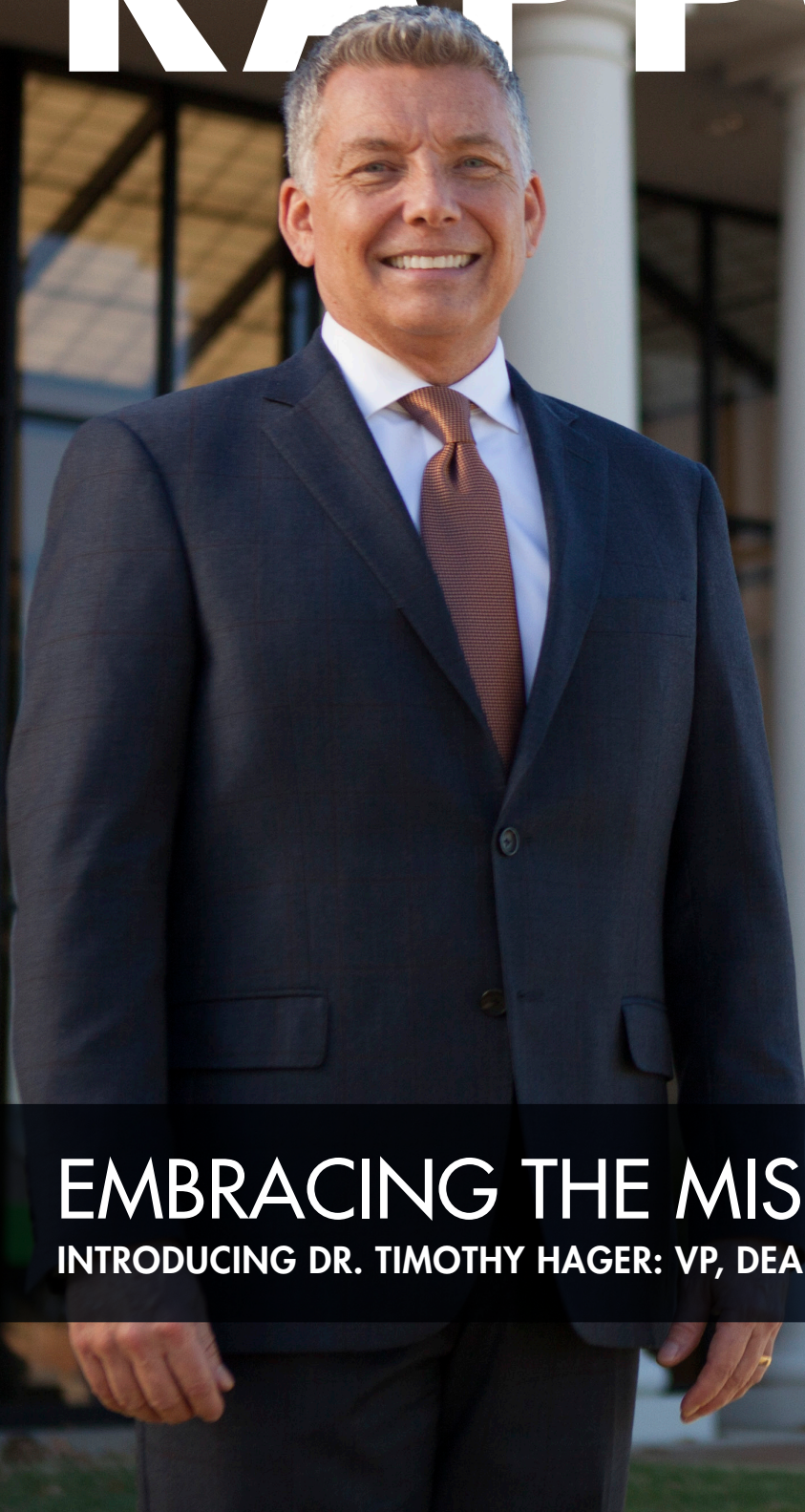


RAPPORT

Winter 2018



EMBRACING THE MISSION

INTRODUCING DR. TIMOTHY HAGER: VP, DEAN OF AGTS

'GENTLEMAN, SCHOLAR'
DR. JIM RAILEY RETIRES
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NEW D.MIN. DIRECTOR TO
MAXIMIZE COLLABORATION
PAGE 16

NUNNALLY HELPS STUDENTS
FIND CALLING IN EVERY FIELD
PAGE 23



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we come to the end of 2017, I reflect on a year of change at The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, beginning with the appointment of our new seminary vice president and dean, Dr. Timothy Hager. We are excited about the leadership that Dr. Hager brings our seminary. He has a unique blend of academic, ministry, and executive administrative experience that will serve the seminary well. You can read about Dr. Hager on page 12.

This issue of *Rapport* also introduces Dr. John Battaglia as the new Director of the D.Min program, Dr. George O. Wood as the AGTS chancellor, and recognizes the service of retiring dean Dr. James Railey.

We are also grateful for God's continued blessings. This year, Evangel University was recognized as one of the top 10 universities and colleges in Missouri out of 230. The Higher Learning Commission gave the university the maximum 10-year reaccreditation. And once again, AGTS earned the prestigious Military Friendly School designation, a national recognition for our efforts on behalf of veterans, military service personnel, and their families. We have much to celebrate!

This has also been an historic year as we celebrated the 500-year anniversary of the Reformation. In this issue of *Rapport*, the Reformation's impact on the Church, and specifically the Pentecostal tradition, is addressed. Beginning on page six, you will read about Martin Luther and the foundational truth that salvation is not earned by good deeds but as a free gift of God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We are reminded that Luther did more than post the 95 theses; he made the gospel more accessible by translating the Bible from Latin into his native language, German. Like many of our AGTS students, he was called to share the gospel with the world.

Living the mission to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ — that is our charge and vision as alumni of AGTS and Evangel University. God has selected our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and church to advance His kingdom. He wants us to shine His light to the far reaches of the world. We hope that you catch the vision as you read what follows and that you will be inspired to join us as we continue to prepare students to impact the world!

May God continue to bless AGTS and Evangel University,

Carol A. Taylor



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Shaping servant leaders with knowledge, skill and passion
to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the
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AGTS is the national seminary of the Assemblies of God and is
part of Evangel University. It is accredited by the Association of
Theological Schools and the Higher Learning Commission.

PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

Dr. Jim Railey reflects on history of AGTS, sees growth in future of seminary

Some weeks ago, as she was doing some file cleaning, Mrs. Susan Meamber, then administrative assistant to the dean of AGTS, found a picture of the first AGTS graduating class. Twelve students received their master's degrees in 1974.

Now, fast forward to 2018, the year in which AGTS will graduate its 45th class — projected to be over 50 in size — comprised of students receiving master's and doctoral degrees.

