

# Enthuse

THE **RENAMED** MAGAZINE OF EVANGELICAL SEMINARY

A BRIGHT  
HOPE

ANNUAL REPORT EDITION  
2010-2011

# DO YOU DARE TO HOPE?



I wrote these thoughts on a day when yet another global dictator has died. Quite a few of them have died or been deposed lately. Most of them have held on to power tightly and tenaciously. A few years ago this current scenario may have been difficult to imagine; however, today, we find ourselves amazed by rapid changes of events. While we don't yet know what the long-term implications of all of these world leadership changes will be, we dare to hope that better things will come.

*As a society, we dare to hope.*

"Hope" has become a buzzword these days, used by politicians, preachers, economists and educators, to encourage people through dark and disturbing times. For many it's a synonym for "optimism," the perspective that somehow, sometime, things are going to get better. I'm a rather optimistic person most days myself, so I'm sympathetic to that perspective. But hope goes deeper.

Someone once suggested that the best way to translate a Christian understanding of hope into English is "anticipatory longing"...and I rather like that.

*As Christians, we dare to hope.*

This kind of hope passionately longs for what has not yet been seen, but also is, rooted in what is and in what God has already done. So we wait, sometimes impatiently, for the fulfillment of the kingdom of God. We do so because we have already tasted it. We have met Jesus and have been changed. And so we know something already about the transformation that is yet to come.

*At Evangelical Seminary, we dare to hope.*

At Evangelical we know something about the transformation that is yet to come. And because of that, we teach this Christ-centered hope to our students so that they can teach, preach, guide, and counsel others. We know that our dark world needs *real* hope, *anchored* hope, *bright* hope---and so it needs disciples of Christ who are true hope-speakers, hope-bringers, and hope-lighters. We have set loose hundreds of such hope-filled leaders into the world and have enjoyed the encouragement of so many others. Perhaps you are one of them!

*Will you dare to hope?*

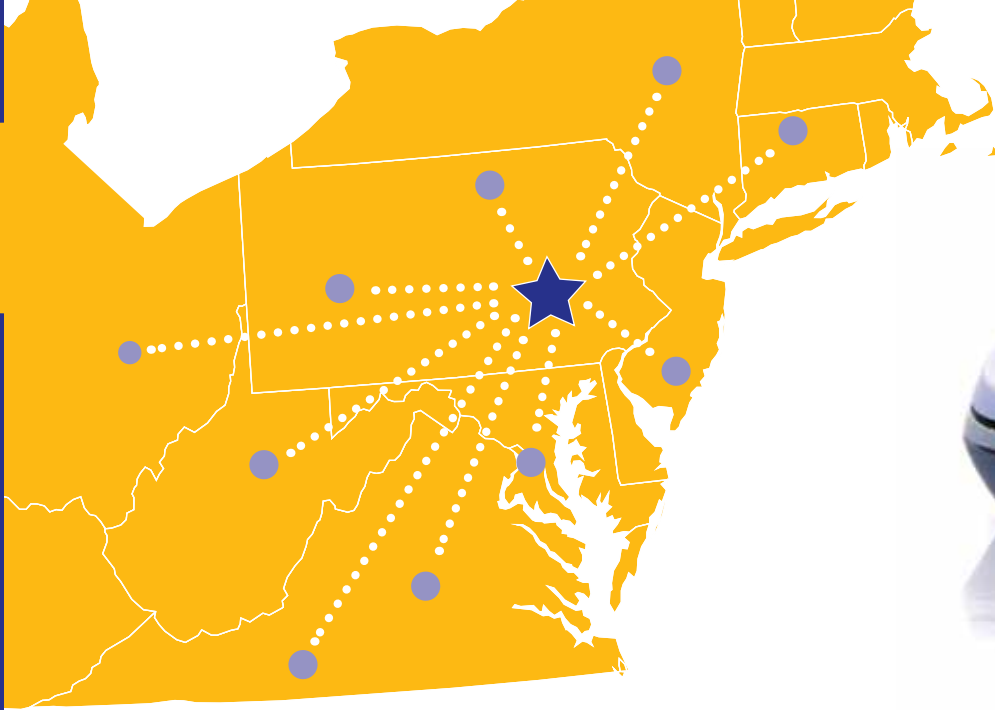
Will you join with us once again in our grand adventure of hope? Do you dare to hope? Our hope candle burns even brighter this year, as we see what God has done and is doing...and we invite you, in whatever way He calls, to walk forward with us in anticipation and longing toward what is yet to come. The pages that follow give you brief glimpses of the reason for our hope. And your supportive encouragement gives us even more!

