Dear Friends,

What an extraordinary year it’s been! This past year we have been celebrating the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Evangelical Congregational School of Theology in 1953. We’ve sponsored and enjoyed a number of special events and guests, including Anglican bishop Dr. Todd Hunter for our Leadership Forum, musician Steve Green for our Friends of Evangelical Banquet, Dr. Miroslav Volf for our Ritter-Moyer Lecture, Dr. Eugene Merrill for a special David A. Dorsey Lecture in Old Testament, Dr. Amy Sherman for a special Faith in the Marketplace event, E.C. Bishop Bruce Hill for Commencement, and Dr. Leonard Sweet for a mid-summer Future Forum.

The celebrations reached a high point with our Alumni Homecoming and Fall Convocation on September 10, when founding faculty member Dr. James Yoder presented the Wittmaier-Sailer Lecture and Dr. David Dorsey was recognized upon his retirement. The special events continue this fall: a special Marriage and Family Therapy seminar with Dr. Ken Hardy, a Women in Ministry networking event with United Methodist Bishop Peggy Johnson, this year’s Friends of Evangelical Banquet with Dr. Barry Black, and our Ritter-Moyer Lecture with Dr. Donald Kraybill.

During this past year we’ve also opened up a new off-campus site in Harrisburg, started a new graduate program in Christian leadership, created a Center for Methodist Studies, started our Four Chaplains Scholarship Program, and won accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Marriage and Family Therapy Education.

Through all of these events, initiatives, and activities, we’ve been very intentional about introducing God’s good work at Evangelical Seminary to new friends, a new generation, or a new audience. And we’ve been inviting our students, faculty, and friends into exciting conversations about how God is at work in the world. As a result, we are energized and hopeful about our mission and how we are helping others on their mission. Join us! And let’s make this coming year even more extraordinary!

Grace,

Dr. Tony Blair,
President
Someone once said that life is like an arrow speeding toward its mark. This has been true for me. I began teaching at Evangelical in the summer of 1979, and it seems like that was about five years ago, not 34.

I remember walking down the hall past Dr. Kirby Keller’s office that first year thinking, Kirby is already 37 years old and I am only 29. Someday, believe it or not, I will be 37! Time flies. Sure enough, time flew, and soon I was long past 37 years old! Kirby has retired and now here I am retiring.

SAYING THANKS TO A LEADING LIGHT

Reflections by David A. Dorsey on Preparing to Retire

While the journey has sped by like a flash, there have been moments I will never forget. For example, there are those early affirmations from students during my first couple of years of teaching: “Dave, don’t ever change the way you teach!” Or the wonderful gifts of the Pense Archaeology Museum. Or the memorable, often life-changing Israel trips. Or the enjoyable give-and-take of the classroom.

I never dreamed I would learn as much about myself as I have. Or about people. Or about God. I have told students that when all is said and done, I think I can say with some confidence two things about God:

- He is the embodiment of all of our ideals, our hopes, and our dreams.
- He has entered into relationship with us, not primarily to be served, but to serve.

I have witnessed this in my own life as I have endeavored to serve God at Evangelical, not by writing many books, but instead reduced to sitting at God’s feet in suffering to learn other, more important things from him.

Thanks to the administration, staff, faculty, and board, Evangelical has been a quiet, secluded place where one could be taught many things by God if one were listening. Here I have learned thousands of things about God from the pages of the Bible and from interaction with students and colleagues.

I am approaching the end of my journey. Some of you are just setting out on yours. I encourage you to enjoy every step of your journey as you walk with a divine friend who loves you like the prodigal son’s father loved him. Moreover, I urge you to slow down and smell the roses, rather than racing along seeking to accomplish many things for God. Slow down and allow God to minister to you, to care for you, to teach and guide you, and to heal you.

“I watched Dr. Dorsey as a teacher, and I said, and still say, ‘That is the kind of teacher I want to be.’ Evangelical shaped me in many ways, and Dr. Dorsey was a huge part of that process.”