Over the years, as they say, AGTS has come a long way. Even before the students in the 45th graduating class are added to the total, AGTS has conferred degrees on 3,752 students.

Now, the number is very exciting, but even more wonderful is the reality that AGTS graduates have made, and continue to make, a powerful impact on this world for the kingdom of God.

Among the graduates are pastors, Assemblies of God leadership persons at both the district and national level, missionaries, military and institutional chaplains, leaders of national churches around the world, college and university professors — and the list could go on and on.

The potential for global impact with the gospel of Christ from AGTS is astounding!

Only eternity will fully reveal the number of people around the world who have been changed by the life-giving message of Jesus Christ, brought to them by an AGTS graduate.

It is very rewarding to be part of an institution that continues to affirm, and live out, the mission of revitalizing the Church and evangelizing the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for your interest, prayers, and support for AGTS!



The first graduating class of AGTS, June 27, 1974.

Front row (from left): Douglas Banks, John Watkins, Dexter Higgins, Cordas C. Burnett (executive vice president), Marcella Dorff, Thomas F. Zimmerman (president), and James E. Richardson

Back row (from left): Charles Lamson, Jimmy Powers, Stanley Wayne, Roderic Butterworth, Robert Elam, and Terrance R. Lewis. Not Pictured: Donald Hohmann

ALWAYS REFORMING

By Dr. Vince Medina

Five hundred years ago, an Augustinian monk named Martin Luther nailed 95 theses — debating points — to the door of All Saints Church in Wittenberg, Germany, starting a religious revolution that would change Christendom forever.

This revolution challenged traditional Catholic theology in two fundamental areas: **soteriology** — the doctrine of salvation — and religious authority.

In Medieval times, the Church adopted a form of spirituality that tended to undermine people's sense of assurance of salvation. Christians were urged, "Do what is in you and God will not fail to give you grace."

Unfortunately, one can never know for certain that they have done "all that is in them," and therefore, can never be certain that they have merited grace.

This situation spawned an elaborate system of works designed to assuage people's consciences and give them hope. This system included auricular confession, penances, alms-giving, pilgrimages, and indulgences.

The Church's monopoly on the means of grace meant that it wielded incredible power over the believer's faith.

In contrast to this, Luther proclaimed that salvation was given as the free gift of God's grace — **sola gratia** — which was received, not through meritorious works, but by faith alone — **sola fide**.

He taught that believers could have confidence in their standing with God because salvation was not dependent upon merits, but on the work of Christ alone — **solus christus**.

Not only did the Church own the monopoly on the

means of grace and salvation, but it also claimed a teaching **magisterium**, the exclusive right to decide what was true in the realm of faith.

This **magisterium** drew upon a variety of sources, including creeds, councils, church fathers, and most importantly, the Pope of Rome.

Luther maintained that Popes and councils had contradicted themselves; therefore, the only infallible guide to the truth about God is Holy Scripture, and that Scripture is the sole judge, and norm, of the Christian faith — **sola scriptura**.

Armed with these principles — **sola gratia, sola fide, and sola scriptura** — Luther articulated a doctrine of the priesthood of all believers.

This doctrine liberated the laity from second class status in the Church and declared the daily work and vocations of all believers to be callings from God.

It also asserted each believer's right to read and interpret the Scriptures for themselves.

These ideas are commonplace in Protestant — and by extension Pentecostal — churches today.

We take them for granted and find it difficult to imagine Christianity without them. However, 500 years ago they were revolutionary.

Today we stand on the shoulders of courageous reformers like Luther who, in the face of possible torture and death, said, "Here I stand, I can do no other."

Let us therefore follow their examples, for **Ecclesia semper reformanda est**: "The Church must always be reforming."

A man in a dark suit and light-colored shirt is speaking at a podium. He is looking down at a book or paper on the podium. A microphone is positioned in front of him. The background is dark and out of focus.

HERE WE STAND

By Dr. Paul Lewis

Oct. 31, 1517 is a pivotal day in western history. On that day, Martin Luther, as a Bible teacher and Augustinian monk, was concerned about certain practices taking place in the name of God and the church. In response to these practices, Luther posted 95 theses for discussion and debate on the All Saints church's door in Wittenberg, Germany. Nov. 1 being All Saints Day, the church would have a large group of attenders going by the door, and seeing the posting. While the debate never happened on those theses, the event has historically become the initiating focal point of what later became called the Protestant Reformation. While this event and the resulting Protestant Reformation certainly had and has theological ramifications, this movement also impacted the political and ecclesiastical structure of Europe — and worldwide in its dissemination — fostered literacy increases among the masses, and was the seedbed for economic, educational, and philosophical developments. The influence of this event was and is momentous.

To commemorate this event, Evangel University, supported by its Provost, invited the reformation scholar, Dr. Gregory Miller to give lectures and participate in panels for classes on Oct. 30 and 31.

Dr. Miller, a professor of history at Malone University, is credential with the Assemblies of God in the Ohio District. On Monday, Oct. 30 at 2 p.m. in Seymour Chapel at AGTS, Dr. Miller lectured on "Changing Diapers and Plowing Fields: Martin Luther and the Reformation of Work." In this lecture, he unpacked Luther's theology of work, and highlighted his revolutionary position that every person has a vocation from God, and those in min-

isterial vocation should study — like any other vocation — in order to serve in that capacity.

The lecture that evening at 6:30 p.m. in Seymour Chapel was on "The 'Stout Doctor': Martin Luther and the Reformation of Food." Luther's theology rejected some of the monastic extremes, and emphasized the importance of table fellowship and eating together.

On Tuesday, Oct. 31, at 10 a.m. in the Robert Spence Chapel of Evangel University, Dr. Miller addressed the whole EU community with "Here He Stands, and Can Do No Other: Why After 500 Years We Need Martin Luther More Than Ever."

This lecture, noting Luther's key 'solas' — **sola fide** (only faith), **sola gratia** (only grace), **sola scriptura** (only Scripture)—was highlighting the relevance of Luther for today, and his timeless impact over the last 500 years.

The music department participated with a chorale presentation, and the humanities department with a theatrical presentation as Dr. Robert Berg dressed in Luther's contemporaneous monastic garb, giving a 'Reformation Rap'. Also in attendance were members of the local Roman Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue. Former bishop of the local diocese John Leibrecht gave the benediction. There was a very positive response by the faculty, students, and local guests to the two-day celebration.

This commemoration focused the collective attention of EU, AGTS, and our local constituents, on this key event that happened 500 years ago, its impact on the world, and its relevance for today. It also reminded us that one person, faithful to God, can make a real difference in the world.



ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THE

Seminary looks to the future

By President Carol Taylor

Last year, a number of current AGTS students and alumni participated in a series of focus groups and reported that pursuing their theological education at AGTS was life-changing.

They told stories of how they enjoyed the depth of academic scholarship infused with the breath of God as the Holy Spirit was invited into their academic pursuits. They reported that as they increased in knowledge, the faculty cultivated spiritual growth and development in them individually. They commented on how effectively professors balance theory with praxis, igniting a life-long love of learning and service in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Following the focus groups with students and alumni, a diverse group of ministry leaders participated in a focus group in response to the AGTS core initiative on envisioning the seminary's preferred future, especially focused on ministry preparation.

The gathering began with a dinner meeting with Dr. Dan Aleshire, the long-term president of the Association of Theological Schools, who provided a rich overview of the world of seminary education and discussion on current challenges and trends in seminary education today.

One of the key outcomes of the meeting was a clear reaffirmation that the seminary was founded, and continues to exist, to serve the Assemblies of God Fellowship with graduate level applied scholarship designed to equip

ministers, missionaries, and chaplains for effective service as Pentecostal ministry leaders.

Where those three elements come together — serve the Fellowship; equip with applied scholarship; live our Pentecostal identity — is AGTS's "sweet spot."

The mission of AGTS remains unchanged. We continue to exist to shape servant leaders with knowledge, skill, and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.

What has changed over the history of AGTS is how we live into our mission.

Through the years, new programs have been added and others reshaped. Delivery modes have changed to better serve ministry leaders who need to pursue their seminary education while remaining active in ministry.

With the consolidation, we have added an accelerated program supported by a major grant from the Kern Family Foundation. This new program allows undergraduate ministry majors to complete a seminary degree





with one additional year of study, supported with new scholarship funds.

A new vice president, dean for AGTS

During the spring semester, Dr. Mark Hausfeld recommended that the Seminary Board of Advisors consider a dean-directed seminary model and announced his willingness to conclude his service as president while continuing his service with the Center for Islamic Studies and teaching as professor of urban and Islamic studies.

The board of trustees directed me to engage appropriate members of the community and Seminary Board of Advisors to recommend to the board of trustees the best administrative structure and transition plan for the seminary.

All expressed their appreciation for Dr. Hausfeld's commitment to AGTS and his willingness to make such a recommendation with continued focus on providing the highest quality theological and ministerial education as an embedded seminary of Evangel University.

In June, the Evangel Board of Trustees, with the support of the Seminary Board of Advisors and the Executive Presbytery, approved a recommendation for some structural changes, with a shift to a vice president and dean leadership model at AGTS.

With each step forward, we have embraced the opportunity to continue to design and support academic pro-

grams that actively engage all of our students and joint faculty in the unique mission of the seminary and the university at large.

The vice president and dean of AGTS reports directly to the university provost and executive vice president on all academic matters of AGTS. This position will also serve as a university vice president and report to the university president for matters related to church and external relations, work with the president on fund development in collaboration with the University Advancement Office and chancellor of AGTS, as well as serve on the president's cabinet.

Dr. James Railey delayed his planned retirement to continue serving as vice president and dean of AGTS to ensure a smooth transition while a search was undertaken to find the new vice president and dean. Drs. Jay and Cheryl Taylor also delayed their transition to full-time Assemblies of God World Missions service with Africa's Hope to ensure a smooth transition for the Doctor of Ministry and Spiritual Formation programs.

We are now delighted to introduce Dr. Timothy Hager as vice president and dean of AGTS and Dr. John Battaglia as director of the Doctor of Ministry program. Both men will build on the rich legacy of AGTS, strongly rooted in the mission of the seminary while leading AGTS into the future.



Dr. James Railey

'Gentleman and scholar'

By Tara Kersten ('03)

Laughter and a feeling of community closeness abounded on Dec. 6, 2017, at a special retirement reception held at AGTS, as colleague after colleague shared their gratitude for the service of former dean Dr. James Railey.

"We are so grateful for who he is and how he has served," said Evangel University President Carol Taylor. Addressing Railey and his wife, Linda, Taylor added, "My prayer for you is that God will give you satisfaction in your labor for the Kingdom and that God would fill your days with gladness of heart."

Railey has served as professor of theology since September 1991 and more recently, as director of the Ph.D. program in Biblical Interpretation and Theology. He was appointed dean in May 2015.

Prior to AGTS, Dr. Railey served as the national secretary of the Department of Education, now known as the Alliance for AG Higher Education. He was also a professor of systematic theology at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida, and pastored churches in North Carolina, Florida, and Alabama.

In his 26 years of service at AGTS, Railey has become known to faculty, students, and alumni as a man of great humility and deep thought.

"I would describe his character as a gentleman and a scholar," said Dr. Deborah Gill. "He really embodies both of those. He cares for people and has this incredible kindness."

Dr. Paul Lewis agreed, stating, "It's been a real honor to work with him. When I think of Jim, I think of the fruit of the Spirit. What he says is what's inside. He's a quintessential Southern gentleman, but more than that, he has modeled those things as a path for those who come after."

An avid Atlanta Braves and Florida Gators fan, Railey has received his fair share of friendly ribbing from colleagues over the years.

Dr. Mark Hausfeld, former president of AGTS and loyal Ohio State Buckeyes fan, joked about the rivalry between him and Railey.



"I knew from the onset there would be a friendship between us," he said.

Friendship seems to be a common theme where Railey is concerned, with him and fellow faculty and with the many students he has taught.

"As a student, his advice, instruction, and example were wonderful," said Dr. Randy Walls. "When I became a colleague, we had the joy of working together and collaborating. Jim embodies what it means to be a Pentecostal practitioner and thinker."

Dr. Jay Taylor felt much the same.

"As a student, I remember being able to ask serious questions and not feel threatened," he said. "He helped me navigate my theology and beliefs, and that's what he's done for the many hundreds of students who've come through AGTS. It's been a gift."

Railey shared his own gratitude for the friendship of his colleagues.

He said that "the tremendously gifted people with whom I have worked have been far more influential in my life than they will ever know."

However, it's the students themselves that have made Railey's time at AGTS so meaningful.

"As I look back over 26 years of ministry at AGTS," he said, "I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to have invested in the lives of Kingdom people preparing for greater service."

From childhood Railey knew he wanted to teach. When the opportunity opened for him to join the faculty at Southeastern, and subsequently at AGTS, he and Linda didn't have to think twice. Although they loved pastoring, they knew God was ultimately leading Jim into teaching.

"The classroom is the most exciting place in the world,"

said Railey. "I've learned so much more from the students than they've ever learned from me."

Linda agreed, saying, "A lot of times students think professors are the ones enriching their lives, but they have had such an enriching influence on us."

