

# THE CORD

GEORGE W. TRUETT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



A CORD OF THREE STRANDS  
IS NOT EASILY BROKEN.

ECCLESIASTES 4:12



TRUETT



BAYLOR  
UNIVERSITY





DEAR FRIENDS,

**TRUETT HAS SUCH BRIGHT AND COMMITTED STUDENTS WHO ARE EAGER TO LEARN AND APPLY WHAT THEY LEARN IN MINISTRY.** Each has an incredible story and wonderful promise. It gives me great joy to know them and to hear from others how well our alumni are serving the church throughout Texas and the world.

Someone recently lamented the demise of the church's impact in today's society. Frankly, if the church has no significant impact from Monday to Saturday, then it will have no impact. Ministry in the world means never having home-court advantage. It can be tough.

In the movie *True Lies*, a bad guy on top of a skyscraper chases the daughter of the hero, played by Arnold Schwarzenegger. She crawls onto a steel beam and falls, only to barely catch the beam and dangle until Arnold arrives in a jet and hovers beneath her as she drops onto the nose of the plane. The bad guy then jumps behind the cockpit and fires away with a machine gun. The cockpit glass shatters so that Arnold can reach out with one hand to grab his daughter. With the other hand, he fights off the bad guy—and manages to hold the jet steady. It is a ridiculous scene; but I think it illustrates the job of a minister, rescuing the perishing with one hand while fighting off evil with the

other and maintaining a smooth ride through it all. But a smooth ride is truly impossible in our fallen world. Jesus never promised a smooth ride. His disciples will pass through rocky times.

Sadly, in March we lost one of our finest graduates, Clint Dobson, who was tragically murdered during a robbery at his church, NorthPointe Baptist Church in Arlington. Clint had been awarded our Robert Jackson Robinson Preaching Award as outstanding preaching student.

And it seems like it was only yesterday when we lost another incredible alum and young pastor, Kyle Lake, who was electrocuted while conducting a baptism at University Baptist Church here in Waco. These young men made enormous and lasting impacts on people's lives. I was told that it was the tragedy of Kyle's death that stirred Clint to answer the call to ministry and to go to seminary.

I am always amazed to see through the vale of tears what God can do in the midst of tragedy, and these men have left a legacy at Truett through those who want to honor their memories and extend their ministries. An endowed scholarship fund in Clint's name has received an incredible response. The Kyle Lake Center for Effective Preaching, led by Dr. Hulitt Gloer, continues its wonderful contribution to the preaching ministry of pastors and other ministers.

Our faith does offer comfort for hard times. Christianity offers salvation and the hope of the resurrection.

Death is the last enemy that God will permanently defeat through Christ (1 Cor 15). Until then, we have our marching orders to impact our world through the gospel. Through the Spirit's help, we at Truett will continue to train ministers like Kyle and Clint. Thanks be to God for your prayers and financial support to assist in this enterprise.

**David E. Garland, Ph.D.**  
Dean, George W. Truett Theological Seminary,  
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**CHANSIN ESPARZA** is a second-year Truett student and also serves as the youth minister at Speegleville Baptist Church. Originally from Granbury, Texas, she graduated from Belmont University with a BA in biblical studies and a minor in journalism. Her work has been published in several publications, including *Lifeway* magazines, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and *USA Today*. In her spare time she enjoys teaching swing dancing and training for marathons.

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THE CORD

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BAYLOR UNIVERSITY



GEORGE W. TRUETT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OPENED ITS 18TH ACADEMIC YEAR IN FALL 2011 WITH 356 STUDENTS ENROLLED. AS TRUETT HAS GROWN, IT HAS SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT THE VISION OF THE FOUNDERS OF BAYLOR UNIVERSITY MORE THAN 165 YEARS AGO TO “EDUCATE MEN AND WOMEN FOR WORLDWIDE LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE BY INTEGRATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND CHRISTIAN COMMITMENT WITHIN A CARING COMMUNITY.”



**TRUETT SEMINARY WAS NAMED FOR LEGENDARY BAPTIST PREACHER AND STATESMAN GEORGE WASHINGTON TRUETT**

(1867-1944), who pastored the First Baptist Church of Dallas for 47 years. Truett, an 1897 Baylor graduate, was an outspoken defender of religious freedom.

Baylor University Regents laid the foundation for the Seminary when they legally reserved the name in 1990 and appointed seminary trustees and filed articles of incorporation the following year. Truett's first opening convocation service took place Aug. 28, 1994, and three days later classes began with 51 students. The first commencement in May 1997 had 30 graduates.

After more than seven years spent in temporary quarters, Truett Seminary began classes in January 2002 on its \$17 million Baugh-Reynolds Campus at Baylor University. Truett Seminary's campus features the 550-seat Paul W. Powell Chapel, the Paul and Katy Piper Great Hall, a teaching chapel, high-tech classrooms and meeting rooms, and a computer lab.

Since the first commencement in 1997, 875 men and women from 36 states and 34 countries have graduated from Truett, with an additional 28 students expected to graduate in December of 2011. Truett graduates have responded to God's call and are now serving in ministry positions in 40 states and 19 countries.

Truett Seminary's academic commitment is the result of a prayerfully considered, distinctive

educational philosophy that stresses the importance of theological and biblical reflection, spiritual formation, lifelong learning, ministry service and cross-cultural sensitivity. This is achieved through small, seminar-style classes, regular interaction between faculty, staff and students, faculty mentoring of students during their entire time at the Seminary and required hands-on experience in ministry. Students also are encouraged to gain a global view of ministry by participating in numerous mission trips offered each year.

Students may choose from Master of Divinity concentrations in Biblical Studies and Theology, Christian Education, Ministry Leadership, Missions and World Christianity, Worship Leadership, and Youth, Family and Student Ministry. Other degrees offered include dual degrees with Baylor University — Master of Divinity/Master of Social Work, Master of Theological Studies/Master of Social Work and Master of Divinity/Master of Music — as well as the Master of Theological Studies and the Doctor of Ministry degrees.

Truett graduates are highly sought after and have good success in finding employment. Many of them receive multiple offers upon graduation. About 93 percent of Truett Seminary graduates are currently serving in ministry positions or are continuing their education.

