

INCLUDES CIU ANNUAL REPORT: WE'RE GROWING

Autumn 2009

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Connection

The magazine of Columbia International University

Victorious
Christian
Living
Our Heritage
A Core Value

Letter from the President

Victorious Christian Living

Dear friend of CIU,

“To know Him and to make Him known.” You may recognize that as the motto of Columbia International University. This edition of *Connection* magazine focuses on the first part of that motto: “To know Him” and its link to one of our core values, Victorious Christian Living.

A frequent speaker for the Victorious Life Testimony in the 1920s, CIU’s first president R.C. McQuilkin brought the message of victory to CIU, then called Columbia Bible College. His son, Robertson McQuilkin, CIU’s third president, further defined Victorious Christian Living in the 1970s saying that to live victoriously means to know Christ. He writes “only to the extent we become like Him,

can we truly experience that intimate one-ness He so longs for. Daily, uninterrupted companionship — that’s to know Him.” You will find more in the magazine from Dr. McQuilkin on how Victorious Christian Living became one of our five core values at CIU.

By the way, did you know that CIU used the original Asheville, N.C. campus of Ben Lippen, our PreK-12th grade school for Victorious Christian Living conferences? This edition includes how the Victory message touched the life of one of our Ben Lippen School alumni. You also may not be aware of CIU’s historic involvement in America’s Keswick, a New Jersey conference center where preachers and teachers have proclaimed the message of Victorious Christian Living for decades. Read about the recent CIU Day at America’s Keswick.

CIU professors emphasize not only academic excellence but also personal growth. We have two articles on how professors teach the dynamic of the Holy Spirit to make us like Christ in daily living — in the classroom at CIU — and the classroom at a South Carolina prison where CIU student-inmates live in victory, despite living behind walls.

CIU broadcasting also touches lives with a message of victory. Read how the programming of our radio station in Charlotte, North Carolina, New Life 91.9 broke through to a couple headed for divorce.

Finally, let the story of CIU’s Alumni of the Year — the Thompson family — inspire you. Their lives demonstrate that as we trust our loving Lord to fill us with His Spirit, we can live the Victorious Christian Life.

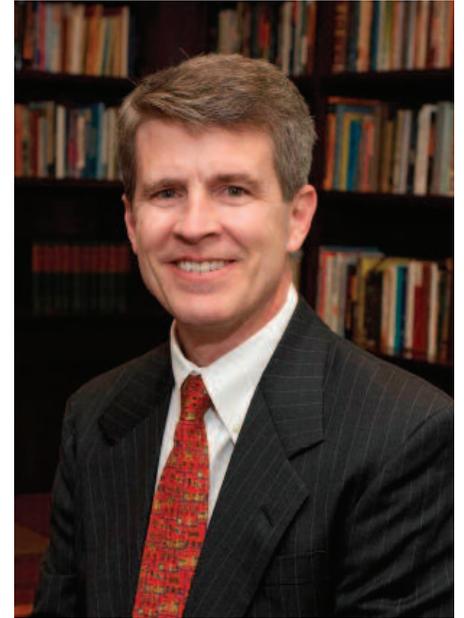
I want to especially call your attention to the final pages of this edition of *Connection* for an Annual Report on CIU. It not only includes details of great financial blessings, it outlines exciting developments on campus.

Join us as we thank God this time of year for His many blessings, but especially for sending His Son that we might live in victory.

Yours for His glory,



William H. Jones
President



This edition of
Connection
magazine
focuses on one
of our core
values,
Victorious
Christian Living.

Connection

Columbia
International
University

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*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIVING

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Pictured above:
CIU core value stone at the entrance to Shortess Chapel.



Laura Story

CIU Alumna, CIU Radio Stations Win Dove Awards

Laura Story, a 2003 graduate of Columbia International University has won the 2009 Dove Award for Inspirational Album. Story, a singer and songwriter received the honor for the album *Great God Who Saves* April 23 at the annual Dove Awards ceremony in Nashville. The Dove Awards are hosted by the Gospel Music Association and recognize the top performers in Christian music.

Story cited the importance of her CIU education in her development as a Christian musician.

"I would not be doing what I'm doing if it were not for the training I had at CIU," Story said. "I would be terrified to write a song without the training and understanding, and the tools that CIU gave me in order to understand God's Word."

Meanwhile, CIU radio stations WMHK in Columbia and New Life 91.9 WRCM in Charlotte, N.C. also won Dove Awards. WMHK won Radio Station of the Year in the Large Market category and WRCM won in the Medium Market category.

Learn more about Laura Story at her website www.laurastorymusic.com. Check out CIU's radio stations at www.ciu.edu/ministries.

CIU Distance Education Course Wins Honor

Columbia International University has received the 2009 ACCESS Course of the Year Award for the new online course Biblical Hebrew 1. The award is sponsored by ACCESS, the Christian Distance Education Association, and Christianity Today International, in recognition of excellence in Christian distance education course development. Courses are reviewed by a team of instructional designers from Christian universities and seminaries.

The CIU instructional designer for Biblical Hebrew 1 is Daniel Janosik, and the course professor is Dr. Alex Luc.

CIU has received 14 Course of the Year Awards since 1980. To find out more about Biblical Hebrew 1 and other online CIU courses go to: www.ciu.edu/distance/courses.php.



Professor Dan Janosik and the ACCESS award.

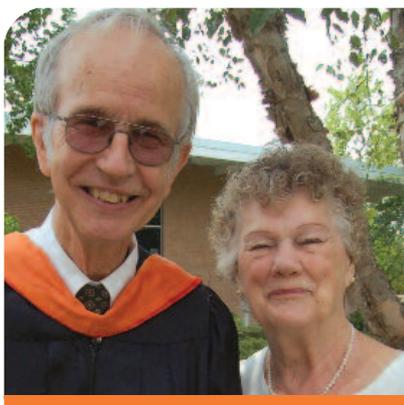


Angela Lewis

Ben Lippen School Teacher Recognized

Angela Lewis, sixth grade Language Arts teacher at Ben Lippen School, has been named a 2009-2010 Master Teacher by the South Carolina Independent Schools Association (SCISA). This honor recognizes her for her excellent work with students as well as her desire to share her expertise with colleagues. Some of the requirements of a Master Teacher include: viewing his/her task

as a divine calling; leaving firm impressions upon each student's character, behavior and manners; serving with compassion and guidance; and motivating students toward goals. The Master Teacher designation is the highest teaching honor presented by SCISA. Lewis has been teaching at Ben Lippen School since 1997 and also serves as the faculty advisor for the school's cheer squads and middle school yearbook. Ben Lippen School is a preK-12th grade ministry of Columbia International University.



Cliff and Prue Bedell

Longtime CIU Professor Cliff Bedell Retires

After four decades of educating young people about God's Word, CIU Professor Cliff Bedell has retired. His career as a Bible teacher began in the Philippines while serving there as a missionary. For the last 36 years, CIU students have been blessed and challenged by Bedell's missionary heart, and his pursuit of truth as a teacher. He and his wife Prue have five married children and 17 grandchildren.

Rhythms of Grace: Youth Workers Retreat

In a world full of worthwhile youth ministry conferences, CIU's Youth Ministry Department's "Rhythms of Grace" retreat stands out. Spiritual conferences can involve hectic schedules and demands that take an emotional and physical toll on the participants. So much so, that when they return to their everyday lives they find they need a vacation to recover from the very conference that was intended to rejuvenate them.

Realizing the need for a time of rest, CIU professors David Olshine, Hule Goddard, and Karen Grant organized a retreat for 38 graduates from the Youth Ministry major. "We wanted to remind (youth ministry workers) that they're not alone in the tough world of ministry, and offer them the encouragement and healing to continue to serve," said Grant. The professors facilitated discussion and contemplation instead of holding lectures. The alumni were also able to meet for one-on-one spiritual counsel with their former professors. The Youth

Ministry Department covered the cost of lodging and meals.

Reviews of the retreat were glowing. "I think this retreat shows how much (CIU) values the alumni," said one participant. "They brought me back to why my candle was lit in the first place," said another.

The Youth Ministry Department was so blessed by the success of this first retreat, that they're considering another.

David Strobolakos Sr. and daughter Charissa graduate.



CIU Graduation 2009: A Family Affair

It's normal for parents to attend their child's graduation. But for the parent to be receiving a degree alongside their child is unique. David Strobolakos Sr. and his daughter Charissa shared that experience at CIU's undergraduate commencement May 16.

David graduated with a degree in Bible and Pastoral Ministries. Charissa graduated with a degree in Bible and Applied English. Both stated that being together in college was not a matter of one leading the other, but a time of mutual encouragement as they faced the trials and joys of college life. Father and daughter agree that CIU's most influential asset is its community of professors and staff, who model godliness and love in and out of the classroom.

