

GOD'S REVIVALIST

September 2017

and Bible Advocate



PRESIDENT LOPER AND HIS ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



about this issue

STARTING RIGHT

One of the most important tasks for a new president is to immerse himself in the organization, taking time to understand how he and his team fit into and work within its structure and purpose. During a year-long transition period, President-elect Rodney Loper did just that at God's Bible School. His prior experience as a GBS student helped him understand the culture, but working alongside President Avery gave him direct insight into the mechanics and logistics of campus administration.

Of no less importance are his ongoing efforts to learn from fellow administrators, faculty, staff, students, and various constituent groups. President Loper has handled this aspect of his new job admirably, making frequent stops at the various campus offices for friendly chats as he listens and learns and builds relationships.

First impressions are important, especially as a president begins to exert his new authority. Does he lead with confidence? Is his first order easily understood and well-received? Let me tell you about President Loper's first official edict.

On Thursday, June 29, Mike Avery's last day on campus as president, he issued "one last official act" during the staff prayer meeting: "You can all have tomorrow off," he said. Of course, that was an enthusiastically-accepted proclamation! Not to be outdone, and not missing a beat, President-elect Loper interjected, "And my first official act as president is to give all of you a day off next Tuesday." It took only a moment for laughter to fill the room, as the day to which he referred was July 4th, already an established holiday for campus personnel. And so our new president's first order was received in the humor with which it was offered!

President Loper, rest assured that faculty, staff, and students warmly welcome you and pledge to support you with our prayers and our work! —KF

CORRECTION: I am embarrassed that I wrongly identified Lawrence Kholberg as the author of the psychosocial stages of development (Summer 2017, p.2). I should have attributed that to Erik Erikson. Kholberg developed a stage theory for moral development. You'd think I would not make such a mistake after years of teaching psychology! My former GBS psychology professor (1975), Dr. Mike Williams, called and apologetically informed me of my error. Thanks, Professor Williams! —KF

CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER 2017

Volume 129 No. 6

FEATURES

Journey To The Presidency	5
by Ken Farmer	
Meet The PK's [President's Kids]	12
by Ken Farmer	
Introducing My Administrative Team	17
by Rodney Loper	
End Of An Era	24
by Michael Avery	

DEPARTMENTS

The President's Page	3
Letters To The Editor	4
News From The Hilltop	14
Revivalist Family	14
Dear Phil	22
World Pulse	23
Student Focus	23
Alumni News	26
Thoughts For The Quiet Hour	27

STAFF

Ken Farmer, *managing editor*

Kevin Moser, *art director, assistant editor*

Shane Muir, *assistant graphic designer*

God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate (ISSN 0745-0788) is published monthly except for combined issues in January-February and June-July-August for **\$12.00 per year (\$28.00, Canada; \$60.00, other countries)** by the Revivalist Press of God's Bible School, College and Missionary Training Home, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. Periodical postage paid at Cincinnati, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER: send address changes to God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.**

God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate, the official organ of God's Bible School, is a magazine founded by Martin Wells Knapp in July of 1888. We seek to proclaim the good news of salvation; to stir a revival spirit among Christians; to stimulate Christian growth and responsible Christian living; to present the happenings and interests of God's Bible School.

Please obtain permission before reprinting any articles from *God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate*. **Unsolicited manuscripts are welcomed, but not returned.**

God's Bible School and College seeks to glorify God and to serve His Church by providing higher education centered in Holy Scripture and shaped by Wesleyan conviction, thus preparing faithful servants to proclaim Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness throughout the world.

God's Bible School and College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, or against otherwise qualified handicapped persons in its admission of students or employment of its faculty and staff.

Contact us by telephone at (513) 721-7944 (Revivalist Press, ext. 1351); by fax at (513) 763-6649; by email at revivalist@gbs.edu. Visit us online at www.gbs.edu or www.godsrevivalist.com.

COVER PHOTO by Shane Muir.

the president's page



ONWARD! FORWARD!


by Rodney Loper, President

I sit behind a new desk, in a new-to-me office. A lot has changed over this past year. It was a year ago that my family and I closed a wonderful chapter of pastoral ministry and stepped into a new and exciting chapter here at GBS. In pastoral ministry, much of what I did tended to have a Sunday focus. In this new role, much of what I do is focused on the work week. In pastoral ministry I tended to the same people week in and week out. I was able to preach series and build upon my previous messages. Now, my speaking schedule is filled with many one-time slots. Simply put, life has changed for me.

While there are many changes happening, there are some constants. One of the great invariables is that the harvest field is white, ready for harvest. In pastoral work, I was on the front lines, doing my best to evangelize the lost. In Bible college work, my focus is training men and women to go to the front line to do the work of ministry. In effect, I am multiplying myself so that many others will join in reaping the harvest.

A second invariable is that God is still God. The God of the past is the God of the present and the future. As I acclimated myself to this campus, I was impressed with all that had been accomplished since I graduated. The grounds are well maintained, buildings are in fine shape, and the staff and faculty are second to none. Everywhere I look I see careful attention to details. The foundation handed to me is well laid.

It would be easy for us to sit back, place our feet on the desks and pat our backs at what has ➡



Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202, or emailed to revivalist@gbs.edu. Letters reprinted here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor of God's Revivalist nor those of the administration of God's Bible School. Names and locations of writers will be withheld at their specific request or at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit and condense.

Sonja Vernon's article ["Still Fruitful," Summer 2017] references Psalms 92:14—"They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green." Sonja says that "Scripture promises all the grace you need to maintain the life and growth within" and that she has "met older Christians like that."

It is interesting to read Adam Clarke's comment on this Scripture: "It is a rare case to find a man in old age full of faith, love, and spiritual activity."

Being in my seventieth year, this Scripture is a challenge to me. I want to be a "rare case."

MIKE AND SHARON THOMPSON
San Diego, CA

I believe that it is important for alumni who graduated in the 2000s to step up to the plate and be donors of GBS. The older generation that GBS so depended on to support the school financially when we were there is passing away. We need to be the ones to step up to the plate and become donors so that we can ensure that those who are coming after us will have the same Biblical education that we had. It's our turn at the plate!

JENNIFER KEY (Class of 2006)
email

I so much appreciate the issue about Oswald Chambers [January/February 2017]. I have been reading it with great interest! I appreciate the magazine, not only because it is about Oswald Chambers, but also because my parents, Mark and Wanda (Snyder) Weese, attended GBS at different times, and it brings back memories of the stories my parents used to tell. My aunt, Dona Snyder, was gloriously saved at a GBS camp meeting as well. Thank you so much!

SHARON WEESE
Colorado Springs, CO

The issue on Oswald Chambers...is one of the finest ever.

BRENDA SUE IAQUINTO
Falconer, NY

Excellent job on the Jan/Feb 2017 *God's Revivalist*! Informative, attractive, edifying. What a great combination!

A. PHILIP BROWN II
Cincinnati, OH

➡ been accomplished. And while reflection and even celebrations are necessary at times, our mandate is clear; our passion burns deeply in our hearts. Onward! Forward! We must not rest on the accomplishments of the past, no matter how great or grand. We move forward reaching for higher heights, better results, and bigger goals because of the firm foundations that those who walked before us laid. Yes, He is a God of the past, but He is God of the future.

What is before us? What does the future hold? While it is certainly not new, the passion of our founder Martin Wells Knapp remains our focus—a training home for Christian workers. I envision GBS as a place where men and women come for training, only then to go out to make a difference for Christ! I envision a place that is a spiritual incubator for young people as they struggle to find their places and God's purposes for their lives! I envision a place that has a renewed worldwide impact through our ministry-minded graduates and online classes that can reach where we cannot go! I envision a place that will come alongside local churches to be an encouragement, an enabler, and a resource to enhance their ministries! I envision a place where those seeking higher education can come and be impacted by the unchanging Word of God—a program that unashamedly holds to inerrancy of Scripture, careful application of Scripture, and the doctrine of holiness! I envision a place where we stand right where God wants us to stand, making a difference in this generation and in the generations to come!

Yes, change has happened and will happen again, but God remains. The fields are white—they are ready for harvesting. Square your shoulders, take a fresh grip on the sickle, and let's walk into the future purposefully making a difference together for His kingdom! ■

Rodney Scott Loper was born on March 21, 1978, to George and Diana (Ayars) Loper, Jr., of Fairborn, Ohio. George worked 37 years for the Inland Division of General Motors in Dayton. Eventually becoming a supervisor in Department 310, he was responsible for the manufacturing of weather stripping for automobiles, a tedious job involving hot rubber and molding systems. In this, he was following in the footsteps of his father, George Sr., who had also worked in and supervised the very same department for 33 years. Rodney's mother, Diana, never worked outside the home except for some babysitting. By the time Rodney joined the family, George and

JOURNEY *to the* PRESIDENCY



Diana already had two boys: Randy, in 1974, Rob in 1976. Sisters came later: Susanne in 1980, Joanne in 1988, and Amy in 1992. This represented quite an age spread, as Randy was 18 when Amy was born.

GBS CONNECTION

Rodney traces his Christian heritage, as well as his association with GBS, back to his maternal grandparents, Howard and Jean Ayars. Both of them had grown up in the same New Jersey community. Howard was a Seventh Day Baptist—an interesting theological niche—and Jean had a Pilgrim Holiness background. When Howard joined the Navy during the Korean War, Jean attended People's Bible College in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and the two began a correspondence. When Jean returned to New Jersey, they dated and continued their correspondence, as Howard was usually onboard a ship. But immediately following his discharge from the Navy, they were married, and Howard eventually took a blue-collar job replacing lightbulbs on construction barrels. They started a family, which included Rodney's mother, Diana. Unfortunately, Howard and Jean turned away from God for the next 15 years.