The Raileys are looking forward to the days ahead, as they hope to travel and spend time with their children and grandchildren, all of whom live in Springfield. Railey also intends to continue teaching as an adjunct professor and to spend time writing.

He departs the seminary believing the institution's future is bright.

"I anticipate and pray fervently that the school's best days are yet in front of it. I really anticipate good things ahead. The university has selected a good man for the position [of vice president and dean], and I fully support his joining and leading the institution."

The Raileys already seem to be experiencing the "gladness of heart" Taylor prayed for, their gratitude even extending to the seminary's many alumni.

"The Lord has been so good," Railey said. "We have alumni in multiple ministry places around the world, and I would want them to know how proud we are of them and how much our prayers are still for their success."

Whether through financial contributions, prayers, or sending students to attend, Railey said that AGTS alumni have always been gracious in their support of the seminary. He encouraged them to continue that support.

"The mission of this place is what it always has been," Railey asserted. "We're still trying to shape servant leaders to evangelize the world and revitalize the church in the power of the Spirit, and that's what we'll always be about."

Contributions from Teresa DeVries



Dr. Carol Taylor prays over Dr. Jim Railey with the attendees of his retirement party in AGTS' great hall on Dec. 6.
Photos by Chris Rudolph



EMBRACING THE MISSION, DISCERNING THE VISION

Dr. Timothy Hager shares thoughts
on leadership, hope for future of AGTS

Long drives, lots of coffee, and a fair amount of dry ink pens. That's what consumed Dr. Timothy Hager's first years at the Assemblies of God National Office as he traveled from one district office to the next to listen and understand how U.S. Missions could better serve them.

With each district there was a new learning curve. They each had unique challenges and opportunities, but U.S. Missions was committed to serving them all.

"As I would prepare to meet with superintendents and directors, I would begin to draw from Dr. Ming, Dr. Tarr, and a host of AGTS faculty," Hager recalls. "Being a part of AGTS made me unquestionably more effective in my calling."

With 30 years of leadership experience, including two years as the chief operating officer for the National Leadership and Resource Center for the Assemblies of God and seven years as administrator of field operations for U.S. Missions (AGUSM), AG leaders say Hager is well-versed in leading organizations.

University leadership is excited to welcome Hager to the leadership of the university and seminary. Evangel University President Carol Taylor said Hager has a "passion for equipping men and women for effective ministry, keen knowledge and love of the Assemblies of God and our church leaders, and the ability to lead complex organizations. This will be a tremendous asset to both the seminary and the university."

Hager completed his Master of Divinity from AGTS in 1989 and became an executive pastor in Asheboro, North Carolina.

There, he developed a passion for training leaders and volunteers, and for leading missions projects. Over the next few years, he led project teams in the U.S., Panama, Argentina, Thailand, and Korea.

Following five years as an executive pastor in Manassas, Virginia, he returned to Springfield to work with AGUSM. There he oversaw leadership programming; created networks among executives in 63 districts; designed, built and implemented an executive orientation program; and regularly led organizational problem-solving task force groups.

Throughout his time in leadership, Hager said he's gained perspective on how to handle all types of situations, including the difficult ones.

"When dealing with times of difficult leadership in organizations, I focus on hearing from the Lord and spending time in God's word," he said. "Then, rather than just being reactionary, I can be responsive."

However, there is more to Hager than his leadership experience.

He is a man who describes himself as both a product of AGTS and a champion for the mission of the seminary to shape servant leaders with knowledge, skill and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.

His own life is a reflection of the mission of AGTS lived in a life of service to the Church.



Timothy Hager
Photo by Chris Rudolph

Discerning the vision

Hager will maintain a focus on the mission of AGTS to equip church leaders that will serve the Fellowship. In his first 90 days, Hager will engage with the seminary community to observe, listen and learn, and prayerfully discern where God is leading AGTS into the future.

From there, Hager will set out to fulfill the goals of the university and seminary to meet 21st century challenges and opportunities.

One of the university's goals is to lead in academic innovation. This includes both examining advanced ministry preparation as well as delivery modes to ensure that AGTS continues to provide ministerial and missions training that meets the challenges of today.

Hager sees the seminary growing in this way through the digital world while shaping programs for increased effectiveness. He said that top seminaries in the nation have added online degrees in addition to their brick and mortar programs, and that AGTS can grow by "enhancing our online presence."

The seminary has already taken the first steps into the digital world by offering online programs in the Master of Leadership in Ministry, Master of Arts in Theological Studies, and Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies degrees.

Even with a strong online presence, one thing won't change — the seminary's focus on training top ministry leaders.

"We have the opportunity not only to sustain that training, but to continue it," he said. "I think there are a couple of partnerships that are great opportunities. One opportunity would be to continue linking arms with the national office. There are opportunities for us to apply our research capabilities and prowess to assist them on a number of levels."

Hager will work closely with Dr. George O. Wood,



From left: Dr. Timothy Hager, President Carol Taylor, Dr. Michael McCordle
Photo by Paul K. Logsdon

chancellor for AGTS, and Taylor to work toward an important university and seminary goal: expanding the reach of the institution.

These three leaders will travel to promote AGTS, the Fellowship's only national seminary. Taylor and Wood are eager to work with Hager to expand the global impact of the seminary.

Reading the gauges

For Hager, keeping his personal life and professional work in balance comes down to monitoring his internal gauges and maintaining relationships.

"For me, it's not a dichotomy," he said. "It's about balance. The larger gauges of my life's dashboard start first with my relationship and closeness to the Lord, and how I live as a Christian."

Hager's family plays a large part in maintaining balance in his life. While raising their four children, he and his wife Lynn continued to make church life a family priority. Hager said that "our social lives have always been wrapped around our church in some fashion."

Beyond that, there is a strong sense of family connection. Even during time off from work, Tim and Lynn make time to visit family. Hager says that part of their family values comes from spending 15 years in ministry on the East Coast.

During that time, Hager said, "We didn't take vacations. The time we would take off; we would drive 18-20 hours, one-way, to visit family in the Midwest. We also have gone to Colorado for several years to visit my brother-in-law at his ranch. Our vacations have always been

about time with family."

Nurturing the community

Building outside partnerships is not the only goal for Hager. He also plans to build relationships with those within the seminary, and those who have graduated, to continue building the community of AGTS.

"When building relationships, you have to interact with people," he said. "That's always been my practice. That's going to mean time. Time with my key stakeholders and time with individuals in the classroom."