CIU & University of SC Students Debate Christ, Miracles

Columbia International University students Nikolaus Breiner and Collin Cornell engaged two University of South Carolina students in two debates in April on topics that are central to the Christian faith.

Students from both universities organized a public dialogue of ideas when CIU student Philip Kearse began discussing the reasonableness of faith with a friend who is a USC student.

Held at the University of South Carolina Law Center, about 200 USC and CIU students were in attendance. After the debates the participants mingled with the crowd and continued the exchange of ideas in respectful but challenging conversation.

CIU debaters Nikolaus Breiner (left) and Collin Cornell take questions.



CIU Alumnus Addresses the Ethics of Nanomedicine

A 1990 graduate of the Columbia International University's Seminary & School of Missions addressed the ethics of some of the latest medical research at the European Conference for Clinical Nanomedicine in Switzerland in April. Dr. Martin Erdmann graduated from CIU with a Master of Divinity degree in 1990, and is the director and founder of the Verax Institute in Riehen, Switzerland, a study center for Christian Theology and Apologetics.

Nanomedicine uses microscopic biomechanical devices that are programmed for specific biological tasks and injected into the blood to work at the cellular level to do everything from repairing tissue, to cleaning arteries, attacking cancer cells and viruses like AIDS, and even reversing the aging process.

As a former senior scientist at the University Hospital in Basel, Switzerland, Erdmann studied the ethical implications of nanotechnology for five years. His primary concern is to answer the question of how nanomedical research can be translated into a benefit for individuals and society.

Hundreds of Youth on CIU Campus Over the Summer

About 700 youth from around South Carolina and beyond were on the campus of Columbia International University over the summer. About 400 Hispanic middle and high school youth attended a conference on sexual purity sponsored by the South Carolina Baptist Convention, and another 120 high school and college-age students were trained to reach children in their neighborhood through Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) workshops. Servanthood used the CIU campus as a base of operations. The Columbia-area ministry sends middle school students into the community to do service projects.

If your organization or group is looking for a place for your next event any time of year, contact the CIU Conferences Services Department. For details go to www.ciu.edu/conferences.



A special-effects haze clouds worshippers at the Hispanic Youth Conference.

Letters to the Editor

It was a pleasure for me to complete two advanced degrees at CIU because of its affirmation of "the full trustworthiness of Scripture." For the same reason I was pleased to receive the *Spring 2009 Connection* dedicated to the authority of Scripture, a core value of CIU. Mickey Bowdon's article on the biblical worldview was very encouraging. A notable quote from that article was:

"If all truth is God's truth then we must accept the authority of God's Word in all areas of the encyclopedia." (In the previous paragraph, Dr. Bowdon had included psychology in that "encyclopedia of ideas.")

Three pages later, however, I was alarmed and extremely disappointed to read Dr. Stephen Farra's article "Finally – a Biblical Psychology!" Dr. Farra contended that "a Bible-only" approach will work only for a narrow range of problems, and rarely is helpful when addressing real mental illness. He utilized the story of "Jim," a "sincere Christian" who struggled with "accusation" from his employer, "intense pain," and "the fear he might not be able to provide for his family."

Dr. Farra implied that the Bible does a good (but apparently not sufficient) job at addressing "the content of our thoughts," but it seemed that Dr. Farra does not believe that the Bible address our behaviors (or at least, not sufficiently) and that it is insufficiently encouraging.

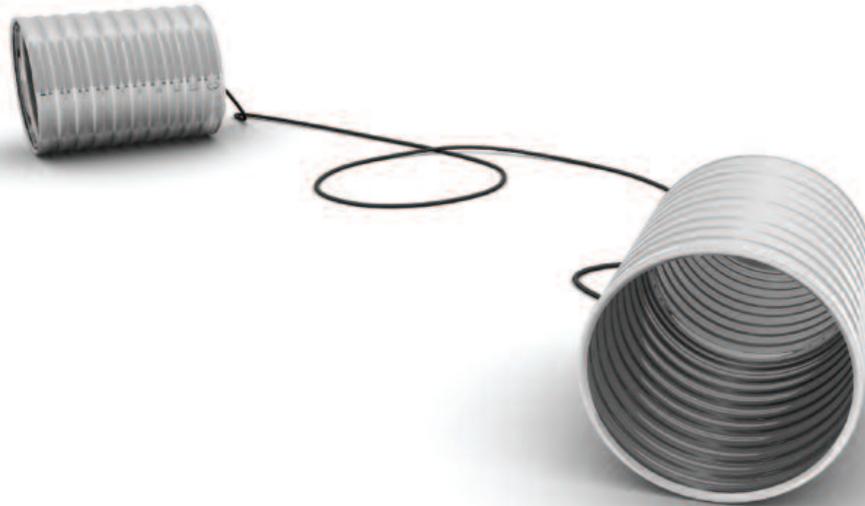
I learned at CIU that New Testament epistles routinely addressed the content of our thoughts, and then turned to appropriate behaviors. I failed to see how a "Bible-only" approach would have been inadequate for Jim: Ephesians 6:5-8 and 1 Peter 2:18-20 (among other verses) appear sufficient to me to help him think and behave properly to his accusing employer, 1 Peter gives more than sufficient guidance to thoughts and behaviors when suffering, and Matthew 6:25-34 addresses thinking and behaving properly when tempted to fear. Romans 15:4-6 and Philippians 4:1-9, to name a few passages, offer adequate and powerful scriptural encouragement for pressing on. I fail to see how the Scriptures — understood and applied — were inadequate to address Jim's problems.

Dan Clement, Associate Pastor
Triangle Community Church, Apex, N.C.

Editor's Note: A full explanation of Biblical Psychology by Dr. Stephen Farra can be viewed on the CIU website at: www.ciu.edu/faculty/bio.php?id=12

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Letters to the Editor are welcome. Correspondence must include your name, address and phone number. The editor reserves the right to determine the suitability of letters for publication and to edit for clarity and length. There is no guarantee your letter will be published, nor will letters be returned. Write to: Connection Editor, Columbia International University, 7435 Monticello Road, Columbia, SC 29203. Or e-mail publicrelations@ciu.edu.



Stay connected with CIU friends and alumni!

Find Columbia International University on your favorite social websites. Keep up with what's going on at CIU by checking out our latest videos, photos, tweets, messages, events and much more! Visit our new website "CIU is Different" for a glance at the little things that set CIU apart. Point your browser to www.ciu.edu, and click on the links at the bottom of the page!