Somewhere along the way, while still in their thirties, they were converted and started attending



Howard and Jean Ayars

Thelma and George Loper, Sr.



Howard Ayars



Diana and Howard GBS Graduation 1970

truck hauling live chickens crashed in front of their house. People who were cleaning up the scene knocked on their door and said, "Hey, if you want this meat, it is yours." So Jean and others plucked all the chickens, deboned them, and canned the meat—hundreds of jars of chicken! That is what Howard, Jean, and their four children lived on when they got to GBS.

Barely "scraping by," Howard got a job at Shillito's department store in downtown Cincinnati during the Christmas season. Later on, he was hired by Procter and Gamble, working the night shift while attending classes at GBS during the day. In 1970, Howard graduated *cum laude* with a ThB, an amazing accomplishment for a 40-year-old working full time and raising a family. Even more amazing was that on the same day he graduated from college, his daughter, Diana, graduated from the GBS high school! Howard went on to pastor churches and serve as a district superintendent for the Wesleyan Holiness Church before retiring and moving to Lexington, North Carolina.

LOPER LINEAGE

George Loper, Sr., Rodney's paternal grandfather, had served in England and France during WWII. After his discharge, he had trouble finding a job. But around 1948, he relocated from Portsmouth to Dayton, Ohio. That is when George Sr. started working for General Motors. In 1950, the Lopers moved to Fairborn, Ohio. Their home was originally designed to be a church, but the congregation ran out of money and the building was never finished. Eventually, a few walls were added to make it into a home. This is where they lived for the next 50 years or so. In 1952, Rodney's father, George Jr., was born and grew up there.

George Jr. attended Fairborn schools through both elementary and high school. Immediately after his graduation in 1970, he was hired by General

church. Then someone handed them a copy of *God's Revivalist*. Howard had been feeling that perhaps God wanted him to preach, so when they read the periodical from God's Bible School, they decided to make a trip to Cincinnati. Upon arriving at GBS, they knew it was the place for them.

Back in New Jersey, they began to prepare for the move, but they had very little money. Leaving behind a job and trying to find work in Cincinnati was difficult. However, about a week before they left New Jersey, a

Motors. George Jr. and his mother Thelma attended the Wesleyan Holiness Church in Dayton, Ohio. Although George Sr. was a good man, he wasn't a Christian, and, therefore, he did not attend church with them. At that time, the church participated in the youth meetings held by the Wesleyan Holiness Association. Once a month on a Friday night, one of the churches would have a special youth rally. Additionally, there was an annual camp meeting at West Milton. It was at these services that George Loper Jr. and Diana Ayars first remember seeing each other, and it was through some mutual friends that they were to make a connection. They began dating in March 1973 and were married six months later on September 15. About five years later, their third son, Rodney, was born.



*Randy, Rodney,
and Rob*



*Rodney
2nd grade*



Rodney - 7th grade

Eight-year-old Rodney was forced to walk out of school and down the sidewalk holding his dad's hand in front of all the other kids. He was "mortified."

The last fight he remembers being involved in took place when he was around 16. A kid who was causing trouble at school had challenged him. Refusing to fight him on the school grounds, Rodney invited him to his house instead. The fight that ensued was "one of the crucial turning points" in Rodney's life. As he was on top of his opponent, mercilessly pummeling him, his brother Rob

had to drag him away. Rodney began to wonder what would have happened if someone had not been there to pull him off. That was his last real "knock-down drag-out."

THROWING PUNCHES

Growing up for Rodney was quite an experience. He enjoyed fighting—fighting his two brothers, as well as anyone else. As he tells it, his brothers "would also pick fights with others, stop in the middle of an altercation, and say, 'You know, you are such a puny wimp, my little brother can whup you.'" So, after school, on the mile walk to their house, there would be guys awaiting him. "I would fight almost all the way home." It got so bad that people called the school to report on the "little brat that was beating all these kids up." Eventually the school contacted his parents. One day, George took off work early and made his way to Five Points Elementary. Rodney, who had just been in the principal's office, walked out the school's double doors and saw his dad standing on the steps. Of course Rodney was surprised.

"What are you doing here?"

His father replied, "I'm so embarrassed at how terrible you are acting; and since you have embarrassed me, I am embarrassing you. Here, hold my hand."

MISSING MOTIVATION

By his own admission, Rodney was a terrible student, doing just enough to pass during his elementary school years. His junior high years were also tough—more attention to fighting than school work. High school brought different problems. He began hanging out with friends who drank alcohol and smoked marijuana. However, during his junior year, he "kicked it into gear" academically and started making good grades. A major part of this change came as a result of his enrollment in a vocational tech program that allowed students to take college preparatory courses while learning a trade. He began to study auto body repair in addition to his academic work, and was placed in a job at a Buick dealership in Fairborn. This gave him a new purpose in life. What he was learning had real-world meaning for him. But while his GPA climbed higher—from 3.0 to 3.5 during his last two years of high school—the body shop was a bad environment. It was while there that he started drinking.

Another change was needed, and Rodney credits God in bringing it about. "The Lord in His providence got me out of that dealership, and I started working for Wright Patterson Air Force Base, doing auto body work for them as a civilian." The environment was much better for him. "It was tighter. I wasn't going to be drinking while at work on the military base." It was a well-paying job with the structure Rodney needed. At 17 and 18 he had "more money than I knew what to do with. I could buy what I wanted, go where I wanted, and do what I wanted."

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

So, in September 1995, Rodney began settling down somewhat, although he was still involved in a sinful life. His girlfriend did keep him "half interested" in church, however—a circumstance which he attributes

verted. He recalls that experience as being a "line of demarcation drawn in my life. From that moment forward, every aspect of my life was on an upward trajectory."

PREPARING TO PREACH

Following graduation from Fairborn High School in May of 1996, Rodney seriously began to consider where he would attend college. Knowing that "a call to preach was a call to prepare," he was accepted for enrollment at the same Bible college that his brother Rob was attending in Indiana. At that time he owned a '66 Oldsmobile Cutlass that he had completely restored—a great car! But the 330 cubic-inch four-barrel got terrible gas mileage, so he put it up for sale. It was appraised at around \$10,000, but no one was interested. Even dropping the price several times didn't help it sell. It was summer, and Rodney knew that college would be starting soon. His inability to sell the car was a "big enough deal" that he thought God was "trying to put



to God's prevenient grace. He remembers driving down I-75 to her house one Friday night when something miraculous happened. "I felt like the Lord just stepped into that car and said, 'Rodney, I want you to be a preacher. I want you to preach the gospel.' It was like BOOM—an audible-voice type of experience—a Damascus road type of experience. I remember immediately knowing that it was the decision of my lifetime. I was not even saved. Not even trying. Not even caring." Before the end of that trip, he submitted to God's call, but it frightened him. He thought: "I am not an 'up front' guy. I am an auto body man and painter." Although it seemed ridiculous to him, he knew he needed to be serious about it. He started "trying to do better" and started "cleaning up a little bit," although he was yet unsaved.

About four months later, Mark Cravens preached a youth revival at the Franklin Bible Methodist Church, where the Loper family had attended since 1988. Rodney went forward to pray at the altar and was con-

verted. He recalled that experience as being a "line of demarcation drawn in my life. From that moment forward, every aspect of my life was on an upward trajectory."

the brakes on." He called the Bible college to let them know he would not be coming in the fall after all. Rodney continued working on the Air Force base.

In late October, Tom Ellis, the GBS academic dean who attended the Franklin church, asked Rodney about his educational plans. Rodney shared his situation with Tom and admitted that "there is so much going on, I don't know."

The very next day, the phone rang at the Loper house. Rodney's mom answered it, turned to him, and said, "It's Mike Avery from God's Bible School." Rodney listened as President Avery invited him to "come check out GBS." The following week Rodney took off work and made the trip to Cincinnati. The president gave him a personal tour of campus. Rodney remembers one particular moment at the end of that tour. "I was standing down by the phone desk right outside that door, and I just knew that GBS was God's

place for me. And so I walked back into the registrar's office and signed up for classes that winter."

Rodney saw his arrival on the campus of GBS in January of 1997 as "a God thing, because that decision has marked my ministry. I see a stability and a confidence that I think is a direct result of the education that I received at GBS." He was immediately involved in campus life, working on the social dean staff as an RA (resident assistant), and singing in the Ministerial Quartet.

MEETING MELISSA

April 1998 marked another inflection point in Rodney's life. In his official capacity, he was standing on the ramp welcoming visitors to campus for VIP Day. One was Melissa Arender, a country girl from Missouri. She would come to the Hilltop that fall and steal his heart.

Melissa was born April 28, 1980, in Springfield, Missouri, to Kary and Martha Arender. The third of four children, she attended Mt. Zion Bible School in Ava, Missouri, from first through twelfth grades. A good pianist, she started playing for her church when she was

lowed to date. Rodney took her to that picnic. A year later they were married on September 4, 1999.

PASTORAL MINISTRY

The Franklin Bible Methodist Church, only 38 miles from campus, continued to be Rodney's church during his college years. It had a program for mentoring junior ministerial majors for up to two years. The Franklin pastor at the time, Marc Sankey, had previously been the first participant in this program. He offered Rodney the position of assistant pastor. Immediately upon returning from their honeymoon, the Lopers started working in the church—calling on bus children on Saturdays, assisting in Sunday services, and doing hospital visitations in the Cincinnati loop.