— Rebecca Howell ’06, Ph.D. (cand.) Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia

“Dr. Dorsey was my first professor of Old Testament when I began seminary. His love for the Old Testament and godly demeanor inspired me to pursue studies in the Hebrew Bible from the M.Div. to the Ph.D. Thanks be to God for Dave Dorsey.”

— Milton Eng ’84, Adjunct Professor of History, William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ

“David Dorsey is one of the five most influential people in my life, both personally and professionally. For the last 30 years I have devoted myself to preaching and teaching the Bible, in large measure because Dr. Dorsey ignited that passion. I cannot repay him for this gift.”

— Stephen Lennox ’82, Honors Professor of Bible and Humanities, School of Theology and Ministry, Indiana Wesleyan University, Indiana

“I still make reference in my ministry to facts and illustrations I learned from Dr. Dorsey 20-plus years ago, and they serve me well.”

— Drew Mountcastle ’86, Pastor, Holy Neck Christian Church, Suffolk, VA
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY LEADS THE WAY

Program Wins National Accreditation

EVANGELICAL’S MASTER OF ARTS IN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM HAS RECEIVED NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BY THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EDUCATION. TO PUT THIS ACHIEVEMENT IN PERSPECTIVE, EVANGELICAL’S MAMFT PROGRAM HAS BECOME ONE OF ONLY FOUR SUCH PROGRAMS WITHIN PENNSYLVANIA TO BE ACCREDITED, AS WELL AS THE ONLY FAITH-BASED MFT PROGRAM ON THE ENTIRE EAST COAST TO RECEIVE ACCREDITATION.

The awarding of the status, which lasts until 2018, capped a laborious, nearly three-year journey that incorporated reams of applications, site visits by accrediting agency representatives, and many hours of interviews. The wait ended on May 8, when Evangelical received the good news — just two days before Commencement, securing an accredited degree for the 2013 MAMFT graduates.

The road to accreditation was a labor of love for three people in particular: Joy Corby, MAMFT professor and program director; Janet Stauffer, MAMFT professor; and Robert Palmer, MAMFT associate professor and clinical director of The Marriage and Family Centers. Dr. Corby worked through her vacations to see the project to completion.

Drs. Corby, Stauffer, and Palmer see many benefits coming out of the process. “One of the things was the recognition that we were already doing many of the things that fully accredited schools do,” Dr. Palmer observes. “It was very reassuring to see we were doing a lot of things very well.” Dr. Stauffer adds that the site visits by evaluators sharpened the program: “They asked meaningful questions that really drilled down into us, making us ask if we were consistent from what we teach in the classroom to what the students practice in the clinic.”

Accreditation appears to be reaping immediate benefits, as the MAMFT department has received inquiries from as far away as China and South Korea, and Dr. Corby was nominated to a state MFT licensure board. Better yet, accreditation appears to be positioning Evangelical to be an influential player in a growing discipline.

“The field of MFT is burgeoning,” observes Dr. Stauffer. “More and more people are realizing that issues are not just lodged within a person, but between members of a family and a community.” Dr. Palmer elaborates: “Our forte is not only to honor the individual, but also to become relationship experts. As the culture heads into relationship dysfunction, people are crying out for experts who can speak into that brokenness and desperation.”

The three professors offer their hopes for Evangelical’s MAMFT program. Their desire is to inspire every graduate to be an encouragement to persons in strengthening marriages and family relationships, to provide healing through meeting, and to guide relationships towards reconciliation with God and others.

However you describe it, the MAMFT program at Evangelical has, through its hard-earned accreditation, been recognized for the level of excellence and influence since its inception.

For more information, visit www.evangelical.edu/mft-accreditation.
As the mother and stepmother of 10 children (with a combined 11 grandchildren and another on the way), Michele Miller’s life experiences suit her well for marriage and family therapy. Her training at Evangelical has equipped her even further, especially her genogram, a family tree detailing data and relationships. “It opened doors of familial communication and relationship that were previously closed off,” explains the Palmyra resident.