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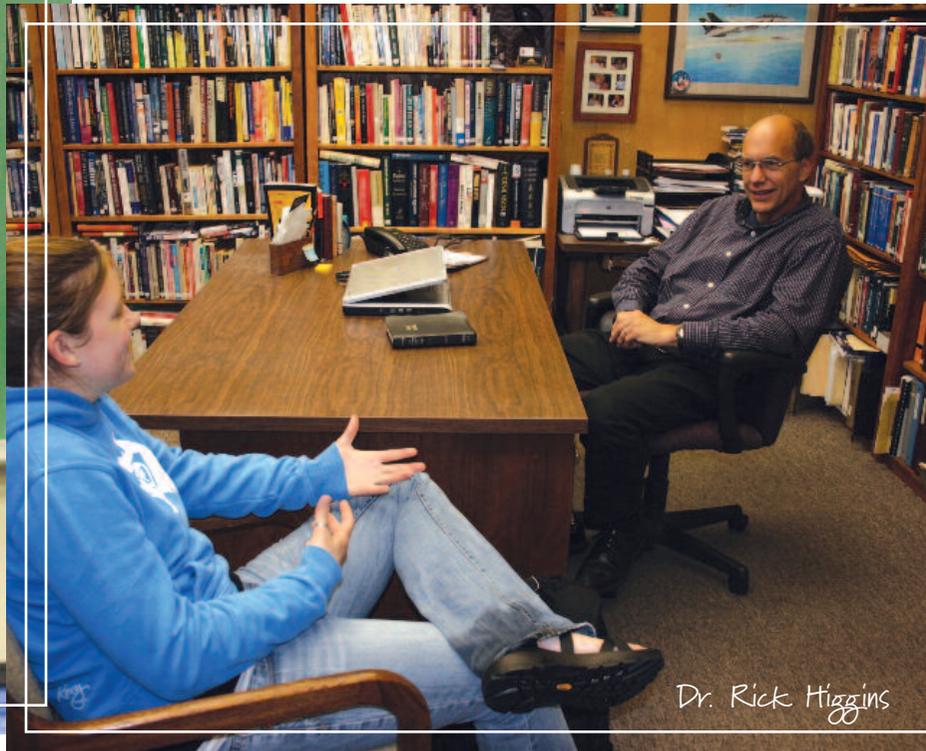
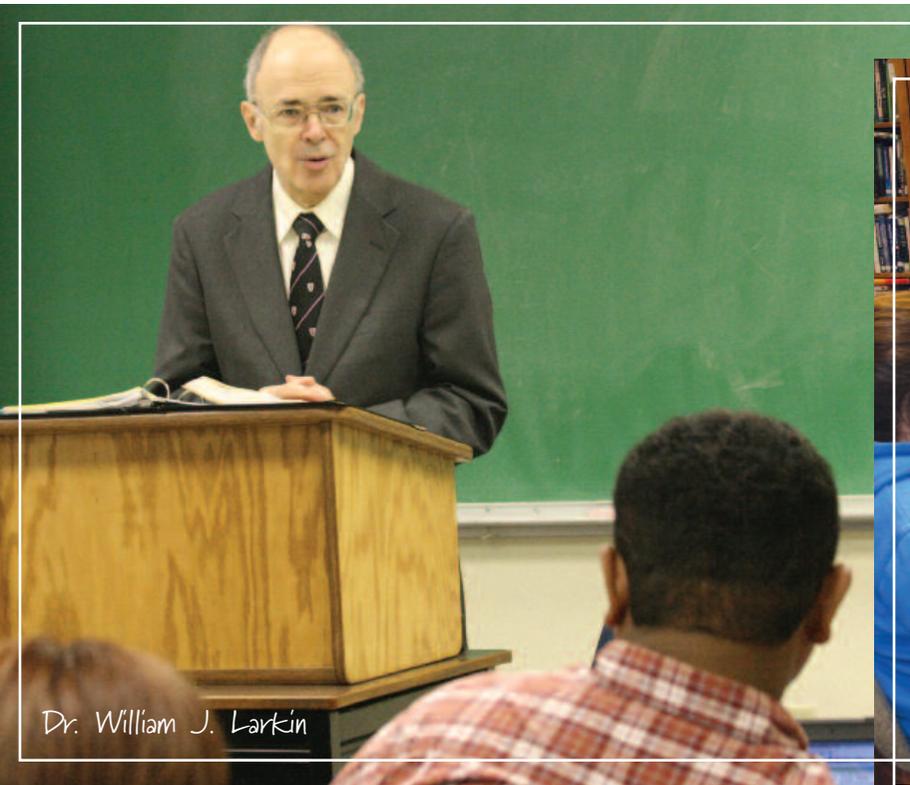
LET'S CHANGE THE WORLD TOGETHER.



Columbia International University
Undergraduate • Graduate • Seminary

Check us out at any of these or,
visit www.ciu.edu
e-mail: yesciu@ciu.edu
phone: (800) 777-2227, ext. 5024

Victorious Christian Living Caught and Taught



It may have been the definitive word on Victorious Christian Living. In 1997, Thomas Nelson Publishers released a book titled, *Free and Fulfilled – Victorious Christian Living in the 21st Century*. It was compiled by Columbia International University President Emeritus Robertson McQuilkin and included contributions from over a dozen renowned Christian authors and theologians from a variety of evangelical backgrounds. Each

expounded on the meaning of the Victorious Christian Life. But perhaps no one got to the point more explicitly than CIU’s fourth president, Dr. Johnny V. Miller:

“The simplest definition of the victorious life is a daily walk of faith and obedience in conscious dependence on the indwelling Spirit of God.”

“I try to model the effectiveness of the Word and a victorious life in Christ.” – Dr. William J. Larkin

And that has been the daily calling and challenge for professors at CIU since its founding as Columbia Bible College in the early 1900s.

Dr. William J. Larkin joined the faculty at CIU in 1975. His passion has been to prepare pastors and missionaries, through the study of the Greek New Testament, and to communicate

God’s Word accurately and effectively as a “missions document.”

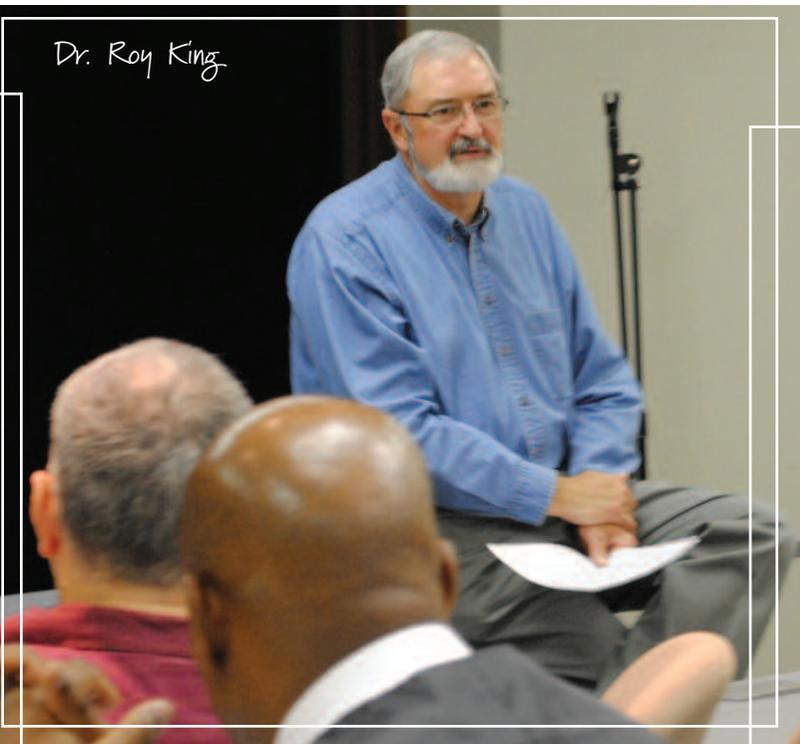
Larkin says he daily relies on the Scriptures to contribute to growth and personal application in his life and the lives of his students. In one exercise,

for instance, students are to write about personal application based on one book and one verse in the Bible. He asks them to consider: “How does obeying the Scripture make a difference in your life?”

He points to Ephesians 4:11-12: "... to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ..." He says, "I have a pastoral concern for my students, not just as a teacher. I look for ways to aid the students in their growth in the Christian life. I see them on campus. They share with me. We pray together. I try to model the effectiveness of the Word and a victorious life in Christ."

"Robertson McQuilkin describes victorious Christian living as steady growth in Christlikeness," says Dr. Shirl S. Schiffman, professor of educational ministries. "Victory over temptation ... seeing God at work in the ministry to which He calls you ...

Dr. Roy King



daily, intimate companionship with Jesus. I see these traits in my colleagues. These are skilled, scholarly people, but I'm always taken with the humility of the group."

Schiffman says that the faculty prays together and has total reliance on, and trust in God. She believes this "creates a collegial environment with a lot of mutual support. I believe this filters into the classroom."

She adds, "So that students can experience God's amazing enabling in their ministry, I (and my colleagues) create many assignments that call for stretching real-world application."

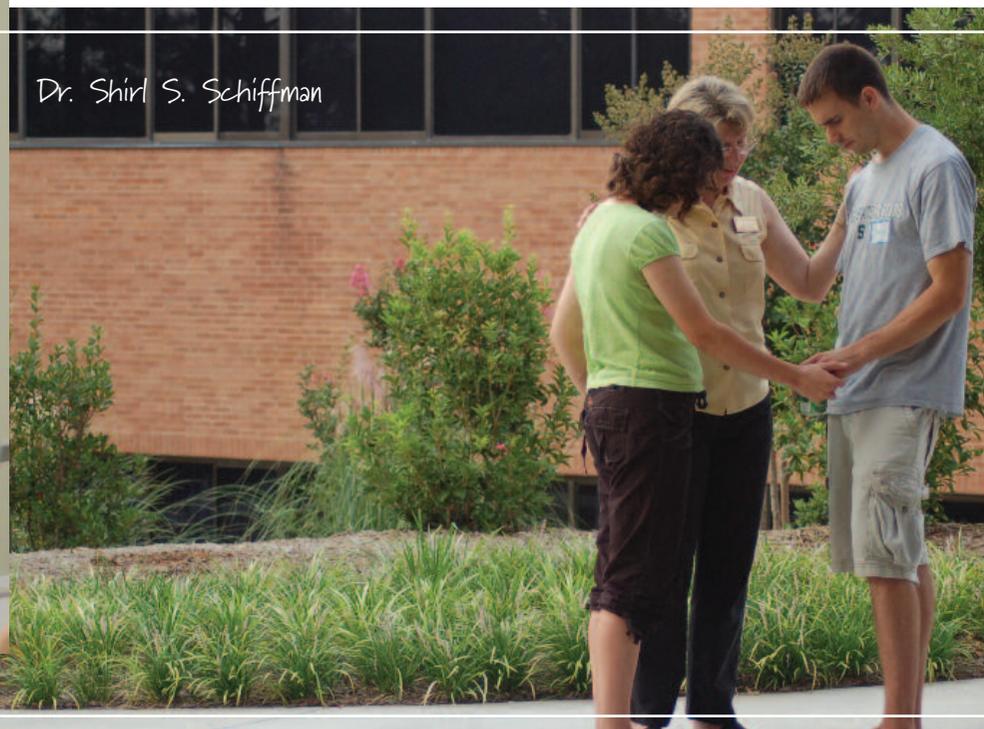
Dr. Richard J. "Rick" Higgins, associate dean for ministry skills development, asserts that God just wants us to let Him work through us. Prior to choosing a life of serving God, Higgins was a naval flight officer. "I used to be very thorough in my preparation. It comes from my aviation days. But what I've learned is that preparing the messenger ... heart preparation ... is much more important than preparing the message. The Holy Spirit will take what I'm doing and overrule. That's exciting!"