Rodney and Melissa first lived in a small apartment in the Tiffany House on the GBS campus. About six months later, they moved to a little "hole-in-the-wall" apartment in the nearby Golf Manor neighborhood. In addition to his work at the Franklin church, Rodney switched from being an RA to working on maintenance at GBS for about a year. He then got a job driving a forklift for a subsidiary of Procter and Gamble located in Burlington, Kentucky. Melissa, no longer in school,

Christmas party date



September 4, 1999



college graduation

around 10. Also, while a junior high student, she traveled for the school, playing the piano for choir and various other groups. Later, she also traveled two summers accompanying the Fuller Family.

After graduating from Mt. Zion Bible School in 1998, she enrolled in the Music Division at GBS. One of the first events of that school year was the Freshman Picnic held at the Bone Lick State Park in Union, Kentucky. Rodney was there, as the dean staff were in charge of this event. He saw Melissa playing volleyball and turned to Mark Stetler, the dean of men, and said, "See that girl over there? I am going to marry that girl."

Mark howled with laughter. "That's just crazy."

But it wasn't. Melissa remembers the fall all-school picnic as the first time new students were officially al-

lowed to date. Rodney took her to that picnic. A year later they were married on September 4, 1999.

was working as a nanny in Amberly Village. Rodney continued with his classes during the week, and in May 2001, he graduated with a BRE (Bachelor of Religious Education). Several days later, the Lopers were packed up and heading west in a moving truck.

They had considered pastoral invitations from various churches, but nothing seemed to be a good fit until they flew to Oklahoma City, where the Calvary Bible Fellowship Church had invited them to come for a trial sermon. As a result, on Father's Day 2001, the Lopers began their first full-time pastorate, serving the Oklahoma City church for six years. "It was the best



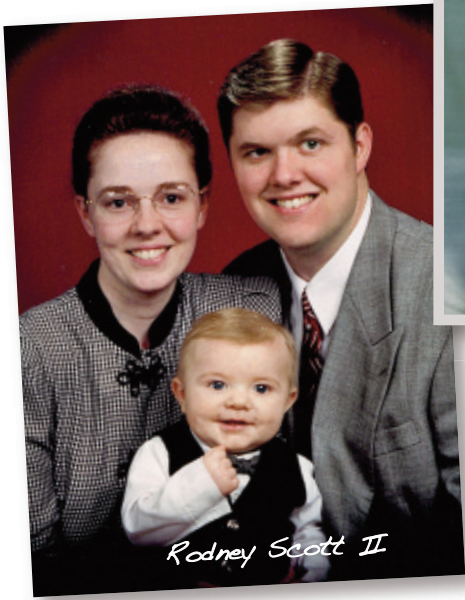
Breanna Marie



Brooklyn Larie



Colton Randy



Rodney Scott II

church in the world for a young guy," according to Rodney. Three months after moving to Oklahoma, they welcomed the arrival of their first child, Rodney Scott Loper II. Two-and-a-half years later, Breanna Marie was born, and 17-and-a-half months after that, Brooklyn Larie joined the family. The church also grew. There were twenty-two the first Sunday they arrived, and six years later, on their last Sunday, there were over eighty.

SEAGULLS AND OCEAN BREEZES

In 2007, Rodney was invited to become the Community Life Pastor of Hobe Sound Bible Church, Hobe Sound, Florida. But everything was going so well in Oklahoma—the ministry was growing. So Rodney declined the offer. Later, feeling checked in his spirit, he agreed to go and visit the church. Even before the final call came, however, he knew that God had a big change in store for his family. After tearful goodbyes to their friends in Oklahoma, the Lopers again packed a truck and made the long journey to south Florida.

Barely a year into their new ministry, the senior pastor of the church started talking about leaving. That was a bit confusing. Rodney was saying, "OK, Lord, obviously I don't know what happened here. I must have missed it, or You must have just wanted me out of Oklahoma City."

As the situation continued to simmer for a number of months, Rodney began lining up trial sermons with other churches. However, when the senior pastor officially did resign in September 2009, the church immediately named Rodney as its interim senior pastor. After a vote in January, he officially became the senior pastor.

Hobe Sound Bible Church is unique. Its pastor is automatically on the boards of FEA (Florida Evangelistic Association) and Hobe Sound Bible College. Rodney was also appointed to the executive committees of

both of those entities. As a result, it seemed like he was in meetings all the time. The church was doing well, but he felt that communications between its related ministries needed improvement. Rodney went in with the mentality that "A rising tide lifts all boats," and immediately began building relationships.

It was real work, but the Lord helped them make real progress.

When he was appointed as chair of the finance committee of the college, he was at first baffled. He had no background in finance. But this was an opportunity for him to learn new skills and begin looking at budgets and other financial records and reports. "Looking back, everything I did there was preparation for what was to come."

On April 23, 2010, the Loper family was blessed with a new addition, Colton Randy. His middle name was in memory of Rodney's oldest brother who had tragically drowned in a boating accident the year before. Rodney began graduate studies at Trinity Theological Seminary, graduating in 2013 with a Master's Degree in Leadership with an emphasis in Expository Preaching. He also developed a few hobbies for relaxation. "I love shooting guns, but shotgunning sports is what I really enjoy—skeet, trap, and sporting clays." He collects guns, and especially enjoys Smith and Wesson handguns. He also plays the guitar. "I beat around on it for my own pleasure. I strum."

MEANINGFUL MENTORSHIP

Since his college years, Rodney has had a special relationship with former GBS President Mike Avery. They are real friends. Initially Mike was his mentor—throwing his arm around Rodney's shoulder and saying, "How's it going, buddy?" While Rodney was in Oklahoma, Mike preached several revivals for his church, and their relationship began to mature. Mike became one of three men of various ages whom Rodney called for advice before making any major decisions. During Rodney's Hobe Sound years, he began scheduling Mike for a yearly Deeper Life Conference.

During one of those visits to Hobe Sound after GBS had begun its presidential search, Mike told Rodney, "You'd better keep your phone handy. The search committee will likely give you a call."

Rodney replied, "I am a pastor. I am just not interested in that headache."

A COMMITTEE COMES CALLING

Keith and Sharon Waggoner were the song evangelists at the Hobe Sound Sea Breeze Camp Meeting in February 2015. Rodney and Keith went out for break-

fast one morning, and, in the course of conversation, Keith, who was president of the GBS National Alumni Association, said, "I wonder who you think we ought to be looking at in this presidential search."

Rodney threw out a few names he thought should be considered. Then Keith chuckled and said, "You left out one name. What about Rodney Loper?"

In December 2015, Rodney was contacted by the Presidential Search Committee. They informed him that he had been recommended as a candidate and asked him to fill out a candidate profile to allow his name to be considered. At first he was hesitant, but he eventually complied. He was then asked to meet with the search committee for an interview. Rodney put it off for about a month. But while he was in a revival at Bedford, Indiana, he met with the committee at the Higher Ground Conference and Retreat Center in West Harrison, Indiana. After a several-hours-long interview and lunch, he was on his way back to Bedford.

Throughout the entire process, Rodney was at peace. "There was never any anxiousness. Never the thought that I just have to have this job." Back in Florida, he had a little side job doing simple household chores, such as changing light bulbs. On one occasion, a roof had a leak, and the owner, who was away in New York, asked Rodney to be at his house when the repairs were being made. As there was little else to do while the roofers worked, Rodney began praying about the GBS possibility. "Lord, if this is what You want, I need to know. I have to know." He opened the Bible app on his phone, scrolled through it, and eventually clicked on 2 Samuel 7:3: "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you" (ESV). Taking that as a word from the Lord, he went home and told Melissa, "They are voting us in." They did indeed. He was subsequently notified on May 23, 2016.

TAKING THE HELM

Rodney had kept Melissa informed about every aspect of the process from the beginning. The children were brought into the loop over time. One day, as Rodney was driving Scott home from a job, he looked over at him and said, "Scott, this is top secret, but GBS is considering me for its next president."

Scott looked at his father and said, "I didn't know it was GBS, but I was sitting in church awhile back and I felt like the Lord told me, 'Scott, get ready to leave. You are going to move.' And I have been preparing my heart and mind for that."

*arriving in Cincinnati
July 2016*



Something similar happened when Brooklyn was told. For Breanna, the prospect of the move was great news—an adventure in which she would make new friends. Colton was told last, after his graduation from kindergarten.

Once again, Rodney knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that this was in God's plan. Once again, after sad goodbyes to friends in Florida, the Loper family packed a truck and headed to a new destination—this time Cincinnati, back to where their family had begun. They arrived on campus July 27, 2016, and Rodney officially assumed the position of president-elect on August 15.

During the yearlong transition, he gradually took on more and more responsibility. "Mike [President Avery] was a Christian gentleman through the entire process. There were some days that I felt the transition was long, but I knew it was necessary." Several things stood out to him as he settled into campus life. "The appearance of the campus was striking. Everything was tidy. Everything was in place. I noticed that details mattered at GBS. I also noticed that the school operated with integrity. Mature systems with appropriate transparency support integrity. Transparency makes the organization feel clean. And then, there is the spirit of the place. The spirit of the place is important as well."

Over the past year, the Loper family has endeared itself to the campus family. The Sunday afternoon service (May 21) of Commissioning Weekend, was dedicated to the transfer of presidential power (see pp.14-15, *God's Revivalist*, June/July/August 2017). The ceremony, during which Michael Avery removed the official presidential robe and placed it on Rodney Loper, was quite moving. Melissa joined her husband on the platform as the trustees gathered around them, and President Avery prayed the dedicatory prayer. Rodney S. Loper was warmly welcomed as the eighth president of God's Bible School and College.