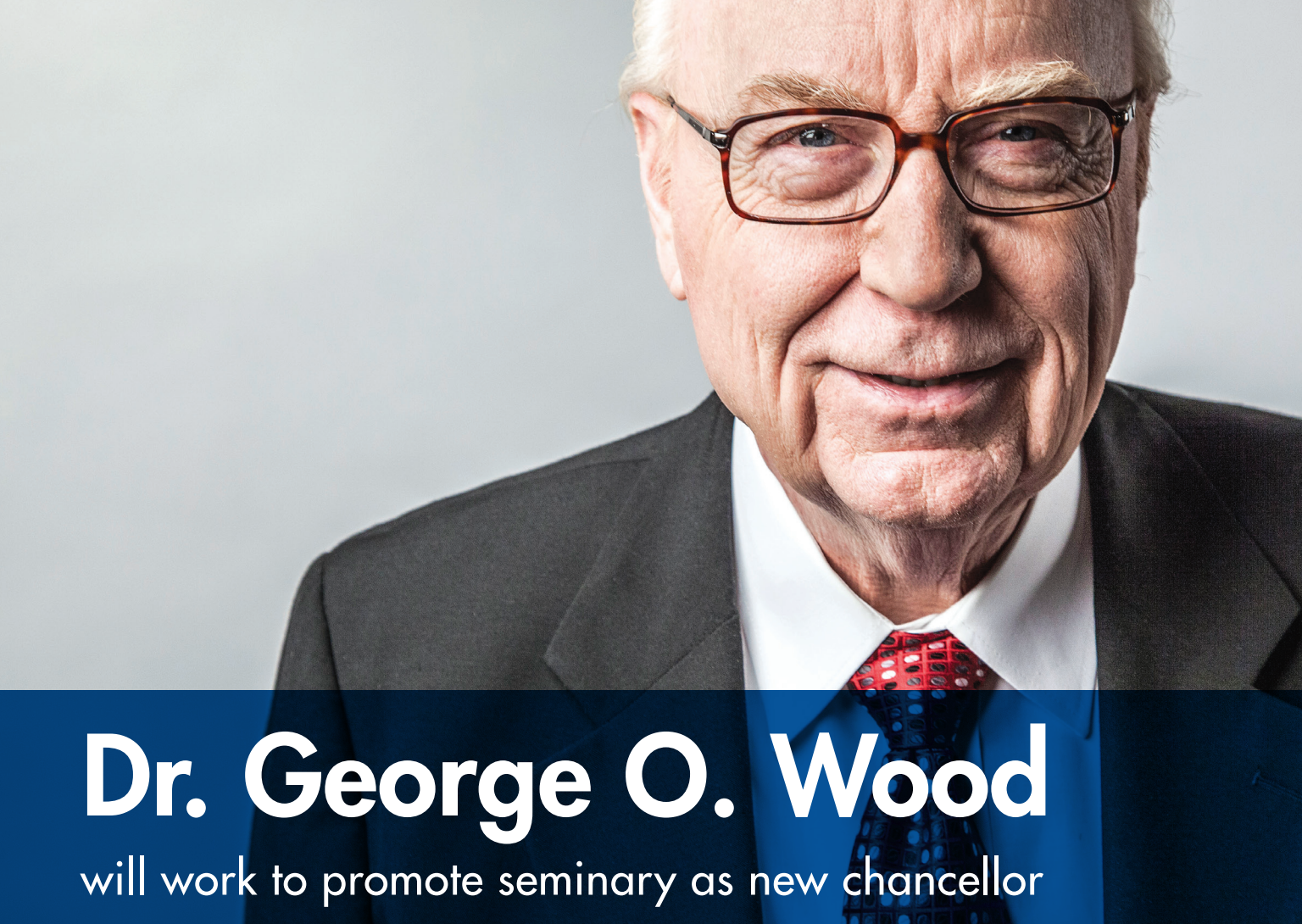
To Hager, having these relationships is essential as "we go down into the trenches and do battle in advancing the work of the Kingdom."

In his position, Hager is looking to meet and interact with people as people, and not just employees.

Hager said he values every person as experts in their fields, and he plans to have informal time to get to know people at AGTS in person.

"There's no other way, really, to engage organizationally than nurturing those relationships," he said. "I know that we have the technology. But, to me, those end up being tools of relationships that are really forged from sitting across from individuals, whether it be over barbecues, meetings, or praying with each other. When we're able to start doing that, that's what continues to nurture the community."

Hager is excited to take on this role, and he is dedicated to living out the mission of AGTS by helping to build community to increase the seminary's effectiveness in training men and women for even greater ministry impact.



Dr. George O. Wood

will work to promote seminary as new chancellor

Dr. George O. Wood recently concluded his role as general superintendent of the Assemblies of God after 10 years of service. But, rather than slowing down, Wood is continuing his service to the Fellowship, and now AGTS, as a recognized national and international leader within the Pentecostal and Evangelical world.

Wood holds degrees from Evangel University and Fuller Theological Seminary, as well as a J.D. from Western State University College of Law. He is also a member of the California State Bar.

Wood comes to the role of chancellor with more than 50 years of distinctive ministry experience. He served as Evangel University's director of spiritual life and student life from 1965-71; pastor of Newport Mesa Church in Costa Mesa, California, for 17 years; assistant superintendent of the SoCal Network from 1988-93; general secretary of the AG from 1993-2007; and general superintendent of the AG from 2007-17.

As chancellor, Wood will join with Evangel and AGTS to advance AGTS' reach as a leading Pentecostal seminary specializing in practical application of ministry.

Growth is something Wood understands how to

achieve. According to Assemblies of God General Secretary Dr. James Bradford, the AG saw 10 years of consecutive growth under Wood's leadership, going from 2,863,265 adherents to 3,240,258.

In addition, the number of AG churches in the U.S. rose to an all-time high of 13,023.

Wood's leadership approach relies on clear-headed thinking, common sense, and reliance on the Holy Spirit, always keeping one eye on the future. As a reminder to that end, he keeps his father's antique typewriter in his office.

"I learned to type on that typewriter, and I keep it next to my computer to remind me how important it is to change," Wood said. "When things are changing, you've got to change as well — if we stayed with the typewriter, where would we be today?"

Wood has authored a number of books, including *Road Trip Leadership*, *Living in the Spirit*, *A Psalm in Your Heart*, *Living Fully*, and *The Successful Life*.

He and his wife Jewel, whom he met at Evangel, have two children, daughter Evangeline and son George, and four grandchildren.

WHAT'S POSSIBLE FROM HERE?

New director to maximize collaboration, community within Doctor of Ministry program



Photo by Chris Rudolph

By Tara Kersten ('03)

Collaboration has long been an outstanding feature of Dr. John Battaglia's leadership style, and he intends to continue building upon it in his new role as director of the Doctor of Ministry program.

"I love AGTS and have a very long history with our school," he said. "I'm very excited about working with the AGTS community and the larger community in how we serve our Fellowship."