With grateful anticipation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tony".

Dr. Tony Blair, President

**WE KNOW THAT OUR DARK WORLD NEEDS *REAL* HOPE, *ANCHORED* HOPE, *BRIGHT* HOPE---AND SO IT NEEDS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST WHO ARE TRUE HOPE-SPEAKERS, HOPE-BRINGERS, AND HOPE-LIGHTERS.**



# Evangelical Goes the Distance

**E**vangelical's first Distance Learning Program appears likely to be approved for launch in the Fall of 2012. The Pennsylvania Department of Education acted in December on our proposal for a Master of Arts in Christian Leadership that will be offered through weekend residencies and online instruction. We still await final approval from the Association of Theological Schools.

The program will begin with a track in Spiritual Formation, which will be unique among leadership programs at other institutions, as it will combine "doing" with "being." Students will learn not only the skills and behaviors necessary for effective leadership but also have the opportunity to form their character in ways that are essential for godly servant leadership in our broken world.

Additional tracks will surely follow in the years ahead, as we look at opportunities to prepare Christian leaders for service both in the church and in the world. We are holding some discussions this Spring to determine what those additional tracks may be.

## WHY IS EVANGELICAL DOING DISTANCE LEARNING?

■ Part of the reason is access. We believe in what we do and wish to make it more accessible to those who can't be in Myerstown every week. Another component is our commitment to teach well. We recognize that there are learning opportunities available online that cannot be duplicated in the classroom, and vice-versa. And part of it is our intention to teach as students will lead and be relevant to their culture. Our world is increasingly connected virtually and electronically.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP IN THE FUTURE?

■ We are still looking for partners to help provide seed money that will launch this exciting new program. If you are nudged by God to help support access to online, Christ-centered learning opportunities for new and bright future leaders, we'd be delighted to hear from you! If you are interested in being a partner contact Ann E. Steel, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, at 717-866-5775, extension 2143.

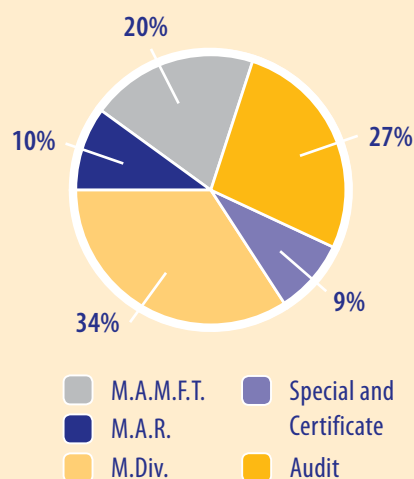
# FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

JULY 1, 2010 TO JUNE 30, 2011, YEAR END AUDIT

## OUR STUDENT BODY / 2010-2011

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Total Number of Students                               | 241      |
| M.Div.   | 82       |
| M.A.R.   | 24       |
| M.A.M.F.T.   | 47       |
| Special and Certificate                                | 21       |
| Audit  | 67       |
| Male   | 140      |
| Female   | 101      |
| Age Range  | 23-71    |
| Average Semester Hours per Student                     | 6.79     |
| Average Annual Cost of Tuition for a Full-Time Student | \$11,160 |
| Scholarship Dollars Awarded                            | \$79,490 |

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS - 241



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## EXPENSES

|                                  | TOTAL EXPENSES | PERCENTAGE |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Instruction and Academic Support | \$1,140,392    | 56.8%      |
| Administration & Business Office | \$368,243      | 18.3%      |
| Development                      | \$231,020      | 11.5%      |
| Maintenance                      | \$259,548      | 12.9%      |
| Student Services                 | \$9,747        | 0.5%       |

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$2,008,950

## REVENUES

|                          | TOTAL REVENUES | PERCENTAGE |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Tuition and Fees         | \$988,760      | 49.7%      |
| Denominational Support   | \$225,000      | 11.3%      |
| Annual Fund              | \$485,902      | 24.4%      |
| Investment Income*       | \$43,653       | 2.2%       |
| Restricted Contributions | \$71,076       | 3.6%       |
| Other                    | \$176,491      | 8.9%       |

TOTAL REVENUES: \$1,990,822

\*excludes \$469,000 of investment gains

## 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.

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Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy
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Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy
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# Hope Shines Bright in Suffering

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



LISA COLON DELAY (2010),  
M.A.R. IN SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Lisa had a sense that God was calling her and drawing her toward a deeper relationship with Him. She couldn't push that aside for very long. When she stepped on the campus of Evangelical Seminary, it instantly felt like home. However, people were warning her, "Lisa, if you go to seminary you'll lose your faith." They were wrong. She explained that just the opposite happened to her, "Evangelical Seminary is a very spiritually formative seminary and I fell in love with God there!"