It's often said that more is caught than taught. Adam Erickson, a 2007 CIU graduate says he was impacted by the example of Victorious Christian Living he saw in his professors.

"Not only did you have professors who looked out for one another and the students, you had professors who exhibited grace with their students, Erickson recalls. "I'll be the first to admit that I was not the most diligent of students during my Undergraduate studies. That is something I've thankfully learned from and have worked to improve upon, much due to the grace of numerous professors at the school."

Erickson remembers a specific instance when (now retired) Professor Cliff Bedell showed him grace as he struggled to catch up with late work in a class on Romans. "That grace was not only much needed for me to pass, but it ended up being

Dr. Shirl S. Schiffman



the best living example of what grace looks like and helped me to further grasp what Paul is writing about in Romans. I saw grace exhibited and it forever impacted me and helped me to appreciate the grace Jesus Christ has given to us."

Dr. Roy M. King, director of alumni ministries, says that victorious Christian living comes down to the matter of the heart. As a former CIU student, King says he experienced professors – some of whom are still teaching – model patience and victorious Christian living to him. He, in turn, hopes that he is modeling the core value for his students. "If we're walking in the power of the spirit, roadblocks won't be as strong." ■

Editor's Note: The book, "Free and Fulfilled – Victorious Christian Living in the 21st Century" is available from the CIU Bookstore. To purchase a copy call (800) 777-2227, ext. 5236, or e-mail Bookstore@ciu.edu.

CIU Prison Initiative

A Wave Behind Walls



“It’s the low and battered places,
edges bent and torn,
hidden in the darkened woods—
it’s there your *spirit’s* born.”

– Anne Buck,
“Rain on a Flat Tin Roof”

Victorious Christian Living in Prison

During the last week of September, 55 men in R&E (registration and evaluation) at the Kirkland Correctional Institution committed their lives to Christ. In that one week alone, 300 men heard the gospel. Since the beginning of this year, well over 10,000 lost, broken, and desperate souls were exposed to Christ.

That is the CIU Prison Initiative at work within the walls of Kirkland. Men who have already graduated, as well as those within the program’s second and third cohorts, are creating a

spiritual wave within the walls of the maximum security prison that is washing over scores of men and changing lives.

The Initiative began in 2007. From scores of applications for the two-year, 70-credit Associate of Arts Degree, 15 were selected to enter the first program. The goal: “Training inmates to live in accordance with biblical principles and equipping them for the unique ministry opportunities afforded by their incarceration.”

Those attending are taught by CIU professors, such as Dr. David Osterlund, director of the Initiative and adjunct professor at CIU, as well as several others. Professors must pass through

the many heavily guarded checkpoints before they walk across the open prison yard to enter the CIU-designated classrooms.

Four rooms have been set aside for teaching, chapel services, and to house 14 computers and a 2,000-book library. Classes range from English to New and Old Testament Surveys.

As Osterlund points out, "When these men graduate, they agree to be relocated to any of the level two or level three institutions in the state. They become evangelists, missionaries, men with the responsibility to witness and encourage and to live a life of integrity. They will not have any special privilege. They will not be immune from lockdowns. They will be extraordinary men living within the ordinary general prison population."

These professors
pour into our lives
more than just studies
that come from books.
They step aside and
conviction boils out
of them. They've done
a wonderful job in
showing us how
they live out their
Christian walk.
— "Red"
a CIU student-inmate

The first wave of graduates has already washed into seven other institutions in South Carolina. And, since everyone who is sentenced to 90 days or more must go through R&E at Kirkland, an ever-changing mission field awaits.

"Those in R&E are men that might go back on the street ... they might become your neighbor one day," says Billy, who graduated with the first Initiative class in December. "What CIU is really doing with this program is investing in its communities. This program equips some of us to help lay a good Christian foundation for these men so they can live victoriously."

In October, at early morning chapel service, an inmate stood in front of 30-plus men and, with his eyes closed, sang "Rain on a Flat Tin Roof," a poem put to music by some of the inmates to honor Anne Buck, a CIU staff member who regularly visits them to offer encouragement. Afterward, Professor Bryan Beyer delivered a sermon on Joshua 1, which elicited this response from an inmate: "I look around and see many Joshuas represented here."

Myron, David, and Charles (Red) are three of those Joshuas. All are in their second year of studies. Their sentences range from 30 years to life. Each has a personal testimony about how God lead them to the program. Charles gave up one of the highest paying jobs an inmate can procure in order to answer a higher calling. Myron says he cried when he learned he had been accepted into the Prison Initiative. All say they feel that God has a purpose for their lives inside the prison walls. All share the same goal: "We want God to use us."

"My mother is so proud of me that I'm getting a degree," says Myron. "It's incredible to have this opportunity. I don't deserve any of it. It's most definitely a gift from God."

When interviewed, Myron's mother, said, "You can't go back and undo what's done. You have to go forward. And he's going forward. I'm so proud of him. I've come to a greater place in Christ since my son's been in this program. Nothing's going to stop me from coming to his graduation."

David explains that they all entered the program at some level of maturity in Christ. However, "We're learning way more. And it's being expounded on and multiplied. We're gaining knowledge from these professors so that we can pass it on."

Continues Red, "These professors pour into our lives more than just studies that come from books. They step aside and conviction boils out of them. They've done a wonderful job in showing us how they live out their Christian walk. They're willing to say, 'These are my shortcomings.' They don't just speak it; they show us."

"We're being taught to impart wisdom," says Red, who comes from a long line of pastors and will often openly preach when there is free time. He says his father is thrilled he is in the program.

"Red came up with the idea that we can disciple these guys (in Kirkland)," says Myron. "We adopt a dorm and go into them three nights a week to teach them about the Lord and help them develop a good foundation on which to stand. We show them how to not only talk the talk, but to walk the walk."

"There's a wave flowing out from Kirkland," contends Osterlund. "God is at work in large and small ways." ■

Editor's note: Last names of student-inmates and their family members are not used for security reasons.

Opposite page: Myron, David and Red (left to right) share what they've learned in class. Left: CIU Prison Initiative inmates are able to access resources from the CIU library via computer, but the Internet is off limits.



A CIU Core Value: the Victorious Christian Life

By Robertson McQuilkin
Columbia International University President Emeritus

What comes to mind when you hear the expression, “the victorious Christian life?” The uninitiated, not knowing our code use of the term, probably assume we mean victory in the battle with temptation. And surely it does include that. But historically, at Columbia International University, the meaning of “victory” has a far broader connotation.



In reality, CIU was born from the womb of The Victorious Life Testimony, a movement that flourished in the early years of the 20th century. The teaching didn't intend merely to chart the way to winning out against the enticements of “the world, the flesh, and the devil,” as the name might imply. The leaders intended to lead people to experience a life so under the control of the indwelling Christ, so filled with his energizing Holy Spirit, that a person becomes “Christ-like.” That was a meaning deeper and broader than the name might imply. But even that was not the ultimate, as we shall see.

One of the spokesmen for that movement was my father Robert C. McQuilkin. He spoke in conferences nationwide and when he spoke in Columbia it was with such power and blessing that the ladies who established The Southern Bible Institute invited young Bob McQuilkin to lead the school. As many know, the school would later be named Columbia Bible College — today's Columbia International University.

Thus the Victorious Christian Life teaching was historically at the heart of CIU from its birth. But, don't forget the expanded



Passing on the Victorious Christian Life message. Robertson McQuilkin (left) at the 2007 inauguration of current CIU President Bill Jones.

