



CENTRAL CHRISTIAN

COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

ENTRUSTED GIFTS, WHOLEHEARTED WORK



Dr. David Fincher ('93) president@cccb.edu

As I begin my twenty-fourth year of service here in July, I'm more mindful than ever of the blessings God has placed upon Central Christian College of the Bible. Our work over the past two years has been driven by a process that resulted in a **2018-2023**Institutional Plan. You can read more about some of the priorities that have been agreed upon and are being implemented. This issue of the TORCH focuses on some of the exciting initiatives to help us accomplish our mission and vision.

The act of creating and implementing an institutional plan expresses at least two biblical truths we must never forget. They are true of individual lives, local congregations, and any institution serving the Lord's kingdom. They are true of me and they are also true of you.

The first truth is that God has provided entrusted gifts. Jesus says in Luke 12:48, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, even more will be expected." We often choose to focus on what we have not been given and ignore the gifts that have been entrusted to us. Whether the gifts are financial or facilities, people or programs, relationships or remembrances, God has trusted us enough to make us caretakers of those gifts. And He is expecting "much" and "more" to come from them.

If God has provided entrusted gifts and He expects much more to result from those gifts, then the next truth follows closely: God rewards **wholehearted work**. Paul writes in Colossians 3:22-23, "Work wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people." The easiest way to interpret that passage is that we want our work to please the Lord, not people. And it is true that God is the ultimate judge and His approval matters most.

But if you consider those words further, it is also clear that the Lord rewards our heartfelt work. We have a healthy fear of God because we know His power is greater than we can imagine. So when we work wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord, we trust His power will work beyond our limited capacity. He will help us accomplish the very "more" that He is expecting. The reward for our wholehearted work, in response to His entrusted gifts, is that God empowers the much He requires.

Where does that leave you and me? Each of us has been entrusted with gifts, which God expects to turn into more. We use those gifts, in awe of His great power, and He turns our heartfelt effort into His preferred outcome. As you read about our efforts to build upon God's entrusted gifts with our heartfelt work, consider how God might want you to do the same in your life. You may find that the "much more" He expects from you can become reality in ways that you never would have imagined.

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CCCB PREACHING STUDENT NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

Along with a few other Christian church/church of Christ colleges, CCCB sponsors the Next Gen Preacher Search each year for high school juniors and seniors and college students ages 16-22 (www.nextgenpreachersearch.com). The Next Gen Preacher Search is a unique outreach to young Christian students across the country who have an interest in preaching and teaching.

This year, **Grant Roth**, a senior CCCB student from Carthage, Illinois, was a participant. He submitted a video for the competition in October 2018, and was selected to attend the February conference at Pepperdine University in Malibu, California. Grant described the process he and the other participants followed:

Prior to attending the conference, we all wrote new messages centered around a specific text assigned to us. Then, the coaches offered insight and critique concerning our presentations. After fine-tuning the delivery of our messages, we were filmed presenting them one final time. The videos were then reviewed by a larger panel of coaches, who select 4 students to represent the conference as Next Gen ambassadors at various events and venues across the nation for the next year.

In March of 2019, I was informed that I had been selected as an ambassador. Since then, I've had the opportunity to deliver a message at the Pepperdine Bible Lectures. As ambassadors, we are scheduled to speak at a conference at Lipscomb University in June. Other speaking arrangements throughout the year may lead us to Portland, Oregon; Louisville, Kentucky; and Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

My favorite part of the experience was learning from a diverse group of communicators. Several great preachers who are closely associated with Central have helped me to become a more faithful and effective handler of God's word. The Next Gen Preacher Search has expanded the pool of preachers from whom I learned and allowed me to make connections with people I respect greatly in homiletic circles. I'm so grateful for God's grace and the way that he gives us each a passion and a purpose.

I'm thankful for Central graduates who encouraged me to pursue the passions God has laid on my heart, especially **Mark Nichols** and **Matthew Churchill**. I want to assure anyone reading this that your investments in young people aren't going to waste. Your wisdom and guidance can change the course of our lives.