While Lisa was there, she took a course entitled "Theology of Suffering." Her son has autism, so she knew she needed to discover the theology of disability as it relates to suffering. Why would God allow this to happen to a child and to parents? What does the Bible have to say about disability and suffering? She found spiritual truths and answers that changed everything for her. Now, Lisa hopes to help other parents and children understand the deep love of God and how He transforms lives. She plans to continue her education in Disability Studies and make an impact for Christ on the disabled community.

**She states with gratitude, "Thank you, Evangelical, for helping me understand who God really is! Now I'm offering that same hope to others."**



## SPRING ENCOUNTER OPEN HOUSE

APRIL 12, 6:30 – 9:30 P.M.

It's a wonderful opportunity to  
explore God's call on your life.

To register: [Tom Maiello, Admissions@evangelical.edu](mailto:Tom.Maiello@evangelical.edu).



Dave had just resigned from his role as a Mennonite pastor when he began the Masters Degree program at Evangelical Seminary. His resignation was largely driven by stress and burnout. While an active pastor, Dave had encountered a number of difficult marriage and family situations within his church and struggled with knowing how best to help. This struggle increased his stress, so after his resignation he entered the newly-formed Marriage and Family Therapy program at Evangelical.

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## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

# RIVERS OF HOPE FLOW OUT OF HIS MINISTRY

DAVE MUSSER, L.M.F.T., MASTERS IN  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY ('05)

During one of his courses, Dr. Andrew Mercurio gave an assignment that would transform Dave's life and ministry forever. The students were to develop a genogram that went back three generations, focusing on family themes and patterns. This assignment identified numerous repetitive patterns of behavior within Dave and his extended family. As he poured himself into this project, he realized his need for the acceptance and approval of others. It became clear that if he was going to help others be transformed, he needed to deal with his own past.

"That assignment radically transformed who I was as a husband and father. It also affected my ability to be a better pastor," Dave recounts. After graduation, he went back to pastoral ministry with a new, healthier approach to giving counsel. "My study of systems," he says, "helped me to be a calm presence in the midst of congregational turmoil." Dave's family also noticed a substantial change. As Dave learned to balance work and family, he became a more well-rounded, stable individual.

The end of March 2011 brought another significant change to Dave's life. He moved out of his role as pastor at Gingrichs

Mennonite Church in Lebanon, PA to become the director of a therapy ministry. River of Hope was launched by Dave and is a non-profit therapy ministry with its own board. The organization recently hired Natalie (Wenger) Groff, an Evangelical Seminary graduate, to assist with therapy. In addition, a number of Evangelical interns are involved in the ministry. The River of Hope office is located within Gingrichs Church, but the ministry has a vision to provide satellite ministries in other churches that are interested in providing healing and hope to the broken.

Dave credits Evangelical Seminary professors for much of his success. "They had time for my wife and me and were very interested in the entire family. They really helped my marriage." In the future Dave desires to turn their 18th-century home into a Bed & Breakfast for pastors' families. His dream would be to offer therapy to them, along with relaxing, recreational activities such as horseback riding and swimming. There are no limits to what God can do with Dave's life as he seeks to serve other pastors and troubled congregations. He is already a bright light of hope for many individuals, couples, and families.

## CURRENT STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

# A Bright Light for Christ in the World

PASTOR JON BRENNEMAN (CURRENT STUDENT), MASTER OF DIVINITY

**J**on Brenneman is the pastor of Mount Wilson Church of the Brethren in Lebanon, PA. By his own admission, he is just a Christian man looking for the way God has set out before him. His journey to discover God's way led him to Evangelical Seminary.

"I was looking for a nurturing place to study God's word and explore what God has for me in serving Him. It was during my very first visit to Evangelical Seminary that I knew this is a place where it is okay to be wounded—and a place where I would also find healing," Jon reflects.

At Evangelical Seminary, his eyes have been opened to World Christianity and what God is doing in places across the globe.

"I want to find my place in that world," Jon says, as he considers how challenged he has been since starting seminary. "How do I connect to larger pieces of what God is doing outside of my own little pieces and my own community? It would be incredible to connect local congregation to congregations around the world where God is doing a great work. Partnership across the globe is a passion of mine now. I'm just beginning to turn some corners, so who knows where God might lead. I've been challenged to see myself and God in a whole new way here at Evangelical Seminary."

