumper with Chevron Oil. They are the parents of future Chap, Julia Grace.

**Serena George ('16)** is a state & local tax accountant at Atmos Energy in Dallas, TX.

**Aaron ('16)** and **Elizabeth (Patterson '17) Peralez** live in Lubbock. Aaron is an English and Leadership teacher, ESL Coordinator, and UIL speech coach at Meadow High School. Elizabeth is a 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading and social studies teacher at Westwind Elementary.

**Caden Rosenbaum ('16)** lives in Arlington, VA and is an accountant for the American Legislative Exchange Council.

**Kailey Rutherford ('16)** lives in Lubbock and is a nurse tech at Covenant Medical Center.



**Abby (Johnson '16)** and **Trey Dye ('16)** were married on July 7, 2017. They reside in Lubbock where Trey is a content developer/technical writer at Tyler Technologies, and Abby is a faculty recruiter at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

**Heath Blackmon ('17)** and wife, Vanetta, live in Loop, TX. Heath is the principal at Loop ISD, and Vanetta is an elementary teacher.

**Mekayla (Duzan '17)** and **Jared Lewis ('15)** were married on August 19, 2017.

**Benjie Wayne ('17)** lives in Lubbock and is a resident chaplain at Covenant Hospital.

**Updates and photos received after December 1 will be published in the next edition.**



# In Memoriam

## '50s DECADE

**Betty Lloyd ('59)** passed away in July of 2017. While at LCU, Betty was a member of A Capella Chorus, Kappa Phi Kappa social club, and the yearbook staff. She is survived by three sons: Doug Lloyd, Randy Lloyd and Kenneth Lloyd; two daughters, Deana Burris and Sherril Lazarus; four grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

## '60s DECADE

**Gary Hawk ('60)** passed away on Monday, October 9, 2017. Gary was a resident of Idaho at the time of passing. Gary attended high school at Lubbock High School and college at Lubbock Christian College and Texas Tech University.

**Meta (Reynolds '60) Isenhower** passed away on August 2, 2017. She graduated from Putnam High School and attended LCU and Abilene Christian College. Meta was a faithful follower of Christ with a servant's heart and a love for people. She was a member of Putnam Church of Christ. She made two trips to Zambia in Southern Africa to participate in the Zambia Medical Mission and considered her work dispensing eye glasses as "the best job I ever had" because of the joy she saw on the faces of people who received glasses and could see once again. She is survived by her husband, John; daughter, Laura Massingill and husband, KB; two sisters, Willa Reynolds and Janice Bennie; one brother, Roddy Reynolds; grandson, Joshua Massingill and wife, Allie; granddaughter, Jessalyn Beasley and husband, Ben; and many grandchildren.

**Judy Kay (Smith '66) Bechtold** passed away on Thursday, July 6, 2017. She graduated from LCU and Texas Tech University as an English major and the University of North Texas with her master's degree. She served as a librarian at Hart ISD, Cotton Center ISD, Kress ISD and a library director at Unger Memorial Library and various other libraries. She married Charles Lee Bechtold on Dec. 26, 1980. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles; her parents, Roger and Jeffie Mae Smith; brother-in-law, Don Haberer, and sister-in-law, Kathy Smith. She is survived by her son, Michael Bechtold; brother, Gary Smith; sister, Sue Haberer; brother-in-law, Fred Bechtold and his wife, Susan; as well as many nephews, nieces, and cousins.

**Paul Kenneth Ogle ('66)** of Crosbyton passed away on August 31, 2017. Paul was a 32nd-degree Mason and a member of Hale Center Chamber of Commerce for ten years. He was also a member of Plainview Toastmasters for five years and a member of Crosbyton Church of Christ. He is preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Harold and Larry Ogle. He is survived by his wife, Judy Ogle; two

daughters, Angela O'Harrow and husband, Van, Amy Wallace and husband, Richard; a brother, Ronnie Ogle and wife, Shirley Ogle; two sisters, Dolores Mullins and husband, H.W., Rhena Smith and husband, Stacy; a sister-in-law, Nancy Ogle; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

**John Leslie Gardner ('67)** passed away on September 15, 2017. John graduated from Albuquerque's Sandia High School in 1965 and from Texas Tech in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science degree. For many years before retirement, John was a partner in a civil engineering services firm, Vinyard & Associates. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Deborah Gardner; their son, Brett Gardner; daughter, Megan Haggard; grandchildren, Preston and Holly Haggard; and sister, Martha Bradley.