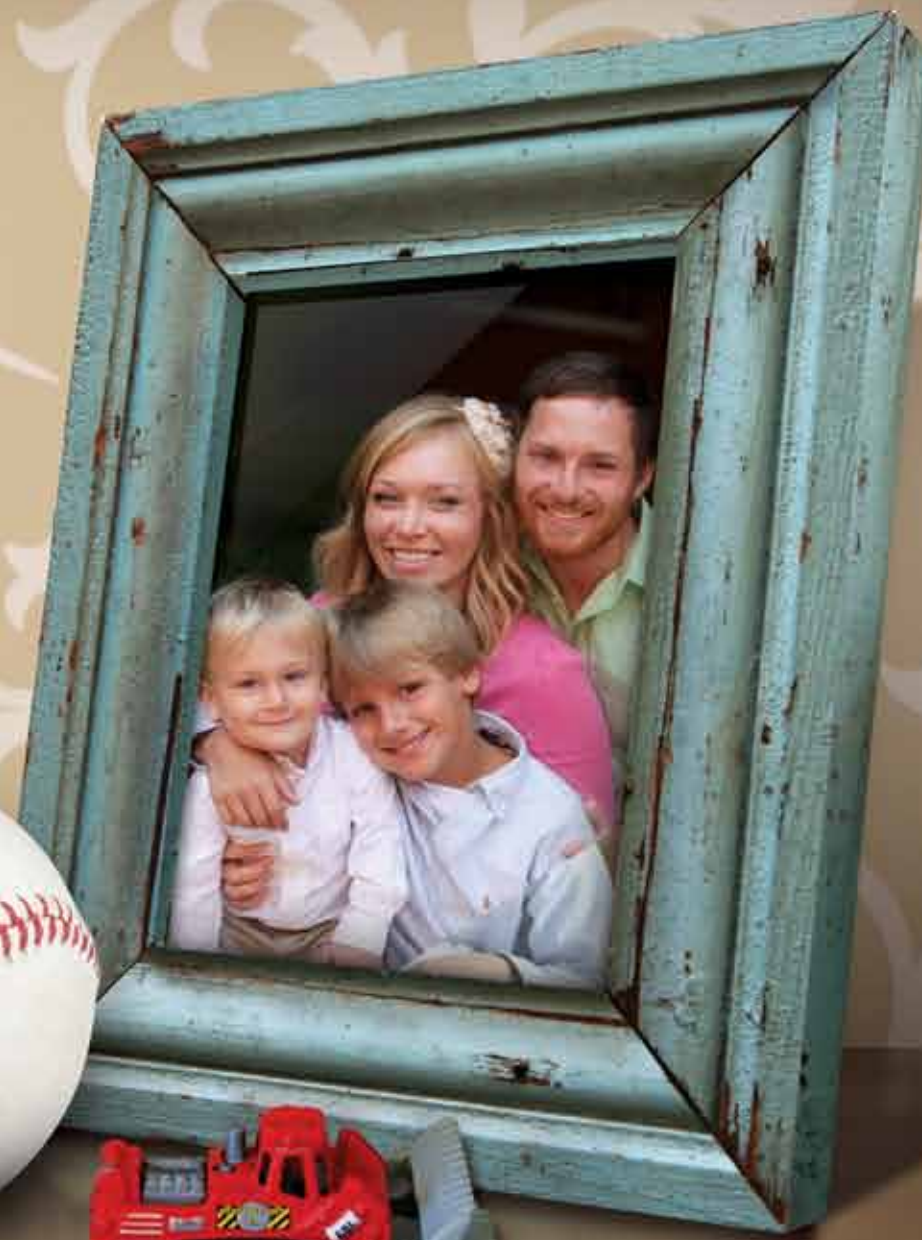
Truett faculty are among the foremost in their fields and have received national recognition for their writing, research and

presentations to both scholarly and lay audiences. They consider it a privilege to act as mentors to their students and form friendships with students that extend beyond the classroom and last long after graduation. At Truett, for students and faculty to know each other by name is the norm, not the exception.

We invite you to use this report to learn more about the students, faculty and staff of Truett Seminary. We welcome your visit to our campus and thank each of you for your interest and support.

**WE INVITE YOU TO USE THIS REPORT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF OF TRUETT SEMINARY. WE WELCOME YOUR VISIT TO OUR CAMPUS AND THANK EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT.**





**TEN-YEAR-OLD BRANDON SCOTED NEXT TO MONICA FOLLOWELL ON THE COUCH.** Brandon and his then 1-year-old brother, David, had recently moved in with Monica and her husband, Clint, and the older boy had a powerful question.

“Monica, do you quit easily?” Brandon asked.

The Followells recently told Brandon and David they’d like the brothers to stay with them as long as they desired. But Brandon’s reality was a lifetime of shuffling from one home to another, one family member to another. He needed an answer.

Monica replied with confidence: “No, I don’t quit easily. I’m not a quitter. When I make a decision, I follow through.”

The Followells, both fourth-year Master of Divinity students at Truett, have been working to

assume custody of Brandon and David. The boys live with Clint and Monica and the couple has managerial conservatorship, which means they can make all decisions for the boys, just as if they were their biological parents.

Less than a year ago, the young couple had no idea how much their lives were about to change. But during the entire process, the Followells were blessed by an outpouring of love and support from the Truett community.

When the boys first moved in, someone at Truett anonymously organized an effort to support the couple, which garnered financial help and prayers. Faculty members and their spouses bought Christmas presents for the boys. Students offered free babysitting. Professors and older Truett students have shared advice about the tension between being a parent and being a student.

“It’s changed our lives to have people who are not only teaching us in class but are also

teaching us about life,” Clint said. “They are mentors. That is the heart of what Truett strives to be. We had experienced support before, but we never realized how much love and care the Truett family could provide until we took the kids.”

Some of Clint’s friends asked him if taking on two boys was really what he wanted to do. His answer reveals the heart of a pastor: “If we couldn’t say we will do this or that God cannot do this through us, then how could I ever lead a



congregation to do something I wasn't willing to do?"

The Followells are focused on building a strong family and feel God has prepared them throughout their lives for a time such as this.

Clint, adopted as a 9-year-old by his aunt and uncle when his parents died, currently serves as youth pastor at First Baptist Church

Valley Mills. He has always enjoyed working with teenagers. In fact, he and Monica met while working at a youth camp during their undergraduate years.

Monica's heart was burdened for at-risk youth when she worked at the Methodist Children's Home. Even as they were dating, the Followells discussed how they were open to fostering or adopting at some point.

Their friendship with Brandon and David, nephews of an acquaintance at their apartment complex, began casually. They'd known the boys for nearly a year. They took them school shopping, played basketball with them and helped whenever possible.

The couple learned the boys' biological parents were unable to care for the children. The boys' family members, some of them single mothers, were unable to take two more children into their homes. At the time, the boys were living with a relative, but there was no certainty of permanent placement. That left open the possibility of foster care.

"That was something I did not want to happen," Monica said. "We had a personal relationship with these kids, and to stand by passively and not engage in some form – we were not OK with that in our hearts. We tried offering to take the kids at that time."

The boys' family initially refused, and another family member agreed to take the children. That situation fell through within a month. That family member called the Followells, one thing led to another, and it evolved into the current situation.

"We didn't want to pressure the kids," Monica said. "We were just available and kept saying, 'We'd love for you to be here with us.'"

Clint agreed he could not have peace if they let the boys end up in foster care. He and Monica were capable, already loved the boys and felt like God was taking them in that direction.

Dr. Michael Stroope, associate professor of Christian missions at Truett and M.C. Shook Chair of Missions, told Clint to make sure this was what God was calling him to do and was not just something he felt he needed to do. The Followells understood the difference.

Monica's friend and coworker in the Truett Student Recruitment office, Tiffany Forsyth, remembers listening to the couples' concerns. She said they were realistic about the difficulties of jumping into parenthood and were aware of the challenges.

"Monica said, 'Do I really have it in me to be a parent to these boys – especially at this time in my life when I'm already torn between work and school?' I think that she was questioning those things is an answer in itself," Forsyth said.

The Followells started caring for the boys. Brandon and David's father signed a document that said he approved of the situation, but Monica and Clint knew he could take the kids back whenever he wanted. The Followells had been planning to spend the following summer in Greece doing mission work for their mentoring requirements at Truett. They asked the boys' parents about summer plans.

"Their comment was, 'Going to Greece would be a great opportunity for the boys,'" Monica said.

At that point, the Followells realized they were going to have the children for a longer period of time. They decided to pursue legal assistance and move forward in the custody process. With help from Legal Assistance Project and approval from the boys' parents, the Followells obtained managerial conservatorship.



"WE HAD A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THESE KIDS, AND TO STAND BY PASSIVELY AND NOT ENGAGE IN SOME FORM – WE WERE NOT OK WITH THAT IN OUR HEARTS."



On the day they got the court order, Brandon said, "Can I start calling you mom and dad?"

Monica asked how he felt about that and he responded, "That's basically what you are."

At 24 years old, Monica admits it is strange to be a mother of a 10-year-old and 2-year-old. But that is exactly what she considers herself to be – a mother.

"We don't think of these children as a ministry," she said. "We think of them as our children."

Forsyth has witnessed the boys' development – David's learning of new words and Brandon's growth in trust – and she says the difference in such a short time is a testament to the Followells as caregivers.

Through the process, the Followells have been encouraged by the ways their lives have intersected with others. Their church has also embraced the Followells in their decision. Dr. John Wheatley, pastor of First Baptist Church Valley Mills, could empathize. He and his wife were empty nesters but took in three great nieces in a similar situation. Wheatley said it is admirable that the couple did not use the situation to put their education or ministry plans on hold.

