

'Thanks Be to God'

By Dr. Michael V. Carter, president

In 2 Corinthians 9:15, the apostle Paul recorded these words: "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift." As these words are written, we are in the midst of the Easter season and are reminded of the gift of eternal life that we enjoy through faith in Jesus Christ. Paul's words express the overwhelming sense of gratitude that we should feel toward God when we ponder the wonder of His plan of salvation and the "inexplicable" nature of the substitutionary death and wondrous resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We have also adopted this verse from Paul's second letter to the Corinthian church to describe our joy in the wake of the successful completion of our \$50 million Centennial Capital Campaign. The campaign was completed almost a year in advance of the deadline of June 30, 2009 set by the Campbellville University Board of Trustees.

More than 5,000 donors have sacrificed to make this campaign a huge success. Some highlights resulting from the Centennial Campaign: CU is ranked 22nd among the "Best Baccalaureate Colleges in the South" by *U.S. News & World Report*; CU has become the second largest private, nonprofit higher

education institution in Kentucky; 41 new endowed scholarships have been added; enrollment records have been set for 18 consecutive semesters; retention rates have improved; 22 academic programs were added; national professional accreditation has been added in education, social work, and business; faculty has increased by 35 full-time members; around 230,000 square feet of newly constructed or substantially renovated space has been added, including the E. Bruce Heilman Student Complex and Ransdell Chapel; assets of CU have increased by \$30 million; the annual budget has increased by \$18 million; and we have increased institutional financial aid by \$6 million per year.

We are indeed humbled and grateful to God for the success of the Centennial Capital Campaign! Many of you have sacrificially supported this campaign financially and through your prayers. You have helped us recruit students and shown your support in so many ways. We thank God for all that He has done at Campbellville University.

And, now, we move forward into the second century of Campbellville University. We are already in the silent phase of our next

Dr. Michael V. Carter, president of Campbellville University, addresses the Church Relations Council, a support group of Baptist ministers and lay leaders from Kentucky and other states. (CU photo by Memo Quintana)

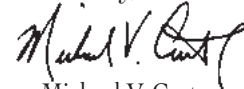


capital campaign and are putting finishing touches on the "vision for the second century" plan that will help guide CU's future growth and development.

Our commitment is to continue to provide a quality Christian higher education, steeped in the tradition of the Baptist higher education movement, and to help prepare the next generation of Christian servant leaders.

As we remain faithful to this Christian higher education ethic, we continue to fulfill the original vision that God placed on the hearts of the founders of Russell Creek Academy in 1906. Please know our continuing and future commitment to that vision. Thank you for being a part of the Campbellville University family.

Sincerely,



Michael V. Carter, president

CU students help others during spring break

By Rachel Crenshaw, student news writer

During spring break, many Campbellville University students traveled throughout the country and internationally to participate in various mission trips.

Eight different teams of 60 students and staff members traveled to New Orleans, La., Houston, Texas, Dearborn, Mich., Panama City Beach, Fla., Sports Reach, Fla., Washington, D.C., Mexico and Costa Rica.

Robert Bender, Campbellville, Ky., led the trip to New Orleans. The group aided in the reconstruction of the city under the direction of Samaritan's Purse, an organization that provides international relief during crisis.

"I couldn't be more proud of our group of eight," said Bender. "I really feel we made a lasting impression on the city of New Orleans."

Those going to New Orleans stayed at Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, pastored by the Rev. Fred Luter.

André Tomaz, Brazil, traveled with the group to Houston. He said, "Going to Houston really changed my perspective on the lifestyles of various minority groups. After working with them I developed a love for the people and a driven passion to help them understand the love God has for everyone. It was a heart-opening experience."

Michael McDanel, Paducah, Ky., led a team to Panama City Beach to participate in Beach Reach, where college students and leaders come together to share the love of Jesus through servant evangelism to spring breakers.

McDanel said, "There were one or two nights where we prayed constantly for the people that we were reaching, and it was awesome to see how God answered our prayers and used us as a vessel."

Ed Pavy, director of campus ministries, led a team to Costa Rica to work with missionaries



Robert Bender of Campbellville, Ky., removes screws in a house that had to be torn down in New Orleans because contractors left with the homeowner's money. (CU photo by Rachel Crenshaw)

Kyle Hester of Stanford, Ky., deconstructs a house in New Orleans during the spring break mission trip. (CU photo by Rachel Crenshaw)

and CU graduates Bill and Linda Egbert and Brent Hippler.

"The Costa Rica team had a great experience. We were able to share our testimonies on numerous occasions in multiple houses," Pavy said.

Campbellsville University offers many church-related degree options.