"Jon Brenneman has an extraordinary sensitivity to the nuances of the Spirit, which not only makes him a surprisingly mature scholar but also a gentle and wise pastor. We are delighted to count him among our students."

DR. TONY BLAIR, PRESIDENT



# Partners in Offering Hope

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPOTLIGHT

ROSE WENGER WALMER



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ROSE WENGER WALMER WAS RAISED IN A FAMILY THAT TAUGHT HER TO LOVE CHRIST, GIVE GENEROUSLY, AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY. HER FATHER, CARL WENGER, IS THE FOUNDER OF WENGER'S OF MYERSTOWN, WHICH IS NOW A FULL FAMILY OPERATION.

In 1996, Rose's family was faced with an unthinkable tragedy. Her niece was the victim of a homicide. Friends, extended family members, and complete strangers reached out to support the entire Wenger family. People wanted to help in a way that would honor Renee's memory. That was the beginning of an annual event called "The Praise Dinner."

Each year the Wenger family hosts a dinner and praise celebration to support local ministries. Evangelical Seminary is one of the Christian organizations that has received benevolent support from the dinners over the last many years. Supporters

of the seminary have a unique opportunity to attend the dinner, mingle with partners of other ministries, and give a generous donation to the Wenger Foundation that in turn goes 100% to the ministry of their choice. It's an out-of-the-box fundraiser that is far reaching and also encourages each individual that attends. This event has raised in excess of 1.1 million dollars for the benefit of local Christian ministries since its inception sixteen years ago.

Rose, who has served on Evangelical's board for over 13 years, states, "Supporting Evangelical Seminary is important because their graduates are going into ministry—and while they are well-





# HOPE

honored, they often aren't entering high paying positions. If the community doesn't step in and support the seminary financially, the students will be burdened with a debt they can't afford and the seminary's future will be at stake. Many educational institutions benefit from their students who give back to their alma mater after securing a well-paying job. But at Evangelical Seminary, their graduates may not have that same charitable capacity. The graduates of Evangelical are ministering literally all over the world and are serving through many different denominations. We all can do something to help this treasured ministry continue."

The entire Wenger family has a heart for supporting their hometown Christian seminary. Their company, Wengers of Myerstown, has a reputation in its community for integrity and honesty. Maybe that's why it has grown from its humble beginnings to a large company that has expanded into many

different areas—including, construction equipment and parts, agricultural equipment and parts, machining services, and motorcycles.

Evangelical Seminary thanks Rose Walmer and the entire Wenger family for their continual and faithful support. Last year \$15,827 was raised for Evangelical Seminary through the **Praise Dinner**. This year our goal is **\$18,000**. Will you join us? The Praise Dinner will be held on May 3 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lebanon Expo Facilities, Lebanon, PA. For tickets contact Rose at 717-866-2130 or [rwalmer@wengers.com](mailto:rwalmer@wengers.com).

# Casting a Hope-Filled Vision for the Future

**O**n Friday evening, October 21, approximately 340 people gathered at Calvary Church in Lancaster for the 2011 Friends of Evangelical Banquet. President Blair shared exciting seminary updates and his vision for the seminary's future. Students Matt Hill and Wendy Hill (no relation) gave stirring testimonies about how Evangelical Seminary is preparing them to minister effectively in today's broken world.

We were delighted to welcome Dr. Gordon MacDonald as our guest speaker. Appointed Chancellor of Denver Seminary last summer, Dr. MacDonald has been a pastor for over 40 years, serving most recently at Grace Chapel in Lexington, Massachusetts. He also was president of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and has authored numerous books.

Dr. MacDonald shared how several years ago God called him to become more intentional in mentoring younger people. He encouraged attendees to continue to seek God's call on their own lives, regardless of age, and to get involved in the lives of those who would benefit from a mentoring relationship.



Tony Blair, Ann Steel, Gordon MacDonald

**THE EVENING WAS A GREAT BLESSING TO ALL WHO WERE PRESENT!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### ■ FAITH IN THE MARKETPLACE

March 6, 7:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Dr. Tony Blair will speak on "Dancing on the Sidelines: Identifying and Nurturing the Hidden Leaders in Your Organization"



### ■ WESLEY FORUM

March 26, 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Billy Abraham, internationally known Wesley scholar from Perkins School of Theology will speak

### ■ SPRING ENCOUNTER OPEN HOUSE

April 12, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

A wonderful opportunity to explore God's call on your life



### ■ FAITH IN THE MARKETPLACE

May 3, 7:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Buck Jacobs from C12 will speak on "From Nowhere to Eternity, My Journey in the Marketplace"

### ■ PRAISE DINNER

May 3, 6:00 p.m.