"They decided that if God is calling them to ministry and also calling them to take on these boys, then God is calling these boys to ministry alongside them," Wheatley said.

Therefore the boys have gone to youth conferences, student recruitment events and even Greece. Life is full, and the Followells say the changes have been hard but good.

"There are days you go without sleep because the baby is sick and crying all night long," Monica said. "Or you're dealing with a 10-year-old who wants to spend every waking moment with you. Or you have a house to clean, dinner to cook, choir rehearsal to attend, or a recital, or Boy Scouts. It can be so chaotic, but at the same time it has been peaceful."

Clint agrees.

"There's a difference," he said, "between peaceful living in terms of no stress and the peace of God that comes in the midst of everything." □

## ALUMNI HONOR CURRENT STUDENTS



**EACH YEAR, THE GEORGE W. TRUETT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** awards scholarships to current outstanding students who demonstrate the potential to represent Truett well in their future endeavors. This fall, two Truett students – Jamie McCallum and Emily Snider – each received \$500 scholarships from the Alumni Association during the Fall Convocation in August.



JAMIE MCCALLUM

### MAKING HER WAY TO THE PULPIT

Jamie McCallum wants to be a pastor.

Growing up, McCallum watched her grandfather lead congregations and says she has always been drawn to that vocation.

McCallum's own spiritual path began in her hometown of Coppell, Texas, and wound its way to Oklahoma Baptist University, where she graduated with her undergraduate degree in 2006. From there, she traveled to the Middle East, where she served for two years as a missionary in the Journeyman program. She eventually returned to Texas and enrolled at Truett, where she is pursuing a Master of Divinity.

"I could not deny that my passion was for the church in America," she says of her choice to move back to the United States, "but I came to Truett not knowing what I wanted to do."

She says she knew Truett would be a safe place and would not close doors on what the Holy Spirit might say to her. After one year of classes, she heard clearly that God wanted her to be a pastor.

While at Truett, McCallum has served for two years as a Resident Chaplain in a Baylor University girls' dormitory. She currently serves as the student pastor at First Baptist Church Waco. She said the professional experience, coupled with the training she has received from Truett faculty, has prepared and equipped her for God's calling.



EMILY SNIDER

### STUDENT FINDS HARMONY IN WORK AND WORSHIP

Emily Snider is on track to graduate from Truett with two degrees – a Master of Divinity and a Master of Music. After that, she plans to enroll in a doctoral program for liturgical studies. Her goal? To teach music.

"Music is a huge part of the way we communicate with God," she says. "If I can help people have a more meaningful worship experience because of what I bring to the table – that is what I feel called to do."

Snider says she's blessed to be able to do what she loves through her professional studies and in her time of worship.

"The two go hand-in-hand," she says. "If you are studying church music, you can practice it as well."

In addition to her studies at Truett, Snider serves as the music minister at Calvary Baptist Church. She's also worked as the Truett chapel leader for one year and then as a graduate assistant for church music professors. Her main instrument is the piano, but she is a self-taught organist and enjoys singing.

"After being at Truett," she says, "I feel affirmed and equipped for wherever this ministry journey takes me."



"THEY DECIDED THAT IF GOD IS CALLING THEM TO MINISTRY AND ALSO CALLING THEM TO TAKE ON THESE BOYS, THEN GOD IS CALLING THESE BOYS TO MINISTRY ALONGSIDE THEM."





## A TRIBUTE TO CLINT DOBSON

BY DR. ROBERT CREECH PROFESSOR OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES AND DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL MINISTRIES

**I MET CLINT DOBSON IN 1987.** He was 4 years old and I was the new pastor at University Baptist Church in Houston, his family's church. In 1991, Clint professed his faith in Jesus Christ and I accompanied him into the baptistery as he publicly acknowledged his Savior. He invested himself in his church as a child and as a teenager, engaging in ministry and growing as a disciple. In no time, he was away at Baylor, studying psychology.

Along the way, Clint began to discern a call to ministry that grew stronger and clearer. He began his seminary training in New Orleans, but Hurricane Katrina drove him back to Texas and to Truett. Clint returned to our church in Houston a couple of summers to serve as an intern in the missions ministry. He lived in a low-income apartment, supported the work

of what we hope for our students. He loved Scripture, read widely, thought deeply, preached effectively and lived passionately. He performed the daily tasks of a pastor with competence, effectiveness and joy. Clint was faithful to the assignment he believed God had given him to serve the people of NorthPointe and its community. He was quick to

HE LOVED SCRIPTURE,  
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of a church plant in the complex and ministered to the children and teens who lived there. He began preaching at a small rural congregation while at Truett, and then, following graduation, he became the pastor of NorthPointe Baptist Church, a mission of First Baptist Church of Arlington. He continued to do what he had been doing for many years – follow Jesus and love and serve people.

During my last summer at University Baptist Church, I invited Clint to return home and preach on a Sunday when I needed to be away. He did a remarkable job with the assignment. Later, while watching the video of his sermon, I felt some pride, as if I'd had something to do with this young man's heart and abilities.

Truett Seminary's faculty and staff took some pride in Clint's life and ministry as well. He represented the essence

smile, embrace a friend, and engage in conversation that could be light-hearted and full of laughter or that could rapidly move into the depths of theological thought.

Clint's contributions to our lives and to God's Kingdom, which are all out of proportion to his years, will continue to bear fruit for many years. We will remember him gratefully and miss him deeply. □

## SCHOLARSHIP HONORS PASTOR'S LEGACY

George W. Truett Theological Seminary and the family of the late Rev. Clint Dobson (BA '04, MDIV '08) are honoring the young pastor's legacy for service to others with a memorial scholarship fund. The Clint Dobson Memorial Fund was established to aid students who are pursuing pastoral professions.

"[Clint] had that rare combination of a love for truth and a love for people," said Brady Herbert, Dobson's friend and roommate at Truett, as he spoke during Dobson's memorial service earlier this year. "He did not allow his love for Scripture to stay in his mind. It sunk deep into his heart and out into his hands and into his feet."

Dobson, 28, was attacked and killed March 3, 2011, while in his office at NorthPointe Baptist Church in Arlington during an apparent robbery, according to police. A ministry assistant at the church was seriously injured during the attack. Two men have been arrested in connection with the crimes.

Dobson is survived by his wife, Laura Rozeman Dobson (BA '05); his parents, Roderick and Sharon Dobson; and siblings, Chris Kirchmer and Sarah Dobson Mitchell.

Dobson's life was defined by his love for Jesus Christ. It was that steadfast devotion to Christ that drove Dobson to serve others throughout his 28 years. In addition to his work as a pastor, his ministries included living and serving among the poor, participating in apartment ministries, traveling on mission trips, working with at-risk children and mentoring.

Dobson was also a gifted preacher. While at Truett, faculty presented him with the Robert Jackson Robinson Preaching Award in Spring 2008. The award recognizes outstanding preaching.

After serving at Purlmela Baptist Church in Purlmela, Texas, Dobson was hired to shepherd NorthPointe.

During his memorial service Herbert said, "Clint's life was lived to know Jesus and make Him known to all he came in contact with." □

TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CLINT DOBSON MEMORIAL FUND, VISIT:  
[baylor.edu/truett/give](http://baylor.edu/truett/give)



# PREPARED FOR THE JOURNEY

**While the apostle Paul is most often used to illustrate the importance of missionary work in carrying the gospel to the world, his obedience is also a powerful example of answering God's call.**

Paul's journeys took him from large cities like the metropolis of Rome to smaller communities such as Corinth and Philippi. He stepped out in faith and followed God's leadership. He engaged people individually and in crowds, in small houses, on the street or in vast arenas.

Truett Seminary is equipping church leaders to do the same, to take what they've learned and, in obedience, go where God leads. In addition to 19 countries, Truett students are currently serving in 40 states across the nation. Collectively, they minister to all ages and all demographics in small-town congregations, large urban communities and everywhere in between.



