

Volume 5, No. 1

Connection

Inside this Issue:
“Eager to Serve”

(I Peter 5:2)

CIU Reaches Out to
the Local Community



COLUMBIA
A Capital Place To Be



Welcome

Winter 2006

Columbia International University



Reaching Out Here and Now

Dear friends of CIU,

Years ago I was the speaker at a church that prided itself in the fact that 50 percent of its total annual budget went to support overseas cross-cultural missionary work (remarkable indeed!). While there, however, I discovered that the immediate neighborhood of that church had changed drastically and was now a colorful patchwork of lower-income, ethnically diverse people. I also discovered, not only was that local congregation not reaching out to its immediate community, but that it was deliberately trying to keep its immediate neighbors from joining their church precisely because of their ethnic and economic diversity! At the risk of never being asked to return as a special speaker, I lovingly told that congregation that it was the height of hypocrisy for them to be sending large amounts of money to the ends of the earth while neglecting (intentionally or unintentionally) their immediate community.

"It would be the height of hypocrisy [for CIU] to train men and women for missionary service around the world, but neglect ministry to our immediate neighborhood and city."

CIU is known as being one of the world's leading missionary training institutions. And we are. But for us, too, it would be the height of hypocrisy to train men and women for missionary service around the world but neglect ministry to our immediate neighborhood and city. Jesus spoke of concentric circles of witness when He said: "You will be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem [Columbia], and in Judea [South Carolina], and in Samaria [United States] and to the uttermost parts of the earth." (Acts 1:8) Because we take our Lord's words at face value, every week you will find over 1,000 CIU students, plus faculty and staff, out in our immediate community, sharing Christ with men and women, boys and girls.

This issue of *Connection* tells you about our extensive field education program, including an exciting Bible Club ministry to the city's children, CIU's African-American Fellowship outreach to our immediate neighborhood, a ministry to men who are struggling with

addictions, and an exciting, growing camp ministry started by the wife of CIU's first president, Marguerite McQuilkin. In the early 1940s, while Robert C. McQuilkin was building the foundation of one of the world's leading missionary training schools, his wife, contrary to prevailing opinions in the segregated South, boldly launched a camping ministry for the local African-American community that is thriving today. You'll also want to read about CIU's new credit-bearing downtown Bible classes for community business leaders.

I constantly tell our students "Many of you are preparing for future ministries in other places around the world. But if you're not a missionary here, you won't be a missionary there. And if you're not a missionary now, you won't be a missionary then." The Lord calls all of us to be eager to serve Him here and now. I hope you are doing that where you live, too.

Yours for His glory,

George W. Murray
President

President's Letter

Connection

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University

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Skyline of Columbia, S.C. from Finlay Park fountain.
"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers — not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve."
(1 Peter 5:2)

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Former Ben Lippen Falcon Making Headlines

Members of the national sports media may have been wondering, "Who is Ben Lippen?" Samkon "Sam" Gado, the Green Bay Packers newest running back wore a Ben Lippen T-shirt to his post game news conference Nov. 13. Gado, who graduated from Ben Lippen High School in 2001, rushed for 103 yards and scored three touchdowns in his first NFL start on his 23rd birthday against the Atlanta Falcons at the Georgia Dome.

Sports writers will have to learn that Ben Lippen isn't actually a "who." The school takes its name from the

Scottish words for "Mountain of Trust."

The Packers have had put a mountain of trust in Gado this season. He signed with the Kansas City Chiefs of the NFL as a nondrafted free agent, but was cut from the Chief's practice squad before this season. The Packers picked him up soon after that. Due to injuries, Gado is the fifth player to start at running back for the Packers this season.

Gado is a native of Nigeria where he played soccer as a child. He moved to Columbia with his family when he was nine years old and took up football in high school at Ben Lippen. He played his college



© Jim Blever/Green Bay Packers

football at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

Gado scored his first touchdown on Nov. 6 against the Pittsburgh Steelers in a game at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. After the

touchdown he dropped to his knees and thanked God.

"That's something I've always wanted to do," Gado told reporters after the game.

"I just wanted to thank God for that. It's a part of me."

After the touchdown, Gado asked the equipment staff to get him the ball as a memento. It's the first football he has ever owned.

Ben Lippen Breaks Ground for New Elementary School

Ben Lippen School Homecoming 2005 was capped off with the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Monticello Road elementary campus, which will house students in grades K4 - 5th grade. Alumni, parents, students, faculty and staff gathered to celebrate God's faithfulness and this exciting new chapter in the life of Ben Lippen School.

The gathering featured a visually-dramatic speech by Thomas Michael (Mickey) Bowdon, vice president for Christian Education, who outlined the cultural challenges this generation faces that clearly demonstrate the critical need for Kingdom education. The elementary chorus performed a moving rendition of "Holy Ground." A group of dignitaries, led by Beverly Bandy, elementary school principal, broke the ground where the new school will stand. Headmaster Don Kauffman closed the ceremony as green and gold balloons were released.

Ben Lippen Elementary School's Spears Creek Campus will close with the opening of the Monticello Road Campus. Ben Lippen's other two elementary campuses—Ashland Road and St. Andrews Road—will remain operational.



Participating in the groundbreaking (left to right): Dr. George Murray, Columbia International University (CIU) president; Gregg Schulte, CIU vice president for Business and Finance; Curt Davis, president, Curt Davis & Associates; Walter S. Tyler, president, Tyler Construction Company; Thomas Michael (Mickey) Bowdon, CIU and Ben Lippen School (BLS) vice president for Christian Education; Keith Marion, BLS board of directors chairman; Beverly Bandy, BLS Elementary School principal; Donald Kauffman, BLS headmaster.

Ben Lippen Runners Take Championship, Tribble Excels

Chalk up ten in a row for the Ben Lippen Boys Cross Country team. Five Falcons runners finished in the top ten Oct. 29, to give Ben Lippen its 10th consecutive team championship under Coach George Johnson. Ben Lippen senior Graham Tribble finished first and broke the record for South Carolina independent schools completing the 5,000 meter course in 15 minutes, 16 seconds.

Johnson, who has been coaching for over 30 years says Tribble is the best runner he's ever coached. Tribble has signed a letter of intent to attend the University of Virginia.