For, only to the extent we become like Him, can we truly experience that intimate oneness He so longs for. Daily, uninterrupted companionship — that's to know Him.

meaning of those who initiated the movement: the glorious possibility of living a life that authentically reflects the very life of Jesus himself. Some took this to mean perfection, but Robert C. McQuilkin, during his 29 years at Columbia Bible College, consistently said that by "victory" he did *not* mean sinless perfection.

Gradually, the "victorious life" came to define the first part of CIU's motto, "To Know Him..." Though that may have been what many had in mind, the 1970s brought a change in emphasis, to something beyond victory over temptation, glorious as that is, even beyond a consistently Christ-like character. By "knowing him," as the third president and son of the founder, I tried to take us all the way

back to the Old Testament meaning of the term, "to know." There it meant to experience intimate identity in a relationship.

Why win the victory over sin? To become ever more like Jesus. So is Christ-likeness the ultimate goal? Surely victory and Christ-likeness are worthy, essential goals. But *why* are they so important? Because only as we are like Him, God-compatible, you might say, can we fulfill the original purpose God had in creating us in the first place and redeeming us the second go-round. And what was that purpose? Intimate, loving oneness with our Creator and Redeemer. For, only to the extent we become like Him, can we truly experience that intimate oneness He so longs for. Daily, uninterrupted companionship — that's to know Him. He created us for that love relationship. He saved us to make possible such an astonishing relationship. That's what our motto means — to KNOW Him.

So what is our "core value?" A life of consistently winning out in the battle against temptations? Surely. But far more: To know Him! And then, by all means, to help others experience that



A young Robertson McQuilkin (left), with his father R.C. McQuilkin, the first president of CIU.

same intimate relationship, the second part of CIU's motto — to make Him known. ■

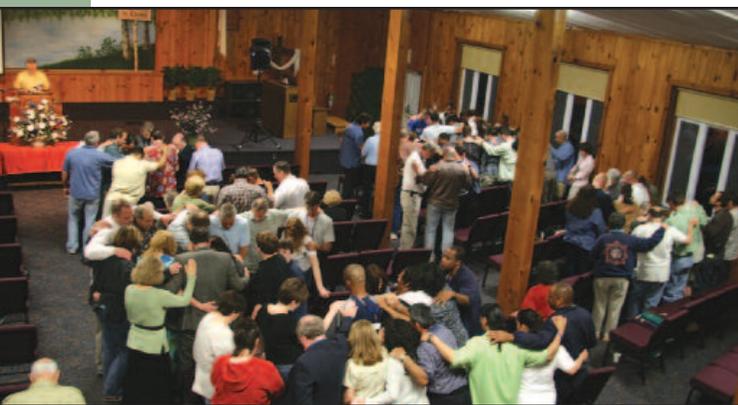
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*Editor's note: Read the booklet, **Victorious Christian Living** by Robertson McQuilkin at the CIU website: www.ciu.edu/faculty/bio.php?id=129*

CIU Week at America's Keswick

Awidow grieving the recent loss of her husband. A young pastor struggling in a small church. A middle-aged couple sensing God leading them to a midlife career change. A recovering alcoholic. An elderly couple whose adult son with small children faces major cancer surgery. A woman whose unsaved husband forbids her to read her Bible and pray at home. College students seeking to know God's will for their future. A tired missionary on furlough, looking for rest and refreshment in order to return to her demanding front-line duties. A full-time Christian worker plagued with doubts and deep feelings of inadequacy. A father and mother agonizing over their need to forgive someone they felt had unjustly treated their child. All of the above actual cases were representative of the conference crowd who attended the "CIU Week" at America's Keswick Bible Conference in Whiting, N.J. in late August.

A circle of prayer at America's Keswick in Whiting, N.J.



Editor's Note: Beginning with Columbia International University's first president, R.C. McQuilkin, the school has been influential in America's Keswick, a multi-generational, cross-cultural ministry and conference center based in New Jersey. It features biblical teaching on Victorious Christian Living that leads to deeper personal relationships with Jesus Christ and transformed lives. www.americaskeswick.org

The two keynote speakers for the week were CIU's President Emeritus, Dr. Robertson McQuilkin, and CIU's Chancellor, Dr. George Murray. Following CIU's historic motto "To Know Him and to Make Him Known," each morning McQuilkin gave Bible messages on victorious Christian living (To Know Him), and each evening Murray gave Bible messages on world evangelization (To Make Him Known). Besides the strong Bible messages, the daily meetings included much lively singing, high quality special music, and first-person testimonies of those who were experiencing victory through surrender to, and faith in Christ. On the final night of the conference, many stood to indicate life-changing decisions made during the week.

Some of the CIU friends and alumni who attended the Keswick conference said it reminded them of the historic Ben Lippen conferences that CIU conducted for many years in Asheville, N.C. Along with the two daily Bible messages, each day the Keswick conference featured a "missionary hour" during which six different CIU alumni shared about their ministries in China, Indonesia, Angola and North America. At the end of the week, the Keswick leadership encouraged the conference guests to give a special "missionary" offering. A total of \$2,000 was received and given to CIU to aid students training for missionary service.

America's Keswick is hosting another "CIU Week" July 25-30, 2010. Robertson McQuilkin will return as a featured speaker. He'll be joined by CIU President Dr. Bill Jones. For more information about how you can attend, contact Donnette Moak at CIU (dmoak@ciu.edu) or (800) 777-2227, ext. 5011 or Ruth Schmidt at America's Keswick (rschmidt@americaskeswick.org) or (800) 453-7942. ■

Addiction recovery support groups are among the many ministries at America's Keswick.



TOGETHER



Columbia International University is joining hands with other passionate, Christ-centered organizations. Through these partnerships we can accomplish more as together we impact the nations with the message of Christ.

At CIU, it's a privilege to train students as they answer God's call on their lives. So, to help with the cost of education, any employee or dependent with our partner agencies is eligible for a tuition reduction for any course at any time of the year, with the exception of doctoral level courses.

Learn how you or someone you know can take advantage of this great opportunity by visiting www.ciu.edu/partnerships.

LET'S CHANGE THE WORLD TOGETHER.



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e-mail: yesciu@ciu.edu
phone: (800) 777-2227, ext. 5024

Victorious Christian Living Across the Generations at Ben Lippen School



Merle Dye and
his wife June

Editor's Note: Ben Lippen School was founded by Columbia International University in 1940 as an evangelical boarding school at CIU's Ben Lippen Conference Center near Asheville, N.C. The school was moved to CIU's campus in 1988 and today Ben Lippen High School, Middle School and two Elementary schools total nearly 800 students from the Columbia, S.C. area as well as boarding students from around the world.

Victorious Christian Living is all about connecting the dots. The Lord's hand is evident in one aspect of our lives; then, years later, we see and understand how he ties the experiences together for His glory.

As a somewhat rebellious teenager, Merle Dye wasn't "keen" on leaving his home in Salisbury, N.C., to attend the evangelical Christian boarding school for boys, located (then) at Columbia Bible College's Ben Lippen Conference Center on a mountain near Asheville. It did not matter to him that the name "Ben Lippen" is a Scottish phrase meaning "Mountain of Trust." All that mattered was that his parents recognized he was unsaved and decided Ben Lippen would be good for his soul.

"It was a sacrifice for them," says Dye, now in his 70s, "but a gracious and loving sacrifice that I recognized later."

His mother's salary as a librarian was used to pay tuition when Dye entered the (then) all-boy's school. The year was 1951. By his junior year, Ben Lippen began allowing girls to attend. Dye says there were a total of 10 students in his graduating class in 1954. (They remain very close and celebrated their 50th reunion in 2004 by reminiscing on the former Asheville campus and the present Columbia campus.)

"I went into Ben Lippen unsaved, but between my junior and senior year I committed my life to the Lord. A big reason for that, when I look back on it, was that I had a very important influence in my life, that of my Bible teacher, (and headmaster) Robertson McQuilkin. He was also my class advisor, and the spiritual emphasis taught was amazing."

Dye says that God's Word permeated every minute detail of life at Ben Lippen: Bible classes, chapel, student life, staff relationships, friendships, conversation, general studies.

"We were entrenched in our focus on the Lord, not distracted from it," he says. He points out that Victorious Christian Living was modeled in the faculty and staff. "We experienced the Lord together, and it made a profound difference in my life."

Dye's two brothers followed in his footsteps and attended Ben Lippen as

well. The summer before his senior year at Ben Lippen, Dye was called to missions and "naturally" attended Columbia International University, then called Columbia Bible College. "At that time, they were at the forefront in offering a degree in Bible and Missions," he says. After being in the field for a time, he then came back to CIU and achieved his master's degree in Missions.