**DR. TOM OGBURN**

DMIN '05

FIRST BAPTIST OKLAHOMA CITY

CITY POP. 579,999

CONGREGATION 886

## UNAPOLOGETICALLY URBAN

"Just fall in love with your people." That simple sentence has guided Dr. Tom Ogburn (DMin, '05) throughout his years of ministry. The senior pastor of The First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City doesn't take credit for those words of wisdom; they were a gift from a mentor. But it's advice he passes along to young ministers to help them understand a pastor's roll.

Ogburn leads a congregation that loves people. Located in the heart of Oklahoma City, the church – billed as "unapologetically urban" – has chosen to minister to those who live, work and travel downtown.

"Oklahoma City is in a season of profound renewal," Ogburn said. "We have worked to reshape and renew our congregation to speak to the full spectrum of the of the community living in an urban context in this era."

Ogburn said the lessons he learned at Truett regarding church renewal "provided some critical constructs that shaped my first several years in leadership at First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City."

In addition to the 886 members on the church roll, First Baptist is home to two congregations of refugee people groups from Myanmar, one congregation composed of Sudanese refugees, a



Korean congregation, and a Hispanic congregation. Plans are being made to work with other ministries to assemble a congregation for people from Ghana and West Africa. First Baptist also hosts Good Shepherd Ministries, a community ministry that assists people who need food, clothing, and medical and dental services. A new multi-denominational furniture bank is in the works to assist refugees, the working poor and foster families.

**“WE HAVE WORKED TO RESHAPE AND RENEW OUR CONGREGATION TO SPEAK TO THE FULL SPECTRUM OF THE COMMUNITY LIVING IN AN URBAN CONTEXT IN THIS ERA.”**

Ogburn explained that “being urban” is not just about working with the poor. It’s about reaching out to the community.

On Thursdays, the pastor leads a lunch-hour Bible study called SALT (Study and Lunch Together). These studies draw 100-125 people each week, but only a small percentage are members of the church. “The vast majority come from government and business offices in downtown,” Ogburn explains. “When the weather is nice, you can see a stream of people walking in from every direction to come to have lunch and spend their time in Bible study.”

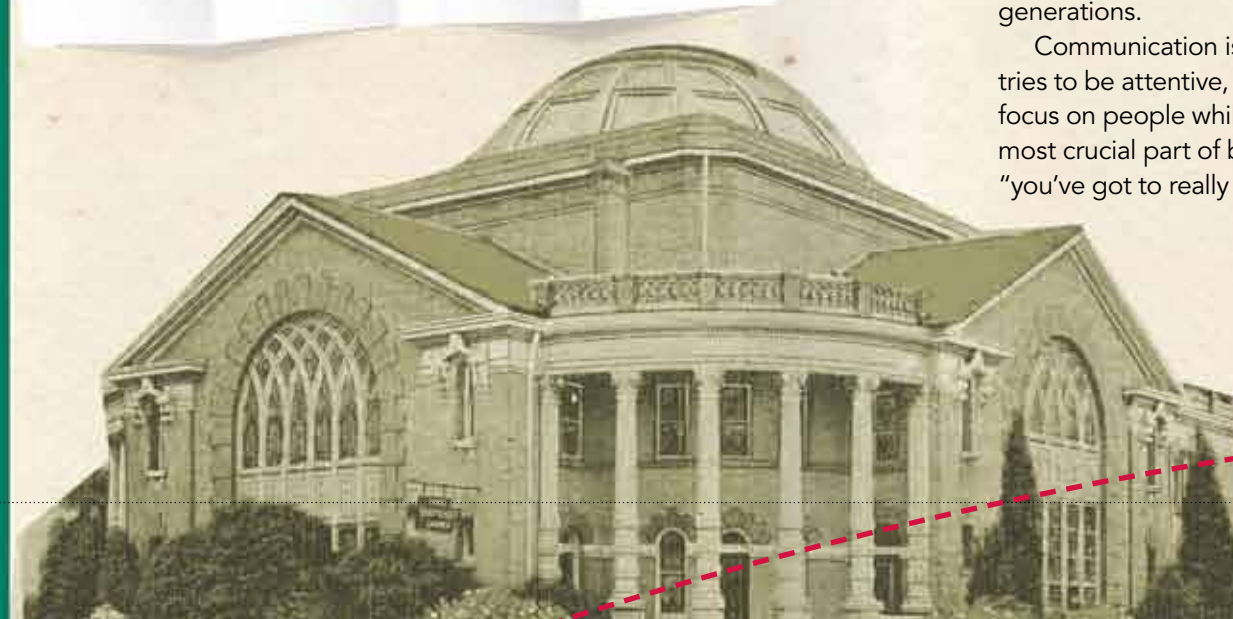
On Sundays, First Baptist takes a unique approach to worship. The church’s ministers of music and worship, Bruce and Kim Greer (both Baylor University graduates) focus on the Scriptural theme of the morning. The thematic approach to worship allows the Greers to choose music and other worship elements from multiple styles and eras.

“Each service speaks to who we are, where we are and how God is moving in our lives as a church family,” Ogburn said. “Our Sunday morning worshipping body now reflects a wide diversity of ages and a growing diversity of race and economic standing.”



**MATT SNOWDEN**

DMIN '09  
FIRST BAPTIST WACO  
CITY POP. 120,465  
CONGREGATION 400



**CONNECTING THE GENERATIONS**

Matt Snowden has been pastor of First Baptist Waco for nearly a year.

In his position, he said he has the wonderful opportunity to interact with a congregation made up of five generations – everyone from longtime members, Baylor students and those from Truett who are preparing for their own ministries.

“You can spend time with people who are going to leave this town and go serve in churches,” said Snowden, a longtime Mississippi resident who graduated from Truett with his DMin in 2009. “You have a chance to make a deposit into their lives.”

First Baptist Waco, one of the city’s oldest and most historic churches, was home to Truett Seminary before the current campus opened in 2002. Snowden remembers hearing Dean David Garland tell the story: “The dean said he left a large seminary where he was teaching hundreds of students at a time. When he came to Truett, he had three people in a room at the church that was decorated for vacation Bible school.”

Snowden said he has spent his first year getting to know the more than 400 people who are members of the church. He refers to them as family and approaches them as such.

“The first challenge you have as a pastor is to get a feel for who people are,” he said. “You can’t make rapid changes that would hurt one end of it.”

In addition to preaching on Sundays and performing the other duties traditionally assigned to the pastor, Snowden writes a blog and communicates with his members through social media. The “cross-generational pollination,” as he describes it, serves all generations.

Communication is key. Snowden said he tries to be attentive, notice small things and focus on people while they’re talking. The most crucial part of being a pastor, he said, is “you’ve got to really be interested in people.

I’m a little bit nosy. I don’t think that’s a bad trait for a pastor.”

The pastor calls himself a “take-me-as-I-am-kind-of-a-fellow.” He said he’s not afraid to be friends with his church members.

“I can’t go to a church and it not be the place where I nurture community for myself and my family,” he said, adding it’s his worship life as well as his work life. “That would deprive me and my family of what God intended the church to be.”

To better serve the community, the church recently added a Spanish-language service that meets Sunday mornings, complete with music and a message. Two Truett students suggested the idea.

“One of the things we value is giving students an opportunity to use their gifts,” the pastor said.

Also new this year is a preaching series utilizing seminary students. Ten seminary students have had the opportunity to preach before church members. For some of those students, it was their first sermon outside of a classroom.

Snowden stressed the importance of providing opportunities for students and said he is grateful for the mentoring relationships he established with faculty like Garland and Dr. Ron Cook, Truett’s DMin program director.

“They changed my life and will continue to,” he said, adding that he keeps in regular contact with Cook. “I consider him my pastor.”

Snowden has already packed a lot into his ministry career and knows there’s much to come. He said he keeps moving forward on faith.

“You can either sit around and wait for life to happen, or you can go out there and live it,” he said. “You just follow the light as it shines and do the best you can with God’s help.”

