



# EVANGEL

# GOOD NEWS

# UNIVERSITY



**F**requently when I travel and am confirming a reservation, the agent at the desk or on the other end of a phone line stumbles over the “evangel” in my email address. These customer service specialists are often unfamiliar with the word and not sure how to pronounce it. It gives me an opportunity to share that evangel means “good news” and that I serve at a university whose name literally means “good news university.” Usually they smile and continue confirming my reservation. On occasion, there is an opportunity to say more about the good news that Evangel represents.

I confess that when I was a student at what was then Evangel College, I rarely thought about the meaning of the name. Over the years, I’ve come to cherish the name, which originates from the Greek word *euangelion*. Often translated as “gospel,” the word, by Jesus’ time, simply meant “good news.”

The heritage of Central Bible College, Evangel University, and AGTS has always been about equipping men and women to bring the good news of Christ to the world. CBC focused exclusively on training ministers and missionaries. That legacy continues as Evangel remains committed to equipping men and women across a broad range of disciplines to serve in the marketplace and in the church proclaiming the good news of the gospel. AGTS also continues to provide advanced seminary education to shape servant leaders with

knowledge, skill, and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit. We have always been about the good news of Christ.

A number of years ago I realized that what I cherish collecting more than anything else are stories of God’s faithfulness and His work in the world through His followers. Renowned children’s author Sally Lloyd-Jones says that from Genesis through Revelation, every story in Scripture whispers His name. And I am convinced that the stories of our students and decades of graduates also whisper and shout His name in lives lived in obedience and service to Christ.

*It gives me an opportunity to share that “evangel” means “good news”*

Isaiah declares, “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’” (Isaiah 52:7, NIV). And in Romans 10, Paul quotes this passage with his “as it is written” and reminds us that God has always had a people declaring His good news across generations and centuries to this day.

Our alumni magazine gives us a wonderful opportunity to share some of the good news of how God continues to use the graduates of Evangel, CBC, and AGTS to boldly live and declare the good news of the gospel, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to bring hope and healing to a hurting world in desperate need of a savior. That hope is displayed in churches and beyond the walls of the church every day, as graduates serve with exceptional skill and reflect who Christ is in the daily routines of their professional lives.

In this magazine, you’ll see some of the stories of those alumni and how they’re doing just that. I’m so grateful to be part of the good news of Jesus Christ and how our alumni are reflecting His love in their pursuit of building the Kingdom of God.

*Dr. Carol A. Taylor*