We congratulate Grant for this outstanding honor and for representing our preaching program during the process. He preaches on weekends at Waverly Christian Church in Waverly, Missouri. He is pictured on the cover while speaking at Timber Lake Christian Church in Moberly, Missouri, where he is completing his summer internship.

Grant Roth (center) is pictured with the other Next Gen Ambassadors and program director Jeff Walling (left).

Central Christian College of the Bible



2018-23 INSTITUTIONAL PL

During 2018, the Institutional Planning Task Force completed its work of reaffirming our mission and vision, clarifying our core values, and imagining a "preferred future" approach to define success in the next five years. The result was four strategic themes with initiatives to implement. In the coming issues of **theTORCH**, we will describe the strategic themes and initiatives in more detail.

Vision Statement: "Dedicated Disciples who Know God's Word and Serve His Kingdom."

Our vision is seen most clearly when students and graduates accomplish these outcomes as part of their educational experience:

1. Dedicated Disciples

- Demonstrate Christlike behavior
- Develop mature spirituality
- Participate in Christian community
- Pursue academic success

2. Know God's Word

- Trust Biblical authority and truth
- Embrace New Testament Christianity
- Continue to learn and teach others

3. Serve His Kingdom

- Participate in servant-leader activities
- Understand Christian church opportunities
- Discover appropriate career positions
- Emulate successful graduates
- Support Great Commission work

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Mission Statement:

Central Christian
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to develop
servant-leaders
for the church.

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"We should make plans, counting on God to direct us."

(Proverbs 16:9)

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UTIONAL PLAN OVERVIEW



Personalized Attention CORE VALUES Affordable Opportunities Kingdom Collaboration Collaboration Personalized Authority Discipleship in Community Affordable Opportunities

Mission atement:

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Theme 1: Attractive Programs

We will promote learning that equips more servant-leaders for the church. This includes relevant ministry programs and dual-enrollment degrees for students to serve the church in vocational. bi-vocational, and voluntary roles. Students will develop a Biblical worldview and relevant ministry skills to serve God's kingdom.

Theme 2: Formative Experiences

We will create conditions that advance dedicated singdom service. This includes connecting our campus community with positive relationships, preparing students for employment opportunities, and clearly communicating with constituents while giving opportunities for feedback.

Theme 3: Productive Partners

We will expand our reach through relationships with compatible organizations. This includes training events, service-learning locations, and professional development to serve the needs of churches (our primary customers), students (our immediate customers), and alumni (our longterm customers).

Theme 4: Supportive Resources

We will broaden the resources required to empower institutional success. This includes growing our enrollment through recruiting and retention improvements and addressing financial concerns by exploring a stewardship campaign and reducing operational expenses and long-term debt.

As we implement this plan, we are "counting on God" to direct us into the actions and decisions that will please Him and empower our work.

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ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT TEAM

To pursue the enrollment goals of our institutional plan and to better serve our prospective and current students, the enrollment management team was reorganized during the past year. As you read about these team members, pray for their work of finding and serving the next generation of CCCB students.



Misty Cate
Interim Vice-President of
Enrollment Management

Residing in Quincy, Illinois, Misty joined the team in November 2018. She and her husband George have three daughters.

Hobbies:

My husband and I are part of an acoustic music duo. If we're not playing music together, I love to kayak, travel, hike, and hunt.

Contact Information: mistycate@cccb.edu 660-372-2503



Brent Crosswhite

Director of Admissions

Brent recently retired from being a military chaplain. Joining the team in May 2019, he and his wife Sarah have three children.

Hobbies:

I enjoy being outdoors and like camping, hiking and adventure sports. I have even ridden an alligator in an African Country!