**“YOU CAN EITHER SIT AROUND AND WAIT FOR LIFE TO HAPPEN, OR YOU CAN GO OUT THERE AND LIVE IT,”**





## JEFF & KATIE GRAVENS

MDIV '09, MDIV '10  
FIRST BAPTIST CRAWFORD  
CITY POP. 705  
CONGREGATION 250

### ..... CALLED TO CRAWFORD

In a town of just more than 700 people, First Baptist Church Crawford averages 130 in the pews each week. Statistically, that's quite remarkable.

Pastor Jeff Gravens (MDiv '09) and his wife, Katie (MDiv '10) moved to Crawford, Texas, and began their ministry to the congregation a little more than a year and a half ago.

"We see ourselves as a ministry team. Wherever God calls us, we'll be there with each other," Jeff said. "I think He brought us together because our gifts and our callings complement one another."

Just two months after Jeff graduated in May 2009, and a year after the previous pastor left the church, Gravens accepted his first full-time pastorate in Crawford.

"When I arrived, the church was in incredible shape and really healthy," Jeff said, thanks to the help of interim pastor and Truett professor Dr. David Wilhite, who still encourages the young pastor when he has questions or needs some advice.

Katie leads a girl's Bible study, sings in the choir, oversees the website, substitutes as the adult women's teacher and teaches Girls in Actions, a missions class for first- through sixth-graders.

"I'm very passionate about discipleship within the local church," Katie said.

Outside the church, Katie works full time with the Center for Collegiate Ministry through Texas Baptists, something she does from their home in the parsonage just across the street from the church.

Katie is also the person Jeff turns to when he needs a little help. "She's constantly a sounding board," Jeff said. "Usually before I put anything in print, it has to get her approval."

The congregation at First Baptist Church Crawford is comprised largely of parents with children in high school. The pastor said he encourages them to discover their gifts and live them out.

"That's what it takes to impact the city," he said, adding that he finds the most challenging part of pastoring the church is "casting the vision and showing them what truly could be, rather than looking in the rearview mirror and seeing what has always been done."

Jeff invokes "the Greatest Commandment" to describe his church to others: To love the Lord with all your heart, soul and mind and to love your neighbor as yourself.

He pointed out that his church members are showing that kind of love in the way they help those in need. The greatest reward, he said, is "when you really see people beginning to grasp what it means to be the church."

Jeff meets monthly with other Truett graduates who serve as pastors in the Waco area to share advice, pray for each other and exchange ideas.

He credits much of his growth to his time at seminary.

"Truett gave me the desire to keep learning, to seek answers, to work through difficult issues. It surrounded me with people who will be lifelong friends," Jeff said, adding that Truett challenged him to examine his faith: "It's through that struggle that your faith is deepened, your trust in the word of God and Jesus Christ is taken to a much, much deeper level."

Katie echoed her husband: "It prepared me to know that I didn't have to have the answers to everything, that questions are OK and good."

No job is without its challenges.

"I'm adjusting to being the person who is called when a disaster strikes a family, being the person who's called when a death occurs, being the person who's called when someone is in the hospital," Jeff said. "It's hard not to carry the burdens of the congregation yourself. I think you should to some extent. That's what makes you a good pastor, what makes you care for folks."

Jeff said he leads his congregation out of the overflow of his personal relationship with Christ. "That's a big responsibility," he said, "to think that there's a group of people from this community that see you as the shepherd of the congregation."

"TRUETT GAVE ME THE DESIRE TO KEEP LEARNING, TO SEEK ANSWERS, TO WORK THROUGH DIFFICULT ISSUES. IT SURROUNDED ME WITH PEOPLE WHO WILL BE LIFELONG FRIENDS,"





# GO TO SEMINARY.

BY DAVIN ALLEN

## THIS RESOUNDING CALL FROM GOD STOPPED TIME FOR MONIQUE CRIDDELL.

As she sat in a church pew, the pounding of her heart confirmed that this was her next step.

For months, Monique had felt dissatisfied with her career path to become a physician's assistant and sought desperately for new direction from God. So, while the idea of seminary was quite a shock, the call for obedience was no surprise. That day, Monique began a journey of faith that would carry her to Baylor's George W. Truett Theological Seminary.

Despite the years she spent studying cardio thoracic surgery as an undergraduate student and her success in co-authoring articles for respected medical journals, a new dream was budding in Monique's heart—a calling to serve youth and equip other leaders for ministry.

Monique came to Baylor with little savings, several bills and no prospect for employment. With the odds stacked against her, she began to wonder how her dream of a seminary education could ever be within reach.

"God had prepared the hearts of others—some of whom I may never meet—and prompted them to give sacrificially, so that someone like me could pursue a calling at Baylor and at Truett Seminary," Monique said.

Generous scholarship support opened the doors to Monique's education and enlivened new possibilities

for hands-on training. As the resident chaplain for the South Russell Residence Hall, Monique benefits from practical experience in pastoral care as she mentors young college students as well as guidance

**"THE GENEROSITY OF HIS BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS IS THE REASON I CAN CONTINUE TO THRIVE."**

from the University chaplain.

Monique also serves as a community educator at the Family Abuse Center of Waco and has regular opportunities to conduct presentations about domestic violence and the center's services for prevention and after-care.

Every aspect of Monique's education, both inside and outside of the classroom, is preparing her to fulfill God's direction for her life.

"God's call is the reason I am here," Monique reflected. "The generosity of His beautiful community of believers is the reason I can continue to thrive."

Every year, scholarships set the course for students like Monique. In 2010, Baylor President Ken Starr launched The President's Scholarship Initiative, a three-year campaign to raise \$100 million in endowed scholarships, to empower future generations of students to achieve their dreams and fulfill their calling. □

To learn how you can support this crucial initiative through endowed scholarships for seminary students, contact David Hardage, Director of Development, at (254) 710-8574 or [David\\_Hardage@baylor.edu](mailto:David_Hardage@baylor.edu) or visit [www.baylor.edu/extraordinarystories](http://www.baylor.edu/extraordinarystories).

How  
*Extraordinary*  
the STORIES  
THE PRESIDENT'S  
SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

## MDIV CONCENTRATIONS ADDED TO TRUETT'S OFFERINGS



**Master of Divinity students** now have more concentration areas from which to choose. Beginning in Fall 2011, Truett added two concentrations: Worship Leadership and Biblical and Theological Studies. These additions bring the total number of MDiv concentration areas up to six. In addition, the title of the MDiv's most popular concentration has been changed from Theology to Ministry Leadership. The addition of an emphasis in Sports Ministry is also in development (see story on page 20).



### MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Switching from Theology to the new name – Ministry Leadership – more accurately reflects the purpose of the degree and the training received while earning the degree, said Dr. Dennis Tucker, Truett's associate dean.

Tucker said the change was prompted, in part, by a phone call from a confused church search committee member. The person, holding a Truett student's resume, wondered if an MDiv graduate with a concentration in theology had received the proper training to lead a church.

"It made me think that if search committees are looking to see what your focus is, maybe we need to rename it to help you in the job search by identifying you as prepared to lead out in ministry," Tucker said.



### BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Travis Clarke, in his last year at Truett, will be one of the first to graduate with the new Biblical and Theological Studies emphasis. He said he appreciates the freedom the new concentration allows for electives.

"Not everyone in Truett wants to become a pastor," Clarke said. "This track is a great option for those who are thinking about doing academic work after Truett. Even if students become pastors, they may want to take more theological classes to be prepared for the questions that get raised in a pastoral setting."



### WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Phone calls also motivated the addition of a concentration in Worship Leadership. Tucker said Truett was receiving more inquiries from churches requesting music ministers than could be supplied by students in the Master of

Divinity and Master of Music dual degree program. To fill that gap, the Worship Leadership concentration was created. The dual degree will still be available, but the MDiv-Worship Leadership is for students who plan to work solely as music ministers, do not have the prerequisites to enter the school of music or who prefer to enroll in seminary.