Also in October, Tribble was recognized as the "News 19 Player of the Week." The award from WLTX, Channel 19 in Columbia honors exceptional high school seniors who participate in varsity sports, maintain a high grade point average, and are outstanding citizens of their community. Area coaches send letters to News 19 recommending their student athletes.

WLTX and their sponsors present each winner with a letter jacket and a plaque. The student is then featured in a 30-second promotional announcement that airs for one week. At a year-end banquet two of the students are named "Player of the Year" and each receives a \$1000 scholarship.



Graham Tribble tries on new letter jacket as "News 19 Player of the Week."

CIU Alumnus of the Year

A missionary who worked to translate the Bible into the unwritten language of a tribe in a remote part of New Guinea, is Columbia International University's Alumnus of the Year. Dennis Cochrane, who makes his home in Lexington, S.C., was honored during ceremonies Sept. 23 as CIU alumni gathered for the annual Homecoming celebration.

Cochrane graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from CIU (then called Columbia Bible College) in 1958. He earned his high school diploma from Ben

Lippen School, a ministry of CIU, in 1954. He graduated from Wheaton Graduate School in Illinois in 1961 with a master's degree in Bible Languages.

In 1960, Cochrane married Nancy Lathrop, whom he had been dating at Columbia Bible College.

Beginning in 1963, Dennis and Nancy served with Wycliffe Bible Translators for 10 years living among the primitive Duna tribe. By their third year in New Guinea, Dennis developed an alphabet in Duna and began the long process of translating the Bible into the Duna language. For health reasons, the Cochranes had to leave New Guinea in 1973. Others carried on the work. Today, the entire New Testament

and parts of the Old Testament are in the Duna language and there is a thriving church among the tribe.



Dennis Cochrane

Cochrane's work with Wycliffe would continue as a recruiter and mission mobilizer. He not only traveled the world speaking to students about the work of Wycliffe, he also pioneered innovative, high-tech products to aid in the recruiting process. Today, Cochrane is a sought after missions speaker and church consultant.

Throughout his ministry, Cochrane has been led by the prayer: "Lord Jesus, do absolutely anything you need to do to me, so that you can do absolutely everything you want to do through me."

89.7 WMHK/ EdVenture Book Drive

1,200 Books Collected

89.7 WMHK mobilized its listening audience to donate books for less fortunate children through EdVenture, the Columbia-based South Carolina children's museum. WMHK's morning team of Steve Sunshine and Amy Byrd broadcasted live from EdVenture, the morning of August 5,



89.7 WMHK morning show hosts Steve Sunshine, Amy Byrd and friend collect books for the needy.

(continued on page 6.)

giving away free Chick-fil-A breakfasts and coffee to anyone who donated gently used or new books. The "Reading is Fundamental" project received the books and will distribute them to children through schools and social service agencies.

"The response was overwhelming," EdVenture's public relations coordinator Penny Delany Cothran said. "We had approximately 10 times our projected goal. We couldn't have done it without the support of WMHK and its listeners. We look forward to working with the station often in the future."

An Annual Tradition: WMHK and the South Carolina State Fair

It was way more than an evening of corn dogs and elephant ears! 89.7 WMHK welcomed thousands of its listeners to two

Christian concerts at the South Carolina State Fair, held October 6-16 in Columbia.

Worship artists Lincoln Brewster and Sonic Flood played during intermittent rain generated by remnants of Hurricane Rita on Oct. 7. The rain made for some slippery seats, but didn't dampen the spirits of hundreds of people who stayed,

sang and worshipped throughout the evening. The fair's 6,000 seat grandstand area was filled to capacity on October 14 when contemporary Christian artists FFH and Matthew West took the stage under much better weather conditions. A total of 61 people came forward to

receive Christ at the end of the concert. Both concerts were staffed by WMHK regulars and a cadre of volunteers from the CIU campus including students, faculty and staff.

Nearby, WMHK's booth at the State Fair distributed beaded bracelets that allow the wearer to quickly share the gospel, with each point represented by a different color. CIU student volunteers made the bracelets on-site for fairgoers, and their delighted children. WMHK annually participates in the State Fair, which normally draws about 650,000 people during its 10-day run. The station broadcasts live from the fair, and distributes free giveaway items, including information on CIU, to fairgoers. The 2006 State Fair is Oct. 5-15. Mark your calendars, and contact WMHK if you are a student, staff member or an alumnus and are willing to serve as a volunteer.

Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies is Reaching Out Around the World

Muslims are calling the 21st century "The Century of Islam."

And Dr. Warren Larson at CIU's Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies says they may be right for a couple of reasons.

"Islam is gaining ground in the West, including the United States, and for the past four years has been in the news on a daily basis," Larson said.

"However, it is also true that Muslims are more open to the gospel than ever. In this context, Christians must be prepared to reach them."

That's why the Zwemer Center is conducting global seminars on understanding and evangelizing Muslims. Larson says these formal and non formal seminars are led by instructors who have passion, academic qualifications and experience in ministry.

"The focus is on understanding Islam, building healthy relationships with Muslims and effectively evangelizing Muslims. It is an essential part of our ministry to take Zwemer on the road and conduct seminars for Christian workers all over the world."

But doing this kind of work doesn't come cheap and most mission organizations and churches in the developing world cannot begin to cover all the travel expenses for the instructors. That's why Zwemer has begun a \$50,000 capital campaign that will help provide airfare for instructors who teach seminars.

Larson is praying that Zwemer supporters will give sacrificially to the capital campaign because now is the time to act.

"Because of the post-September 11th environment, there is a much greater interest in Islam in the media, the church, and the public at large. Seizing this opportunity could result in the salvation of countless Muslims in years to come," Larson said.

For more information on the Zwemer Center and its capital campaign, visit www.ciu.edu. Click on Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies. You may also e-mail muslimstudies@ciu.edu or phone 1-800-777-2227. ♦



Jennifer Deibler of FFH sings at the S.C. State Fair.