What has been interesting to Dye is seeing the Lord connect all the dots and to be able to not only live out the teaching that he obtained at Ben Lippen and CIU, but to see the same threads run through his entire family.

He met his wife at CIU; and, because of her nursing and Bible degrees, she was invaluable in the mission fields of Ethiopia and Sudan, where the couple served a total of 21 years. Out of five children, four have attended CIU. Three children and a brother are missionaries. One child teaches Bible in a public school in North Carolina. Some grandchildren and a niece and nephew have also attended Ben Lippen School.

For years, Dye has experienced God's will for Him — and for his family members. "Just being able to learn at Ben Lippen and CIU, how the Scriptures define God's will for us, to be able to have faith and trust in all aspects of our lives, and then to see my family members enjoying the same. It's amazing."

Dye relates a time when a "top notch, godly national" in Ethiopia first understood that the Scriptures all tied together. "That was victorious!" says Dye. "Before that, he had only learned it piecemeal, but because of what I was able to share with him from my education, he realized for the first time that it related. It really made a difference in his preaching and teaching. He became a mighty vessel in God's hands and was able to teach scripturally. That was a real rejoicing time for me."

He adds, "The idea that God's passing it on ... that he continues to open doors ... that others are growing and experiencing the truth of God. That's just a real blessing." ■

CIU Radio Stations Impact Families in the Carolinas

Joe Paulo has been with New Life 91.9 in Charlotte, N.C., for 15 years. He “hears,” almost daily, about how God is working in people’s lives.

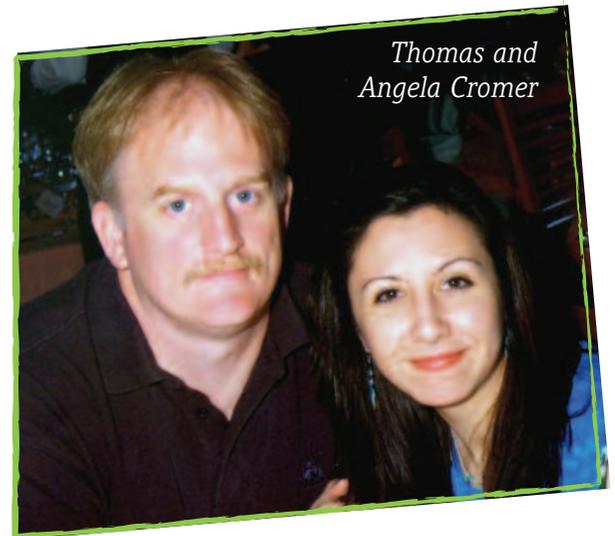
Both New Life 91.9 and 89.7 WMHK in Columbia, broadcasting ministries of Columbia International University, spread the message of the gospel through Christian music, testimonies, and teaching. That message often touches a chord and, when it does, the broadcasters lend their own ears to hear and understand the impact so that they can then share with others.

Such was the case with Thomas and Angela Cromer. The story about their rocky marriage that was pulled out of the mire by God was so powerful, that New Life 91.9 videotaped the couple and featured their testimony to Victorious Christian Living on the station’s website.

says Thomas, was that God was not present in their lives.

It was after their problems had “overwhelmed them” that Thomas began listening to 91.9. He had drifted from his wife – “carousing,” as he puts it. She says she felt like she had “lost herself” and wanted a divorce.

“I always thought Christian music was a joke,” admits Thomas. “I grew up with heavy metal. That music is powerful, but the direction it takes your heart and mind in is not good. But the more I listened to 91.9, the more I found myself going back there. Gradually, I began to hope. The music that spoke to me was almost anything by Third Day, Casting Crowns,



Thomas and Angela Cromer

Barlow Girl, Casting Crowns, Third Day, and Zoe Girl,” Thomas said. “The music from 91.9 built a bridge between us. The music helped guide her the same way it guided me.”

Thomas and Angela began to talk. They sought counseling. They became closer together and better parents to their two children. Most importantly, says Thomas, is that they allowed God to be ever present in their lives.

“Our marriage is saved. It’s difficult, because all marriages are hard work, but it’s saved. Definitely a miracle.”

Thomas says that although the couple has been married seven years, he feels like it has only been three because their marriage truly began when they asked God to become a part of it.

“You never know how a story is going to resonate with people,” says Paulo. “This story and others, like the married man who pulled up to a gentleman’s club and was going to go inside when he saw our license tag — on the front of his car — reflecting back at him in the establishment’s window. He backed his car out and began to work on his marriage. These are powerful and encouraging stories ... evidences of God at work.” ■

“That song (*Holy*) came on the radio and I found myself kneeling, crying, and begging for God to save me from my life. Had that not happened, I don’t think that I would have turned toward faith like I did.”

“We often have dramatic stories,” says Paulo, “but this is probably the one that’s been the most publicized. This marriage — like so many others — was on the verge of ending, but by God’s miraculous work ... by Him using the station in their lives ... it was saved.”

Thomas and Angela began their relationship without God in 1999. She moved in with him, and by the time they got married they were ill equipped to have a healthy relationship. They fought often. He traveled and drank too much. When he did want to be at home, Angela, 12 years his junior, wanted to go out. The bottom line,

Jeremy Camp, and Todd Agnew. However, the one song that really hit me most was Nicole Nordaman’s *Holy*.”

Thomas says he was at his home, alone, realizing that an extramarital affair he had entered into would destroy his marriage. “That song came on the radio and I found myself kneeling, crying, and begging for God to save me from my life. Had that not happened, I don’t think that I would have turned toward faith like I did.”

Angela noticed a change in her husband. She saw him reading his Bible and listening to 91.9. She began to listen as well. “Angela fell in love with Jaci Valasquez,

Victorious Christian Living Exemplified by Alumni of the Year

By Dr. Roy King
Director of CIU Alumni Ministries

The CIU 2009 Alumni of the Year are examples to all of us that Victorious Christian Living is available to believers who yield to, and trust in our loving Lord to fill him or her with His Spirit. The recipients are members of the same family: Alan Thompson (class of '55), Paul Thompson ('62), their sister Carolyn Ayers ('73) and Carolyn's husband Philip Ayers ('76).

Paul Thompson has clarity of focus on God's work in the leadership of the Cuban church. This razor-focus reflects God's focus and commitment to building His church as it advances against the gates of hell. And even though he cannot live in Cuba full time, Paul's efforts continue to bear fruit from the seeds sown by his father Elmer Thompson and other missionaries to Cuba from a generation ago.

Alan Thompson has seen God leverage his teaching gifts to multiply church planters around the world. Currently his gifts of the Spirit are invested through the ministry of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City with a world cities focus.

Carolyn Ayers has walked a trail of suffering after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis while she was a CIU student. Now paralyzed and in many ways imprisoned in her body, she still communicates trust in God and an enduring hope. She is the prayer warrior of the family. And her husband Phil consistently displays the fruit of the Spirit in his kind loving care of Carolyn.

The story of the life of every Christian is that God is love and we are blessed to be the object of His focus and redeeming love.



CIU President Bill Jones introduces Alumni of the Year (from left) Carolyn Thompson Ayers and her husband Phil, Allen Thompson and his wife Marilyn, Paul Thompson and his wife Carol, and Honorary Alumni — Grace Thompson Lehman and Les Lehman. The Lehmans were named honorary alumni for over 20 years of service at Ben Lippen School in Asheville and Columbia.

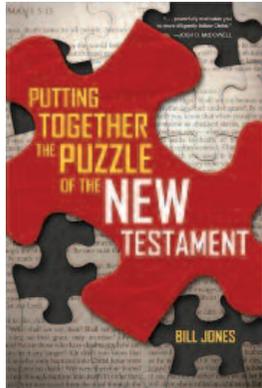
The story of the life of every Christian is that God is love and we are blessed to be the object of His focus and redeeming love. And since He created us in His image, and as He restores us after the damage of sin, we become more like Him; we love. The Thompson family is a

testimony that when we walk in victory, we love as God loves.

You can see the Alumni of the Year presentation and a video update on campus expansion from CIU President Bill Jones by visiting www.ciu.edu/alumni. ■

New Books Authored by CIU Professors

For information on purchasing these books, contact the CIU Bookstore at (800) 777-2227, ext. 5263 or Bookstore@ciu.edu.



Putting Together the Puzzle of the New Testament by Columbia International University President Bill Jones

The latest book by CIU President Bill Jones will help you piece together the New Testament. It's a ministry tool that traces the events that occur in each of the eight historical periods of the New Testament, and follows the same format as its prequel, *Putting Together the Puzzle of the Old Testament*. The book answers six investigative

questions for each period: What, How, When, Where, Who and Why? The "Why?" sections highlight God's heart for the nations which climaxes in the book of Revelation when one future day in heaven representatives from every tribe, tongue and nation will worship our Lord Jesus Christ as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The book is published by Authentic Media.