"The classes will almost all be taught by the School of Music as well as Dr. Terry York, professor of Christian ministry and church music," Tucker said. "Students will still get the same training, but not enough hours to constitute a Master of Music."

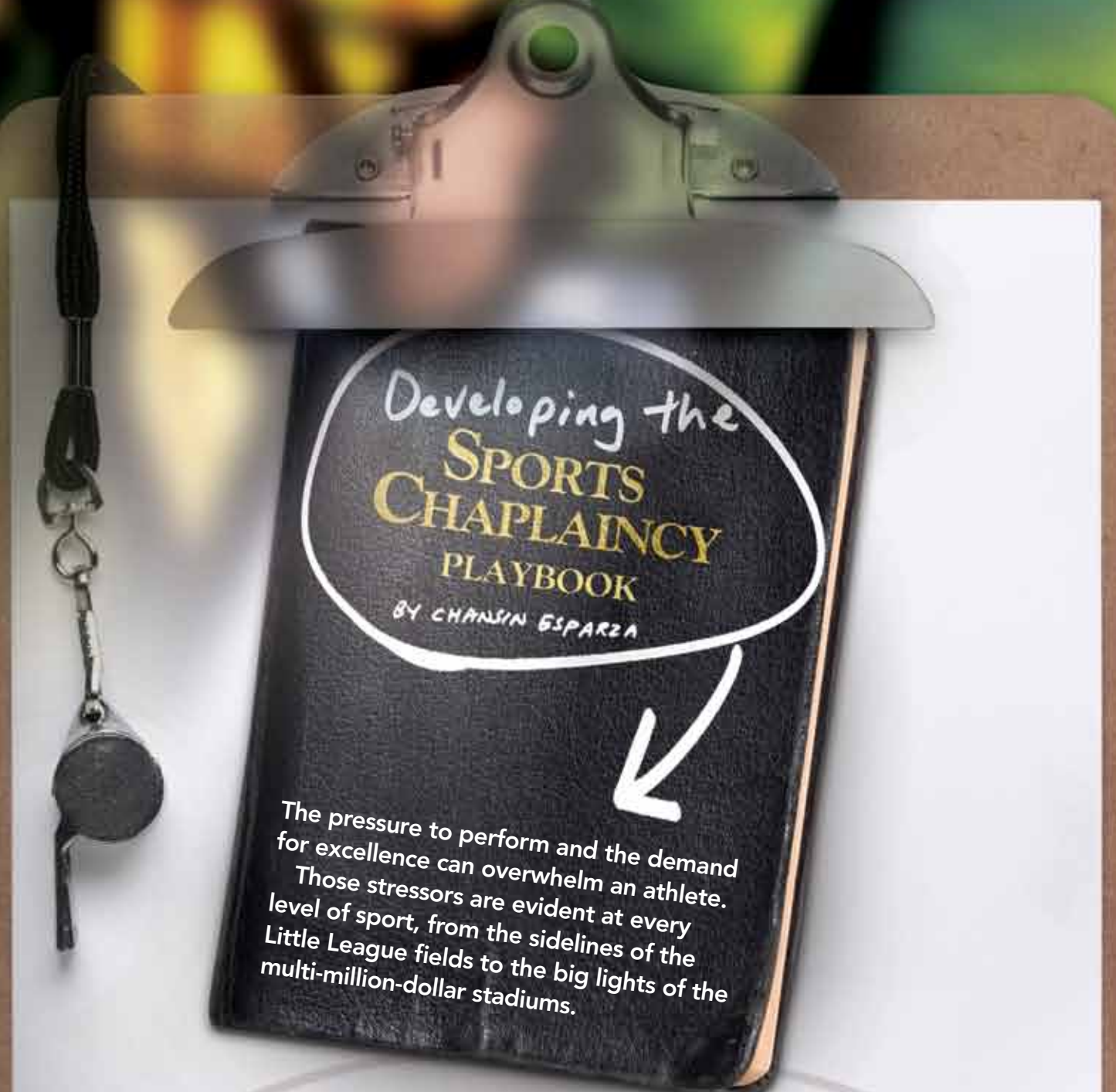
The Worship Leadership concentration does not prepare a student to write compositions or other musically based specialties taught as a part of the dual degree but it does provide students the necessary training for choral conducting and the planning of church music ministries. Seminary leaders hope Truett becomes a place where more Baptist churches can turn to meet their music ministry needs.

### SWITCHING CONCENTRATION AREAS

Tucker says current students have already been asking to switch their current degree plans to the new concentration areas.

Truett seeks to provide both traditional and new areas of training so that graduates can obtain the skills and experience that prepares them to lead today's churches. □





Developing the  
**SPORTS  
CHAPLAINCY**  
PLAYBOOK  
BY CHANSIN ESPARZA

The pressure to perform and the demand for excellence can overwhelm an athlete. Those stressors are evident at every level of sport, from the sidelines of the Little League fields to the big lights of the multi-million-dollar stadiums.

"Athletes have a unique world, an incredible culture, a treasure chest with keys to success in life," said Miami Dolphins Sports Chaplain Vernon Shazier, a graduate of Baylor's Truett Seminary. "If we ask a player to run through a wall, he'll put on his pants and helmet and run through that wall. They learn discipline, control and hard work to excel – whether it's on a tennis court, football field or in a swimming pool – but too often that doesn't transfer into personal life or another career later in their lives."

Truett Seminary is seizing the opportunity to address this growing ministry need. Next fall, the Seminary will launch its first-ever Master of Arts degree in Christian Ministry with an emphasis on sports chaplaincy. The new program – made possible in part by a generous gift from Harold

(BBA, '52) and Dottie Riley – will train students to minister not only to professional athletes but also to youth athletic leagues, church recreation programs and missions outreach.

"Sometimes, sports chaplains are looked at almost as being sort of a rabbit's foot," said Associate Professor John White, who was hired to spearhead the program. "While you want to be a Good Samaritan, you also want to be a prophet bringing direction in a culture in which things have been mis-valued, devalued and overvalued."

The 54-hour master's degree features a combination of mentoring, spiritual formation and practical course work. Truett leaders believe this is the ideal program for those who desire to be sports chaplains.



White said Truett's program will offer a unique opportunity for students.

"How many Division I sports teams have a seminary and a program like this? There are none," he said.

White is one-of-a-kind, too. Few people concentrate their research on both religion and sport. While at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, his PhD research centered on theological ethics. White worked for Athletes in Action – a ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ – on college campuses for 17 years, raced as an amateur cyclist at the highest level in the U.S. and Europe, has numerous publications and wrote his dissertation on sports and Christian ethics.

"He's exactly the fit we were hoping to find," said Dr. Dennis Tucker, Truett's associate dean.

White, his wife, and their three teenagers moved to Waco from his most recent position as an assistant professor of theology at Cedarville University in Ohio. His class this fall is titled Studies in Leadership: Ethics and Ministry. This particular class is not sports-related, but White said he is excited to work in the context of a committed Christian university like Baylor where faith and sports matter.

"Sport is an area people think is harmless," White said. "This is one area of modern life that has not been subject to deep theological thinking. We've done it in other areas such as film, music and business, but my goal is to transform sports – to think holistically. Sport is good. God made us desire to play. But we want to make sure it is all directed to God."

The Riley family's financial contribution made this permanent professorship possible. Harold Riley played football for Baylor in the early 1950s and went on to become an All-American who was drafted by the NFL's Los Angeles Rams. He chose the business route instead and is the founder and CEO of Insurance Company of America. Riley was instrumental in securing funding for Baylor's Moody Library as well as giving money for scholarships and other projects. Riley has attained numerous awards for his achievements in athletics and for his generosity. He is also committed to ministry and his Christian foundation.

The Rileys join the Truett community in their excitement for the program and for being the first seminary that trains people going into sport ministry.

"We may reach a whole group of people who never would have thought about theological education as part of their preparation for their vocation," Tucker said. □





# MAN N A MISSION

BY DANA WALLACE

STEVEN PORTER LIVES OUT HIS CALLING. LITERALLY.