Contact Information:

brentcrosswhite@cccb.edu 660-372-2514



Sheri Tesar Admissions Counselor Worship Program Director

Moving to Moberly from Colorado Springs, Colorado, Sheri joined the team in May 2019. She and her husband Chris have four children.

Hobbies:

I sing, play saxophone, piano, guitar, fiddle, mandolin, and other instruments. I've written a number of songs for use in the local church.

Contact Information: sheritesar@cccb.edu 660-372-2534





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New Women's Residence Director

Tina Nipper moved into Spurling Hall in May 2019. After graduating from CCCB in 2000, she taught English in China for 15 years before returning from the field in April 2018.

Tina will continue to teach English and serve on the Missions Committee in addition to her new role on the Student Development Team.

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Information: ar@cccb.edu 372-2534





Rocky Christensen

Director of Financial Aid



Meagan Henson
Women's Basketball Coach



Jack Defreitas Athletic Director Men's Basketball Coach

Rocky has served at Central for nine years in admissions and as men's residence director. He and his wife Emily have an adorable son.

Hobbies:

I enjoy hiking, mountain biking, and camping with my family. Emily and I also enjoy scuba diving together.

Contact Information: rockychristensen@cccb.edu

660-372-2488

Meagan relocated from Texas, where she was an assistant coach at Howard Payne University. She and her twin brother grew up in the church her dad planted in Oklahoma.

Hobbies:

My hobbies are watching sporting events and playing golf.

Contact Information:

meaganhenson@cccb.edu 660-372-2547

As a former CCCB student-athlete himself, Jack continues to lead our athletic program. He and his wife Tina have three daughters and a son.

Hobbies:

Enjoying basketball and football games, playing basketball and golf with friends, spending time with my wife and kids.

Contact Information:

jackdefreitas@cccb.edu 660-372-2539

Central Welcomes the Williamson Family

James and Tracey Williamson joined the Central team in July 2018. James serves as our Director of Information Technology. Tracey is the Merchandising Coordinator in the bookstore, where she brings 20 years of experience in the retail industry.

James, Tracey, and their daughter Lilly moved to Moberly from Waterloo, Iowa. They also have two older sons who live in Iowa. Lilly will be a freshman at CCCB in the Fall.

In addition to his IT work, James enrolled as a Central student to complete his bachelor's degree. He enjoys preaching, teaching, drawing and bowling.

Central Christian College of the Bible



ACADEMIC LEADERS BUILD PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS

The Academic Leadership Team facilitates coordination, communication, and collaboration within the academic department and with other departments within the College to advance the mission of the school. They serve together to improve the academic programs of the College to benefit our students and constituents.



Dr. Jim Estep is Central's new Vice-President of Academics. He joined the executive team at Central on May 1, 2019.

Jim is one of the founders of e2 Effective Elders (www.e2elders.org). He is an adjunct faculty member at two Christian universities. He recently served as Equipping Pastor at Heritage Christian Church in Fayetteville, Georgia.

Jim loves books (both reading and writing) and has an extensive library. He just moved over 5,000 books to Missouri. He also enjoys Star Trek, traveling, and coffee. Jim and his wife Karen have three children and four grandchildren. They enjoying being closer to family in the Midwest.



Dr. Eric Stevens has transitioned into a new role as Dean of Student Success after six years of serving as the Academic Dean. Eric is looking forward to returning to the classroom full-time in the fall. In his new position, Dr. Stevens will intervene to help struggling students and those with academic difficulties. He is also in charge of coordinating the success programs the college offers to students.



Dr. Jamie Franke has served as the Director of Online Education for over six years. Jamie has implemented the plan that was set before he took the position and continues to develop the plan for online courses and degree programs. Jamie helps recruit, train, and encourage online students. He interacts with the online students and enjoys getting to know them. (See his article on page 12.)











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Brandon Bradley is the Associate Dean of Professional Studies. His role includes overseeing our partnership programs with Hope International University, Indiana Wesleyan University, and Moberly Area Community College. He works with the ministry program directors, oversees our Internship and Service Learning programs, assists congregations during ministry transitions, and connects new partners to our ministry programs.