The School of Theology offers bachelor's degrees in:

- Biblical Studies
- Educational Ministries
- Pastoral Ministries
- Sports Ministry
- Worship Arts
- 27-hour Certificate in Christian Ministry (online)

The School of Theology also offers a Master of Theology degree with the following optional emphases:

- Biblical Studies
- Theological/Philosophical/Historical Studies
- Pastoral Ministry Studies
- Educational Ministry Studies

The School of Music offers:

- Minor in Church Music
- Bachelor of Music in Church Music
- Master of Music in Church Music

Carver School of Social Work offers:

- Master of Science in Counseling
- Bachelor of Social Work
- Master of Social Work

The TESOL program at Campbellsville University offers a Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Campbellsville University Louisville Campus offers:

- Bachelor of Science in Pastoral Studies
- Master of Theology
- Master of Science in Counseling

If you feel God is calling you into Pastoral Ministries, Church Music, Worship Arts, Youth Ministry, Christian Counseling, Sports Ministry, Teaching or Missionary Education, contact Campbellsville University at admissions@campbellsville.edu or call (270) 789-5220 or visit www.campbellsville.edu.

Church and External Relations Update

By the Rev. John E. Chowning, vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president



Rev. John Chowning

The spring 2009 semester has brought another record number of students to the Campbellsville University campus – our 18th consecutive semester of record enrollment.

We appreciate the support given us by the Baptist churches of Kentucky and other states.

The pastors, student ministers, and others in the local churches remain among our strongest groups of student recruiters.

As expressed by Dr. Carter in his column on page one of this Spring 2009 issue of the Ministry in Action newsletter, we express “thanks to God” for the marvelous blessings we have received from our many friends in local Baptist churches around Kentucky and other states. You are an integral part of the Campbellsville University family and have made many contributions to the continued progress of this institution.

As we look to the future, we are committed to providing our students the very best Christian higher education experience possible.

From a quality academic experience to engaging our students in missions and community service to being good stewards of the resources we have been given, we seek to make Christ the center of all that we do.

In these challenging economic times, we are sensitive to the needs of our students and their families and approach the 2009-2010 academic year with the lowest percentage increase in tuition and fees in nearly 20 years.

Again, your support and prayers have been, and will remain, a key component of our approach to Christian higher education.

Thank you again, from all of us at Campbellsville University, for all that you are doing in support of this institution. Please contact me at (270) 789-5520, or at jchowning@campbellsville.edu, anytime that we may be of assistance. May God continue to bless you in all things.



Charles Abuyeka recently accepted the position as executive director of OMEGA Mission International headquartered in Lubbock, Texas. He is responsible for all of the organization's operations both in the United States and Africa, and soon in Guatemala. Abuyeka was the first international graduate from CU's Louisville Campus in December 2007 with a master of theology degree.



Dr. Joe E. Early will join the CU School of Theology faculty as its seventh full-time professor in August 2009. Early served at the University of the Cumberland from 2004 to 2009.



Tess Turner, a junior from Franklin, Ky., discusses her fall mission trip for Hands on Africa at the CRC meeting. (CU photo by Memo Quintana)

Dr. Craig Blomberg to speak at January Bible Preview Aug. 6



Dr. Craig Blomberg, internationally renowned New Testament scholar and professor at Denver Theological Seminary, will lead the Campbellsville University January Bible Study Preview Aug. 6 in the Banquet Hall of the Student Union Building.

He will discuss “Parables of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew.”

Blomberg is the author of introductions to the New Testament, commentaries, classic works on the parables, as well as the historical reliability of the New Testament.

Church Relations Council Events



New members of the Church Relations Council include from left: Front row – the Rev. James Clontz Jr., director of missions, South District Baptist Association, Danville, Ky.; the Rev. Joel Carwile, pastor, Valley View Church, Louisville, Ky.; and the Rev. Blake Jessie, pastor, Greensburg Baptist Church, Greensburg, Ky. Back row – The Rev. Mike Hamrick, pastor, Sand Spring Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, Ky.; the Rev. Matt Smyzer, executive director, Baptist Fellowship Center and pastor of Beargrass Missionary Baptist Church, both in Louisville, Ky., CRC chair; Dr. Jay Conner, chair of the CU Board of Trustees; Dr. Michael V. Carter, president of Campbellville University; the Rev. Dan Russell, pastor, Central Baptist Church, Paris, Ky.; and the Rev. Robert White, pastor, Lewisport Baptist Church, Lewisport, Ky. New members not present were: the Rev. Kyle Franklin, pastor, Mt. Roberts Baptist Church, Campbellville, Ky., and the Rev. Todd Lester, pastor, Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church, Midway, Ky. (CU photo by Linda Waggener)



Dr. Jay Conner, Campbellville University Board of Trustees Chair, thanked Church Relations Council members at the March 26 annual banquet for their strong and steadfast support. As guest speaker for the event, Conner based his presentation on Steven Covey's Circles of Concern. He challenged the crowd of approximately 100 to stay in their circles of influence and take a proactive stance in their leadership for CU in 2009 and beyond. (CU photo by Linda Waggener)



Members of the development committee of the CRC meet in the Technology Training Center. From left are: Front row – the Rev. James Jones and the Rev. Michael Rice. Second row – the Rev. Dan Russell and Grace Bristow. Back row – the Rev. Ed Mitchell, the Rev. Robert White, the Rev. Tom Shelton and Dr. Michael Watts. (CU photo by Joan C. McKinney)

