

# the Ambassador

Fall 2014

## Leaving Your Nets

Early in his opening Gospel of the New Testament, Matthew recorded the instance when Jesus called Andrew and Peter to follow Him. The brothers were seasoned fisherman and had just cast a net into the water with the hopes of making a living. After hearing the call of Jesus, "Follow me," they left their nets and followed Jesus (Matthew 4:20).

Several months ago, I reread a challenging book by Woodrow Kroll entitled *The Vanishing Ministry*. In his book, Kroll expressed a great concern for the dwindling number of people who are surrendering for full-time ministry. While I do not agree with all of his associations and positions, I certainly agree with the thesis of his book. In the introduction, he stated, "In contrast to the number in the general population, the ministry workforce is vanishing before our eyes." His observation leads me to ask the following question: "Why are fewer teens and adults in our independent Baptist churches going into the ministry?"

I am afraid that **we have emphasized to our children the importance of making a living rather than doing the will of God.** If modern day career planning had been taught in Peter's

*A Word from the President  
by Dr. Alton Beal*



and Andrew's day, they would have never left the fishing business to become a disciple. Many parents teach their children to make career choices based on job security, pay scale, and advancement. I am afraid that we will not see an increase in full-time Christian workers until we return to emphasizing the importance of ***The ministry workforce is vanishing before our eyes.*** God's will.

Every year, a number of high school graduates enter our one-year Bible program. Many of them have no clue about their future plans, but they want to focus on the Scriptures and seek the Lord during a year of college. It is amazing to see the clarity and growth of these students during the course of the year. Some return to ABC to prepare for the ministry, and others leave to train in some other area with confidence and a determination to serve the Lord in that field.

**We have also raised a generation that is more concerned with comfort and pleasure than submission and obedience.**

*continued...*

Proclaim the  
Good News



Missions Conference  
October 27-31, 2014  
9:45am & 10:30 am

Speakers: Dr. Bud Steadman & Dr. John O'Malley

In all fairness, we should not lay all of the blame for this on the youngsters. We parents and grandparents have bought into the American dream of entertainment, education, and enrichment and taught it to our children. We have focused on pleasing ourselves rather than pleasing God. We have taught that more education will solve our ills. We have created such an appetite for materialism, that we are more content with our material possessions minus God than we are with God minus our material possessions. With

***We are more content with our material possessions minus God than we are with God minus our material possessions.***

the help of sincere but misguided Christians, the world is drowning out the call for preachers and full-time Christian workers. To see this trend change, we must stress the importance of having a life submitted to God and ready to obey His will.

**A lack of faith has always hindered people from responding to the Lord's call to the ministry.** In Exodus 3 and 4, the Lord gave Moses a very definite call and equipped him for the task. In spite of those things, Moses still doubted God and experienced His wrath before submitting to God's leading. A number of men have been called to prepare for the Lord's work but faltered when financial and sentimental pressures challenged their calling. Faith in God will move us to do the impossible. Through the years, I have seen a number of men uproot their families, leave established careers, and go to Bible college to prepare for the ministry. All of them had to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7).

I believe with all of my heart that God is still calling people to "leave their nets." When is the last time you have seen a fellow church member or friend surrender for the ministry? I have often said, "Not everyone is called to the ministry, but everyone should be willing to go." Are **you** willing to leave your nets and follow Jesus?