Anne Menear is the Assessment Coordinator and will have a key role in Central's accreditation reaffirmation with the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) in two years. In addition, Anne is Professor of Christian Education and serves as the Dean of Student Conduct. She brings her unique experiences with students in the classroom and the Residence Hall to benefit the Academic Leadership Team.



Darryl Ammon is the Executive Director of Student Development. Serving as both a professor and administrator, he helps to monitor various factors to improve student retention. Mr. Ammon and his team are creating a co-curricular transcript to document student performance in areas such as chapel attendance, service-learning hours, and leadership experiences. He also oversees Central's housekeeping and maintenance personnel.



Patty Agee has served in the library for 41 years and has been the Head Librarian since 2001. Patty evaluates learning resources to make sure Central's students have access to the needs of the curriculum. She has also helped develop a collection of electronic books and journal articles that are available for online students. Patty regularly serves as an evaluator for ABHE, visiting and working with colleges across the country.



Rhonda Dunham maintains academic records as the Registrar. Over the past three decades, Rhonda has filled various roles, including Financial Aid Director, Women's Residence Director, Dean of Women, Director of Church Relations, and Director of Academic Services. She brings a broad perspective of Central's operations and history. Rhonda assists current students with advising and helps fulfill transcript requests for former students.

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SUPPLY PREACHERS HELP CHURCHES IN NEED

What do churches do when their minister is sick or on vacation and no one in the church can fill the pulpit? Many churches in Missouri, southern Iowa, and western Illinois call Central Christian College of the Bible to come fill their pulpit.

In the last five years, we have filled the pulpits of 117 churches using 154 different preachers more than 1500 times. (And this doesn't include ongoing weekend ministries or interim ministries.) Some of the churches just need an occasional fill-in preacher. Other churches requested a fill-in preacher while doing a minister search. Still others can't afford their own preacher but still meet each week. When these churches call, we are able to send students, professors, alumni, and retired preachers to fill the open pulpits.

The churches we help are not just Christian churches, either. Our preachers have filled pulpits in various denominations and even at community events where they wanted a service but didn't have anyone to ask. "My goal is to have every pulpit filled each Sunday, but unfortunately that isn't always possible,"commented **Sherry Wallis**, who coordinates the supply preachers. **As one former supply preacher said, "This program is a win-win-win for churches, the college, and the students."**

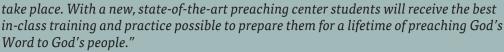
CHURCHES WIN

"Gifford Christian Church has been blessed with student supply preachers since the 1980s. Our small church as asked CCCB to help us keep the doors open and spread the gospel for a long time. We believe this has been an excellent opportunity for your students to practice how to speak, organize, minister & prepare to be a Christian pastor in a quiet little town. The students come from many different backgrounds and we accept them all in a Christian way. We delight in watching the students mature, grow, and settling into adult life during the time they are with us. We keep in contact after they leave. We are so appreciative of the college's cooperation in this matter!"

CENTRAL WINS

How does this program benefit the college? The supply preaching program allows our male students and staff to be the servant-leaders our churches look to when they have a need. There is no financial gain to the college, because payment goes to the preachers. Some of the churches support the college, but not all of them. The college was created to train church leaders and strengthen local churches. This program does both.

Jason Poznich, Professor of Preaching, commented on the training of preaching students: "We train preaching students using three environments: the home, the local church, and the classroom. We know there are some teachings students can't learn in the classroom, so I invite them to my home to discuss preaching and leadership. The best way to learn preaching is to preach, so many students are putting their learning to use in the local church. But the classroom is where the bulk of our preaching training will



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the best ing God's The state-of-the-art preaching center is being built this summer as a result of the Proclaim Project. The Proclaim Project focuses on three vital improvements for the preaching program:

- A converted classroom, equipped with technology and furnishings to function like a modern church facility.
- An expanded online preaching curriculum, bringing together campus students with distance education students.
- A funded scholarship to encourage those who are already preaching to become students in the preaching program.