Battaglia worked closely with former director Dr. Cheryl Taylor to prepare for the transition.

"This is an amazing program, and Dr. Taylor has done a phenomenal job," said Battaglia. "I'm very grateful for her labor. She was the visionary and the one who has carried [the program] to where it is. We want to stand on that platform and celebrate what has been accomplished as we look forward, asking the question of what's possible from here."

Battaglia himself is a D.Min. graduate, completing the program in 2004. He also holds two other degrees from AGTS: an M.A. in Missiology — Intercultural Communications and an M.Div. Equivalency. In addition, he holds a bachelor's degree from Central Bible College.

Battaglia has taught Evangel students at every level. He also brings with him 27 years of expertise as a pastor, including two churches he and his wife Christine planted. A true ministry practitioner, for the last four years he has worked as a fully endorsed Assemblies of God chaplain to the Missouri State Legislature, a role which he will continue to fill.

With his vast experience to guide him, Battaglia is excited about the future of the D.Min. program.

"What's most exciting is to answer the question of what's possible from here. Because they're God possibilities. So to step into that and to support and build on what we have, and to create and innovate into what it can be — that's really exciting," Battaglia said.

Battaglia's leadership approach is one of empowerment.

"I think we all have gifts," he said. "We all can contribute. I like to create an open environment where people feel

safe to share their wins and their challenges and then ask, 'How can I resource you; how can I be a help?'"

Listening will be his first priority. Well aware that transitions bring questions, Battaglia and his team are reaching out to the community of D.Min. participants, hoping to learn more about them and how the D.Min. team can best serve their needs.

Next, Battaglia will focus on learning. Through close observation, he'll seek to understand the program, processes, and systems.

"The D.Min. program at AGTS is different," he said, explaining that its primary goal is to train ministry practitioners. "We want to take those who are in the field of ministry and train and equip them, adding new tools for their toolbox. We are partners in ministry."

The program utilizes an integrated, three-pronged approach built on academic rigor, significant relationships, and spiritual transformation.

"Those three coming together are what have people saying, 'This has been life transforming,' and that's the story we hear again and again," said Battaglia. "It's pretty powerful."

Finally, he and his team will seek out ways in which the program can grow and expand to meet the needs of its students, and of the Assemblies of God fellowship, in new and exciting ways. The process will involve "a lot of praying, a lot of conversation, a lot of asking questions," said Battaglia.

Looking ahead, Battaglia believes the global impact of the D.Min. program at AGTS, and of the program's graduates, will continue.

"The world has changed. Education has changed," he said. "We've got to be cognizant of how we can continue to be effective trainers of high-impact ministers in the world. So many of our missionaries have graduated from this program. It's truly been global in its impact. We believe that will continue and expand. We'll be seeking to discover a best-practice approach for how it's delivered, to realize the outcomes we're looking for."

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AGTS is proud to announce a new
Faith Legacy Initiative honoree:



MELVIN HODGES

Melvin Hodges began his public ministry in 1926 at the age of 17, when he preached and played his trombone on the streets of his hometown, Greeley, Colorado. With his wife, Lois, whom he married in 1928, he pioneered churches in Colorado and Wyoming. But Melvin and Lois' call to missions was strong. In 1936, the

couple and their three children sailed for their first term as missionaries to Central America.

The family's early years in missions focused primarily on Bible school ministry. Melvin founded a Bible school in Matagalpa, Nicaragua, and was principal of a Bible school in Santa Ana, El Salvador. As national churches and fellowships were organized, he studied the principles needed to help promote spiritual growth and stability.

Melvin accepted a position as associate professor of missions and coordinator of missions sciences at AGTS in 1973. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from Northwest College in Kirkland, Washington, in 1974. Soon after his retirement from teaching in 1985, Melvin was named AGTS' first professor emeritus. He went to be with the Lord in 1988. Lois died in 2011 at the age of 102.

The AGTS Faith Legacy Initiative honors men, women and churches with a vision to ensure that the legacy of Pentecostal faith is transferred to subsequent generations of ministers, missionaries, teachers, church planters, counselors, chaplains and lay leaders through top-quality education and training. We acknowledge their remarkable lives and the generous contribution of \$25,000 or more made in their honor to AGTS and its mission to shape servant leaders. Honorees are featured prominently in the Great Hall at AGTS.

Alumni News & Notes

Central Bible College & The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

1940s



Rev. Harold Crosby (CBC '40), age 101, is the oldest known living CBC alumnus and currently resides in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. He has served as an ordained AG minister in many capacities since the early 1940s. Harold was the Church Education Director and

Foreign Missions Director of the Penn Del District and one of the founders of the Heritage Investment Services Fund for the district as well.

Burl F. Hamilton (CBC '40) of Springfield, Missouri, passed away in May 2017 at the age of 97.

Hazel Edith Ollson (CBC '44) passed away in April of 2017 at the age of 97. She met her husband at CBC and they were married six days before the AG missions department appointed them to Venezuela.

They served in Venezuela, Cuba, and Argentina for a total of 18 years. Hazel also went to Modesto Junior College in California and received a license as a vocational nurse. She served at Modesto City Hospital for 20 years before retiring.

Rev. Robert T. Eastlake (CBC '46) of Wilmington, Delaware, passed away in February 2017 at the age of 93. He pastored several AG churches in Pennsylvania before serving as a chaplain at the Ferris School for Boys and The Bridge House.

Warren Eugene Phifer (CBC '49) passed away in March 2017 at the age of 96. He attended CBC after serving as a marine in Saipan. He received an Honor Flight to DC for his service in WWII in 2011. Warren also founded a church in Crawfordsville, Indiana, and pastored two others in Missouri and Minnesota.

1950s

Virginia L. "Jiny" August (CBC '51) was 95 when she passed away in May 2017.

Marilyn Rae Carlton (CBC '51) was living in Polk City, Florida when she passed away in May 2017 at the age of 86. She attended CBC and served as a missionary for over 25 years.

Wesley Reynolds (CBC '51) of Springfield, Missouri passed away at the age of 89 in May of 2017. He spent several years in the U.S. Navy before attending CBC and becoming ordained with the AG in 1954.

Wesley served ministries in Hershey, Mitchell, and Omaha, Nebraska; Iowa; Belleville, Illinois; and Ottawa, Kansas. He served Nebraska churches as District Christ Ambassador president, and churches in Iowa, Illinois, and Kansas as Presbyter.

Gloria Mae (Hurray) Loretz (CBC '52) was 88 when she passed away in March 2017. She and her husband attended CBC. Together they also founded and pastored Exeter AG in Exeter, Missouri, and Calvary Temple in Columbus, Ohio.