An evening of great music, delicious food, and wonderful fellowship. Dr. Tony Campolo will be the guest speaker.



### ■ COMMENCEMENT

May 12, 10:00 a.m.

A celebration for graduates and their guests as many graduates move to a new phase of ministry

### ■ EVANGELICAL'S 27TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

May 17, 6:45 a.m.

Always a great event!

### ■ FRIENDS OF EVANGELICAL BANQUET

October 19, 5:45 p.m.

Gifted musician Steve Green will share in word and song



# THANK YOU! Your Generosity Makes Our Future Brighter

## HONOR GIFTS

To Honor Bill Worley's faithful service to the Adult Bible Class of First E.C. Palmyra as a teacher  
First E.C. Church, Adult Bible Class, Palmyra, PA

To Honor Rev. Thomas Clawser  
Fontana Union Sunday School, The Young Adult Class

To Honor the Birthday of J. Robert Ladd  
Charles and Jean Dodson

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Ira, Kathryn, and Sandra Hall  
The Hall Family

In Memory of Rev. Donald Howells  
Gary Kocher  
David and Pauline Greulich

In Memory of Dr. Leon O. Hynson  
James and Loretta Schwenk

In Memory of Richard Kreckler  
Susan Kreckler

In Memory of Bishop Kevin Leibensperger  
Mrs. Gladys J. F. Crowl

In Memory of Ralph Mehle  
John and Diane Seyfert  
Larry and Edith McElwee  
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In Memory of Robert Palmer  
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\*=Deceased

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\*\*The 2012 Golf Tournament is May 17\*\*

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- **DR. ANDREW J. ECONOMOPOULOS, BOYERTOWN, PA**  
Professor of Business and Economics, Ursinus College
- **MRS. RUTH FRY MCKENNON, LITITZ, PA**  
Proprietor, The Carter Run Inn
- **MR. KENNETH A. FUNK, LEBANON, PA**  
Project Manager, Arthur Funk & Sons, Inc.
- **DR. DOROTHY J. GISH, MECHANICSBURG, PA**  
Academic Dean Emeritus, Messiah College
- **MR. RICK GLAUTHIER, UNIONTOWN, OH**  
President, Cunningham Supply Company
- **REV. BRUCE D. HILL, RICHLAND, PA**  
Bishop, Evangelical Congregational Church
- **MRS. SHELLEY KALOKO, HARRISBURG, PA**  
Retired Administrator, PA Department of Education
- **MRS. JESSICA B. KLINGER, KLINGERSTOWN, PA**  
Chief Operating Officer, Nottingham Village
- **REV. KIRK R. MARKS, REAMSTOWN, PA**  
Evangelical Congregational Minister
- **REV. ROBERT S. MAVIS, DIXON, IL**  
Evangelical Congregational Minister
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Leadership Consultant/President, North Group Consultants
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Dean, Humanities and Social Sciences, Northampton Community College
- **REV. JAMES F. PRICE, MOHNTON, PA**  
Evangelical Congregational Minister
- **REV. BARRY E. REBERT (SECRETARY), READING, PA**  
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- **DAVID H. ROLAND, ESQ., OLEY, PA**  
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- **JOHN W. ROLAND, ESQ., SINKING SPRING, PA**  
Attorney, Roland Stock, LLC
- **DR. BRUCE L. SENSENIG, DENVER, PA**  
Superintendent of Schools, Cocalico School District
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Retired Owner, Robert E. Getz, Inc.
- **DR. WILLIAM R. WORLEY (CHAIRPERSON), PALMYRA, PA**  
Retired Superintendent, Cocalico School District
- **MR. J. GREGORY ZINN (VICE CHAIR), LEBANON, PA**  
Independent Insurance Agent and Broker,  
President, Zinn Insurance

## PRAY FOR EVANGELICAL

- *Pray for blessings on our new seminary president **Dr. Anthony Blair**, as he seeks opportunities for creative collaboration with other institutions*
- *Pray for our **new spring students** to find transformation here at Evangelical*
- *Pray for our **773 alumni** to each make a vibrant difference in their world in their many various vocations*
- *Pray for **Dr. Laurie Mellinger**, our new Dean of Academic Programs, to bring fresh ideas and a new perspective to our seminary's leadership*