**Larry Dwain Killough** of Emory passed away August 15, 2017 at his home. Larry served his country in the Air National Guard for six years. Larry was the owner of Municipal and Industrial Supply Company (MISCO) in Milan, NM. Larry was a member of Point Church of Christ. He was a devoted follower of Christ and always shared the gospel at every opportunity. His heart's desire was to leave a legacy of love for his children and grandchildren. Larry is survived by his wife of 45 years, Jeanne; sons, **Brent ('95)** and wife, **Lisa (McCall '92)**, and **Brian ('98)** and wife, Dawn; brother, Allen; sisters, Kathleen and husband, Kenneth, and Carolyn and husband, Robert; many grandchildren and other loving family and friends.

## '70s DECADE

**Paul Russell ('72)** passed away on October 25, 2017. Paul was born October 9, 1949, in Lamesa to Henry and Buna Russell. He attended Ranger College and completed a teaching degree at LCU. Paul taught history and coached in El Paso, Lockhart, Lamesa, and Seminole until 1982. He began his career in the oil business and was employed by Sundown Operating at the time of his death. Paul received Oil Man of the Year in 2013. He is survived by his wife, Mary Russell; two sons, Kory Dagley and his wife, Amanda, and Kenneth Russell; a daughter, Amanda Vasquez and her husband, Lee; along with eight grandchildren.

**James Byers** passed away on November 20, 2017. He was born on August 22, 1954 to Jo Willie and Bessie Mae Street Byers in Crosbyton, TX. He attended McMurry University, LCU, and Texas Tech University. He became a teacher/coach in 1977 at Lorenzo High School. He went on to coach basketball at New Home High School and from there to Jim Ned High in Tuscola, TX. He later coached at Jefferson and Madison Middle Schools



in Abilene, TX. He leaves to cherish his memories his wife of 39 years, Jo Ann Byers; daughters, Erica Johnson and Erin Byers; four grandchildren, Dalawnia Johnson, Eric Johnson, Kobe Robinson, and Ayjolan Hall; one great-granddaughter, Avalei Johnson, four sisters, one brother; and a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

**Janice Lee Donald Thornton** of Lubbock was born May 28, 1932 and passed from this life on July 27, 2017 after a lengthy illness. She taught school for Lubbock ISD for many years before she retired and was a lifelong member of Sunset Church of Christ. Janice was preceded in death by her husband, James, in 1998; oldest son, Bruce Thornton, in 2014; and her parents, Reese and Pauline Donald. Janice is survived by her daughter, Patsy Williams and husband, Mike; son, Jimmy and wife, Debra; daughter-in-law, Janelle; brother, Robert and wife, Virginia; seven grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

**Carol Lyon ('79)** passed away on September 19, 2017. While at LCU, Carol was a member of the A Cappella Chorus, band, and Christliche Damen Social Club.

**Steven Ennis Setliff ('79)** was born in Lubbock, Texas on September 6, 1956 to Joe Ray Setliff and Leta Faye Setliff Brewer. Steve graduated from Crowell High School in 1975 where he participated in band and theater. He went on to attend LCU where he planned to be a band director but changed his major to business. He was a member of the A Cappella Chorus and undertook major roles in several musicals. After moving to Lubbock, he worked for West Texas Lee Company where he designed and manufactured farm equipment. He became a Lubbock Firefighter in 1991 and served the community for 25 years in a variety of capacities such as Fire Santa, Coats for Kids, and as an officer for the LPFFA. Steven is preceded in death by his father, Joe Ray Setliff. Survivors include his wife, LeAnn Setliff; daughter, Naomi Caron and husband, Glenn; son, Nathaniel Setliff; Benjamin Setliff and wife, Tory; mother, Leta Faye Brewer; brothers, Dennis Setliff and Joe Setliff; sister, Tina Ward; and many grandchildren and other family members.

**Kenneth Vandevender ('79)** passed away on September 6, 2017.

## '80s DECADE

**James David Whisenant** passed away Tuesday, September 19, 2017. James was born May 7, 1963, in Sweetwater, Texas. He attended LCU for two years. He was a salesman several years with his family at Sweetwater Electric before retiring. James was a lifelong member of Fourth and Elm Church of Christ. He is survived by his parents; W. B. and Thelma Whisenant; two brothers, Billy Whisenant and wife, September, Steve Whisenant and wife, Cindy; two sisters, Kathy Rainey and husband, Ronnie, Susan Maxwell and husband, Craig; four nephews, one niece, two great-nephews, and one great-niece.

