Transformation
Unlimited Possibilities

Mission Statement
“In partnership with the church, Evangelical Theological Seminary develops servant leaders for transformational ministry in a broken and complex world by nurturing rigorous minds, passionate hearts, and Christ-centered actions.”
If I have learned anything about the 21st century, it is that things are progressing at record speed as technology develops, culture changes, and new trends come and go. So, how does a biblically-based seminary, with critical core values, keep pace with change while still holding tightly to the Truth that never changes?

One thing remains clear. The seminary of the 21st century must keep its eye on two distinct goals:

• The preparation of future leaders
• The ongoing training and equipping of current leaders

The question for Evangelical Theological Seminary is: how can we meet these goals most effectively?

In 2009, Evangelical launched a year-long, in-depth strategic planning process which included a SWOT analysis—a strategic planning method used to evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats of the seminary. Nearly 200 individuals participated in the study, which helped us identify the internal and external factors that are both favorable and unfavorable to those we serve. The data we received was encouraging and helped us establish a strategic plan with clear objectives. Here are five of the eight transforming initiatives we are currently implementing:

Distance Learning
The need for distance learning was a clear mandate from the SWOT analysis. In our technological and fast-paced world, online learning has become a vanguard of education. Students are looking for educational opportunities that will accommodate their busy schedules. To that end, Evangelical is now offering online courses for the first time in our fifty-seven-year history. These new courses, which started in the Fall 2010 semester, are offered in a synchronous, real-time format, affording students the opportunity to participate fully in the courses without traveling to our campus.

Across the nation, online learning is beginning to change the way we carry out the mission of theological education. Evangelical must not be an exception to that trend.

Action Learning
To ensure that our curriculum is practically preparing men and women for ministry, we developed the action learning initiative. In action learning, we are utilizing adjunct faculty who are actively at work in local, regional and national ministries including local churches and regional evangelistic initiatives. This initiative means that future ministry leaders are being taught directly from the context of the local church or field of ministry. As part of action learning, Evangelical also invites church and business leaders as guest lecturers to provide a well-rounded student experience.
Strategic Partnerships
Evangelical’s Center for Leadership Impact gives us an opportunity to interact with ministries where a seminary would not normally have the opportunity. We recognize the need for strategic partnerships with the various denominations in the region. It is our prayer that an increasing number of denominations will formally recognize Evangelical as a place for training of their prospective ministerial candidates, and for the life-long training of pastors.

Student Scholarships
With rising financial concerns and the rate of personal debt growing, we need to provide unique financial opportunities for our students. Generating additional financial resources for a formal scholarship initiative is one way we can address the rise of tuition costs and student debt. It will make attending seminary a reachable goal for many more people.

Sustained Planning Process
An Institutional Planning Team will be appointed to ensure that strategic evaluation and planning is an ongoing and sustained process in the life of Evangelical. This team will be appointed by the Board of Trustees from among our board, administration, students, alumni, and friends. They will meet two times a year to review and update the strategic plan. The team will report directly to the Board of Trustees.

Other areas of focus include leadership development initiatives and the implementation of a comprehensive and strategic marketing plan.

It has been an honor to work with this group of passionate individuals who are dynamic leaders with a deep desire to see Evangelical grow and prosper. We have taken great strides this past year to ensure that Evangelical remains faithful to our core values as we seek to provide a relevant and transformational seminary education centered on Jesus Christ.
Ken Funk, a Project Manager with Arthur Funk & Sons, Inc., was hired to handle a sizable renovation project at Christ Hall from 2004-2005. It was a life-changing experience.

As he was involved with each phase of construction, Ken became intrinsically connected with Evangelical’s leadership and staff. He couldn’t help but notice how gracious everyone was toward him and the entire crew. “They clearly had something that I didn’t have,” Ken recalls. “I was blown away!”

Ken attended planning sessions for the construction process, and it was through these meetings that Evangelical’s leadership noticed Ken’s problem-solving skills and asked him to serve on Evangelical’s board.

As he considered the offer, Ken recounted an Evangelical graduate named Peter, a youth director, who had urgency for the importance of spreading the gospel to young people. He also thought of a woman named April, who was in Ken’s Sunday school class—an Evangelical Marriage and Family Therapy student—and exemplified grace, enthusiasm, and passion for her ministry. Ken noted “These are the kind of people we need in the world” and this led him to make the decision to join the board.

“Evangelical is a great institution where people can take time to learn about God, strengthen their faith, and learn how to bring healing and Christ into the world. It is not just to pastors and students, but to the whole community. I wish everyone could experience it.”

-Ken Funk

As a board member, Ken noticed that Evangelical struggled with fundraising, so he presented a model for reaching out to the business community. A committee was formed, and Faith in the Marketplace was born. The initiative has transformed the relationship between businesses and Evangelical, bringing the seminary new partners that would never have been reached otherwise.
Giving Without Limits

Thank you to everyone who believes deeply in the ministry preparation we offer at Evangelical Theological Seminary. As you know, our faculty, administration, and staff comprise an outstanding community of first-rate scholars and professionals who are passionate about serving Christ and His church. Our student body includes hundreds of committed men and women who care about reaching the world with the hope and message of Jesus Christ.

This page is more than just graphs and numbers—it represents people and lives that are, daily, transformed beyond limitation.

Financial Summary (year ended June 30, 2010 audited)

Enrollment Profile

Total Number of Students 252
MDiv 83 Male 145
MAR 25 Female 107
MAMFT 47 Age Range 23-77
Special and Certificate 26
Audit 71
Average Semester Hours per Student 6.87
Average Annual Cost of Tuition for a Full-Time Student (12 credits) $10,920
Scholarship Dollars Awarded $78,440

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A Refreshing Perspective

Dr. Dorothy Gish spent most of her life in the field of education. She had recently retired from a long career at Messiah College when she received an invitation to consider serving on the Evangelical Theological Seminary Board of Trustees. To Dorothy, it seemed like another of those providentially opened doors for service with which she feels she has been blessed throughout her life. She accepted the opportunity and has faithfully served since that time. Dorothy is a very knowledgeable and wise member of the board. She brings a depth of insight to board decisions, largely because of her wonderful background in higher education. She brings an interest and refreshing enthusiasm for board governance.

“When Dorothy speaks, I listen, because what she has to say is very helpful for direction of the seminary.” – Mike Sigman

“Serving in this way has afforded me the opportunity to learn about seminary education, be inspired by dedicated professors and administrators, meet and contribute to men and women who are committed to preparing for service and be blessed to be a small part of a place where the Word lives.” – Dorothy Gish

Dorothy is a valuable part of the leadership at Evangelical, and we thank her for her dedicated service.

A Leap of Faith

CHARLES WALKER, Master of Divinity Student

Charles Walker and his wife were living in Georgia where he was serving in Christian Education. Then, Charles received a call to preach. As soon as they encountered Evangelical, they instantly knew this was the place God wanted them to be. “We fell in love with Evangelical,” Charles admits. “I have found that all of the professors and staff are very supportive, and they care about making an impact on the lives of students who will, in turn, make an impact on the world for Christ.”

Charles is also a pastor at California EC Church, Morgantown, PA, where the church has seen the amazing impact Evangelical has had on his life. Charles is quick to give God all the glory. “I can’t say enough about it! We have been so blessed by our move from Georgia to Pennsylvania. I’m so glad we took this leap of faith—it has transformed our lives.”
Generosity that Transforms

Thank you to everyone listed here and to the many friends who support the Evangelical Theological Seminary.

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