

# Enthuse

THE MAGAZINE OF EVANGELICAL SEMINARY

**BOLD &  
UNAFRAID  
AS WE FACE A**

**CHANGING  
CULTURE**

**ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTING 2013-2014**

# NOW TR

## Changes At Evan

### Master of Arts in Ministry

**A**t Evangelical, we've noticed the entrepreneurial passion of students who want to offer practical and engaging ministry to a culture that, while increasingly un-churched, is interested in spiritual things. To address this desire, we've designed a 36-credit program that blends real-world experience, church history, theology and biblical studies in an integrated format that is completed in two years!

Students will study ministry through online interaction and one-week residencies, which are completed at locations where the skills being studied are practiced at a high level of proficiency. The course consists of six modules of study:

- Formation and Vocation
- Community and Care
- Word and Worship
- Mission and Evangelism
- Leadership and Management
- Planning and Vision

Those who want to sharpen their personal ministry skills should join us this fall (2015) for the start of this outstanding program! To learn more, contact Gwen Scheirer, Director of Admissions, at 717-628-2151 or [gscheirer@evangelical.edu](mailto:gscheirer@evangelical.edu), or Dr. Robb Palmer, program director, at 717-866-5775 or [rpalmer@evangelical.edu](mailto:rpalmer@evangelical.edu).



Dr. David Dorsey

### David A. Dorsey Museum of Biblical Archaeology

**W**e are privileged to celebrate the wonderful legacy of our beloved professor by announcing the renaming of the Pense Biblical Archaeology Museum in his honor. At the gracious suggestion of Dr. Alan Pense and with the blessing of Jan Dorsey and her family, the museum will be renamed the David A. Dorsey Museum of Biblical Archaeology.

In addition, the museum will be relocated to a newly renovated home on the ground floor of Rostad Library. The entire building, including a new classroom space, will become the Pense Learning Resources Center once the project is complete. We invite you to contribute to the museum capital campaign as we honor the legacy of this beloved professor. Visit [www.dorsey-moba.org](http://www.dorsey-moba.org) for informational updates. If you would like to financially support the project with a gift in Dave's honor, please visit <https://evangelical.edu/give-now/>.



Dr. Terry Heisey



Dr. Mark Draper

### Changes at the Library

**A**fter more than 35 years of faithful and generous service to Evangelical Seminary, Dr. Terry Heisey has retired effective December 31. Dr. Heisey has served the Seminary as the director of the Rostad Library and as a professor of bibliography. As an accomplished musician, Dr. Heisey directed the Seminary Chorale and played the organ for chapels and convocations. Though his retirement leaves a significant vacuum in our community, God has graciously provided Dr. Mark Draper, a highly qualified and energetic leader, to direct both the Rostad Library and Online Learning. Mark and his wife, Dawn, come to us from Elmhurst College in Illinois, where he was assistant director of the Niebuhr Center. Welcome to the Drapers!

# ENDING

## Evangelical Seminary

### The *CHANGING* Face of Seminary Education

George Davis, Executive Director of Enrollment Management



Since the third session of the Council of Trent in 1563, formal seminaries have been a part of church life. While generally accepted, seminaries have been both applauded for their work and challenged on a number of levels through the years. Changes in religion, culture, public education, politics, finance and doctrinal exclusivity have all influenced the work of theological education. In the last few years, cultural changes within the church and finances have been arguably the seminary's two greatest challenges.

Many seminaries have entirely succumbed to the institutional wear and tear caused by such challenges, and some have morphed into institutions that no longer resemble the vision and values of their founders. In an effort to survive, other seminaries have weathered their challenges by closely identifying with a theologically exclusive community of Christians or becoming embedded in larger universities.

A large number of seminaries currently struggle to adjust to the steady decline in what was once considered the golden goose of seminary programs: the Master of Divinity. By turning to innovative and practice-based programs, online classes and partnerships with other like-minded seminaries, they seek to remain faithful to their calling and mission. Evangelical is one of the seminaries embracing necessary changes while remaining fully committed to our values and vision.

As seminary leaders respond to the climate in theological education, it is obvious that intentional change must happen. At Evangelical, it's not about survival; it still is about developing effective leaders to serve the Church. In our more than six decades of building leaders who minister in their individual settings, we remain true to the verse (Colossians 1:28) placed over the door of the Rostad Library: "He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ."