This example illustrates the sense of personal journey that Evangelical has helped facilitate. “The school and the program place a high priority on each individual’s personal growth in conjunction with our education and practicum,” says Michele, who expresses interest in pursuing a combination of traditional family therapy and alternative therapies.

When pressed to share a thought about one of her MFT faculty, she responds, “They’re wonderful people, they really care, they are diverse and different as individuals, but a great team!”

Amy Hendricks grew through every class and interaction, especially the “Family Voyage” project in Foundations for Ministry course. “The program at Evangelical prepared me to be an effective therapist not only through the well-rounded classroom study,” says the mother of two adults and one high school senior, “but also through the individual encouragement and feedback I received from my professors.”

The Palmyra resident works out of her church near Hummelstown as a self-employed therapist. “My passion is to help people experience the freedom and healing available to them in Christ,” she explains, “Although I do not bill myself as a ‘Christian’ therapist, my faith is the foundation of all I do in my work.”

Amy currently focuses on studying for and passing the state board exams for Marriage and Family Therapists. Dr. Joy Corby, one of her Evangelical professors, supervises her in that effort. “She challenges me to step out of my comfort zone,” Amy says, “yet helps me work through whatever may hold me back.”

After more than three decades in law enforcement, Jeff Bare’s heart was turned to the mental health field. Evangelical helped the Mount Joy resident make the career transition.

“The entire program was one of growth . . . and change,” Jeff testifies. “It helped me challenge myself to consider a different way of thinking and understanding. Throughout the program you are continually being encouraged to consider the ‘self of the therapist.’ As such, a good therapist is constantly aware of what is going on inside them. As a police officer, I had learned how to protect myself from experiencing strong emotions. The program helped me open up, and in the process, empty me out, that I might better appreciate the human condition and bring that appreciation into the therapy room.”

Jeff puts his training into practice as owner and director of Oasis Counseling in Lancaster. “I firmly believe Evangelical has given me the tools necessary for a successful career,” he declares.

The tools for Jeff’s success also include his police experience, specifically his training in crisis intervention. “I fell in love with the process of debriefing police officers who had been exposed to particularly difficult trauma,” says Jeff, whose background includes working with officers who responded to the World Trade Center attacks during 9/11.

Along the way, though, Jeff developed an additional passion, helping address what he calls “the marital trauma associated with sexual addiction, and the trauma of childhood sexual abuse.” Whatever the trauma, though, Evangelical graduates like Jeff Bare help hurting people address it with the love of Christ.
Donors, by definition, give something of themselves for someone else’s benefit. In the case of Evangelical Seminary, donors infuse life into the institution. Some give monthly donations to support daily operations through our Seed Planters program. Others have included Evangelical in their estate planning, which places them in the Barnabas Society. And others have given substantial sums over time. These individuals are a part of our Macedonian Society and have given in excess of $100,000 over their lifetime.

The six couples presented here exemplify the heart of a donor and have faithfully supported Evangelical with their gifts.
Allen and Lynda Maurer

Allen Maurer has a long-standing relationship with Evangelical. As a boy he developed friendships with the school’s first students while his father, Kenneth, served as founding dean in the 1950s. Allen and his wife, Lynda, have been Seed Planters, monthly donors, for about 10 years.

“It’s not only the fact that my father was involved so heavily but it’s also because we believe in what the seminary is doing,” Allen says. “The development of servants for Christ is super important. It’s my favorite donation I make. We feel it’s a worthy institution.”

As one of their favorite donations, the Schaefferstown residents “automatically” give each month, according to Allen. “It comes off the top and we worry about other things later.” He encourages others interested in giving to Evangelical to consider committing to a monthly gift as well. “I happen to be in business and I understand you have to have regular income,” Allen explains. “There are expenses needed throughout the year, so I encourage monthly giving to meet those ongoing needs.”