“Part of my Christian vocation has been to live in the communities I’ve served,” said Porter, who joins Truett this fall as assistant professor of mission and global Christianity.

With a background in urban missions, Porter has served through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in a Christian non-profit ministry that reached the inner city of Miami and has led a congregation composed largely of the homeless. One of the most important things Porter believes he can do for his students is to lead by example.

When planning the move to Waco, he and his wife hoped to find a neighborhood that met certain criteria. Primarily, they wanted to find a community that exhibited cultural and economic diversity. And that’s what they found just west of the downtown area – a place where you can find a grand old mansion on one corner and a small, blue-collar bungalow down the street.

“THE NEIGHBORHOOD IS OUR HOME, BUT IT’S ALSO THE THEATER OF GOD’S WORK IN OUR LIVES.”

“The neighborhood is our home, but it’s also the theater of God’s work in our lives,” Porter said. “We’ve moved into a neighborhood where neighbors still need each other, and we’ll be the best neighbors we know how to be with God’s help.”

Porter’s decision to move from the pulpit to the classroom was influenced by a pressing need. “When I looked around, Cooperative Baptists weren’t really training that next generation of scholars to think critically about how we engage in mission in the world,” he said.

The opportunity to teach at Truett was attractive to Porter for several reasons. The first is a shared theological vision. The second is the opportunity to work at a divinity school located on a university campus, which offers opportunities for interdisciplinary discussion. And the third reason centers on leadership development.

“I believe that Truett has emerged as a strong center for preparing the next generation of leaders for Baptist churches,” he said.

Porter joins Dr. Michael Stroope in teaching mission and world Christianity concentration courses. With a background in international missions, Stroope began developing the program ten years ago with the goal of adding another professor who would focus more on local missions. Stroope said he looks forward to working closely with Porter as they teach and advise students.

“A lot of it is formation of people, helping them to decide and to discern what is God’s guidance in their lives and vocationally how they fit in the world,” Stroope said.

Added Porter: “We have enough in common theologically that we nurture students out of a sense of shared vision and commitment, but there’s enough difference to keep the conversation interesting.”

As for the way he plans to teach his students, Porter said, “Most of us grew up with the understanding that churches sent missionaries to places most of us never wanted to visit to do work most of us never wanted to do. That understanding of mission, however, is no longer adequate for churches surrounded by profound religious and cultural diversity and

suffering on their own doorsteps. We need young leaders who recognize that churches are not primarily in the business of sending

others, but that God is in the business of sending churches into the world, including our own neighborhoods.”

He said it’s essential for Christians to work across denominational lines. When students leave Truett, “I want them to be able to understand, appreciate and interact in constructive ways with the other churches, clergy and lay Christians who don’t go to their particular Baptist church but are still a part of the body of Christ,” he said.

Porter is currently completing the dissertation for his Doctor of Theology in Mission and Evangelism from Duke University and hopes his work on the “theology of place” will find its place in his classroom. Evangelism and mission, he said, require more than a simple formula. He plans to design group projects that encourage students to ask, “What does the good news look like in this place?”

Porter, who just completed a Henry Luce Foundation Grant to research Muslim-Christian relations in Indonesia, hopes that when his students leave Truett they are convinced they are missionaries by virtue of their baptism: “As the Father sends the Son, so God sends us in the power of the Holy Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves. The church, missionary bishop Lesslie Newbigin frequently reminded us, is always the church for this place.” □





### PROFESSOR PRESENTS TO BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

In July, Dr. Joel C. Gregory, professor of preaching at Truett Seminary, presented a special report on "Global Baptist Preaching" to the Baptist World Alliance meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

He was commissioned to report on the six BWA-defined global regions: Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, Latin America and North America. From those areas he collected and edited 24 contemporary sermons, sharing from his 70-page analytical presentation. Three of the 24 preachers were present in Kuala Lumpur, and Gregory interviewed them as part of his report.

Baylor University Press will publish a book of the sermons and analyses. Gregory will also deliver an expanded presentation at next summer's BWA meeting in Santiago, Chile.

### STUDENT WINS NATIONAL PREACHING AWARD

Recent Truett graduate Kyndall Rothaus Renfro was honored with the 2011 Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching. This national award named for the Rev. Davis, the first woman to be ordained by a Southern Baptist church, is given by the Baptist Women in Ministry organization. The Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching recognizes women who are preparing for ministry, exhibit excellence in their field of study and have great future potential for ministry.

Renfro came to Truett after

earning her BS in theology and ministry from Southern Nazarene University in 2007. At Baylor she served as a resident chaplain and as interim pastor at First United Church in West, Texas. She plans to pursue a PhD in homiletics. She is now the pastor of Covenant Baptist Church in San Antonio.

### PARCHMAN LECTURER FOCUSES ON "THE PASTOR AND THE GOSPEL"

The 2011 Parchman-Endowed Lecture Series featured Dr. Scot McKnight, the Karl A. Olsson Professor of Religious Studies at North Park University (Chicago).

McKnight, an author and recognized authority on the New Testament, early Christianity and the historical Jesus, presented four lectures Oct. 11-14 as part of his series "The Pastor and the Gospel."

A popular speaker, McKnight is a regular on radio shows, has appeared on television and is often asked to speak in local churches and at educational events throughout the U.S., Denmark and South Africa.

He is the author of numerous books, including 2004's *The Jesus Creed: Loving God, Loving Others*, which won the *Christianity Today* Book of the Year for Christian Living Award.

McKnight also authors an award-winning blog, *Jesus Creed*.

The Parchman Endowed Lectures bring world-renowned theologians to the Baylor campus and enable Truett Seminary to make a significant contribution to the realm of theological dialogue and the life of the church.

### BAPTIST STUDIES CENTER FOR RESEARCH PRESERVES BAPTISTS' GLOBAL HERITAGE

The Baptist Studies Center for Research at Baylor University, approved Feb. 11 by the Baylor Board of Regents, will preserve the 400-year global heritage of Baptists – the country's second-largest denomination – through a virtual depository of important Baptist documents, photographs, books and other collections.

The center, which will include hundreds of thousands of actual items already housed throughout Baylor's campus, will be established through the Department of Religion in Baylor's College of Arts and Sciences. It will continue the Baptist story as part of the university's mission, said Dr. Bill Bellinger, professor of biblical studies/Old Testament and religion department chair.

Besides making materials about Baptist heritage available for visiting scholars, who in return will provide a lecture series, the center will support research projects for Baylor faculty and encourage students to learn about Baptist identity. Materials also will be accessible for laity.

Baylor and other institutions hold a treasure trove of Baptist materials, and the center will work with Baylor University Libraries and libraries elsewhere in the country and abroad to create an ongoing virtual collection. Work on digitizing materials already has begun at Baylor.

### BAYLOR CELEBRATES 400 YEARS OF KJV BIBLE WITH CONFERENCE

The year 2011 marks the 400th anniversary of one of the landmark events in the history of Christianity: the publication of the King James Bible.

To celebrate and reflect upon the influence of the King James Bible, Baylor University hosted "The King James Bible and the World It Made, 1611-2011," April 7-9. Organized by Baylor's Institute for Studies of Religion, the conference was considered one of the preeminent international events recognizing this moment in the history of Anglo-American and world Christianity. Distinguished scholars from around the globe assembled to discuss the history and ramifications of the Bible in English.

Major conference themes included the way that the King James Bible created a common literary and religious culture in the English-speaking world; the significance of vernacular translation for Christian growth and development; and the challenges posed by recent declines in biblical literacy and the end of the King James' dominance as the Bible translation for English-speaking Christians.

Scott Carroll, director of the Green Collection, one of the world's largest collections of Bibles and related documents of the Judeo-Christian tradition, presented the history of the KJV and brought with him a selection of rare and ancient Bibles for on-site display in the Armstrong Browning Library.

### UPCOMING KYLE LAKE CENTER FOR PREACHING EVENTS

The Kyle Lake Center for Effective Preaching at Truett Seminary will bring a number of noted speakers to campus in 2012 to provide continuing education to preachers at an affordable cost.