#### Here's what we're doing to accomplish this mission:

- Building healthy relationships with other like-minded seminaries and graduate schools
- Adding faculty who, in addition to being academically prepared practitioners, are astute and missionally engaged
- Reimagining our program delivery
- Developing strategic initiatives for student enrollment
- Developing new programs to serve our alumni and donor connections

All these strategies are producing slow but positive growth. Like other seminaries, we face challenges, but we are paying attention to our character, our call and the quality of ministry we offer in the middle of great cultural change. Our roots are firmly placed, and new shoots are growing with intentionality and promise. Students are being deeply changed through their experience at Evangelical Seminary. Our part in the story of God's work through the Church is still being written and with His grace, it will continue to produce good fruit in individual lives.

From the President

# BOLD AND UNAFRAID AS WE FACE A CHANGING CULTURE



**God invites us  
to follow Him  
boldly and  
fearlessly into  
the future He  
has prepared  
for us, for He is  
good and He is  
here with us.**

## Dear Friends,

**T**hey called him “Tank Man.” No one, at least in the West, ever knew who he really was. He was apparently on his way home from work when the tanks rolled into Tiananmen Square in June 1989 to crush student protests for democracy. For reasons unknown, he stopped in front of the advancing tanks. Photographers captured the haunting, now iconic, image: a lone man armed only with a briefcase standing, bold and seemingly unafraid, before a row of monstrous weapons of war. They could have easily killed him. They didn’t.

Maybe we are drawn to that image because we, too, would like to live our lives bold and unafraid, sure of who we are, trusting in the One who guides us and brave enough to face down whatever it is that comes rolling at us. Indeed, God has called His people to be just like that. The Bible is full of stories like that of Tank Man—Moses facing down Pharaoh, David standing up to Goliath, Daniel in the lion’s den, Mary saying “yes” to shame and suffering, Jesus on the cross. It’s said that the Bible says “Do not fear” 365 times, one for every day of the year.

When we look at the world in 2015, one can see many reasons for fear. And, indeed, many Christians act and sound like they’re very afraid. Fear makes us grumpy, defensive and even mean. Fear causes us to hold back, to withdraw behind the barricades and to settle for less than the fullness God has for us. But God invites us to follow Him boldly and fearlessly into the future He has prepared for us, for He is good and He is here with us.

That’s our approach at Evangelical. Yes, we know that the world is sadly broken. We know that the Church is struggling in many ways. We know that ministry is changing. We know that how we prepare people for service to the Church and the world will need to change dramatically to meet the needs of this generation and the next. Even so, we’re not afraid of that. We are acting boldly to offer new programs, new deliveries, new locations and new approaches to learning because our trust is in the God who is greater than any fear we will ever face. With your help, we will continue to walk forward with courage, conviction and creativity.

Be bold, dear friends. Be unafraid in the face of change. God is with us!

Grace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Tony Blair, President

# Master of Arts in Leadership Development

# LEADERS

Carmen Biggs, M.A.L.D. 2016, Candidate



**F**rom the time she first became a mother a number of years ago, Carmen Biggs has wanted to go back to school. The

Vermont native, former schoolteacher and mother of three has finally found her niche in the Master of Leadership Development program at Evangelical Seminary.

"This program is the perfect marriage between spiritual formation and leadership development," says Carmen, who, as director of catalyst ministries at Daybreak Church in Mechanicsburg, leads a team that oversees spiritual formation in members. Wanting to get more education to equip her for ministry, Carmen completed a certificate program at another

seminary, but still sought a better balance between academics and practical application.

"I wanted more than just a head education; I wanted a heart education," explains Carmen, who just began her second year in the **Master of Arts in Leadership Development** (M.A.L.D.) program. She also finds the flexibility of the program to work well for her as a mother with a job outside the home.

During her time at Evangelical, Carmen has had many transformational moments spiritually and as a leader. "I've learned that the condition of my soul isn't contingent on the busyness of what's happening outside," she says, adding, "The character of a leader cannot be separated from the task of leadership. You can know all the skills and write fantastic vision statements and know all the right communication, but I'm not going to influence people

## CHANGED AND TRANSFORMED FOR GOD'S GLORY

as Christ wants us to apart from character development."

That influence on others includes one woman in her church who, with Carmen's encouragement, began writing spiritual epiphanies in a notebook, filling it to the point where she needed a new notebook. "It makes my heart smile to see that," Carmen says. "I have so much more to learn, and I'm so humbled that God would use someone like me who's so much in process herself. The program is truly a life-changing experience. It will change the way you think and feel and the way you look at God and other people."

5

# Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation & Direction

**T**he Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation degree program is designed for people who desire to grow and help others grow spiritually and relationally. Providing a higher level of accreditation to those who wish to practice the art of spiritual direction, the program guides each student in their own spiritual formation as well as teaches the history, theology and practice of spiritual direction.