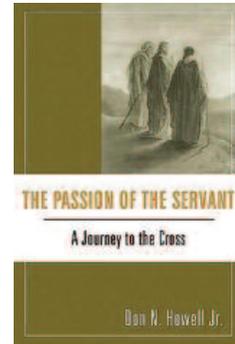
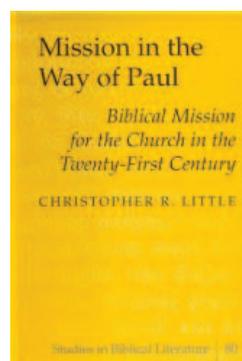
Studies on the Go by David Olshine

Dr. David Olshine, the director of Columbia International University's Youth Ministry Department has written two new books with the busy youth worker in mind. *Proverbs* and *Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians* are a part of Zondervan's "Studies on the Go" series. The books provide scriptural depth and substance to be tackled in a manageable timeframe.



Mission in the Way of Paul: Biblical Mission for the Church in the Twenty-First Century by Christopher R. Little

CIU professor of Intercultural Studies, Dr. Christopher R. Little encourages the church to take a serious look at the missiological methods of the Apostle Paul. This book demonstrates that when the church engages in cross-cultural mission and ignores Pauline methods, it places unnecessary obstacles in the path of the missionary initiative. Published by Peter Lang Publishing Group.

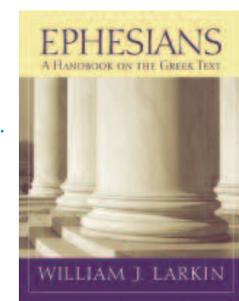


The Passion of the Servant by Don N. Howell Jr.

Dr. Don Howell, a professor of New Testament in Columbia International University Seminary & School of Missions, describes the gospels as Passion narratives with extended introductions. Howells' studies of the gospels follow the life of Jesus in a chronological sequence while attempting to preserve the unique contribution of each of the gospel accounts. Jesus is portrayed as King and covenant keeper (Matthew), as obedient Son-servant (Mark), as the perfect Man among men (Luke), and as the eternal Son of God (John), the only person ever born whose central purpose in living was to die. Published by Wipf and Stock.

Ephesians: A Handbook on the Greek Text by William J. Larkin

Author Dr. William J. "Bill" Larkin is a professor of Bible, Greek and New Testament in CIU Seminary & School of Missions. His latest work is a convenient, accessible handbook that reveals and explains the intricacies of the Greek text of Ephesians. With references to current scholarly debates relating to the language of certain verses, Larkin explains the syntax of the biblical text, offers guidance for deciding between competing semantic analyses, deals with text-critical questions, and more. Published by Baylor University Press.



Columbia International University 2008-2009 Annual Report

God is doing amazing things at Columbia International University. The 2008-2009 fiscal year was the largest giving year in the history of CIU. Despite the

economic storm that our nation has been facing, faithful donors who believe in CIU have been very generous. To them we say thank you.

As you review the figures in the following pages, be sure to thank God for His faithfulness to Columbia International University and its other ministries, Ben Lippen School and radio stations WMHK in Columbia and New Life 91.9 in Charlotte, N.C. Read the testimonies, and remember that they represent

about 1,000 other students in the Undergraduate School, Graduate School and Seminary & School of Missions and about 800 students

who attend Ben Lippen School in grades PreK-12. Meanwhile, CIU's radio stations reach thousands of people in the Carolinas daily.

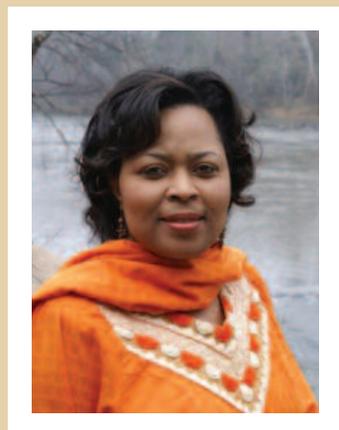
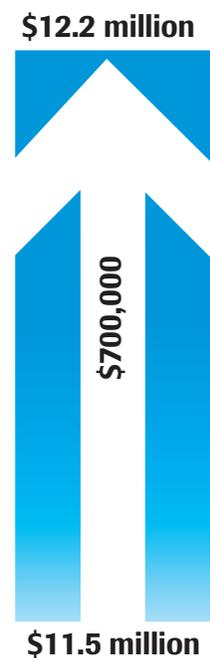
Please join me in praise for the resources God is so graciously

supplying to CIU and its ministries.

– Frank Bedell,
Director of Development

The 2008-2009
fiscal year
was the
largest giving
year in the
history of CIU.

**Quasi-endowment
values grew \$700,000
from \$11.5 million to
\$12.2 million**

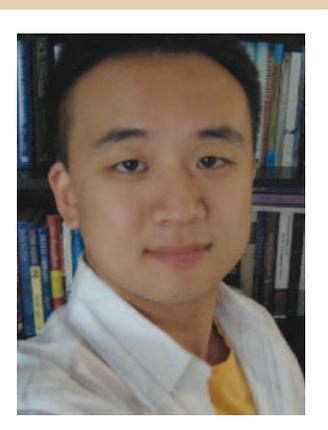


*Margo Williams –
Columbia, S.C.*

My passion is to teach at a seminary while mobilizing African-Americans to serve in global missions.

Ji Sung Lee – South Korea

God called me to preach the gospel and make disciples of Christ to expand His Kingdom. I have a special passion in preaching the Word. I will preach the Word until the day of His return or the day of my homegoing.



Financial Report

Audited financial statements of Columbia International University are available for inspection on ciu.edu/impact/auditorsreport09.pdf. Independent auditors: CapinCrouse, L.L.P.



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

Corporate	Gift Amount	Pledge	Donor Count
University	\$3,823,201	\$6,480,000	2,010
Ben Lippen	\$413,841	\$6,625	553
WMHK	\$977,350	0	3,043
WRCM	\$1,533,508	\$199,726	3,441
	<u>\$6,747,900</u>	<u>\$6,686,351</u>	<u>9,047</u>

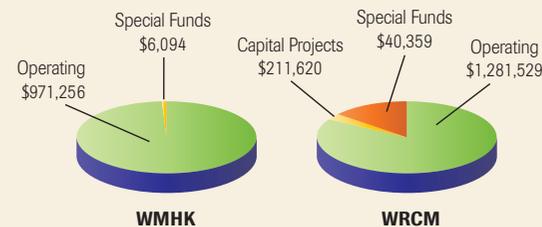
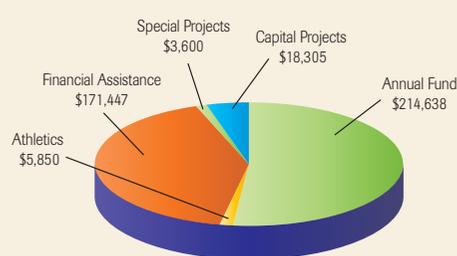
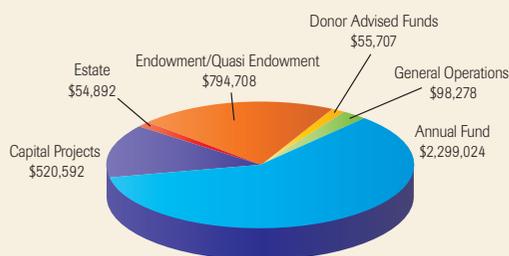
Total gift income, including pledges = \$13,434,251

University Funds	Gift Amount
Annual Fund	\$2,299,024
Capital Projects	\$520,592
Estate	\$54,892
Endowment/Quasi Endowment	\$794,708
Donor Advised Funds	\$55,707
General Operations	\$98,278
	<u>\$3,823,201</u>

Ben Lippen School Funds	Gift Amount
Annual Fund	\$214,638
Athletics	\$5,850
Financial Assistance	\$171,447
Special Projects	\$3,600
Capital Projects	\$18,305
	<u>\$413,841</u>

WMHK Funds	Gift Amount
Operating	\$971,256
Special Funds	\$6,094

WRCM Funds	Gift Amount
Operating	\$1,281,529
Special Funds	\$40,359
Capital Projects	\$211,620



David McVicker – Ben Lippen School Instructor

This year, we have been blessed with some new technological tools at Ben Lippen School. All teachers at every grade level have been issued new laptop computers. We also now have Middle and High School computer labs outfitted with computers, campus-wide Wi-Fi, and class sets of iPod Touch devices available for teacher use.