May God bless him and his family! ■



SEPTEMBER 2017

Meet the **PK's** [president's kids]

RODNEY SCOTT LOPER II age 16

Scott was told by his father about a possible move to Cincinnati as they rode home one day from a job in Hobe Sound, Florida. Even though God had already been preparing Scott for a move, he was both “really surprised” and “excited about the possibility.” To him, it was a “new thing.” He liked Hobe Sound and has a lot of friends there that he misses, but Florida? Not so much. When it came to the weather there, he was “definitely glad to get away from the heat and humidity.”

Upon arriving at GBS, he was surprised that it was in the middle of the city. “I knew it was in Cincinnati, but I wasn’t expecting this.” Somewhat of a shock to him initially, it didn’t take long for him to begin seeing the location’s benefits. “Now, I like everything. I like the city itself. I like driving around. It’s fun—going downtown, the riverside, and all that.”

A high school freshman during his first year at Aldersgate Christian Academy, he found the transition easier because he already knew some of the students, and his participation on “the basketball team helped a lot. It was fun.” He reports that he is a good student—“I do OK... A’s and B’s.” His favorite classes are history and social studies.

When asked about chores which fall to him at home, he replied, “We do chores, but it’s not written down. We pretty much know what we need to do. Take out the trash; mow the lawn.” In his spare time, he enjoys playing sports. “I like all sports. I am not sure I have a favorite, but I do like basketball and football.” On the ACA basketball team he mainly plays center. He is also a percussionist in the ACA band.

He does have an idea about what he might end up doing “for a living.” Although he is “leaning in a certain direction,” he is not willing to discuss those plans at this point.

BREANNA MARIE LOPER age 13

Breanna found out about a possible move to Cincinnati about a month after her older brother was told. However, she had her suspicions earlier. “Dad was going off to random meetings. I just thought... maybe?...I was excited.”

As with Scott, the hardest thing about leaving Florida was the separation from “the people in the church and all my friends.” When she arrived at GBS, she was surprised at “how big it was.” It was also a lot prettier than she thought it would be.

Adjusting to the new school as a seventh grader in Mr. David Reynolds’ class was easy for her, and she quickly made friends. She is also a good student—A’s and B’s. Her favorite class is “P.E., because I like sports, especially volleyball and soccer.”

Breanna was also pleasantly surprised by her new house. “It was bigger than I thought it would be.” She and Brooklyn have the whole upper floor to themselves. However, they do “let Colton come up and play.” They are responsible for keeping their entire area clean.

She plays the piano, flute, violin, saxophone, and some guitar (three or four chords). Piano is what she plays the best and likes the most. She is currently taking lessons from Ms. Jessica Smith. She also enjoys playing Monopoly. “It is fun if you have aggressive people.” She laments that “people in my family are not aggressive... but my cousins are.” She enjoys cooking and baking. She also likes her iPod. “It has games on it and you can get a Bible app.” She is proud of it



because she worked for it. "I had to practice my piano 15 minutes a day for four months, not missing one day." The person bribing her was her father. "He tried to do it with candy, and it never worked. He said if we didn't eat candy for a year he would give us \$100. He tried it two years in a row, and we all ate candy. He thought the piano deal would be like the candy, but it wasn't."

When she grows up, Breanna is considering a career in the medical field—possibly as a nurse.

BROOKLYN LARIE LOPER age 12

Brooklyn was surprised at how GBS is situated "in the middle of all these houses." It was difficult for her to leave Florida. She misses all her friends and the peo-

ple at church. "It was a change. It was different from Hobe Sound. Harder for me, easier for Breanna." Her first year at Aldersgate Christian Academy was as a sixth grader in Mr. Scott Blackmon's class. She is a good student and makes good grades, just like her older siblings. Her favorite subject is math. She also enjoys physical education.

In addition to helping her sister keep the third floor of the Loper house tidy, she does have other chores. "Whatever mom says. If she wants something done, she will make us get it done."

Brooklyn plays the piano, although she has not taken lessons since moving here. "I don't really like it. Right now, my instrument mainly is guitar." She and Scott are taking guitar lessons from Rick Tallman, who attends their church. She likes all sports and doesn't have a specific favorite one. "People would probably call me a 'tomboy.' I like the outdoors a lot." She also loves to read. When asked what she wants to do when she grows up, she replied, "I am not sure. Wherever the Lord leads me."

COLTON RANDY LOPER age 7

Colton was the last one in the family to learn about the move to Cincinnati. His parents waited until he graduated from kindergarten to tell him. When he found out, he was "really sad." He liked Florida. He was born there and had friends in both the school and church. Although it has taken him a while, he says he is now "kinda getting used to Cincinnati."

He didn't expect GBS "to be so big." His first year in the academy was as a first grader in Mrs. Melissa Gresham's class. He makes "pretty good grades." His favorite subject? "Recess. We get to play. Normally it is a surprise, but sometimes we have free play—doing whatever we want—usually in the gym. Sometimes we get to play out in the park."

Colton has a specific chore assigned to him. "I normally clean the baseboards downstairs." In his free time, he likes to play basketball, soccer, and football. Inside he enjoys listening to stories—Adventures in Odyssey and Down Gilead Lane.

Colton wants to be a pastor when he grows up. ■





SUMMER TRAVELING GROUPS

GBS had two trios that traveled this summer. Grace traveled June 5 through August 11 making 23 stops (7 youth camps, 5 camp meetings, 11



churches) in 10 states (AL, OH, KY, IN, AR, OK, MO, MI, NY, PA). Grace is comprised of Mica Terrian (soprano; junior), Cale Manley (tenor; freshman), Priscilla Vernon (alto; junior), and Autumn Quesenberry (pianist; freshman).

Proclaim traveled June 11 through July 27 making 20 stops (4 youth camps, 4 camp meetings, 12 churches) in 7 states (IN, IL, KS, MO, MI, OH, KY). Proclaim is comprised of Erica Biggers (soprano; junior), Lane Webb (tenor; freshman), Rachel Craig (alto; sophomore), and Motoo Hamada (pianist; senior).



We thank not only these PR groups, but also our faculty and staff members who represented GBS so well at various camp meetings over the summer.



HILLTOP PIANO INSTITUTE

In its third year, the Hilltop Piano Institute once again brought a great group of piano students and teachers to campus for a week of intensive music skills and knowledge development. Students learned through individual and collaborative lessons, theory classes, and music fundamentals, and participated in recitals, art classes, and group activi-

REVIVALIST FAMILY

On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, significant events scheduled throughout the "Revivalist Family," and brief news notes from across the Holiness Movement.

MARRIAGES



Karen Olsen (BA '16) to Jason Albertson (BA '16), July 1, 2017, at the Wesleyan Evangelistic Church in Dayton, OH, Rev. John Manley officiating. Karen teaches language arts grades 5-8 in Aldersgate Christian Academy. Jason is the Administrative Assistant for the GBS Graduate Program in which he is enrolled as well. The Albertsons reside in Cincinnati, OH.

Sarah Bond (GBS 2012-16) to Andrew Smith (HS '12; GBS 2012-14), July 15, 2017, at the Independent



Holiness Church in Moberly, MO, Frank Smith officiating. Andrew is the Administrative Assistant for Academic Affairs and Student Affairs at GBS and is completing a BA in Mathematics from the University of Cincinnati. Sarah is finishing a Bachelor of Music Education from Northern Kentucky University, which includes certification to teach music in public schools. The Smiths reside in Cincinnati, OH.



BIRTHS

To **Valerie (Nichols) (BA '06) and Adam (BA '06) Profitt**, a son, **Clay Daniel**, born June 16, 2017, at the Atrium Medical Center, Franklin, OH. Adam is the

ties throughout the week. We're grateful to our music faculty who make an event like HPI possible!

GBS MINISTRY LIBRARY

In one of our recent strategic planning sessions, our constituents asked us to give back to the community in a tangible way. The new GBS Ministry Library is one of the ways we're giving back. Sermons, devotionals, and Christian living articles categorized by topic have been made accessible on our website (www.gbs.edu/ministry-library). New materials will be added each month, making it a place where you can be inspired, encouraged, and filled with hope.

GBS NAMED TOP WORKPLACE

In June, GBS was recognized for the seventh consecutive year as a Top Workplace in Cincinnati. "I've believed for a long time that the most important part of an organization is its people," Vice President for

Academic Affairs Aaron Profitt said. "Another Top Workplaces recognition reminds me how grateful I am to work with dedicated, mission-focused, godly people here at GBS!"

The Top Workplaces program recognizes organizations whose employees rate it highly in an anonymous online survey conducted by Workplace Dynamics. Regional lists of workplaces are published for dozens of regions around the US. Employees rate their organization in several areas, and the Top Workplaces organization reports on its website that over 4,000 organizations participate annually. As in some of the other years, GBS was the only institution of higher education to make the list.

Selected employee com-

ments about GBS are included in the college's Top Workplaces profile:

"The staff are incredible to work with. Their honesty and godly character are trademarks manifested in their work and interactions."

Working at GBS "allows me to pursue my loves: learning and teaching."

"What we do has great value in educating and mentoring young lives. I work with the best students and colleagues." ■



Associate Pastor of the Bible Methodist Church, Franklin, OH, and Valerie is a stay-at-home mom. Clay was welcomed by siblings Aubrey (8), Annie (6), and Adley (2). The Profitts live in Franklin, OH.

To **Kendra (Smith) (BA '11) and Dustin (BA '12)**



Muir, a son, **Dayton Emery**, born June 17, 2017, at The Christ Hospital, Cincinnati, OH. Dustin is a media specialist at GBS and Kendra is an instructor in Aldersgate Christian Academy. Dayton was welcomed by his sister Kallie (2).