Rev. William Severance (CBC '52) was residing in Holland, Michigan at the time of his passing in April 2017. He was 87 years old. William attended CBC and spent his college summers traveling with a gospel quartet. He and his wife spent over 60 years pastoring churches in Michigan.

William was also involved with Severance Tool Industries of Saginaw and SevCal & SevCo of California, assisting the family businesses in various capacities. Because of his desire to see lives renewed, he served on the Board of Directors for the Saginaw Rescue Mission and Bay City Good Samaritan Mission and also taught at Teen Challenge of Saginaw for many years.

Rev. Derreld Wartenbee (CBC '54) was living in Springfield, Missouri when he passed away at the age of 86 in October 2017.

He attended CBC and after graduating took a pastor-

ate in Bruce, South Dakota. Derreld then went to pastor a church in Sisseton, before moving on to Aberdeen where he remained for 10 years.

He and his family left South Dakota to return to Springfield, Missouri where he pastored Bethel Assembly of God until 2011. He and his family ministered to countless individuals, proclaiming and teaching God's precious Holy Word, modeling Christ-like behavior and leadership through music and other means.

Roberta "Bobbie" George (CBC '58) passed away in October of 2017. She was 80 years old. Bobbie attended CBC before going on to get a Masters of Education at the University of Central Florida.

She and her husband pastored several churches, beginning with Albion First AG in Albion, Michigan. After moving to Florida, they pastored at Living Word AG, Pine Castle Methodist, and Geneva United Methodist. Bobbie was also a teacher for both Seminole and Orange counties in Florida for over 40 years.

1960s

Stan Ramsey (CBC '60) of Westlake Village, California died in April 2017 at the age of 78. He received both an undergrad and postgraduate degree from CBC.

Stan served as Minister of Music at Calvary Temple, a pianist for the AG international radio broadcast of Revival Time, as associate pastor at First AG Church in Bakersfield, California, and a part time staff member in music and teaching at North Hollywood First AG Church for 35 years.

Charles Sanders (CBC '61) of Standish, Michigan passed away in March 2017.

Lynn Bowman (CBC '63) of Springfield, Missouri, passed away in October 2017 at the age of 76.

She was an administrative secretary to Women's Ministries of the General Council of the AG, retiring after 17 years. Lynn developed an instrumental ministry for widows of AG ministers.

Barry B. Eisenhart (CBC '66) passed away in April 2017 at the age of 78. He and his wife were missionaries through the AG from 1970-2010 in Germany, the Middle East, Central America, Africa, and Central Asia.

Alvin Sachs (CBC '68) was living in Silva, Missouri when he passed away in April 2017 at the age of 69.

1970s

Puthiyavan Seenimutan "P.S." Rajamoni (AGTS '77) is the National Director of Vision 2020 for Assemblies of God in India. With a goal to plant 25,000 churches before 2020, the vision is for the current 10,000 AG churches in India to plant at least three churches.

Everett (AGTS '77) and Evelyn McKinney (AGTS '77) continue teaching both missions and ministry related courses to students of Fiji, several island countries, and Singapore.

Elisabeth Leembruggen-Kallberg (AGTS '79) is a chartered psychologist and registered applied psychological supervisor with the British Psychological Society.

She also serves as a counselor, supervisor and senior faculty member at Webster University, Leiden. Elisabeth presented at the International Association for Counselling on Religious and Spiritual Coping: Tools for Counselors in Malta, Europe.

1980s

Berney "Buddy" Salsman III (CBC '81) passed away in February 2017. He was a graduate of CBC, and served as youth pastor of Flossmoor, Illinois — Bessemer First AG, Griffin First AG, Sylacauga First AG, and senior pastor of Thomasville, Georgia Sumiton First AG.

Steven Snider (CBC '82) was 69 when he passed away in March 2017. He attended CBC and served in many churches including Church of New Beginnings, and Family Life AG Church in Pittsburg, Kansas.

Ivan Cornwell (CBC '85) passed away from cancer at the age of 57 in May 2017. He received his undergrad from CBC, masters from Philadelphia Biblical University, and doctoral degree from Regent University. Ivan was a pastor with the AG and former school administrator for Evangel Heights Christian Academy, Littlestown Christian Academy, Pittsburgh East Christian School, Calvary Academy, and Calvary Temple Christian Academy.

Paul Gracza (AGTS '85) and his wife, Jocelyn, had record enrollment of 103 new students at Pentecostal Theological College in Budapest, Hungary. Also, with the help of a team from Way of Faith AG in Fairfax, Virginia, they recently completed significant renovations to the church in Kalocsa, Hungary.

Thomas Hertweck (CBC '85, AGTS '86) passed away in February 2017. He served in the Air Force before being honorably discharged prior to attending CBC. Thomas pastored Trinity AG in Liverpool, New York before it moved to Clay, New York.

Dave Johnson (AGTS '87) published, *A Theology of the Spirit in Doctrine and Demonstration: Essays in Honor of Wonsuk and Julie Ma*, edited by Teresa Chai. This book contains essays on the person and work of the Holy Spirit from eleven scholars from four different continents and across the Pentecostal academic spectrum.

Priscilla Mondt (AGTS '89) earned a Ph.D. in Counseling Education and Supervision from Regent University. Her dissertation, *Nurse Mental Health: Relationship of Spirituality with Compassion Levels* investigated whether spirituality predicts mental health factors. She continues to serve as Chief of Chaplain Service at Veterans Healthcare System of the Ozarks. Dually credentialed in spirituality and mental health, she is a presenter at national mental health conferences on various aspects of spirituality and ethics.

1990s

Brian Nutt (AGTS '90) has been elected trustee at Kilgore College, a local community college in Kilgore, Texas. He has pastored for 16 years at Grace Fellowship, he also serves as chairman of the property and facilities committee and was recently elected by fellow Kilgore College trustees to be vice president of the board of trustees.

Carol Feigleson (AGTS '92) continues her work, Open Doors with Carol, where she recently taught English at the bible school to a class of 31 students.

Kraig White (CBC '93) at the age of 47 passed away in April 2017. He attended both Zion and CBC. Kraig was a member of Clarks Green AG.

Doug Bursch (AGTS '98) published, *The Community of God: A Theology of the Church From a Reluctant Pastor*. In the acknowledgments, he gives thanks for AGTS professor, Dr. Ben Aker.

2000s



Kevin Folk (AGTS '01) oversees the bible school program through Global University, which serves those who are preparing to be pastors, church planters and missionaries. Earlier this year, he participated in the 2017 World Missions Summit where over 6,000 college students attended. He and his wife, Annie, continue their mission to reach the lost by training the found.