"At Evangelical, students reflect on the work God is doing in their own lives, families and congregations to shape them, individually and together," says Dr. Laurie Mellinger, program director. "As they study therapy, ministry and leadership, they also learn ways to encourage others to open themselves to the transforming power of the Spirit of God."



# PREPARED FOR A CHANGING WORLD

## STUDENTS SPEAK

**Ideally, students at Evangelical Seminary come away from their experience well prepared**

to apply the unchanging truth of the gospel of Christ to an ever-changing culture. Shannon Myers and the Rev. Nelson Alleman serve as two successful examples of this ideal in action.



Shannon Myers

Shannon is completing her last class in the Marriage and Family Therapy program and will formally graduate in May 2015. The Easton, PA resident began her seminary education because, as she describes it, "I want to help those who are struggling on their spiritual journey." Calling her preparation for ministry through Evangelical a "collage," Shannon shared that "the education was wonderful; it incorporates surrendering to Christ, allowing Him to work in you so you can reach a broken world. It's a big theme in almost every M.F.T. class. It has prepared me not only for the mental health side, but also how to incorporate Christ in my way of being."

By extension, Shannon sees her M.F.T. experience as having prepared her to adjust to the changing world around her. "The emphasis is on being flexible in the way you work," she explains. "The program educates you in such a way that you learn to adapt to different cultures." Shannon also has a warning of sorts for those considering an Evangelical education: "Don't expect to be the same person when you're done — spiritually, educationally and personally."



Nelson Alleman

For his part, Nelson Alleman isn't the same person he was when he started at Evangelical in 2009. Also formally graduating in May 2015 (having completed all his coursework), the former electrician became a United Methodist Church pastor in 2000. Nelson began part-time and bi-vocationally, but expects to formally become a full-time pastor this summer.

"As a pastor, I'm called to preach the Word of God and Christ crucified, and that's countercultural," Nelson says, reflecting on how Evangelical has equipped him to move forward in his pastoral calling. "At the seminary, the most important thing was what do you believe and why, and can you defend it? When you're being asked all kinds of questions, you really need to know, and you also have to have something experiential to share. People will listen to your story, even if they don't agree with your theology."

This perspective has informed his response to turmoil in his current pastorate, as he arrived at the church in the aftermath of a high-profile scandal involving a previous pastor. "My professors came around me in a personal way, taking me out to lunch, asking me questions that really mattered," Nelson says about how the Evangelical community supported him in the exhausting process of establishing trust with his new church. "It showed me how the body of Christ is supposed to function. They had my back, my side, my front — everything. That's how I knew I'd made the right choice in attending Evangelical. The faculty and staff played a huge role in keeping me spiritually and mentally healthy."

If Evangelical students like Shannon and Nelson are any indication, the next generation of church leaders is being well prepared to deliver timeless truth to an uncertain culture.



**“I remember so many wise words from my professors at Evangelical,” says Nancy Mehesy of**

**Jabbok Counseling.** “When I am sitting with clients, I hear Dr. Joy Corby reminding me that ‘God has made us competent’ and James Johnson encouraging us to help clients expand the options for engaging with one another. Dr. Palmer would remind us from 1 John 4:4 that ‘greater is He that is in you than he who is in the world,’ and Dr. Janet Stauffer would call us forth to live in the tension of truth, trust and emotional engagement. I am truly grateful for these words that resonate often when I reflect on my journey as a graduate of Evangelical and my work as a marriage and family therapist.”

The name of Nancy’s office, Jabbok Counseling, comes from the story of Jacob wrestling with an angel at the Jabbok River. God transforming Jacob and changing the trajectory of his life has become a metaphor for Nancy’s vision for journeying alongside others to create a new future. Her work includes play therapy with children, extensive trauma work and counseling with families, couples and individuals. She is often asked to speak, train and consult with other counselors and therapists.

“I am so thankful for my education at Evangelical,” Nancy says. “I continue to engage in relationships with professors and mentors at Evangelical who have supported my work and make time for ongoing consultation. My work is beginning to transition into supporting leaders and organizations. I am using the systemic principles I utilize with families and couples to help leaders and organizations increase organizational

# CHANGE ON THE FIELD

## ALUMNI SPEAK

*Nancy Mehesy, M.A.M.F.T. 2010*

health. Many organizations and top performing companies employ systemically trained therapists to help develop leaders and assess organizational health.

“I also see a big difference in the needs of older clients and younger clients. Older clients grew up in a world that valued structure and the pursuit of truth. Their predominant challenges deal with understanding how to live out these truths. The younger generation, with the influences of postmodern thought and moral relativism, values authenticity but struggles to pursue truth and identify a structure for success in marriage and family life.”