DEATHS

Fern Esther (Amolsch) Kramer, 85, of Littlestown, PA, entered God's eternal care on Sunday, March 12,



2017. Fern was born in 1931 in Ida, MI, the daughter of Theodore and Fromilda (Smith) Amolsch.

She graduated valedictorian of her GBS high school class in 1949, and earned a Music Certificate in Evangelistic Playing the same year. She continued in the college department, majoring in music and completing her studies in just three years (BA '52).

She was the wife of Rev. Charles R. Kramer (HS '49) who died in 1985. She was a very active pastor's wife for 33 years and was always very involved, serving in various capacities, especially in the area of music. For 25 years, she and her husband hosted Melodies of Praise on WHVR radio. She shared her love of music by teaching piano lessons for over 60 years. ➡

She is survived by her children Cheryl, Dean, and Dale; 6 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and sister, Virginia. A memorial service was held at the Keymar Evangelical Wesleyan Church, Keymar, MD, Pastor Jade Rogers officiating with burial following in Rest Haven Cemetery, Frederick, MD.



Lavena Marie Crooks, 89, passed away peacefully on May 15, 2017, after a long battle with Alzheimer's. The fifth of eight children, Lavena was from Deora, CO, where her parents, Arthur and Reta Dockum, homesteaded and ranched. After a dust storm destroyed the ranch, the Dockum family moved to May, OK. Arthur pastored a church, where the Crooks family also attended. After high school and several years in Bible college, Lavena and Ray Crooks began dating and were married in 1950.

Beginning in 1955, Ray and Lavena, with their two small daughters, spent seven years teaching and preaching. The Crooks also spent time on the campus of Kansas City College and Bible School, Overland Park, KS, where Lavena worked tirelessly as a professor and as an editor at the Herald and Banner Press. While Ray pastored the Fairbanks Native Chapel in North Pole, Alaska, for eight years, Lavena served as a comptroller with the Alaska Bureau of Land Management.

Lavena thrived while playing the organ in churches, directing choirs and dramas in schools, sketching and creating chalk drawings, and writing plays. In addition to writing for Christian publications, she authored two books. In her final years, the Crooks resided in Colorado Springs, where her husband passed away in 2015.

Lavena is survived by two daughters, Pamela and Patricia; nine grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; two sisters, Rosetta and Ardena; and two brothers, Burl and Floyd. Michelle (Robinson) Witt, one of Lavena's grandchildren, is an adjunct professor at GBS where her husband, Lyle, chairs the Division of Education and Professional Studies. Funeral services were held at the Church of God (Holiness), Overland Park, KS, with burial following at Floral Hills Memorial Gardens, Kansas City, MO.



Doris Mae Starr, 91, of Morgan Township, OH, passed away June 28, 2017, at her home. She was born on July 10, 1925, in Okeana, OH, the daughter of William and Evelyn (Grau) Bolser. She graduated from Morgan School. On September 22, 1945, she married Chester Starr, and together they raised four children. Doris was a member of the Auburn Bible Methodist Church and Morgan Township Senior Citizens. She was also active in Haitian Missions. She is survived by three daughters, Linda, Lois, and Kaye; a son, Gordon; nine grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Alvin and Russell; and two sisters, Josephine

and Lou Ellen. The funeral service was held at Charles C. Young Funeral Home, Ross, OH, with burial at the New London Cemetery, Shandon, OH.



Samuel Wesley Belcher, 51, of New Castle, IN, passed away July 14, 2017, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital following a lengthy illness. He was born on January 7, 1966, in Scranton, PA, the fifth child of the late Charles Wesley and Elizabeth May (Porter) Belcher. Growing up on the family farm in West Clifford Township, he attended Clifford Elementary School and Mountain View Junior High and High School, graduating from the Tunkhannock Pilgrim Holiness School.

Sam attended GBS in 1991 and met Cheryl Lynn Raines. They began dating in 1996 and were married the following year. God blessed their home with four children: Elizabeth, Charles, Rachel, and Andrea. Sam worked in the construction industry and attended the Pilgrim Holiness Church, New Castle, IN.

In addition to his wife and children, Sam is survived by two sisters, Una and Samantha; a brother, Martin; a niece and three nephews; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Funeral services were held at Sproles Family Funeral Home, Pastor Jonathan Fall and Pastor Don Raines officiating, with burial following at South Mound Cemetery, New Castle, IN.



Larry Houck, 70, of Mount Vernon, OH, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, July 22, 2017, at the Laurels of Mount Vernon. He was born on October 8, 1946, in Bellefonte, PA, to the late James and Pauline (Biddle) Houck. Larry was a graduate of GBS (ThB '70) and sang in the school's quartet. He subsequently earned two graduate degrees from Asbury Theological Seminary: Master of Divinity, 1977; Doctor of Religion, 1989. Larry pastored Free Methodist churches in Pennsylvania, and the Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, Danville, OH. He taught in the religion department at Greenville College (IL) for six years and at Mount Vernon Nazarene University (OH) for ten years. He served in missions in Indonesia for 2 years and in the Philippines for 2 years. He was World Missions Director of the Free Methodist Church for 6 years.

Larry enjoyed teaching and writing. He published a book in 2015 on spiritual formation. He was a member of the North Central Ohio District of the Church of the Nazarene for the last twelve years. He loved music and played the trumpet and harp. He also enjoyed whittling and working with wood.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon (Hughes); son, Michael James; two brothers, James and Randy; and sister, Linda. A memorial service was held at the Lakeholm Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Ray LaSalle officiating, with burial in the Mount Vernon Memorial Gardens Cemetery. ■

Introducing My Administrative Team

by President Rodney Loper



I would like to introduce the GBS administrative team to the Revivalist Family. Some of them have been around for a while; others are new. Some have been working in the same area of service during all of their GBS employment; others have progressed up the ranks or made lateral moves to fill a need. The bottom line is this—GBS employees are fantastic, and together they form a great team! This is one of the reasons why GBS has been identified as a Top Workplace in Cincinnati for the seventh year in a row (see p.15). I'm sure you will appreciate reading what our team leaders share on the following pages about their accomplishments and goals for their particular areas of responsibility.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

David Frederick, VP for Finance

Dave began working in various financial jobs immediately following high school graduation in 1979. His office work for a bank and an electrical supply company, as well as his position of internal auditor for the Hershey Ice Cream Company, prepared him for the significant role he has played at GBS since 1995. David and his wife Charlotte (Potteiger) (BA '86) have four adult children: David III, Anthony, Alicia, and Christina; and one grandchild. For 22 years, Dave has done an outstanding job in the finance department of GBS. During this time he has worked as business manager and finance director. I am pleased to announce that I have named Dave the Vice President for Finance. He will continue working in his current capacity as well as providing strong budgetary oversight to all the departments of GBS. —RL

We are very thankful for the progress God has enabled us to make in the financial area at GBS. We not only anticipate that continued help, but we also are doing our part by improving systems and looking for other opportunities to keep us moving forward.

Much has changed since I first arrived on campus. We were basically operating out of the school's checkbook then. However, over the last 22 years, God has helped us to put systems in place to set the stage for developing a robust budget process that involves the input of budget managers from the various departments. As a result, budgets have been carefully planned and followed. Additionally, by isolating and restricting bequests, GBS began to build cash-flow reserves to help smooth out day-to-day operations by allowing temporary borrowing from these internal funds. We accomplished that at the same time the institution's long-term debt was eliminated. There are many

other accomplishments in the financial area that we could mention. Suffice it to say that we are very thankful for them all!

Of course we will continue to keep our accounts payable under 30 days, keep payroll current, and continue working to improve systems and processes. Let me mention one of these which will receive close focus in the next year or so—the budgeting process.

As budgeting became more institutionalized, areas for improvement were made apparent. For example,



while budget managers were involved in helping to create the budgets for their areas, they needed better assistance in tying purchase requests to specific budgeted areas. To address this, about two years ago we created a paperless budget request system that required the identification of appropriate links to the budget. This year we will take another step forward by giving budget managers more budgetary control. This will help our various departments to have more “ownership” in managing all aspects of their areas. As finance director, I will oversee, direct, and manage these budget centers.

In conclusion, with careful, prudent management, the progress we have made has enabled the institution to possess necessary resources for mission fulfillment, including achievement of educational goals. The institution is grateful for God's provision and continues to rely on Him for guidance and wisdom in resource development and management.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Aaron D. Profitt, VP for Academic Affairs

Aaron joined the GBS team in 2004 after receiving a BA in English and Political Science (2001) and an MA in English (2004), both from the University of Kansas where he also served for three years as a graduate teaching assistant. At GBS, he served for one year as Director of Admissions and Financial Aid and taught in both the college and high school departments. In 2005 he was asked to chair the Division of General Education and become the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. In 2012 he was released from division leadership and continued as Director of Institutional Research and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, where he continued to learn academic administration. In 2013, Aaron became Vice President for Academic Affairs upon the retirement of his predecessor. He subsequently completed his PhD in Educational Studies from the University of Cincinnati (2015). Aaron and his wife Lisa (Witt) have three sons, Elliott, Simon, and Eben. —RL

In his hymn "A Prayer for Children" (1763), Charles Wesley asked God to

*Unite the pair so long disjoin'd,
Knowledge and vital piety:
Learning and holiness combined,
And truth and love, let all men see.*