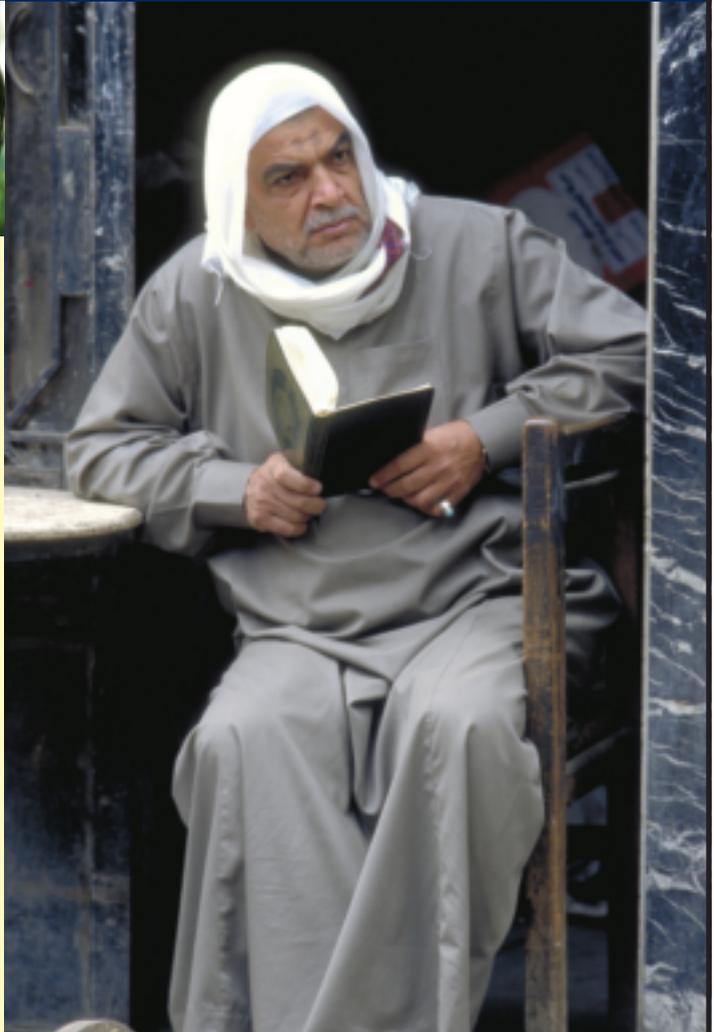
Zwemer Center

Vision: A global church equipped for Muslim ministry.



Strategic Initiatives:

- Global seminars on understanding and reaching Muslims
- Graduate programs in Muslim Studies (credit and non-credit)
- Networks of Christian workers among Muslims around the world
- Research Center in Muslim Studies



Columbia Biblical Seminary & School of Missions

The Seminary at Columbia International University

www.ciu.edu/muslimstudies

1-800-777-2227

7435 Monticello Road, Columbia, SC 29203

Photos courtesy of Arab World Ministries and Create International.

Hurricane Katrina: CIU in Action

CIU Radio Stations Respond to the Needs of Hurricane Victims

When it came to meeting the needs of the victims of Hurricane Katrina, the Broadcasting division of Columbia International University was out front in the Carolinas.

In Charlotte, New Life 91.9 organized a prayer service in Charlotte's center city, inviting Carolinians to unite in prayer for victims and their families. New Life 91.9 also joined forces with dozens of Charlotte radio stations by participating in Radio Relief, a day designed to bring media outlets together to encourage and raise awareness of the needs of those victimized by Katrina. In addition, New Life 91.9's Families Helping Families campaign partnered with Charlotte-based

Samaritan's Purse to send much needed supplies to areas most devastated by Katrina. Through this effort, hundreds of families and churches donated items for victims at designated businesses in Charlotte. Most importantly, New Life 91.9 used its airwaves to encourage and constantly remind listeners to pray for Katrina's victims and their families.



In Columbia, 89.7 WMHK quickly organized a series of live remote broadcasts Sept. 8-17 designed to collect food, much needed cleaning supplies, personal items and bottled water for hurricane victims. Four and a half tons of food was collected for Harvest Hope Food Bank in Columbia and 1.5 tons of supplies were distributed by Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse. Many more supplies were donated by WMHK listeners at area Chick-fil-A stores for Christ Central Ministries in Columbia, which set up a Biloxi, Miss.-based command post to minister to hurricane victims.

"Radio can be an amazing tool in God's hands," said General Manager Jerry Grimes. "We are learning that when we team up with our CIU family, our listeners and the community on a project that reflects God's passion for people, anything is possible."

CIU Students Show Christ's Love to Hurricane Katrina Evacuees

When CIU student Chandee Lee Ulch saw the gripping video of the people in New Orleans clinging to the roof of their water-surrounded homes in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, she was overwhelmed and knew she just had to do something to help. But as a wife, mom, and full-time Bible college student hundreds of miles away in Columbia, S.C., how could she possibly get involved?

So when she learned just days later that some of the New Orleans evacuees were being flown to Columbia, she saw the perfect opportunity to put feet to what she had been learning in class.

"CIU has given us all these tools to present the gospel, but not just share it with words and preaching to them, but giving of ourselves, giving of our lives," Ulch said.

"This was the best time to go out and use these tools. For them to come to our front door in Columbia, it was completely ridiculous for us not ... there was just no excuse ... to not help the evacuees."

Ulch lives in "The Village" a trailer park community of CIU married students. She helped rally the families in the neighborhood into action, many of whom do not have TVs and weren't aware of just how bad things were in New Orleans. The students joined other concerned citizens of Columbia at an old Navy facility in downtown Columbia where the evacuees were being processed.

"They just wanted to have someone who cared and was willing to listen to what they had been through. They had no one to listen to them on those roofs," Ulch said. ♦



CIU Endowment Aids Katrina Victims

Jeff Rehn remembers the woman who sat slumped over in her motel room. She didn't talk much. But she did express her gratitude for the gift of food. And Rehn had a work van full of delicious food.

The woman was one of hundreds of Gulf Coast evacuees who were relocated to Columbia motels after Hurricane Katrina. And thanks to a Columbia International University endowment titled "For Those in Need," Rehn, who heads the CIU Food Services, could offer the evacuees hot, nutritious meals. Funding for the meals also came from Pioneer College Caterers, the food service provider under contract with CIU.