Randy and Dawn Marks

Randy and Dawn Marks are known to many for their music ministry, but to Evangelical, they, too, are Seed Planters (regular monthly donors). The Myerstown residents, who consider themselves adopted Evangelical Congregational members because of their relationships with churches, first became connected with the seminary because of relationships with teachers.

“We watched these men and the way they lived, and they were good, solid men of integrity,” Randy says. “That confirmed to us they lived out what they were teaching.” Evangelical’s commitment to God’s Word is another reason they give. “They speak the truth,” Randy declares. “The truth is being taught and preached.”

For Randy and Dawn, monthly giving was a budgeting issue. “We wanted to give on a regular basis,” explains Randy, who also observes that they don’t need to look far to see the results of their giving: “We’ve seen the product Evangelical has produced and we really appreciate the Seminary. Look what they’ve done for the church and the community. That’s proof of the value.”

Bob and Nancy Ladd

Giving money to Evangelical right now isn’t the only way to give. In 1995, Bob and Nancy Ladd decided to include the seminary in their estate planning, making the South Lebanon Township residents part of Evangelical’s Barnabas Society.

The Ladds created a charitable remainder trust for some of their assets, which pays them an income for the rest of their lives and includes Evangelical as a beneficiary. “It’s a way to create an environment where the institution will gain upon your death, and you’re not harming yourself by creating income,” Bob explains. “My encouragement is that there are some positive tax implications by remembering Evangelical. The tax benefits are immediate and you have a continuing income stream.” Estate planning is a “long-range plan,” according to Bob, “but the seminary will be around for the long haul.”

The Ladds have been close to Evangelical for a long time, and including the school in their giving is an investment in the future. “I realized a long time ago that I could make a bigger difference for the kingdom by giving to a seminary training people for ministry than to a single ministry,” Bob observes. “There’s an opportunity for every one of those graduates to make an impact. It’s a pretty compelling story.”

Kirby and Carol Keller

Kirby Keller has given most of his adult life to Evangelical, serving as a professor, vice president for academic affairs and president before officially retiring from the school in 2007. But 25 years ago, long before retirement, Kirby and his wife, Carol, began planning for retirement by seeing a financial planner. The planner asked if they had a will, which started the Myerstown residents thinking about their resources and what to do with them after death.

“The first thing that came to my mind was the seminary, because I believe it’s a form of investing in kingdom work,” Kirby says. “Most of my adult life, the seminary was my life. I loved it. I have great respect for it. If I invested my life, I could invest my other resources as well.”

Kirby especially encourages young people and young couples to have a will and to consider who or what could benefit. “We have more resources than we think,” he points out. “Estate planning is part of the Christian responsibility for our resources after we go to be with the Lord. There’s so little emphasis or thought on biblical stewardship — ‘Oh, that’s my tithe.’ But estate planning is part of it. We’re shortchanging the younger generation of a great opportunity.”

---continued on p. 8---
Macedonian Society

James and Helen Smith

“When we were first married, we didn’t have two nickels to rub together, but we tithed,” says James Smith. Today, 40 years later, he and his wife, Helen, have been blessed by the Lord to the point of being able to give over $100,000 to Evangelical in their lifetime.

The eastern Harrisburg residents’ journey in giving to the seminary started with Dr. James Yoder, founding professor of New Testament, whom the couple met at Twin Pines Camp in the Poconos. “I was impressed that he was working at a little school for peanuts when he had turned down other offers,” James recalls.

That kind of sacrifice inspired the Smiths in their giving, even when it was a sacrifice for them as well. “Our experience is that God has been faithful,” James testifies. “Provision came one way or another. We always believed in the Lord’s provision.”

With God’s faithfulness as a foundation, the Smiths continue to support Evangelical because their sacrifice has far-reaching potential. “For me, giving where others are taught to go out to minister is a good reason,” Helen explains. “Here, it should be many going out.”

James credits Helen with their connection to Evangelical because she persuaded him to take their family to Twin Pines in the first place, and with her full support, they’ve continued to give. “We have no reason to believe our support has not been useful or to not continue our support,” James declares. “We’ll do what we can to help.”