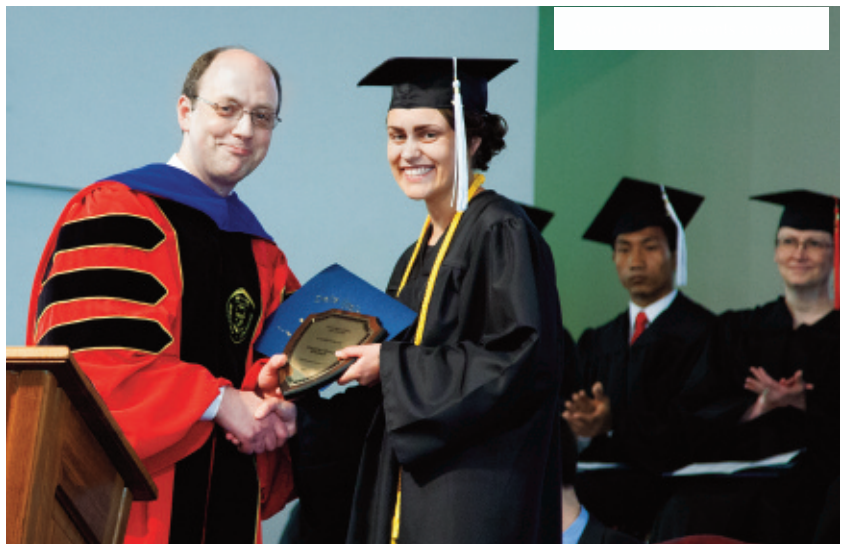
For young or old, this prayer sounds an educational keynote, one that fits the GBS approach to academics. In fact, the faculty's Educated Christian Statement echoes Wesley: What he calls "knowledge" the Statement calls "loving learning," and what Wesley calls "vital piety" the Statement categorizes as "loving God" and "loving others."

Over the past year, as President Loper engaged with the campus family, it was clear that he shares this vision of higher education. Yes, most colleges value learning, and some even value service to others, but almost none care about loving and serving God. That falls to the purview of truly Christian organizations. The GBS approach to higher education, though, integrates all three. Head knowledge matters! Heart relationship matters! Hands-on ministry matters!

Under President Loper's leadership, we will remain committed to this three-strand approach to education. We want to remain a place noted for academic quality—where holiness means excellence—and for strong relationships throughout our campus family. But most important, we want students to experience transformational encounters with God that call, compel, and propel them into lives of radical discipleship to Jesus Christ.

How does this transformation happen? One key way is through involving students in ministry. Most obviously this occurs in Christian Service, included in every degree program. In the 2016-17 academic year, students ministered in dozens of churches and more than a dozen other ministries. Recently, Amit Dutta, who leads Christian Service, has worked with these ministries to increase active roles for students to fill—because there's no substitute for real-world ministry!

Additionally, academic majors include practical training. Music Education and Church Music majors regularly minister in services on and off campus, including traveling in our musical groups. Ministerial majors



preach in the classroom, in campus services, and in churches. Education majors complete a rigorous, capstone, student-teaching experience after being exposed to many teaching opportunities throughout the curriculum—a curriculum growing in strength as we pursue programmatic accreditation with Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and licensure approval. Students from all programs engage in classes like Open Air Sketchboard Ministry, which involves them in outdoor preaching/teaching opportunities. Throughout our programs, doing is an important part of learning!

Most recently, we announced exciting developments in our missions program. Rather than a standalone "missions major," we have developed a different approach that provides missions education in three ways:

- A standalone 2-year missions degree
- A missions minor open to every GBS BA student, as well as to all GBS alumni with a bachelor's degree
- A missions cognate that can be included in the Biblical and Theological Studies major or the Integrative Studies major

Additionally, we want missions students to have direct connection with frontline mission work. To accomplish this, we are launching a Visiting Professor of Missiology program. Each year, we will bring a current or recent missionary or a missions leader to campus multiple times for teaching, preaching, and mentoring. These visiting professors will connect our missions students directly with God's frontline work in various fields, providing them with multiple perspectives on how mission work can be done. For this current academic year (2017-18), Rev. Steve Stetler—GBS alumnus, veteran Christian educator, preacher, and missionary—will serve as Visiting Professor of Missiology.

As we enter a new presidency on the historic Hilltop, we are excited to continue our 117-year tradition of education that addresses head, heart, and hands; that weaves together knowledge and piety. It matters—for our students, and for God's Kingdom!

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Ryan Watters, Director of Student Affairs

Ryan graduated from GBS in 2011 with a BA in Ministerial Education. He has worked in Student Affairs since then and has furthered his education with an MA in Counseling from Cincinnati Christian University (2014). He currently serves as Director of Student Affairs. He and his wife Danielle (Sobie) have a daughter, Grace, who is 19 months old. —RL

Academic excellence is truly a core component of who we are at GBS as an institution of higher education. Our accreditation and the satisfaction levels of our graduates speak firmly to that reality. However, that is certainly not the entirety of who we are as an institution. To assist students in achieving success, we strive to create a warm, supportive atmosphere that will enable them to succeed in their journey. Over the past year, President Loper has repeatedly voiced his support and guidance for the work of the student affairs department as we are on the front lines of creating this supportive atmosphere. We work to create this environment in several ways.

First, we keep Christ paramount in our efforts. Whether it's in staff meetings, working individually with students, during discipleship groups, or in prayer meetings,

we are continually seeking the face of God on behalf of our student body. He has called them here for a purpose, and we deeply desire to keep in step with His will for their lives and the role He would have us play in their journey.

Second, we hire staff who truly want to invest in the lives of young people and are gifted in mentorship. Both our dean of men, Daryl Muir, and our dean of women, Sonja Vernon, are deeply committed to seeing students walk in a deeper relationship with Christ and develop personally into the men or women God has called them to be. This same commitment can be found in our resident assistants who share this burden to see their peers succeed in life and grow in Christ. Under President Loper's guidance, we are planning to increase the role of peer-mentorship in the coming year by better equipping our resident assistants and upperclassmen to become mentors themselves. This truly embodies the instruction of 2 Timothy 2:2.

Third, we provide professional counseling services for our student body. Somewhere in the process of moving away from home and taking the first steps towards autonomy, most students face struggles which they find difficult to handle alone. Our goal is to have Christ-centered, professional counselors on-hand for students who find themselves needing that extra sup-



port. The counseling staff are also equipped for vocational guidance and can help students navigate the often confusing pathways of deciding how to focus their time and energy.

Fourth, we promote accountability as a way of life. This is perhaps one of the most obvious distinctions that sets us apart from secular institutions. We certainly believe in fostering autonomy, but we also feel that structure is important as students move out on their own. We work hard to create an environment that provides this structure and oversight while still allowing students to mature, thus better preparing them for the future. Our commitment,

and that of President Loper, is to intuitively adapt to the needs of this generation of students while maintaining our moorings in the bedrock of biblical fidelity.

I am excited about the future God has in store for our department under President Loper's leadership! I believe God has great things in store for the students at GBS.

CONSTITUENT RELATIONS

Marc Sankey, VP for Constituent Relations

Marc began serving as Assistant Pastor of the Bible Methodist Church, Franklin, Ohio, during his last two years at GBS and for one year following his graduation (BRE '94). Afterward, he served the Franklin church as Senior Pastor for 10 years. In 2005 he went to Mexico as a missionary, returning to the states in 2011 to serve as Vice President of Evangelistic Faith Missions. In 2017 he joined the GBS staff as Vice President for Constituent Relations. Marc and his wife Melodie (Miller) (BA '94) have three sons, Jordan, Cameron, and Logan. —RL

Prompted by the vision of the Loper Administration, the Office of Constituent Relations has been created to oversee the advancement of God's Bible School



through an effective communication effort and to manage relations with donors, churches, alumni, students, and the general public. As the title suggests, the Vice President for Constituent Relations is focused on cultivating relationships that enhance the potential for future growth and development of GBS.

This office supervises two departments of the institution: communications and advancement. The communications department of GBS includes *God's Revivalist*, social media, photography, and graphic design. Through it, we are responsible to provide event publicity and advertisements for *God's Revivalist* as well as to promote and market GBS to the local community.

The advancement department has many important centers of work:

- **Church Relations:** The goal is to communicate effectively with denominations, individual churches, and various camp meetings; and to maximize the effectiveness of our College Choir, Symphonic Wind and String Ensemble, and smaller groups that tour throughout the academic year and the summer.
- **Public Relations:** The school is also represented at the various Mt. Auburn organizations, such as the Chamber of Commerce, Community Council, and

Community Development Corporation. GBS personnel not only attend these meetings to be a link between GBS and the community, but they also serve in these organizations as officers and trustees.

- **Donor Relations:** The office focuses on the development of our donor base to secure funding for special projects and to establish the long-term financial viability of the institution. This includes, but is not limited to, the management and marketing of planned giving programs and the oversight of fundraising efforts, such as the annual Phonathon and the 1810 Sustaining Donors program.
- **Alumni Relations:** Another primary goal of the office is to develop a stronger bond with our alumni, offering them significant benefits as a result of their relationship to the school (see page 26). Our online resource page is another example of this initiative.
- **Student Relations:** We also seek to reach out to potential and existing students by offering them excellence in higher Christian education. Our mission is not only to provide students with academic excellence, but also to cultivate for them a dynamic and fervent spiritual atmosphere in which to meet God. Our student relations personnel are streamlining the enrollment process and producing easily accessible materials to educate potential students and their families in the practical matters of getting into college.