"When we pulled up (to the motels), the people appeared to be very tired," Rehn reflected.

"And they weren't smiling, although they knew that we were bringing food, and that was a relief, but you could tell they had been through so much. Some of the people we talked

to said they just don't have anything."

The meals were not the typical fast food fare that many of the evacuees were getting used to. Rehn's meals, kept hot in Styrofoam trays for the trip from CIU to Columbia's north-

east side, would include fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, roll, drink and cookies on one day. Salisbury steak, au gratin potatoes, and

hush puppies may be on the menu the next day. In all, Rehn and his staff delivered over 700 meals at a cost of about \$2.50 per meal. About half of that \$1800 expenditure came from the CIU endowment and half from Pioneer.

Rehn says the experience was humbling. "It made you just stop and think how fortunate we are." ♦

"It made you just stop and think how fortunate we are."



Top: CIU Director of Food Services Jeff Rehn loads another truck with hot meals for Katrina evacuees.

Bottom: CIU Assistant Director of Food Services Doug Barry prepares another meal for Katrina evacuees.

Your Employer May Match Your Gift to CIU!

Last year 30 CIU donors took advantage of a little known secret and doubled their giving, and in some cases tripled it, through their employer matching gift program. Did you know that many employers will match your charitable gift dollar for dollar? Through matching gift programs in the 2004 - 2005 fiscal year, CIU received close to \$45,000 from corporations throughout the nation. Curious to know if your employer will match your charitable giving? Go to the Development link on the CIU website and search the online database. You might be surprised to learn that you can effectively double and in some cases triple your charitable giving. <http://www.ciu.edu/donors/>

CIU Goes Downtown



By Bob Holmes

The skyline of downtown Columbia is just a silhouette against the pinks and purples of the eastern sky that hint a new day is about to begin in South Carolina's capital city. It's an unusually cold October morning. The city is quiet and traffic is light as the rush hour is still over an hour away.

But on the seventh floor of the Wachovia building on Main Street seven people are already gathered in a meeting room. Dressed in business attire the six men and one woman are seated in a semi-circle around a conference table. But instead of studying a corporate balance sheet or flow charts they open Bibles. And instead of focusing on a presentation from a CEO, their attention is on a distinguished-looking professor and his Power Point presentation showing photos of Israel.

On this day, Dr. Terry Hulbert is discussing Jesus' miraculous feeding of 5,000 people as he leads the Downtown Bible Study of Columbia International University. The students are successful professionals who are taking the course for credit toward a Master of Arts degree in Bible. Despite the early hour, the discussion is often lively. The students excitedly trade thoughts as they ponder why the masses in the gospels keep following Jesus.

Hulbert encourages the exchange. "Keep going, keep going!" he shouts.

A student says he wants to "throw a monkey wrench" into the discussion. But Hulbert reigns in the diversion and the class is again following the professor's arrows on the projector screen showing where Jesus traveled around the Sea of Galilee.

One of the students is a familiar face in central South Carolina. Heather Matthews was known as Heather Hoopes when she worked as a reporter for a Columbia TV station. The early morning class doesn't bother her, even though she has quite a commute.

"It is a bit hard. I live about an hour from Columbia," Matthews told *Connection*.

"I have to get up real early, but I tell you once I get here, it's such an exciting group. Everyone just yearns to learn. There's such great discussion. I may be sleepy when I get here, but after about 10 minutes, it's gone."

"Everyone just yearns to learn. There's such great discussion. I may be sleepy when I get here, but after about 10 minutes, it's gone."





Another one of the students is Dr. Louis Lynn, an African-American who owns an architectural landscaping business, and serves on the Board of Trustees of Clemson University. He calls the class the ultimate Bible study.

"I'm asked why I'm doing this. It just better equips me for ministry in the marketplace," Lynn said.

"Where God takes me from here I don't know. I am going to pursue the entire (Master of Arts) degree."

The dean of CIU's Seminary, Junius Venugopal says the class started as a kind of discipleship to new believers after seminary professor Bill Jones led Columbia-area professionals to the Lord. He says the class is CIU's way of bringing the gospel to its own Jerusalem.

"We want to be sure we are offering a class to people in our neighborhood who we can impact for Christ," Venugopal said.

In a way, the Downtown Bible Study is nothing new for CIU. Beginning in 1926 and continuing for several years after, the university's first president, Robert C. McQuilkin taught a businessmen's class in the ballroom of a Columbia hotel. At one point 150 to 200 men attended.

Venugopal dreams of classes that big again as more downtown classes are being planned. ♦

* * * *



About the Author

Bob Holmes is the editor of Connection magazine and communications coordinator at Columbia International University.

Columbia International University to Host Theological Society

Columbia International University will be the site for the next Southeastern regional meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, March 17-18, 2006. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Millard Erickson, author of the widely acclaimed *Christian Theology* and 20 other books. Erickson is Distinguished Professor of Theology at Western Seminary and past president of the Evangelical Theological Society. The theme of the conference is "Setting the Agenda for Evangelical Scholarship to 2050."

A registration form and information sheet is available on the Evangelical Theological Society website www.etsjets.org.

The Evangelical Theological Society is a professional society of biblical scholars, teachers, pastors and others who serve Christ and His church through Evangelical scholarship. The group formed in 1949 "to foster conservative biblical scholarship by providing a medium for the oral exchange and written expression of thought and research in the general field of the theological disciplines as centered in the Scriptures."

Dear *Connection* reader,

Beginning with our spring edition of *Connection* we will be printing your *Letters to the Editor*.

We encourage you to mail or e-mail your thoughts on the winter edition that you hold in your hands right now. Please give us your feedback on the articles that have impacted you.

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.

We want to hear from you!

Bob Holmes
Connection editor

HANDS

God's Provision for Fruitful Ministry

by Dr. Scott D. Edgar

As I look back through my CIU Field Education day-timer, I reflect on the numerous counseling sessions and mentoring conferences that I had with students during the month of October. Serving in the area of field education provides me with a unique opportunity to listen to their testimonies of God's work in the past, guide and direct them in their current ministry development, and seek God's future together with them as they search



CIU student Melissa Roberts teaching the Bible at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice.

for His vocational direction for their lives. What these sessions had in common is that they usually revolved around a foundational question that students ask as they prepare for ministry and making a difference for Christ in the world.