While the new technology tools are helping us in our quest to go from a “good” school to a “great” school, teachers are still the most important part of a student’s classroom experience; teachers who carefully and intentionally use technology as a tool.

Bob – Radio Station Listener

I started listening to the station in April 2001. I had just come out of backsliding and began seeking Jesus like never before. The station is a blessing and the music really ministers to me. I find myself listening to it every time I have the opportunity.

The Future of CIU is Taking Shape Today

Land Development Underway

New Student Housing Next

Columbia International University is taking steps toward campus expansion to accommodate future growth. New student housing, new athletic facilities and additional academic buildings are planned for the center of the 400-acre campus.

Initial grading and infrastructure development costing \$2.2 million is underway, most of it funded by an anonymous donor. The grading covers approximately 26 acres and is expected to be complete in the spring.

The expansion plans, which have been in development for over two years, are designed to accelerate CIU's purpose: "To educate people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ."

Already, two residence halls have been completely remodeled and refurbished. The university has also received a multi-year pledge of \$4.5 million as a matching gift for specific projects.

Keith Marion, senior vice president for development and operations, said the next phase is new student housing for those who currently live off campus. "This will provide them the opportunity to be more fully integrated into campus life, and the opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship afforded to those who live in the residence halls," Marion said.

CIU Student Apartments

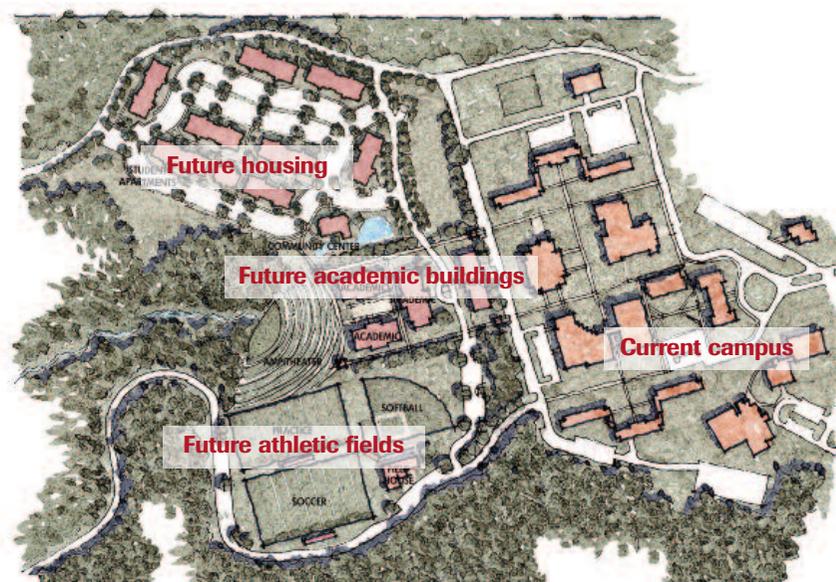
Spiritual growth and fellowship is part of CIU's educational triad: head, hands and heart. Much of the spiritual formation of the heart is developed through life on campus as students interact, challenge and mentor one another. There are nearly 400 CIU students currently living off campus. A recent survey shows that 80 percent of them would prefer to live on campus if affordable campus apartments were available.

On the drawing board is an \$8.2 million apartment community located within walking distance from the center of campus. Rental rates will be competitive to apartment complexes off campus. Other benefits to the students include: no commuting to class, safety, and access to campus amenities such as the Moore Fitness Center, the library, and dining hall. On-campus events such as chapel will be more accessible to the students and their spouses. A community building will provide an atmosphere for students to interact and will feature space for social events, private study groups, kitchenette,

and conference room. A green area will feature picturesque fountains with trails and paths leading from the apartment community to other areas of campus.

After the grading of the 26 acres under development is complete, expansion plans for other academic and building priorities will be announced.

"By creating this new developable area, the university now has a canvas on which to plan its future," Marion said. ■



There are nearly 400 CIU students currently living off campus.
A recent survey shows that 80 percent of them would prefer
to live on campus if affordable campus apartments were available.



Artist rendering of CIU apartment community.



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Ben Lippen School • 89.7 WMHK • New Life 91.9

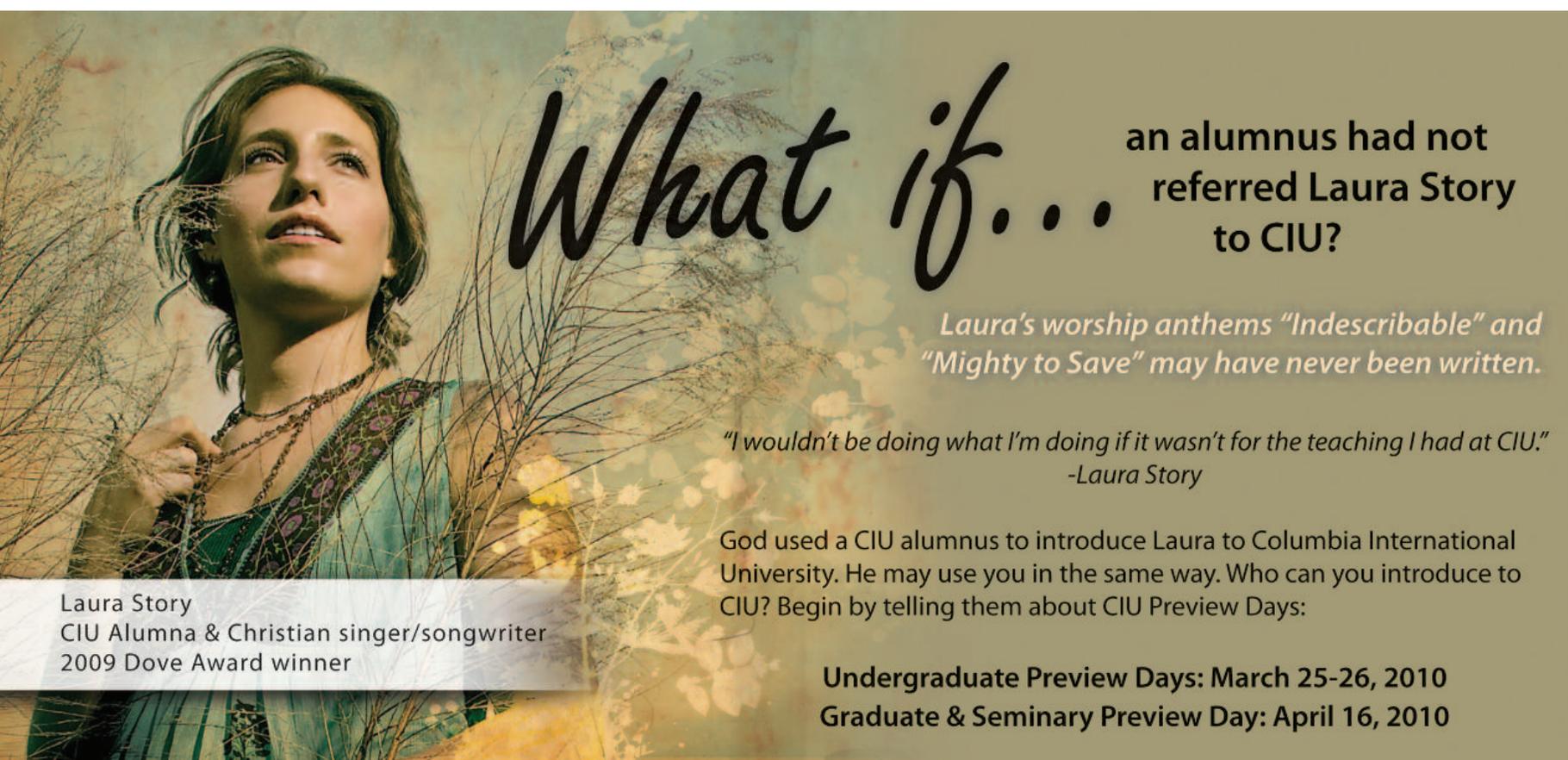
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Volume IX, No. 2 • Autumn 2009



What if...

**an alumnus had not
referred Laura Story
to CIU?**

*Laura's worship anthems "Indescribable" and
"Mighty to Save" may have never been written.*

*"I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing if it wasn't for the teaching I had at CIU."
-Laura Story*

God used a CIU alumnus to introduce Laura to Columbia International University. He may use you in the same way. Who can you introduce to CIU? Begin by telling them about CIU Preview Days:

Laura Story
CIU Alumna & Christian singer/songwriter
2009 Dove Award winner

Undergraduate Preview Days: March 25-26, 2010
Graduate & Seminary Preview Day: April 16, 2010

LET'S CHANGE THE WORLD TOGETHER.

 **Columbia International University**
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For more information,
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