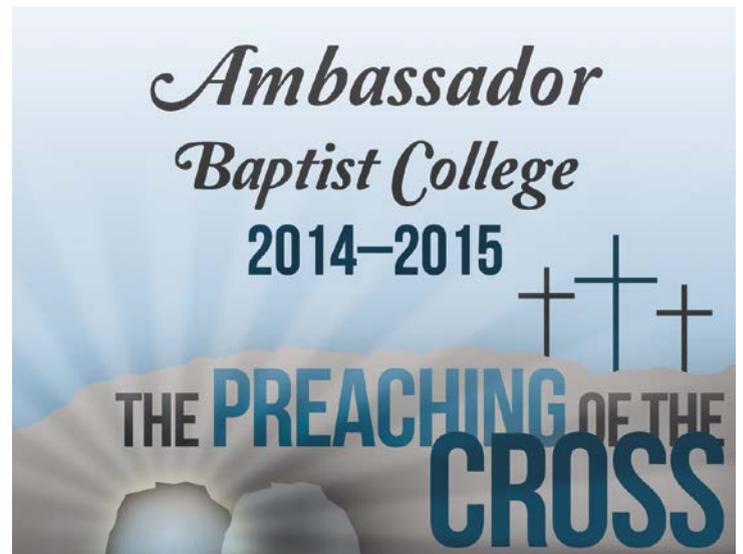
## Memorial Gifts

In memory of **Woodrow "Woody" Shahan**: Dana Robinett

In memory of **Antoinette Hunter**: Larry Brubaker

In memory of **Frances Jean Beal**

- Larry Brubaker
- Kim Conley
- Tim Daniel
- Jan DeViney
- G. Hall
- Turners Creek Baptist Church
- Dana Robinett
- Tommy Willis



## DR. RON COMFORT'S ITINERARY

Dates	Church	Location
Oct 5-9	Bensalem Baptist Church	Bensalem, PA
Oct 19-24	Community Baptist Church	Saginaw, MI
Oct 26,	Life Line Baptist Church	Camby, IN
Nov 2-7	Faith Baptist Church	Morgantown, WV
Nov 9-12	Fayetteville Street Baptist Ch.	Asheboro, NC
Nov 16-19	Faithway Baptist Church	Leesville, VA
Nov 22-23	Faith Baptist Church	North Muskegon, MI
Jan 4, 2015	Gospel Light Baptist Church	Walkertown, NC
Jan 11-16	Grace Baptist Church	Warner Robins, GA
Jan 18-23	Northside Bible Baptist Church	Jesup, GA
Jan 25	Memorial Baptist Church	Ocala, FL

Visit [www.ambassadors.edu/ChancellorDesk/](http://www.ambassadors.edu/ChancellorDesk/) for updates.

## DR. ALTON BEAL'S ITINERARY

Dates	Church	Location
Oct 4	Central Baptist Church	Greeneville, TN
Oct 5 am	Central Baptist Church	Greeneville, TN
Oct 19-22	Stillwaters Baptist Church	Nags Head, NC
Oct 26 am	Victory Baptist Church	Whiteville, NC
Nov 2 am	Bible Baptist Church	Fort Mill, SC
Nov 2 pm	East Side Baptist Church	Greenwood, SC
Nov 9-12	Blessed Hope Baptist Church	York, SC
Nov 23 am	Stanley Heights Baptist Church	Chattanooga, TN
Nov 23 pm	Eastside Baptist Church	Greeneville, TN

Visit [www.ambassadors.edu/PresidentCorner/](http://www.ambassadors.edu/PresidentCorner/) for updates.

## Summer Projects

This summer saw a number of improvements on campus. A work crew from Immanuel Baptist Church in Clifton Forge, VA, came in June to help replace a number of windows in the Administration building. They also did the lion's share of totally remodeling the old student center underneath the Administration Building.

Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the Chatlos foundation, we were able to outfit seven classrooms with video projectors and other audio-video equipment, as well as provide wireless access for our faculty to use them.



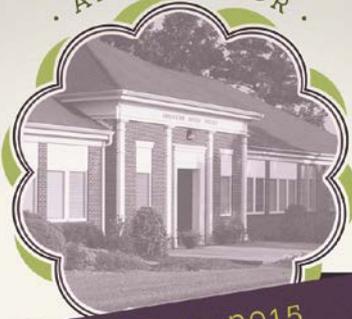
### Prayer

- God's provision for student jobs and school bills
- Enrollment for spring semester
- Upcoming Christmas concerts outreach
- Elimination of the college's mortgage
- Ministry of our students in local churches

### Praises

- Campus remodeling and improvements with the help of a crew from Immanuel Baptist Church
- Graduation Offering goal met
- Classrooms outfitted with new video projectors
- Great start to Fall Semester

AMBASSADOR



MAY 4-5 • 2015

# ALUMNI DAYS

HONORING THE CLASSES OF: —

- 1995 •
- 2000 •
- 2005 •
- 2010 •

ALL ALUMNI ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND, REGARDLESS OF THEIR GRADUATION YEAR.

# Opening REVIVAL

## RICH TOZOUR

Rich Tozour has been in full-time evangelism since 1994, and is sent out of Eagle Heights Baptist Church, Kansas City, MO. He and his wife, Angela, have three daughters.



## RICHARD HARPER

Richard Harper has been in full-time evangelism since graduating in 1996. He is a member at Calvary Baptist Church, King, NC, and he and his wife, Kimberly, have one daughter.