The Center's annual **Imaginative Reading for Creative Preaching Seminar** will be held Jan. 2-7 in Kerrville, Texas, and will feature Dr. Hulitt Gloer, professor of preaching and Christian scriptures, and holder of the David E. Garland Chair of Preaching.

The **2012 Winter Pastors School** will be held February 16-18 on the Truett Seminary campus. It will feature **Dr. Terence Fretheim**, the Elva B. Lovell Professor of Old Testament at Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn.

Truett's Kyle Lake Center is named for the late Kyle Lake, a 1997 Truett Seminary graduate. Through the generosity of his parents, David and Shirley Lake, and other donors, the Center is able to provide educational and formational opportunities designed to help pastors better proclaim the Word of God for generations to come.

For information on Kyle Lake Center events, visit [www.baylor.edu/truett/preaching](http://www.baylor.edu/truett/preaching).

### COMMENCEMENT AWARDS

During the commencement ceremonies of fall 2010 and spring 2011, the following faculty and graduating students received special recognition:

- > The Robert Jackson Robinson Preaching Award: **Chris Gordon** (spring 2011) and **Austin Fischer** (fall 2010)
- > The Association of Youth Ministry Educators Award: **Richard Rousch**
- > The William Charles Treadwell Jr. Award for Excellence in Christian Education: **Jonathan McBrayer**
- > The Zondervan Hebrew Award: **Jonathan Trevor**
- > The Dr. Abda J. "Chip" Conyers Award for the outstanding male student: **Stephen Allen** (spring 2011) and **Terry Johnston** (fall 2010)
- > The Dr. Ruth Ann Foster Award for the outstanding female student: **Ashley Mangrum** (spring 2011) and **Katie Gravens** (fall 2010)
- > The George W. Truett Theological Seminary Outstanding Professor Award: **Dr. Michael Stroope** (spring 2011) and **Dr. Paul Sands** (fall 2010)
- > Zondervan Greek Award: **Micah Titterington**
- > 2011 Addie Davis Award for Excellence in Preaching: **Kyndall Renfro**





HOW, THEN, CAN THEY CALL ON THE ONE THEY HAVE NOT BELIEVED IN? AND HOW CAN THEY BELIEVE IN THE ONE OF WHOM THEY HAVE NOT HEARD? AND HOW CAN THEY HEAR WITHOUT SOMEONE PREACHING TO THEM? AND HOW CAN THEY PREACH UNLESS THEY ARE SENT? AS IT IS WRITTEN, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS!" BUT NOT ALL THE ISRAELITES ACCEPTED THE GOOD NEWS. FOR ISAIAH SAYS, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR MESSAGE?" CONSEQUENTLY, FAITH COMES FROM HEARING THE MESSAGE, AND THE MESSAGE IS HEARD THROUGH THE WORD OF CHRIST.

Romans 10:14-17 NIV

### ANDREW ARTERBURY, PHD

Associate Professor of Christian Scriptures (2007). BA, Baylor U.; MDiv., Princeton Theological Seminary; ThM, *ibid*; PhD, Baylor U.

### BRIAN C. BREWER, PHD

Assistant Professor of Christian Theology (2007). BA, Baylor U.; MDiv., George W. Truett Theological Seminary; ThM, Princeton Theological Seminary; MPhil, Drew University; PhD, *ibid*.

### RONALD L. COOK, PHD

Associate Professor of Christian Scriptures and Director, Doctor of Ministry Program (2001). BA, Baylor U.; MDiv, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, *ibid*.

### R. ROBERT CREECH, PHD

Professor of Christian Ministries, Director of Pastoral Ministries and holder of the Hubert H. and Gladys S. Raborn Professor of Pastoral Leadership (2009). BA, Houston Baptist U.; MDiv., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Baylor U.

### DAVID E. GARLAND, PHD

Dean, Professor of Christian Scriptures, and holder of the William M. Hinson Chair of Christian Scriptures (1997). BA, Oklahoma Baptist U.; MDiv., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, *ibid*.

### W. HULITT GLOER, PHD

Professor of Preaching and Christian Scriptures, Director of The Kyle Lake Center for Effective Preaching and holder of the David E. Garland Chair of Preaching (2000). BA, Baylor U.; MDiv, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary; PhD, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

### JOEL C. GREGORY, PHD

Professor of Preaching (2005). BA, Baylor U.; MDiv, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Baylor U.

### AMY ELIZABETH JACOBER, PHD

Associate Professor of Practical Theology/ Youth Ministry (2007). BA, U. of Arizona; MDiv, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; MACSS, *ibid*; MSW, Arizona State U.; PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary

### LAI LING ELIZABETH NGAN, PHD

Associate Professor of Christian Scriptures (1996). BS, California Baptist College; MA, Loma Linda U.; MDiv, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, *ibid*.

### ROGER E. OLSON, PHD

Professor of Theology (1999). BS, Open Bible College; MA Religious Studies, North American Baptist Seminary; MA, Rice U.; PhD, *ibid*.

### D. STEVEN PORTER, THD

Assistant Professor of Missions and Global Christianity (2011). BA, William Jewell College; MDiv, Candler School of Theology, Emory U.; ThD, Duke U. Divinity School

### ANGELA REED, PHD

Assistant Professor of Practical Theology and Director of Spiritual Formation (2010). BA and BTh, Mennonite U.; MDiv, *ibid*; PhD, Princeton U.

### STEPHEN B. REID, PHD

Professor of Christian Scriptures (2008). BS, Manchester College; MDiv, Bethany Theological Seminary; PhD, Emory U.

### MICHAEL W. SKINNER, MTH, MLS

Religion, Theology and Philosophy Librarian (2009). BA, Wheaton College; MLS, Kent State U.; MTh., Brisbane College of Theology

### TODD D. STILL, PHD

Professor of Christian Scriptures (2003). BA, Baylor U.; MDiv, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, U. of Glasgow

### MICHAEL W. STROOPE, PHD

Associate Professor of Christian Missions and holder of the The MC Shook Chair of Missions (2001). BA, Hardin-Simmons U.; MDiv, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, *ibid*.

### W. DENNIS TUCKER, JR., PHD

Associate Professor of Christian Scriptures and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (2002). BA, Ouachita Baptist U.; MDiv, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; EdS, U. of Louisville; PhD, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

### JOEL A. WEAVER, PHD

Senior Lecturer in Christian Scriptures (2002). BA, Samford U.; MDiv, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; PhD, Baylor U.

### JOHN B. WHITE, PHD

Assistant Professor of Practical Theology, Director of the Sports Ministry Program and holder of the Harold and Dottie Riley Professorship in Practical Theology (2011). BS, Indiana U.; MDiv., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; MA, Trinity International U.; PhD, The U. of Edinburgh

### DAVID E. WILHITE, PHD

Assistant Professor of Christian Theology (2007). B.A., Samford U.; M.Div., Beeson Divinity School; PhD, U. of St. Andrews

### TERRY W. YORK, DMA

Professor of Christian Ministry and Church Music (1998). BA, California Baptist C.; MCM, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; DMA., *ibid*.



### BRIAN C. BREWER

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### W. HULITT GLOER

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### LAI LING ELIZABETH NGAN

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2012 EVENTS



JANUARY


2-7 The Imaginative Reading for Creative Preaching Seminar in Kerrville, Texas, featuring Dr. Hulitt Gloer of Truett Seminary

10 Spring Convocation and Founders Day

FEBRUARY


16-18 The Winter Pastors' School featuring Dr. Terence Fretheim, The Elva B. Lovell Professor of Old Testament at Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary (St. Paul, Minn.) and the Truett Homecoming Dinner

24-25 The fourth annual Truett Perspectives Youth Ministry Conference

MARCH


22-23 Spring Preview – an opportunity for prospective students to visit campus

MAY


11 Spring Commencement, First Baptist Church of Waco







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