How Can the Lord Use Me?

It is encouraging to share with students that the major message of Scripture in regards to ministry, is that not only does our Lord ask us to serve Him, but He actually provides us with the means (or H.A.N.D.S.) to do it! A helpful acronym that I share with students uses the letters that spell HANDS to describe the five primary means that God uses to prepare believers for future ministry.

The first means that God uses to prepare believers for meaningful ministry includes our **Heart Desires** (Psalm 37:4). As we walk

Not only does our Lord ask us to serve Him, but He actually provides us with the means (or H.A.N.D.S.) to do it!

in obedience to Christ and align our desires with His, He develops within us areas of holy discontent or ministry passion. Usually experienced as a series of divine impressions, heart desires for ministry may find expression as an unrelenting burden to establish new believers in their faith, or a growing passion to minister to youth in the urban community. Normally very unique and highly personal, God uses these heart desires to lead us into specific avenues of ministry.

A second means used by our Lord to prepare us for ministry is our **Accumulated Experiences** (II Corinthians 1:3-7). These life experiences, both joyful and painful, provide rich pages in a sourcebook for ministering to others. Unique for each individual; recounting and sharing with others the lessons God has taught us in our faith stories enables us to minister in powerful and personal ways to others.

A third means that directs the normal pathway by which we will most effectively minister is our **Natural Personality** (Paul/Barnabas – Acts 15). While all believers have the empowering Holy Spirit which works through us, the biblical narratives support the fact that God works through our natural personalities. Part of our divine design, God usually stretches and empowers our personalities, but does not change our basic temperaments – choosing rather, to work through our humanness to demonstrate His glory. It is a freeing truth to realize that God wants us to serve as authentic and unique individuals. If we spend our lives trying to act like someone else, who will play our part in God’s redemptive drama?

A fourth means that God uses to prepare us for ministry involves using our **Developed Skills** (Lydia – Acts 16). Lydia is a great example of a person who used her skills in marketing and business to spread the gospel and establish local churches. Whatever skills a person has, including technical, artistic, or professional, can be used to further the cause of Christ. Developed skills can be used creatively and strategically to open up doors for the gospel.

A fifth, yet foundational means by which God equips all believers to serve is **Spiritual Gifts** (I Corinthians 12:4-11). Often related, but distinct from developed skills, spiritual gifts are unique possessions of all those who know Christ as Savior and Lord. Given at conversion, spiritual gifts are special abilities provided by Christ through the Holy Spirit to equip and empower believers

for the ministries of the Body. The New Testament provides various lists and descriptions of spiritual gifts. Believers should be guided in the discovery, development, and deployment of their spiritual gifts.

In addition to explaining the HANDS acronym as a tool to remember the five means God’s uses to prepare us for ministry — **H**ear Desires, **A**ccumulated Experiences, **N**atural Personality, **D**eveloped Skills, and **S**piritual Gifts — I try to send students home from the field education office with a few nuggets to chew on and challenge them as they seek God’s specific leading in ministry. Called my “doggie bag,” a few bits of practical advice for individuals in search of God’s master plan for their ministry include the following:

Doggie Bag

- Commit to being a fully devoted servant of Jesus Christ.
- Be sensitive to God’s leading – seek direction through prayer.
- Understand the Scripture’s teaching on Spiritual Gifts.
- Explore many opportunities for service and evaluate the results.
- Treat every ministry assignment as an important one.
- Seek the guidance of ministry mentors and spiritual leaders.
- Look for a convergence of the five means (HANDS) for maximum ministry impact. ♦



The CIU Field Education Performing Arts Team ministering at Fort Jackson: David Blanchard, Jenn Reed, Jewell Thieszen.

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About the Author

Dr. Scott Edgar is associate dean of Ministry Skills Development at Columbia International University. Prior to joining the faculty of CIU in 2003, Dr. Edgar served in pastoral ministry at three churches in Illinois and Kansas and served with SEND International in Russia and Ukraine as a professor of Christian Ministry and academic dean at Kiev Theological Seminary in Kiev, Ukraine. His wife, Rebekah teaches 2nd grade at Ben Lippen Elementary School. Their 11-year-old son, Michael attends Ben Lippen Middle School.



The Walls Came

Tumbling Down

By Peggie Etheredge Johnson

As a child I vividly remember singing the song *Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho*. The lyrics of the song, “the walls came tumbling down,” always intrigued me. What I did not understand was **how** the walls came down and **who** was behind this unusual event.

Walls are built for diverse purposes. Webster’s College Dictionary define walls as: any of various constructions used for shelter, protection, or privacy; which can be an immaterial or intangible barrier, obstruction, or suggesting a wall.

The army of the Lord, chosen to enter the Promised Land and possess it for a heritage from the Lord, marched around the city of Jericho surrounded by a fortified wall. This wall was probably built to protect the city from outside invasions of various enemy attacks and under normal circumstances possibly would have served its intended purpose. However God was up to something in the camp of Israel and the city of Jericho, as He is today.

The awesome conquest and ultimate victory of Israel at Jericho in many ways were due to the obedience of Joshua and the army to the strange command of God. His instructions were to walk around the city once a day for six days. On the seventh day they were told to



march around the city seven times, then the priests would blow the trumpets followed by a long blast with the ram’s horn and then all the people would shout; immediately the wall of the city of Jericho fell down allowing the army to enter the city and begin the campaign to possess the land (Joshua 6:3-5). God miraculously intervened in bringing down a physical barrier that stood in the way of Israel fulfilling His promise to Abraham and the patriarchs concerning the land of Canaan.

The army of the Lord continues to march around city walls with slightly different orders and circumstances but the same God giving the commands. The walls of these cities are invisible and often exist within the hearts of the inhabitants in the city and the Lord’s army.