Sharing a laugh before the Church Relations Council's 32nd annual meeting were from left: Anna Mary Byrdwell, chair of the public relations committee, who is also a member of the CU Board of Trustees; the Rev. John Chowning, vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president, and pastor of Saloma Baptist Church, Campbellville, Ky.; and the Rev. Wilburn Bonta, director of missions, Russell Creek Baptist Association, Greensburg, Ky. (CU photo by Joan C. McKinney)



Helen Henderson of Campbellville, Ky., secretary of the CRC, left, and Nancy Buchanan of Burkeville, Ky., listen during the public relations committee meeting of the 32nd CRC meeting. (CU photo by Joan C. McKinney)



Dr. Dan Garland, director of pastoral ministries and church consulting with LifeWay Christian Resources, spoke on "Insights into Reaching and Keeping Youth Adults" as the closing message of the CRC meeting. (CU photo by Memo Quintana)



Kentucky Heartland Institute on Public Policy (KHIPP) Schedule of Events for Fall 2009

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2009

"Roundtable on Christian Public Policy Perspectives – The Changing Face of Evangelical Christians in Politics and Public Policy Debate"

Featured Speaker: Dr. Ron Sider, professor of Theology, Holistic Ministry and Public Policy and director of the Sider Center on Ministry and Public Policy at Palmer Theological Seminary in Wynnewood, Penn. Sider is also president of Evangelicals for Social Action.

5 p.m. ET

Banquet Hall, Student Union Building

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2009

"Caring for the Least of These"

Chapel Speaker, Dr. Ron Sider, at 10 a.m. ET, Ransdell Chapel

Monday, Sept. 28, 2009

"Evangelical Christians – The Intersection of Faith and Public Policy"

Featured Speaker: Dr. Paul Prather, pastor of Bethesda Church in Mount Sterling, Ky. Dr. Prather is also a contributing columnist for the *Lexington Herald-Leader* and the author of three books.

5 p.m. ET, Banquet Hall, Student Union Building

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2009

"Genocide in the World Today – Countries Most at Risk"

Featured Speaker: Dr. Gregory H. Stanton, The James Farmer Professor in Human Rights at the University of Mary Washington, Department of History and American Studies in Fredericksburg, Va. Stanton is the founder and president of Genocide Watch (www.genocidewatch.org), the founder and director of the Cambodian Genocide Project, and is the founder and Chair of the International Campaign to End Genocide.

5 p.m. ET, Banquet Hall, Student Union Building

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009

"Why People of Faith Should Be Concerned About Genocide"

Chapel Speaker, Dr. Gregory H. Stanton, at 10 a.m. ET, Ransdell Chapel

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2009

"Serving God – Saving the Planet"

Featured Speaker: Dr. Matthew Sleeth, Author of *Serve God, Save the Planet: A Christian Call to Action* by Chelsea Green Publishing. Dr. Sleeth is a former emergency room physician who resigned from his position as chief of the medical staff and director of the ER to lecture, write, and preach about creation care and the environment.

5 p.m. ET, Banquet Hall, Student Union Building

Office of Church and External Relations *Schedule of Events for Fall 2009*

Thursday, Aug. 6, 2009

"Church Relations Council Fall Meeting"

Registration begins on Thursday, Aug. 6 at 10 a.m. in the Ransdell Chapel foyer with the meeting concluding at noon.

10 a.m. ET, The Ransdell Chapel Classroom

Noon Lunch in the Winters Dining Hall

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009

"Chapel Presentation"

Featured Speaker: Dr. John Mark Toby, president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and pastor of Beacon Hill Baptist Church in Somerset, Ky. Toby has been a pastor for 23 years and a chaplain lieutenant colonel in the Kentucky Army National Guard for 25 years.

10 a.m. ET, The Ransdell Chapel Classroom

Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009

"Dialogue on Race – Campus and Community Together"

Featured Speaker: Dr. Lincoln Bingham, pastor of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., and serves on the Church Relations Council at Campbellsville University.

10 a.m. ET, Ransdell Chapel

ATTENTION CRC members:

At the CRC meeting, it was requested that CRC members put a link to Campbellsville University's Web site on your church's Web site. The address is www.campbellsville.edu. We would appreciate your doing so.



Todd Deaton, left, editor of the *Western Recorder* since January 2009, is interviewed by the Rev. John Chowning, vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president at CU, for Chowning's TV show "Dialogue on Public Issues." The show is produced by CU's local WLCU station. Deaton and Tom Townsend, advertising and marketing manager for the *Western Recorder*, were on campus for a luncheon in their honor. (CU photo by Bayarmagnai "Max" Nergui)

Campbellsville University to host dinner at SBC

Campbellsville University will host a dinner for alumni and friends Tuesday, June 23, during the Southern Baptist Convention in Louisville. The dinner is at 5 p.m. in the Russell Shelby Room of the Crowne Plaza. The Southern Baptist Convention will be at the Kentucky Exposition Center.

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