Joel and Judy Zinn

For 45 years, Joel and Judy Zinn have included Evangelical in their giving. Though the Myerstown residents belong to the Macedonian Society, meaning their lifetime giving to the seminary has exceeded $100,000, “I never kept a tally,” Joel says with a laugh. “When they told me about it, I didn’t remember.”

Another facet of Joel’s education about Evangelical came when a friend who happened to be a dean at the school asked Joel to be a trustee. “I didn’t know much about the seminary but I learned,” he explains, “and the longer I served, the more I wanted to give. I saw a lot of sacrifice there by staff who were qualified but because of our financial situation, we couldn’t pay them what they were worth. All the staff are friends, and I wanted to give as best I could.”

Joel has seen the Lord work through Evangelical, calling it a “blessing” and encouraging others to learn about what the seminary is doing and to give from the heart. “You have to have a passion for things,” he continues, “and when you see what they’re doing and have done, it’s encouraging to support them.”

I realized a long time ago that I could make a bigger difference for the kingdom by giving to a seminary training people for ministry than to a single ministry.

– Bob Ladd

Master of Arts in Christian Leadership

We are all leaders. And we are all followers
Vision is given by God not just to leaders but to all of us.
The most important task of a leader is to love.
It is not what a leader does that matters most but who a leader is.

This is all contrary to the dominant understanding of leadership in our society but is deeply rooted in a biblical concept of leadership. That’s what we explore in the new Master of Arts in Christian Leadership at Evangelical Seminary. We bring spiritual formation together with leadership practice, so that the student emerges prepared in head, heart, and hands to lead well.

The program is offered mostly online. It’s accessible and affordable. The next cohort starts in January, 2014. Go to www.evangelical.edu/macl for more information.
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2012 TO JUNE 30, 2013

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2013 BY THE NUMBERS

OUR STUDENT BODY 2012-2013

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS .......... 208

BY PROGRAM
M.Div. .......................... 72
M.A.R. .......................... 26
M.A.M.F.T. ...................... 33
Special and Certificate .......... 13
Audit ............................ 54
M.A.C.L. ......................... 10

BY GENDER
Male .............................. 125
Female .......................... 83

AGE
Range .............................. 22-75

SEMESTER HOURS
Average Per Student ...... 6.75

FINANCIALS
Average Annual Cost of Tuition Charged to a Full-Time Student .......... $14,388
Cost to Educate a Full-Time Student .......... $32,455
Scholarship Dollars Awarded .................... $81,300

ANNUAL FUND GIFTS RECEIVED

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MISSION STATEMENT
In partnership with the church, Evangelical Seminary develops servant leaders for transformational ministry in a broken and complex world by nurturing rigorous minds, passionate hearts, and Christ-centered actions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

■ FAITH IN THE MARKETPLACE BREAKFAST
November 12, 2013, 7:00 a.m. (Myerstown)
Dr. Janet Stauffer, Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy and Dean of Students, will speak about “Navigating Conflict in the Workplace.”

■ RITTER-MOYER LECTURE
November 14, 2013, 9:00 a.m. (Myerstown)
Dr. Donald Kraybill, Distinguished Professor and Senior Fellow at the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietistic Studies at Elizabethtown College, will speak about “The Upside Down Kingdom” and “Radical Forgiveness.”

■ FOUR CHAPLAINS RUN
February 8, 2014, 10:00 a.m. (Myerstown)
In honor of the four Army chaplains who gave their lives to save others when their ship, the USS Dorchester, was sunk by an enemy torpedo on February 3, 1943. The four-mile race begins at 10:00 a.m.

■ WESLEY FORUM
April 7, 2014, 9:00 a.m. (Myerstown)
Guest speaker: Dr. Ben Witherington, Doctoral Studies at Asbury Seminary

■ ISRAEL TOUR 2014
May 18 – June 8, 2014
Come see the land of the Bible, swim in the Dead Sea, and walk the street of Jerusalem with us!