*CIU student
Mary K. O'Rourke
teaches a backyard
Bible Club.*

Each week students from Columbia International University's Bible Clubs Ministry arm themselves for battle with the Holy Bible, lesson plans saturated in prayer, and resources from the Ministry Resource Department, to march into the cities of Columbia, West Columbia, Cayce, Irmo, and Hopkins with God's commands from the Great Commission to teach, evangelize, and disciple children and youth according to His strategic battle plan for taking each city for His Kingdom.

This army consists of student team leaders, teachers, and mentors who minister in 11 clubs to approximately 250 African-American and Mexican-American children and youth.

Bible Clubs was one of the first Field Education ministries at Columbia International University and the army continues to build, and add to the foundation laid by warriors who preceded us.

The Lord is tearing down invisible walls of cultural barriers, prejudice, fear, pride and stereotypes as awareness of Columbia International University grows.



Joshua and the army of the Lord were probably never the same after God's intercession at Jericho. I also feel the Bible Clubs' students, the communities they serve, and I will never be the same again. For God has challenged us who Know Him to make Him known by ministering outside of our comfort zones,

*CIU Student
Jenna Lawson
teaches at
Reid Chapel
AME Church in
Columbia.*

The Lord is tearing down invisible walls of cultural barriers, prejudice, fear, pride and stereotypes as awareness of Columbia International University grows.

As each wall comes tumbling down, the beauty of the Body of Christ becomes apparent to all through changed lives of children and youth who make salvation decisions to follow Christ with more than 36 decisions during the Spring 2005 semester and at least three decisions during the Fall 2005 semester.

The Bible Clubs' students are also actively involved in tearing down walls in the everyday lives of the children by exposing them to various activities on the CIU and Ben Lippen campus; recently 20 children attended CIU's Harvest Fest.

through teaching, and evangelizing children and youth in diverse cultures.

May the walls continue to come tumbling down as God brings people of all nations, tribes and tongues to himself. ✦



About the Author

Peggie Etheredge Johnson is the director of Bible Clubs in the Field Education Department at Columbia International University.

A Camp for Such a Time as This

By Jarl Hill & Shirl Schiffman

Most often you have to meet society where it is. "What can I do within the limits imposed on me?" is a question many have faced when trying to make a difference in their community. South Carolina in the late 1930s was a very different place. Segregated schools, segregated businesses, even segregated churches and Bible schools. Where does one start? How do you begin to reach across the walls of social inequality and minister in the name of Christ?

Marguerite McQuilkin first answered those questions by teaching Bible classes in both the black and white schools in Columbia. Public school Bible teachers in those days often worked in partnership with Christian camps. This quickly led to another wall that would need to be torn down. "In those days...there was no camp for black children to go to," recalls McQuilkin's son, Robertson, President Emeritus of Columbia International University. "So that's why she started Bethel."¹ With no previous experience, Mrs. McQuilkin founded Bethel Bible Camp (now Bethel Christian Camp) in the summer of 1941. The first camp was an adventure! Property was rented; equipment trucked in; 39 African-American youth attended; students from Columbia Bible College served as the counseling staff. It was deemed a success!

Not everyone approved, of course, but "she didn't care what people thought. She was determined..." said the late Marguerite Cartee of her mother's courage.¹ Robert C. McQuilkin, first president of CIU, supported his wife 100 percent. While he built the foundation of one of the world's leading missionary



Top to bottom: A make-shift game of table tennis at Bethel Christian Camp in the 1950s.

Some "happy campers."

Marguerite McQuilkin, founder of Bethel Christian Camp.



training schools, Mrs. McQuilkin deeply impacted the local community at a crucial time in South Carolina's history.



"We hope to build Christian character and develop an interest in missions in the young people who come," Mrs. McQuilkin replied when asked about the purpose of Bethel, "and to teach them to understand the Christian message."² She also wanted Bethel to be a place where kids sing silly camp songs and enjoy games. She wanted a place where, for a moment at least, skin color didn't matter.

In 1950, when scores of children were turned away despite the 150 that attended, she realized the camp needed its own property. A prominent African-American businessman, Mr. I.S. Leevy, graciously

donated 30 acres of land for this purpose. In the early decades, CIU played a significant part in Bethel's ministry, contributing several directors, board members, counselors, and missionary speakers.

Looking back, starting Bethel meant overcoming one limit after another imposed by a fractured society. Trusting relationships between black and white people had to be developed; criticism from those who couldn't yet see God at work in a multi-ethnic ministry had to be handled; the logistical challenge of establishing a camp from scratch with few resources had to be tackled. But meaningful community involvement *always* requires sacrifice, commitment, and perseverance. In Bethel's case, the reward was to see children come to know Christ each year, and see them grow in Christian maturity and leadership skills. Several churches also trace their roots to Bethel's unique ministry, including Columbia Christian Fellowship, a vibrant, multi-ethnic evangelical church in Columbia.

Bethel met a need in the community at an earlier time in history by providing a camp for children who had none. After operating continuously for 64 years, Bethel is still meeting needs. The ministry now sits on an 80 acre camping facility on a lake in Gaston just outside Columbia. While the camp's mission and ethos are much the same as when it was founded, there are some changes. Today's campers are a delightful mix of ethnic and socio-economic groups. Bethel's community involvement has expanded through strategic partnerships with organizations such as Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree program, Gang-Out (a local ministry to help youth get out of gangs), Child Evangelism Fellowship,

Columbia Area Housing Authority, and churches that minister to at-risk youth. This past summer 579 youth attended Bethel. Though never officially connected with CIU, Bethel continues to link CIU with the community. The current executive director and program director studied at CIU; each year's summer counseling staff includes many CIU students; CIU and Ben Lippen students frequently donate resources and labor for improvements.

The Jesus of the gospels met society where it was. Following His example, Bethel remains committed to reaching out in His name.

If you would like information about the camp's current ministry, call (803) 926-5511 or e-mail info@bethelchristiancamp.org. Additional information can be found at www.bethelchristiancamp.org.

Sources:

"Autumn wishes, summer dreams," *The State*, Columbia, SC, Friday, November 3, 2000

"Bible Camp Held Answer To Prayers," *The Columbia Record*

* * * *

About the Authors

Jarl Hill is the executive director of Bethel Christian Camp.

Shirl Schiffman is an administrative faculty member at CIU and a member of Bethel's board of directors.