Jackie Braswell (AGTS '04) and her husband, Bob, have been assigned to Africa's Hope, a ministry that touches not only South Africa but also facilitates training for the whole Africa region. Based in Springfield, Missouri, they will be going to the continent on a regular basis, serving as teachers, trainers and researchers.



Kurt (AGTS '06) and Stephanie (AGTS '06) Plagenhoef hosted a ministry team from Roswell AG of Georgia, led by Pastor Tim Newby, for a week of children's ministry where over 60 children were reached. The new academic year is underway, with a fresh group of students, where Kurt continues to serve as President of the Bible school.

James Anderson (AGTS '06) was recently appointed dean of the College of Education at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida. In his new role as dean, he will oversee the College of Education's five departments: undergraduate, masters, doctoral, human performance and sport studies, and Pathways School of Excellence.

Rochelle Scheuermann (AGTS '07) co-edited, *Controversies in Mission: Theology, People, and Practice of Mission in the 21st Century*, and was recently named Vice President of Academics at Lincoln Christian University where she has been teaching for five years.

James L. Boggess (AGTS '08, '10) graduated from the U.S. Army War College resident class of 2017 with a Masters in Strategic Studies, and received the Reserve Officers Association Lieutenant General Thomas J. Plewes Writing Award. His next assignment is command chaplain at the U.S. Army Reserve Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



Loralie Crabtree (AGTS '14) and her husband, Dan, continue to serve as missionary church planters in North Andover, Massachusetts. She recently led a weekly Bible study with women from numerous faith backgrounds and has had the honor of

speaking at several women's conferences throughout Northern New England.



Linda Seiler (AGTS '14) was recently interviewed by Focus on the Family radio broadcast to share her personal story and how to interact with the LGBT community.

To listen to the full episode, visit www.focusonthefamily.com.

Dr. Renea C.A. Brathwaite (AGTS '05), Dr. Greg M. Mundis (CBC '73, AGTS '97) and Dr. Randy C. Walls (EU '78, AGTS '97, '04) were named the 2017 Sigma Chi Pi Honor Society inductees, an honor sponsored by the Alliance for Assemblies of God Higher Education.

Members of the AGTS faculty nominate three graduates who satisfy scholastic, character and leadership qualifications and who graduated at least ten years prior. The list of past Sigma Chi Pi Honor Society inductees from AGTS includes educators, church leaders, missionaries and military chaplains.

Brathwaite currently serves as the director of graduate and creative education at North Central University, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Mundis has served as executive director of Assemblies of God World Missions since 2011.

Walls is an associate professor of pastoral leadership and practical theology at Assemblies of God Theological Seminary.



ALUM OF THE YEAR Dr. Doug Oss

There is a lot of knowledge behind the piercing stare and "man of few words" persona you see in Dr. Doug Oss, this year's AGTS Alumnus of the Year.

He is a Greek scholar and Biblical translator, a church planter and pastor, an evangelist, a missionary, a professor of Biblical theology and New Testament interpretation, and an author.

He's also a man with a heart for ministry and an appreciation of what those early years as a student at the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary gave him.

"My experience at AGTS, and the relationship with the faculty, put in my heart a desire to be a scholarly practitioner of ministry, and not be confined to the ivory tower," Oss said. "I also gained many lifelong, strong and supportive friendships formed during my years of study."

Following an amazing career with many turns, Doug joined the AGTS faculty in 2005 to start the expository preaching program. He was the founding director of the Cordas C. Burnett Center for Biblical Preaching.

In 2013, he was charged by AGTS leadership with the program redesign and curriculum development for the Ph.D. in Biblical interpretation and theology. He served as director of that program until his retirement from AGTS in the Spring of 2016.

"His academic and pastoral ministry preparation provided for his students a rich exposure to and experience in preaching the Word of God," said Dr. Jim Railey, former dean of AGTS. "He is known around AGTS for his humor, his commitment to excellent interpretation of the Bible, and his involvement with students."

By Paul K. Logsdon ('77)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



ARIANNA METZNER

MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES
WITH A FOCUS IN ISLAMIC STUDIES

“ / ”

Through generous donors, the Pentecostal Leaders Fund has made a way for me to become better equipped to share the good news. It is remarkable that AGTS not only has a fund to grow future leaders but also one characterized by Pentecostal distinction. To me, this fund is more than financial assistance. It is an investment that reaps a greater harvest. May the Holy Spirit send many laborers from AGTS. I know that I will be one.

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Phonathon Update

More than \$16,000 has been committed toward our \$20,000 goal.

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Following the call

Dr. Wave Nunnally helps students follow God's call in every field

By Tara Kersten ('03)

As professor of early Judaism and Christian origins at Evangel University, Dr. Wave Nunnally is no stranger to the idea of being called by God.

Actually, it's one of his favorite things to teach about.

"In every class, I emphasize that everyone has a calling, and in fact, callings — plural. The neat thing is this: at EU, I am not the exception to the rule," he said.

Finding and following your calling is a major emphasis across Evangel's campus, no matter your degree program, a reason Nunnally says he still feels so at home at the university.

Nunnally came to Evangel in 2002, drawn to its culture and emphasis on free inquiry and excellence.

He currently teaches a broad range of courses in the department of theology, including Jewish backgrounds of the New Testament, geography of Israel, intertestamental history and literature, synoptic Gospels, and the Book of Acts.

"My job is the dream job where my passion and hobby has become my profession," he says.

Nunnally's role has opened many opportunities for him to write, speak, preach, and travel. He currently instructs the Israel, Jordan, Egypt Study Trip Program, a fantastic

cultural immersion experience that brings the Bible to life for students.

Through this program, as well as his regular classes, Nunnally works to affirm to students how God is calling people to represent Him in the business field, in medical care, in education, and in every walk of life.

He explains, "In the classes I teach, the questions, 'What's next?' and 'How does this apply to life?' are always right around the corner. Students anticipate the 'So what?' even before I ask it."

When asked to give advice to students preparing for life after college, he offered this:

"Be a person of excellence and integrity, and the world will beat a path to your door. Accept nothing less than excellence in professional, career, and technical preparation and in your own personal spiritual development.

Your excellent attitude and performance will then build an effective platform that will enhance your verbal witness. When these are in sync, you are the most effective and fulfilled witness you can be."

Nunnally was awarded Evangel's top honor for faculty — the E.M. and Estella Clark Award for Excellence in Teaching, Scholarship, and Service — in August.



Nunnally teaches a group of students in Israel during a study abroad trip in 2017.
Photo from Dr. Wave Nunnally

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The dynamic learning environment, practical leadership application, and focus on strategic thinking made my time at AGTS a transformational leadership experience.

—Chris Railey, M.A., M.Div, D.Min
Sr. Director of Leadership & Church Development
AG National Leadership and Resource Center