Nancy credits Evangelical’s intentional practice of teaching worldviews and the integration of theology and practice. “When I attend professional events in the area of marriage and family therapy, I have a greater appreciation for my education,” she says. “I often find clinicians that do not have a clear foundation upon which to build their work, major gaps in training or lack of integration between their education and their personal life. Evangelical’s program requires thorough representation of theory and skills, integration of theology and personal engagement with the material, which produces mature, knowledgeable and well-equipped therapists.”



# CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Dr. Kenneth Nafziger, M.Div., 2001, Director of the Center for Lifelong Learning

**T**he Center for Lifelong Learning is committed to helping leaders become change agents for Christ in a world desperate for hope, while remaining committed to the truth given in the Bible. Its vision is to provide business, religious and community leaders with a variety of ongoing learning opportunities so they can develop their potential as they serve in their spheres of influence. To bring this about, the center is sponsoring these upcoming events:



## **“Faith in the Marketplace” Breakfasts**

*Myerstown, PA, and  
Lancaster, PA*

Designed to encourage those serving within the local business community, these events provide networking with peers and opportunities to meet new friends while being challenged to make everyday business decisions from the guidance of one’s faith and values. The quarterly breakfasts begin at 7 a.m. and promptly conclude by 8:30 a.m. For more information, visit [www.evangelical.edu/faith-marketplace](http://www.evangelical.edu/faith-marketplace).



## **Wesley Forum | April 14** *Dech Chapel at Evangelical Seminary*

This event will offer insight into the history, theology and spirituality of John and Charles Wesley. The speaker will be Dr. Wendy J. Deichmann, president of United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. Alumni and interested pastors, scholars, business and community members will benefit from this forum. To register, visit [www.evangelical.edu/wesley-forum](http://www.evangelical.edu/wesley-forum).



## **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament | May 21** *Fairview Golf Course near Lebanon*

Golfers of all skill levels are invited, along with their friends, to experience a great day of golf, food, fellowship and fun — all while helping advance the mission of the seminary. To register, visit [www.evangelical.edu/golf-tournament](http://www.evangelical.edu/golf-tournament).



## **Leadership Forum | Oct. 13** *Dech Chapel at Evangelical Seminary*

Presented every fall, this event brings seasoned educators and leaders to campus for lectures from a variety of disciplines. This year’s speaker will be Dr. Reggie McNeal, missional leadership specialist for Leadership Network of Dallas, Texas. Leaders of all types will be inspired and strengthened at this forum. To register, visit [www.evangelical.edu/leadership-forum](http://www.evangelical.edu/leadership-forum).

8

## A NEW DIRECTION FOR ALUMNI

### *Introducing Dr. Kenneth Nafziger*



**A**s part of an effort to encourage and strengthen the relationship between Evangelical and its more than 700 alumni, the seminary is turning to one of its own graduates. Kenneth Nafziger, M.D., M.Div., has been appointed as Evangelical’s director of alumni relations. Before taking on his new position, Dr.

Nafziger has continued to serve Evangelical as adjunct lecturer in ethics and as dean of the Center for Lifelong Learning.

The 2001 graduate seeks input from fellow alumni concerning how to deepen their relationship with the

seminary. To that end, Dr. Nafziger is planning a series of regional luncheons where Evangelical alumni can meet together to develop networking relationships and encourage one another. For more information about these luncheons, including how to host one of the events, contact him at [knafziger@evangelical.edu](mailto:knafziger@evangelical.edu).

### **Alumni: What’s happening in your life?**

Dr. Nafziger would love to enhance and further Evangelical’s relationships with our alumni and hear how they are putting their education to use in advancing the kingdom of God. Please email ministry updates, family photos and other information to [knafziger@evangelical.edu](mailto:knafziger@evangelical.edu).

# CHANGING NUMBERS, GROWING IMPACT

## OUR STUDENT BODY (2013-14)

**TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS** .....183

**BY PROGRAM**

M.Div. ....60  
 M.A.R. ....22  
 M.A.M.F.T. ....35  
 Special and Certificate.....11  
 Audit .....44  
 M.A.L.D.....11

**BY GENDER**

Male.....109  
 Female.....74

**AGE**

Range .....22-71

**SEMESTER HOURS**

Average per Student ..... 5.45

**FINANCIALS**

Average Annual Cost of Tuition Charged to a Full-Time Student .....\$11,927  
*(9-credit FTE rather than 12)*