In the end, the foundational goal of our office is to strengthen constituent relations. GBS simply cannot exist without people who fervently believe and invest in our mission of training men and women to reach a lost world for Jesus Christ.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Richard Miles, Campus Administrator (and VP for Student Affairs)

Richard enrolled at GBS in 1970 and immediately became involved in Student Affairs, working as a dorm monitor and later as Assistant Dean of Men while a student. After graduating with a BRE (Bachelor of Religious Education) degree in 1974, he embarked on a 23-year career in pastoral ministry and Christian education. In 1997, he returned to GBS as Vice President for Student Affairs and completed an MA in Counseling from Liberty University in 2004. In 2016, Richard became the GBS Campus Administrator while continuing as Vice President for Student Affairs. Richard and his wife Brenda (Hodge) (BA '73) have two adult children, Brent and Amy, and 7 grandchildren. —RL

The crowning achievement of God's Bible School is found in the long list of faithfully trained Christian servants. Its people, both students and employees, are the marks of its success. Though its success is people,

these people regularly return to the brick-and-mortar facilities to revisit their life-changing memories from the Hilltop. Within these buildings their lives were transformed, ministry skills were honed, and friendships were established. Without the property and the build-



ings on it, the training and transformations would have been quite difficult!

We see that God valued His facilities team when He gave directions to build the tabernacle and temple. These craftsmen were important because God's facilities were important. President Loper continues to hold to the belief that we honor God by properly car-

ing for the property entrusted to us. Regularly we experience visitors on campus who compliment the attractive condition of the campus.

While I was president of the Bible Methodist campground in Pell City, Alabama, Billy Smith built some of our buildings. He was not just a builder, he was a craftsman. When an inspector told him that he had not seen buildings built this well in many years, Billy answered by saying that he was a Christian and his work was his testimony. Billy expressed the philosophy of God's Bible School regarding our property. Our campus is a part of our testimony. It is difficult, and sometimes impossible, to maintain the buildings, grounds, and vehicles in a way that reflects the excellence God deserves,

but because of the hard working maintenance technicians and the generous supporters, we will continue to get as near to that goal as possible.

The Facilities and Grounds Team is committed to supporting the mission of GBS by fulfilling our mission to *create and maintain an appealing, professional, and safe campus conducive to learning and comfortable living*. The department maintains, repairs, and cleans seven major campus buildings (Knapp Memorial Building, Revivalist Memorial Building, Miller-Deets Student Center, R.E. McNeill Music Hall, M.G. Standley Administration Building, R.G. Flexon Library, Patterson Facilities Building), as well as 27 houses/apartment buildings with 51 employee residences. Included in these is the Allan Clarence Strong Residence Hall with its 11 apartments. The crew maintains about twenty acres and oversees snow and ice removal in the winter.

The institution maintains four vans, three covered trailers, two flatbed trailers, two pickup trucks, a Bobcat skid steer loader, coach (bus), utility vehicles, and a host of other equipment to keep the campus in good condition.

We are looking toward the future with the anticipation that we will be able to continue maintaining our facilities with excellence and build new facilities that will enhance our mission.

Regularly I remind the crew that their work is Kingdom work. Without them, all the other Kingdom work will suffer. I want them to know that their good work glorifies the Father (Matt. 5:16) and is to be done *heartily unto the Lord and not unto men* (Col. 3:23). Their work is a testimony to the Lord by making our campus a testimony to the Lord. ■



photo by Nathan Dahler

Dear Phil

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FAITH AND OBEDIENCE

How do you reconcile the “relational model” you mentioned in your last article with the Scripture’s explicit statements that we will be judged by our works (e.g., Matt. 7:21; Rom. 2:5-16)? Don’t we need to have both a relational model and a performance model? —Brian

Dear Brian,

Protestants agree that faith, not obedience, is the condition of our acceptance with God both at (Eph. 2:8) and after salvation (Gal. 2:20). Faith is the condition of our acceptance. Obedience is the evidence of our faith. Faith that saves obeys. Faith that does not obey does not save. Or, as James puts it, “Faith without works is dead” (James 2:26).

When Scripture talks about us being judged by our works (Prov. 24:12; Matt. 16:27), it means God will determine whether we have saving faith by whether we were workers of righteousness or workers of iniquity (cf. Matt. 7:21). Since the faith that saves obeys, if we were not obedient, then our faith was not valid. If we did obey, our faith was valid. In the words of Romans 2, eternal life is given to those who persevere “in doing good,” and thereby demonstrate their faith.

The key question we must answer is this: must obedience be perfect for one to remain God’s child? This is where a focus on our relationship with God through Christ is crucial.

When I speak of a “performance model” versus a “relationship model,” I am talking specifically about a model of *ongoing* acceptance with God. On what basis does God continue to accept me as one of His own—because of my performance (performance model) or because of my relationship to Christ through faith (relational model)? Is my relationship with God the result of my works, or is my relationship with God the context of my works?

Some of my students feel that God is pleased with them if they perform perfectly. To the degree that they do not perform perfectly, God is displeased and does not accept them. These young people want to please God. They want to live in relationship with Him. But in their minds, any sin of commission or omission means they are no longer saved, they are out of the kingdom, and they have to get saved again.

A student once told me that he had been backslidden all semester. When I asked him why, he said that he had struggled to read his Bible as consistently as he thought he should, and so he gave up, since falling short in Bible reading meant he was already not saved (again).

Such a “performance model” of ongoing acceptance with God is precisely what I see Paul condemning in Galatians: “Having begun by the Spirit, are you made perfect by the flesh?” (Gal. 3:3); “Does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?” (Gal. 3:5). “You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. For we through the Spirit, by faith, are waiting for the hope of righteousness” (Gal. 5:4-5).

A relational model of acceptance with God does not give believers the license to rebelliously practice willful sin in their lives (1 John 3:4-6). Those who are born of God cannot practice sin (1 John 3:9)! Rather, a relational model highlights that God deals with us as with sons, chastening us when we need it so that we will not be judged with the world (1 Cor. 11:32; Heb. 12:5-10).

The NT consistently proclaims believers’ freedom from sin’s power and calls us to cease from sin and live in holiness (John 5:14; Eph. 4:28), though it also recognizes that believers can and may sometimes sin (1 John 2:1-2; Matt. 18:15). Paul told the Galatians to stand fast in their faith-based liberty in Christ. He also said they must use their freedom to serve others through love (Gal 5:1, 13). The liberty of relationship with Christ is not license for fleshly living. A relational model sees our acceptance with God through faith as the basis for an ongoing life of obedience which will ultimately hear “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Blessings,
Philip ■

A. Philip Brown II is the Graduate Program director and a member of the ministerial faculty at God’s Bible School and College.



MILLENNIALS "SCHOOLED" ON ADULTHOOD

A school in Oregon is offering classes to teach Millennials basic skills required to function as adults, such as money management, time management, personal relationships, and even how to make a meal. Some believe this is necessary because the breakdown of the family structure has put many Millennials at a disadvantage when it comes to learning adult skills they might have learned from their parents.

HOWARD DEAN SAYS NO ROOM FOR PRO-LIFERS IN DEM PARTY

Former Democratic National Chair Howard Dean stressed that his party must purge itself of pro-life advocates in order to stage a comeback. He was asked if the party had room for adherents who lean left on economic matters while leaning right on social issues (i.e. abortion and same-sex marriage). Dean insisted that the time had come and gone for the party to embrace those with a conservative worldview.

MUSLIMS COMING TO CHRIST

Muslims around the world are coming to Christ in record numbers through dreams and visions. Michael Snyder, writing for *Charisma News*, shared stories of Muslims who had supernatural encounters with Christ. For example, a former ISIS fighter said he had a dream of a man in

white telling him, "You are killing my people." The Muslim man had been given a Bible by a Christian man whom he later killed. It was after he began to read the Bible that Jesus came to him in a dream and invited him to be one of His followers.

MARRIAGE IS STILL THE GOLD STANDARD OF FAMILY STABILITY

A study by the Social Trends Institute and the Institute for Family Studies found marriage provided significantly more stability for children than cohabiting, regardless of education level or geography. For example, the data showed that cohabiting parents split up twice as often as married parents, and, as a result, the affected children experienced more unhappiness, school disruptions, and teen pregnancies.

ANTISEMITISM: GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS

The good news from a recent study on antisemitic violence is that violent incidents dropped 12% worldwide in 2016. The bad news is that there was a rise in incidents among English-speaking countries. One of the most startling findings is a 45% increase in antisemitism on U.S. campuses, which the report stated have become a hot-bed for antisemitism, often under the guise of anti-Zionism and due to increased pro-Palestinian movements, such as BDS (Boycott-Divestment-Sanction) on campuses. ■



student focus

JOSHUA WILSON, of Lacona, NY, came to GBS because of "the impressive academics" and God's direction. He acknowledged that GBS has changed him tremendously. "My knowledge has increased concerning God and His Word. I have grown spiritually. For example, my devotional life has been improved, my outlook on ministry has been broadened and fine-tuned, and my passion for His Word and His work has been greatly increased." He enjoys "the classes, the professors, the chapels, and the fellowship" at GBS. "It would be too hard to state just one thing because they are all absolutely vital to the GBS experience in making it what it is."

Josh is a senior in the ministerial program. His "ultimate dream" is to be active in ministry—pastoring and church planting. He says his training has prepared him to teach truth confidently. While he aspires to being successful, he defines it as being obedient "to what God tells you to do in every area of your life, at every point in your life." ■

Seventy-five percent of our students receive some form of financial aid which enables them to attend GBS. If you would like to support students with financial needs, you may send a gift to:

Student Fund
God's Bible School and College
1810 Young Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

or give online anytime at
www.gbs.edu/givenow

END OF AN ERA

President Avery says farewell

During his last day on campus as president of God's Bible School, Thursday, June 29, 2017, Michael Avery gathered all of the summer workers into the Oswald Chambers Parlor during the normal summer prayer time at 9:00 a.m. for his final comments and prayer. A digital audio recorder captured those remarks, which have been transcribed, edited, and included here.