# Jan 12-16, 2015

# A CHRISTMAS CONCERT

*featuring Handel's Messiah*

# NOVEMBER

~ 28 & 29 ~

7:00 PM each night in the R.A. Torrey Auditorium on the campus of Ambassador Baptist College.

# GRADUATION OFFERING 2014

On January 1<sup>st</sup>, ABC began its annual push for the Graduation Offering. This offering is always a vital part of the college budget that helps us keep our tuition and room and board at reasonable rates for our students. Without it, our students would be subject to significantly higher rates and fees.

To God be the glory for helping us reach our goal of \$175,000! Our college family prayed much that God would meet the need. A number of churches hosted our college musical groups in the spring months and contributed to the need. Dr. Beal traveled with the college ensemble for several weekends and the week of Spring Break, and God's people again responded to the needs. We praise the Lord for the individuals and local churches who believe in the importance of training men and women for full-time service.

## WHAT IS TAG?

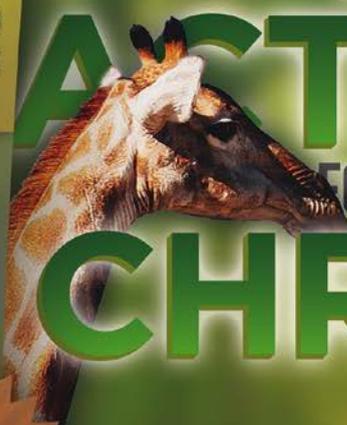
TAC, OR TEENS IN ACTION FOR CHRIST, IS AN ANNUAL YOUTH CONFERENCE HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR BAPTIST COLLEGE. COME TO ABC AND JOIN HUNDREDS OF OTHER 7<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2014, FOR THIS EXCITING TIME OF GREAT PREACHING, FUN SKITS, SPIRITED TEAM COMPETITION, AND GOOD FOOD. THIS YEAR'S SPEAKER IS EVANGELIST JON BEAZLEY. HIS PREACHING WILL CHALLENGE AND MOTIVATE YOU TO LIVE FOR GOD IN THIS PRESENT WORLD.

SATURDAY  
**NOV. 8**  
9AM-5PM



EVANGELIST  
JON BEAZLEY

# TEENS IN ACTION FOR CHRIST



## SAFARI ADVENTURE

- TEAMS THE SILVERBACKS
- THE PACK
- THE HERD
- THE PRIDE

**\$15**  
\$5 DISCOUNT IF POSTMARKED  
BY OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
VISIT [WWW.AMBASSADORS.EDU/TAG/](http://WWW.AMBASSADORS.EDU/TAG/)

When Ambassador moved to Lattimore in 1997, the college borrowed \$1.8 million to move into the Lattimore campus. Since that transition, we have built five dormitories, renovated a new student center and bookstore, and completed several other projects. With the Lord's help, we were able to pay cash (more than \$3 million) to complete each of those projects. God's abundant provision was at work! Because of the necessity of building these additional buildings, we were not able to aggressively work at eliminating our debt.

When I became the president of ABC back in 2009, one of my goals was to eliminate our \$1.2 million mortgage. Over the past five years, we have steadily paid and prayed that God would help us in a significant way. As of the end of July, our indebtedness had been reduced to \$933,000. This summer, God began to work in an amazing way.

Just a few months ago, a gift was left to the college that will enable us to pay \$500,000 off the mortgage by the end of the year. What a significant step toward this important goal! A few weeks later, another unforeseeable thing happened. God moved in the hearts of some friends to make the following offer: raise \$183,000 by the end of December, and we will pay off the remaining \$250,000 of the mortgage.

I am speechless and amazed! In a matter of a few weeks, the Lord has provided a way to make our goal of eliminating our indebtedness a reality—by the end of this year. For this goal to be met, we need friends to help us make up the GAP of \$183,000 by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Eliminating our indebtedness will give us a financial freedom that will benefit our students and staff for years to come. It is another important step in keeping our tuition and fees at an affordable rate for our students. Would you pray about this special opportunity to help ABC? The window of time is limited, but God has brought us this far, and we are trusting Him to meet the need.

*Alton Beal*

# God's Abundant Provision



To learn more or to donate, visit [www.ambassadors.edu/GAP/](http://www.ambassadors.edu/GAP/)



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