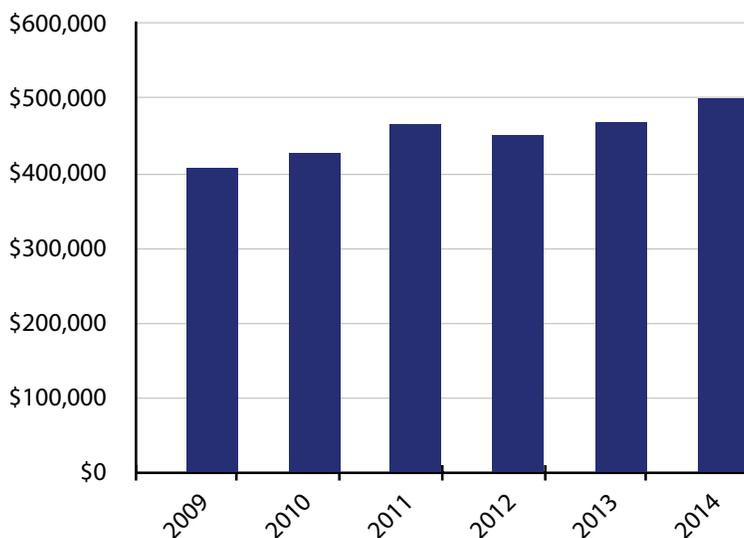
Cost to Educate a Full-Time Student .....\$26,041

Gap – What Evangelical needs to raise per student .....\$14,114

Scholarship Dollars Awarded ....\$124,769



## ANNUAL FUNDS GIFTS RECEIVED



**Gifts of all sizes to the Annual Fund for Transformational Leadership are vitally important because they...**

- assist the Seminary in keeping tuition as low as possible
- help cover the gap between the cost to educate and what we charge in tuition
- allow us to provide scholarships for students with needs

Many thanks for generously partnering with Evangelical!

**Ann E. Steel**  
 V.P. for Advancement  
 asteel@evangelical.edu  
 717-866-5775



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

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## Tributes

Ruth Fry McKennon and Millard Mason McKennon, Jr., in Honor of Doris V. Gresh  
Mr. and Mrs. Dana Kapp in Honor of Dr. Rodney Shearer  
Kay Moldenke in Honor of Alice Mailander  
Ruth Fry McKennon and Millard Mason McKennon, Jr., in Honor of Alexander Evan Marks  
Millard M. and Ruth Fry McKennon, Jr., in Honor of David A. Dorsey  
Millard M. and Ruth Fry McKennon, Jr., in Honor of Tom Blair  
Millard M. and Ruth Fry McKennon, Jr., in Honor of Ruth Bruce Keller  
Millard M. and Ruth Fry McKennon, Jr., in Honor of Kathryn Senseinch  
Randy Heim and Families In Memory of Rev. Lance Mills  
William S. Ryan II and Sheryl Leese In Memory of William and Barbara Ryan  
The Adult Class of First E.C. Church, Palmyra, PA In Memory of Sharon Smith  
Venango County Court Supervision In Memory of Keith E. Mong  
Venango County Flower Fund In Memory of Cheryl Mong  
William and Pamela Bender In Memory of David A. Dorsey  
Alice Mailander In Memory of David A. Dorsey  
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Religious & Theological Abstracts, Inc. In Memory of David A. Dorsey  
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Thomas and Karen Reading In Memory of David A. Dorsey  
Jim and Sharon Roberts In Memory of Tom Blair  
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*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



### 2nd Annual Four Chaplains Run

Saturday, February 7, 2015 | 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Evangelical Seminary campus

At this four-mile run and 1.5-mile run/walk, help support the seminary while enjoying the small community feel as you cover the lightly traveled roads of Myerstown and Jackson Township. The course is mostly flat with rolling hills. For more information, including how to register, visit [evangelical.edu/event/2nd-annual-four-chaplains-scholarship-run](http://evangelical.edu/event/2nd-annual-four-chaplains-scholarship-run).



### “Paul in Asia Minor” Tour of Turkey

March 4-19, 2016

Take a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Asia Minor (today's Turkey) and walk where the Apostle Paul walked during the growing Christian movement in the early centuries. Join Dr. H. Douglas Buckwalter, professor of New Testament and tour host, as the pages of the Bible come alive. For more information, contact Professor Buckwalter at 717-866-5775 or [dbuckwalter@evangelical.edu](mailto:dbuckwalter@evangelical.edu).



### Friends of Evangelical Banquet

Thursday, November 12, 2015 | Calvary Church, Lancaster, PA

Celebrate the legacy of Evangelical and help support its commitment to unchanging truth in a changing culture. Andy Crouch, executive editor of *Christianity Today* and author of the award-winning book *Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling*, will be the keynote speaker. For more information, call Marsha at 717-866-5775, ext. 2130.