I do want to share something out of 1 Kings 3, when Solomon was transitioning into the kingdom and David was phasing out. Solomon said, "Now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. Therefore give to your servant an understanding heart to judge your people, that I may discern between good and evil." [NKJV]

One thing that has always caught my attention about that story is Solomon's **sense of history**. He clearly understood that God had already been at work. David had served for 40 years, and now Solomon was coming onto the scene. Transitions happen. History unfolds and unwinds. Solomon had a sense of history.

He also had a **sense of destiny**. He knew God had made him king. He knew that it was all in God's timing. This was God's pattern and God's will.

Finally, he also had a tremendous **sense of humility**. He said, "This can't happen without your help." And he asked for a discerning heart, which really means a listening ear. He wanted to be able to hear what was being said.

So **my closing words to you** are: It has been a great sense of history, this place. It goes back 117 years. In this very room where we sit, Chambers taught. Outside on that sidewalk (or the one before that sidewalk), Cowman prayed and looked across to the rising sun and told God he would go to Japan by faith. All through these halls the great saints of yesteryear have walked. The bannister outside this

room was touched by Uncle Buddy Robinson, E.E. Shellhammer, Joseph Smith, and many others on their way upstairs. Two of the upstairs offices were then a single room—a dining room where the Standley's entertained city guests and preachers from all around the world. What is now the Schmul Center used to be Nettie Peabody's bedroom where she began her "faith walk," claiming property for God. It started in that bedroom.

History is everywhere, and God has been at work. And the beauty of it is that He is continuing to work. And destiny unfolds. And, as sure as I am sitting here, God has chosen Rodney Loper to lead the institution forward. It is going to be the golden years, and no one is any happier than Ruth and I. We have prayed every day for Rodney and Melissa and for all of you. It has been a very interesting thing to step off campus and start praying for people on campus. You pray in a different way than you did when you were here and it was all around you. It is just a different thing. But we have prayed for you every day—praying that God will continue to help you and bless you and use you in every way possible. Again, thanks for all that you have done.

Let's pray together. I am sure there are prayer requests, but today I just want to pray for you.

Father, we thank You this morning for the sense of history that is wrapped up in this place and in this moment, as we move on and anticipate a wonderful future for the school. We thank Thee for all that You have done in the past from Knapp all the way down to this present moment. And all those great men and women who have walked this campus and sanctified it with their labor in offices tucked away here and there—many names that we don't even know, and we'll never know, but we are so grateful that they were here; they participated; they left their impact on this institution.

We are grateful for those who sit around this table and stand around this room today—men and women who love GBS, who have given their time and their energy—and have done so at great sacrifice—to be a part of the institution, a part of what is going on here on the Hilltop. I pray Your blessing on them in a very special way. Honor them and reward them for their faithfulness.

And for those who cannot be here, who have been a part of what is happening, we pray for them this morning. And all the faculty who are not here, we pray for them—thankful for the parts and roles that they have played. We think of Larry Smith this morning, who loves his historical moments so much and gave so much of his 20 years to God's Revivalist. We pray that your hand will rest upon him today.

We pray for the board of trustees who have given leadership and guidance, governance to the school, and for all the constituents. And we pray for those out there who support the school. We pray that your blessing will be on them, and give them a heart for GBS that they will give as they have never given before. Just glorify Yourself we pray.

Be with Rodney and Melissa as they pick up and shoulder the load of leading God's Bible School. Make the

future days the best days we have ever known. Make it a high water mark in the history of this institution.

And, for all that You do, we will give You praise. In Jesus' name, amen. Amen.

After the prayer, President Avery gave his radio (unit 4) and keys to President-elect Loper to signify the transfer of power. As those in the room applauded, Access and Safety Director Floyd Hyatt presented President Avery with an official silver grand master key to commemorate his 22 years of service, and to somewhat compensate him for feeling "lopsided" after turning in his ring of campus keys. When asked whether it opened anything, Floyd had to say "No." The president responded,

Thanks for the key, Brother Hyatt—a silver grand master that goes nowhere! Could not be any better!

As things were winding down, President Avery noted that he would be "pretty scarce" around GBS for the next year to give President Loper breathing room.

Not that I don't care about you and what is going on. It's just the proper thing to do....

...I don't know what to do next. So, get to work! ■





Strengthen For Growth, the School's current strategic plan, recognizes the importance of having a strong alumni engagement plan. Therefore, the National Alumni Association needs pathways for its alumni to be a part of what GBS is accomplishing today.

Of course, the support of our alumni is deeply appreciated. In fact, it is the sacrificial giving of our graduates around the world actively involved in ministry that enables GBS to continue preparing workers for the whitened harvest. Their gifts to the school are more than financial. They are in essence public relations representatives for the school and intercessors who lift up the school, its staff, and its students in daily prayers. This is the lifeblood of GBS.

The Alumni Executive Council has been looking for other tangible ways that we can work together to make a stronger GBS. Because of this we would like share with you two new initiatives, both relating to our alumni.

LIFELONG EDUCATION

We realize that we live in a world that is changing fast. It is a necessity that we keep ourselves informed and continue to work on improving the skills God has given us. As a result, we want GBS alumni to have the opportunity to have the best resources available to accomplish the task to which God has called them.

Therefore, we are pleased to announce that beginning this year we are providing to our college

graduates free of charge the opportunity to audit any class that we are offering, both on campus and online. If interested, call Admissions at (513) 721-7944 ext. 3421.

ALUMNI LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS

We also want to reward alumni by offering a scholarship to their children or dependents. They can receive an annual scholarship of \$500 for up to four years! For more information, call our Financial Aid Office at (513) 721-7944 ext. 1161.

SUSTAINING DONORS

While not a new program, the 1810 Sustaining Donors is an excellent way for alumni to help the school on a regular basis. Setting up a system for a specific amount per month is easy to do, and everyone can participate!

Each year, we set an annual goal for this monthly giving program, and we've met our goal for the last two years. Help us reach this year's goal of 250 monthly donors. Join 1810 Sustaining Donors today and help us bridge the gap. You can join online at www.gbs.edu/1810, or simply call (513) 721-7944 ext. 1214.

In addition to knowing that your giving is helping the school achieve its mission, by enrolling in the 1810 Sustaining Donors program, you will receive:

- A surprise gift welcoming you as a monthly giver

- Monthly e-newsletters illustrating the impact of your giving
- A Christmas card each year from our campus family to yours
- A yearly "thank you" letter with a small gift of our appreciation

Thanks to all our alumni!

A FINAL WORD FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

It has been a great honor to serve as president of the National Alumni Association these past three years, and to work with a very committed Alumni Council. I am pleased with what they have



accomplished during this time: Homecoming's new 1810 Street Fest, establishment of the Michael R. Avery Scholarship for Leaders, and conducting regional GBS alumni gatherings in Indiana, Ohio, and Alabama.

Please make plans now to attend Homecoming 2017 this October 13 and 14, and enjoy great food, fellowship, and music as you reconnect with your alma mater.

Thank you for your support these past three years. We will be passing the baton to a new Alumni Association president this October. I am excited to see what God has for the next chapter of God's Bible School and College.

—N. Keith Waggoner I ■

We're preparing for our next strategic plan and

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please take a few minutes to complete a survey. We want your input as we seek God's direction.

<http://s.gbs.edu/survey>





IT'S TIME TO RECONNECT

OCTOBER 13-14

For more information, visit
GBS.EDU/HOMECOMING



©2017 Jupiter Images

THOUGHTS for the quiet hour

by Sonja Vernon

LAUGHING AT JESUS

"Now they were all weeping and lamenting for her; but He said, 'Stop weeping, for she has not died, but is asleep.' And they began laughing at Him, knowing that she had died."—Luke 8:52-53 NASB

I love the story of the daughter of Jairus. Jesus travels to the home of a dying child at the request of a worried father. When He finally arrives at the house, Jesus is met by mourners grieving the child's death, and He makes a startling statement. "Stop crying! She's only sleeping." The mourners stop their weeping, but only to laugh in disbelief at this ridiculous man who would say something so foolish. Of course she is dead. It has been confirmed. And everyone knows that once you're dead, you're dead. But what those mourners did not know was that they were laughing at the "Resurrection and the Life" (John 11:25). They were scoffing at the God-man who would turn death on its head and bring the grave into subjection.

In a moment of introspection, I wonder how many times I have "laughed at Jesus"; how many times I have refused to believe His promises because they seemed counterintuitive; how many times I have allowed what I "know" to be true to keep me from reaching out to believe God for impossible things. Am I talking about vending-machine religion? Absolutely not. Am I advocating for wild-eyed signs and wonders? No! But I am asking myself if I actually trust God or if I just say I do. What about you? Have you "laughed at Jesus" about something He has promised you? Or do you believe He is Who He says He is and will do what He says He will do? ■

Sonja Vernon is Dean of Women at God's Bible School and College.

SEPTEMBER 2017

ALUMNI VOTING 2017

Cast your vote in the
Alumni Executive Council elections at:
GBS.EDU/ALUMNIBALLOT.
Absentee ballots must be cast
online by October 11.

Phonathon 2017

September 11-14

September 18-21

September 25-28

Help us reach our goal of **\$120,000** for Phonathon!

Your donation will increase academic excellence by providing
scholarships and facilitating our student work program.

When a student calls, **consider a donation to this worthy cause.**

Don't want to wait for a call?
Send your gift for Phonathon to:

God's Bible School & College
Office of Advancement
1810 Young Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Or give online at:
GBS.EDU/PHONATHON



OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT
(513) 721-7944

Track our progress at
GBS.EDU/PHONATHON