Jarl Hill



Shirl Schiffman



Ben Lippen Middle School Builds Basketball Court for Bethel Christian Camp

Youngsters attending the Bethel Christian Camp in Gaston have a new basketball court thanks to a unique fundraising effort by Ben Lippen Middle School students.

The \$4,500 regulation basketball court was dedicated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony last spring.

More than half the funds were raised in less than two weeks with a penny war as classes competed to see who could donate the most pennies. The sixth through eighth grade students collected the equivalent of a quarter million pennies.

Above: Attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony (left to right): Merritt Gantt, representing BLS middle school students, and Jarl Hill, Bethel Camp executive director.

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An Unexpected Call to Service

By Bob Kallgren

Funny how God presents opportunities which do not look like they fit well, but which turn out to be His appointment for you. That describes an unusual set of circumstances he presented to me. Although I had a little early experience with alcohol, addiction has not been part of my life, and was not an issue in my family. But, over these last years I've had the opportunity to spend considerable time with men who have altogether too much experience with addictions. Some 15 years ago a friend asked me if I could provide any kind of help for his adult son who had ruined his career due to drug addiction. After this brilliant young man's life collapsed, he turned to faith in Christ through the ministry of a local church and actually audited a course in Columbia Biblical Seminary & School of Missions as a matter of discipleship. Not long after that, his damaged heart gave out and he passed on into the Lord's presence.

Through this experience, the young man's father asked me if I would like to attend a board meeting for the Providence Home in Columbia. The Providence Home is a haven and place of meeting for men who are struggling with addictions. I became a member of the Providence Home Board of Directors, beginning a new experience for me. I have now served on the board for 15 years, most of those as the chairman. The ministry serves 35 guys at a time, and it has been rewarding to watch God work in ways that are amazing. We have received permissions, finances and services in ways that only God could have provided.

But I'm not the only person from CIU who has reached out to these men. Over the years, a number of people who provide the services of the Home were CIU alumni. The most recent being the new Executive Director, Ken Ritchie, a former CIU student and staff member, who has a great heart for serving men.

That's half my testimony. The other half is equally as important. About five years ago, The Oliver Gospel Mission in downtown Columbia, began an intensive program for men who are addicted, but willing to submit themselves to a long-term program of discipleship and counseling. The church I have attended these years, Columbia Christian Fellowship, is about evenly balanced between African-Americans and Caucasians, with an upbeat worship service and an excellent preaching ministry. So the mission adopted Columbia Christian Fellowship as the place where their men would attend church. Several men in the church, especially Chas Sulita, another CIU alumnus, have opened arms to these men. Over the years we have tried to provide 200-300 men some experience with the "normal" world. Through the lives of these men, I have seen how much of their pain and the situation they find themselves in, is due to family dysfunction. As you can imagine, this kind of ministry is difficult, with more disappointments than successes, at least in the short run, but a worthy one nevertheless.

It has been a joy to serve with various CIU employees and students who have invested themselves in "the least of these," living out the gospel, not only in the uttermost parts of the world, but right here in Columbia. ♦

About the Author

Bob Kallgren is vice president of Corporate Planning at Columbia International University.



*Providence Home:
a place of renewal
off North Main Street
in Columbia.*

CIU Student Working to Make Positive Changes in the CIU Neighborhood

By Bob Holmes, *Connection* editor

Columbia International University student Reginald Flynn wants to change the neighborhood around CIU. And he's well on his way.



Pastor Reginald Flynn

Flynn is working on a Doctor of Ministry degree in the seminary, while pastoring the 250 member Temple Zion Baptist Church just one mile from CIU on Heyward Brockington Road.

Flynn is also the founder of The Nehemiah Project, Inc., a community development corporation.

"The Nehemiah Project is really tied to the concept of what I'm pursuing my doctorate in at CIU," Flynn said grinning wide through his salt-and-pepper beard. His eyes sparkle behind his wire-rimmed glasses.

He describes the concept of "Christian Community Development" as social entrepreneurship. It includes training young people in work skills, increasing the opportunities for home ownership and improving the general appearance of the neighborhood.

His drive and charismatic personality has put The Nehemiah Project well on its way to success. The initiative recently received the South Carolina Achievement Award for "Newly formed CDC's that have

made significant progress." In just six months, the Nehemiah Project has established bylaws and a governing board, organized a neighborhood network, initiated landscaping and beautification projects, acquired property, identified homes needing repair and raised over \$20,000 during a capital campaign fund drive.

"It is the most difficult thing I've ever engaged in all my life," he says with a laugh. But quickly adds, "I love it, I love it, I love it. I love everything I am doing. I believe God is calling me to do this work."

Flynn becomes very serious as he shares his first impressions of the neighborhood after taking the pastorate of Temple Zion Baptist three years ago.

"I would drive through the community. My heart was burdened because I saw the poverty. I saw the hopelessness in the eyes of the people. I just couldn't rest at night. It was unbelievable how it consumed me."

That's when he found himself waking up early in the morning reading through the Old Testament book of Nehemiah, the man who led in the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. Flynn calls Nehemiah the quintessential community developer.



"I began to preach about and teach about Nehemiah, the obstacles he faced and the successes. God used him and others to build the walls."

But Flynn says all such plans must be bathed in prayer. He has established prayer teams that have taken prayer walks along Monticello Road, the gateway to the neighborhood. Among the participants have been CIU students.

"There is a lot of hopelessness on Monticello Road and I would love to be in the heart of that hopelessness and be a light in that darkness," Flynn said.

"We've already purchased property. We will use it to construct a community center and affordable housing. We want to empower people through home ownership. In the name of Jesus. That's the key. That's the key." ♦

Feature

The African-American Fellowship Ministry

Building Bridges to the Community

By Venice Inabinet

The African-American Fellowship Ministry (AAFM) is a new and exciting ministry that has significantly impacted not only the hearts of students at CIU, but also the community surrounding our campus, and the city of Columbia! Eager to serve? YES! Serving is the heart of AAFM's mission. Since its conception as a ministry in 2001, the AAFM has taken gigantic strides in bridging the CIU community and the African-American community that surrounds our campus, which in turn has impacted the Columbia area.