**Deloris Diane Wilks Tatum** passed away July 3, 2017 with her family by her side. She graduated from Eldorado High School in 1985 and later with an LVN degree from Howard College and became certified in Substance Abuse Counseling. Diane worked as a nurse and a counselor until 2005 when her health prevented her from continuing her professional nursing career. In addition to being an active member of the Brenham Church of Christ, she was also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Order of the Eastern Star. Diane was a loving and devoted wife and mother. She is survived by her husband, John; son, Jonathan; parents, L.D. and Kathy Doty; brother, Michael Wilks and wife, Cathy; sister, Amy Jackson; and numerous beloved aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

## '90s DECADE

**Mark Evans Boucher ('93)** passed away on October 14, 2017. He attended LCU in the fall semester of 1987 and was a member of the Meistersingers Chorus and Koinonia Social Club. Mark is survived by his daughters, **Marlyssa ('12)** and **Markayla (Boucher '12) Howell** and husband, **Caleb ('15)**; sons, Cameron and Eric; grandchildren, Jace and Erin; parents, George and Janis Boucher; sister, LaRae Boucher; brother, Jess Boucher and wife, Andrea; nephews, Korbin, Kaden, and Keatin Boucher; and best friend for over 20 years, Billy Baskett.

**Deidra Lavelle McGowan ('96)** died in Lubbock on August 2, 2017 at the age of 47 following complications of mitochondrial myopathy. Deidra was born on September 10, 1970 in Sweetwater, Texas to Hazel and Charles McGowan. She graduated from Coronado High School and LCU with a bachelor's degree in social work. She was preceded in death by her mother, Hazel. She leaves behind her father, Charles, and sisters, **Desiree N. McGowan ('96)** and Carla McGowan.

**John Matthew Whitwell ('99)** of Malvern passed away on Thursday, July 6, 2017 in Little Rock, AR. Matt was outgoing, very kind, and loyal to all who knew him. He never knew a stranger and was always there to help. He enjoyed fishing and loved animals. He was a loving son, brother, uncle, and friend. He is preceded in death by his mother, Allidel (Steele) Whitwell. Matt is survived by his father, John S. Whitwell; sister, Misty Michele Heck and her husband, Doug; one nephew, Aaron Heck; one niece, Allison Heck; and his girlfriend and caregiver, Kelly Scott.

## '00s DECADE

**Olga Bela ('04)** passed away on April 10, 2016. She graduated from Levelland High School and also received her associate's in music from South Plains College. She continued her education at LCU graduating with her Master in Psychology.

Olga was a very devoted Catholic involved in church activities at St. Michael's Catholic Church. She was also a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Clovis. Olga will be greatly missed and her memory will be cherished by all the community of Levelland and Clovis. Survivors include her son, Joshua Macalaren; four brothers, Guadalupe Martinez, Bil Lara, Jody Torres, and Johnny Torres; and three sisters, Isabel Esparaza, Gloria Garcia, and Lucinda Garza. She was preceded in death by her parents, Alfonso and San Juanita Bela.

**Gary Donelson ('04)** passed away on November 14, 2017. He attended Big Spring schools and graduated Big Spring High in 1981. He attended Howard College, Texas A&M, and graduated from LCU. He befriended many people, especially the elderly, enjoying cooking and delivering meals to them. He loved to travel, loved people from all walks of life, was incredibly outgoing, and never met a stranger. Gary will be remembered most for his quick wit, big smile, big laugh, and big heart. Gary is survived by his parents, Barbara and Delbert Donelson; sister, Debra Donelson; aunt, Olivia and uncle, Norman Donelson, aunt, Gaylynn Smith; and cousins, Michelle Cox and husband, Allen, Devin Donelson, and Shannon Donelson and wife, Alexi.

## '10s DECADE

**Angelica Kristene Martinez ('12)** passed from this life on December 9, 2016. She received her Bachelor of Social Work from LCU, leading her to help anyone in need. When she wasn't working, she was very active in her family and friends' lives. She gave her heart and soul in everything she did. She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Manuela Muniz, and uncle, Christopher Muniz. She is survived by her parents, Angel and Ann Marie Martinez; sisters, Ashlie Martinez-Guerrero and Anyssa Martinez; brother-in-law, Ryan Guerrero; aunts, Krystal and Karen Muniz; and many nieces and nephews.