The purpose of AAFM is to unite the CIU student body for student-led ministry into the surrounding African-American communities. Our vision is to build a bridge into those communities by ministering to the residents' needs spiritually, educationally and culturally. The AAFM's mission is to unify students, faculty, and staff and to foster Christian love, fellowship and community ministry.

Our ministry is not limited to the African-American students at CIU, but includes the student body as a whole. Our membership includes a dynamic, committed, diverse group of students who are truly a blessing. One of our main goals on campus is to present non-African-American students more culturally based instructions on how to

minister within the African-American community. Many times people with big hearts do things that render them and their work for God ineffective within the African-American community.



AAFM President Myah Jefferson at a Black History Worship Service



CIU student Brooks Heard of AAFM mentors a student at Eau Claire High School.

In just four years, AAFM has developed an outreach program to Eau Claire High School on Monticello Road just a few miles from CIU. Our students participate in an after-school tutoring/mentoring program. Once a month, the high school students are invited to dinner at CIU, where our students fellowship with and witness to the Eau Claire students. At one dinner, 16 students gave their lives to Jesus! The whole program is very well received by both the Eau Claire High School administration as well as the participating students. We continue our fellowship with Eau Claire students through activities and events sponsored by various CIU student organizations.

Other ways we serve the community includes active membership in the Denny Terrace Neighborhood Association, taking part in CIU's "Adopt-a-Highway" effort along Monticello Road, and supporting the Nehemiah Project, a community development corporation. We also partner with various student body activities such as a recent "prayer walk" throughout the surrounding neighborhoods.

AAFM's largest outreach ministry is our "Black History Month Interactive Service" in February. This event is well supported by not only our CIU family, but also by people from all over the Columbia area. Shortess Chapel is often full! The reception following the service allows time for the community to fellowship with CIU's family of faculty, staff, and students. The feedback that we have received has been very encouraging.

As you can see, the African-American Fellowship Ministry is busy and eager to serve! ♦

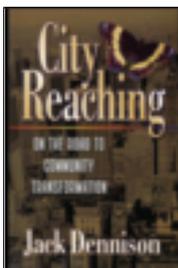
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About the Author

Venice Inabinet is the prayer and volunteer coordinator in the Alumni Office at Columbia International University.



Recommended Reading from the Authors in this Edition of *Connection*



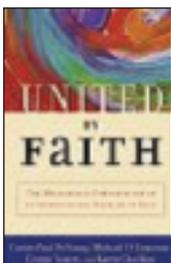
City Reaching: On the Road to Community Transformation by Jack Dennison. A book about mobilizing Christians across cities “to

focus all their resources on reaching the whole city with the whole gospel, resulting in the redemption of society and transformation of the city.” Published by William Carey Library.

Divided by Faith: Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America by Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith.

Emerson and Smith use a nationwide survey of 2,000 people to probe the attitudes of white evangelical America. Through the face-to-face interviews, they found that most white evangelicals see no systematic discrimination against blacks. The authors contend that it is not active racism that prevents evangelicals from recognizing ongoing problems in American society, but, the evangelical movement’s emphasis on individualism, free will and personal relationships that makes invisible the pervasive injustice that perpetuates racial inequality.

Published by Oxford University Press.



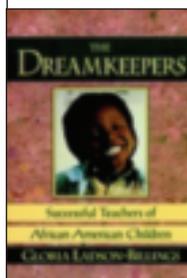
United by Faith: The Multiracial Congregation as an Answer to the Problem of Race by

Curtiss Paul DeYoung. In *United by Faith*, a multiracial team of sociologists and a minister of the Church of God argue that multiracial Christian congregations offer a key to opening the still-locked door between the races in the United States. Included is a critical account of the theological arguments in favor of racial separation, as voiced in the African-American, Latino, Asian-American, Native-American, and white contexts. The authors respond in detail, closing with a foundation for a theology suited to sustaining multiracial congregations over time. Published by Oxford University Press.

Reconciling an Oppressor by Michael V. Fariss.

Cutting-edge convictions about urban ministry grip the author as he follows God’s leading in the inner city.

In *Reconciling an Oppressor* Michael Fariss discovers reconciliation strategies for youth outreach, family intervention and world missions. He finds new ways to empower people from impoverished backgrounds to fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus Christ. Published by Pleasant Word.

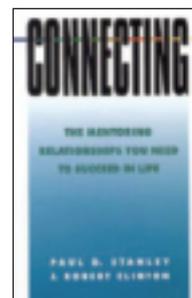


The DreamKeepers: Successful Teachers of African American Children by Gloria Ladson-Billings. Ladson-Billings challenges readers to envision intel-

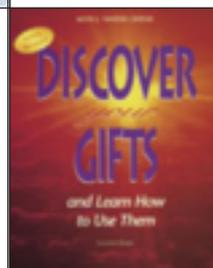
lectually rigorous and culturally relevant classrooms that have the power to improve the lives of not just African-American students but all children. Published by Jossey-Bass.

Connecting: The Mentoring Relationships You Need to Succeed in Life by Paul D. Stanley and J. Robert Clinton.

We need each other. Authors Stanley and Clinton say that connecting with others plays an indispensable role in healthy development. None of us are fully equipped to excel in life on our own. They say we miss out on connecting with others simply because we don’t understand the true nature of mentoring – a problem that is easily overcome. Published by Navpress.



Discover Your Gifts and Learn How to Use Them by Alvin



Vandergriend. This Bible-based course helps adults identify and use their spiritual gifts. A congregation-wide study of

Discover Your Gifts can encourage your church members and help them see how their gifts fit in with your church’s ministry. Includes seven study sessions and a follow up consulting plan. Published by Faith Alive Christian Resources.

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"One of the biggest challenges I have as a pastor of adult ministries is discovering and deploying seasoned volunteer leaders in the church. Roy King and Lloyd Reeb helped me in dealing with some of those challenges. God used Roy to help me look at the heart issues and the theology involved and Lloyd gave me perspective on how to encourage successful men and women to consider the significance of their lives. I recommend it to anyone who has a passion to get folks involved in things that have an eternal impact."

— Joe Mayden, adult ministries pastor, McKinney Memorial Bible Church



Dr. Roy King



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