**Addison Hunter Neal ('15)** passed away at the age of 25 on September 6, 2017. He was born February 27, 1992 in Dallas. He grew up in Van and was a 2010 graduate of Van High School. He attended Stephen F. Austin and received a bachelor's degree in youth & family ministry from LCU. He was enrolled at SFA, taking science courses to become a faith-based psychiatrist. He was a member of Koinonia social club at LCU, where he co-directed Master Follies his senior year. He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Linda Neal. Survivors include his parents, Linzy & Pam Neal; two brothers, Cameron Neal and Preston Neal; "brother," Clayton Godfrey; grandparents, Cindy Lanier, Bill Lanier, and Bobby Neal; numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins, and countless friends.

## HELEN MATTOX YOUNG



**Helen Mattox Young** passed away on November 30, 2017. She was 99 years old.

Helen was married to M. Norvel Young, and they served the Broadway Church of Christ in Lubbock for 13 years as it grew to be one of the largest Churches of Christ in the United States at the time. It was while Norvel Young was serving as the preaching minister at Broadway that the vision for Lubbock Christian University was cast, and his influence was critical in making the vision a reality in 1957.

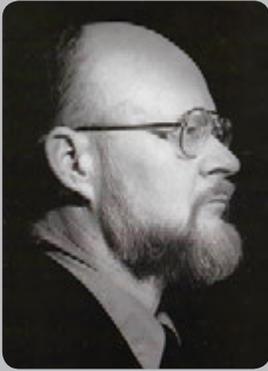
The Youngs left Lubbock when Norvel was appointed President of Pepperdine University, and then faithfully served at Pepperdine in various roles for the remainder of their lives.

While Helen's ministry looked different than that of her husband, it was no less significant. She was an author, a popular teacher and speaker to women's groups, and a model of hospitality and service.

Helen Young enjoyed strong ties to LCU throughout her life. Her brother, F.W. Mattox, was founding president, and her daughter, Emily Lemley, and two grandchildren graduated from LCU. In addition, Emily Lemley has served the university as a faculty member, First Lady, and in other significant ways.

Helen Young is survived by her daughters, Emily Lemley and Sara Jackson, and son, Matt; 13 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren. Memorial gifts can be made to the Young Scholarship at Lubbock Christian University or to The Childrens' Home of Lubbock. *Photo from the Pepperdine University, Special Collections and University archives.*

# DR. RON REED



**Dr. Ron Reed** passed away on November 7, 2017 after a ten-year struggle with Alzheimer's.

Dr. Reed faithfully served LCU for many years (1964-2006) as a faculty member, department chair, member of faculty senate, editor of several self-studies, actor in theatrical productions, and on many academic committees.

His quiet demeanor hid his dry wit that became legend among his peers and students. His academic portfolio contained many notes from students, thanking him for his humor and his improvement of their writing and thinking skills.

Dr. Reed modeled for all of us what a "gentleman and a scholar" really means. He helped countless faculty members learn to be dedicated teachers and professional colleagues by living his convictions about life and academia.

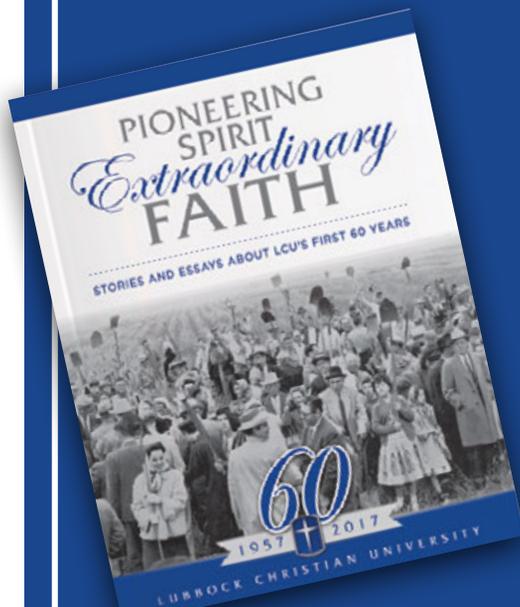
Dr. Reed's family, including son, Billy ('93), and daughter, Jolie, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, asked that donations be sent to the Dr. Ron Reed Endowed Humanities Scholarship at Lubbock Christian University or the Childrens' Home of Lubbock.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**February 9-11**  
Homecoming

**February 19**  
Chap Day

**February 24**  
Refresh Conference

**April 10**  
Chap Tank

**April 12-13**  
Scholars Colloquium

**April 19**  
Rory Vaden

**May 4**  
Graduate Commencement Ceremony

**May 5**  
Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony

**June 10-16**  
Encounter

**June 24-29**  
Camp Champion

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Mayor Dan Pope is pictured with President Perrin prior to chapel where he presented a proclamation from the city of Lubbock congratulating LCU on its 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

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