The ribbon cutting for the Preaching Center will take place at 11:30 during Heritage Day on Friday, August 30. It is being built with designated gifts from supporters, churches, and charitable foundations.

STUDENTS WIN

Student preachers are encouraged to have a few sermons ready for any time there is a need. They often refer to those sermons as a "\$1000 sermon" because they can preach the same sermon at several different churches. If the student preachers pass the application and interview process to supply preach, the churches pay them directly to come and fill the pulpit.

Here are a few comments from current and past supply preachers.

"Supply preaching helped me become a better communicator. I learned to understand different audiences."

"Supply preaching led me to my first weekend ministry with a church I filled in for a few times. They asked me to become their minister when I was 19, and I did."

"I like to think that I helped some of the smaller churches that couldn't afford a full time, or even a part time minister, by preaching and teaching God's Word to a flock that needed shepherding like other churches. It also provided me with a little extra income and the experiences I needed."

Whenever our students participate in the supply preaching program, they learn confidence and skills that carry on into their future ministries as well. Even the ministers who get a break from their weekly responsibilities see the benefits to the church, the college, and the students.

"I appreciate Central's 'Pulpit Supply' ministry. When I am to be away, it is so easy to contact the College and make arrangements for a speaker. It is much more than a convenience. It provides our congregation a connection with Central. We are always blessed by the professors or students the college sends our way. I could go on and on about wonderful experiences we've had during my time here. Our church family always enjoys reunions with professors from days gone by. I always enjoy the positive comments I receive about student ministers when I return home. I encourage our folks to especially embrace and express their delight in young men who are giving thought to pulpit ministry."

Jack Sumption, Minister (1st Christian Church, Memphis, Missouri)

If your church needs a supply preacher, even if you aren't near Moberly, please call 660-372-2512 or email sherrywallis@cccb.edu. We will be happy to try to connect you with a speaker that can meet your needs.

ONLINE DEGREES EQUIP STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY

One way CCCB fulfills its mission of developing servant-leaders for the church is to offer online degrees that equip students from across the country for greater service in the church. This is illustrated in stories of two graduates from the Class of 2019.

John Teal graduated in May at 61 years of age. He attended Bible college earlier in life, but never completed a degree. While working in Southern California, John decided to complete his bachelor's degree and found our online program was a



Nathaniel Littler

Dr. Jamie Franke

John Teal

practical, affordable choice. John said that Central was very generous in accepting his previous college credit, enabling him to complete his degree in a timely manner. In addition, John wanted a doctrinally conservative college associated with the Christian churches and found that Central was a great fit for him.

John said that his education at Central helped equip him for ministry in two ways. First, his classes helped him grow academically and become more mature in understanding the Scriptures. He had studied the Bible for many years, but his formal studies provided a framework to help develop his mind further. Second, his classes helped him achieve greater clarity about the work God would have him do. John began a ministry called Common Grounds (www.cgunity.com) to promote and pray for unity of believers within the Restoration Movement. His education at Central better equipped him for this ministry.

Nathaniel Littler was 24 years old when he graduated as Valedictorian of the Class of 2019. He is from Ohio and earned his entire bachelor's degree online at Central. After completing high school, Nathaniel was encouraged by his church to attend a college associated with the Restoration Movement, and he learned about Central. Nathaniel chose to work in an online program because he wanted to stay in his home area and make a difference in the kingdom of God. He found that his courses at Central were very applicable in the various ministry roles he has filled in the local church. Nathaniel emphasized that even within an online program, he could apply the material he learned in class to his personal ministry. In addition, Nathaniel found that his online education at Central challenged him to a deeper relationship with Christ and challenged him to further the kingdom of God.

John and Nathaniel are just two examples of students who come from different life stages, locations, and backgrounds. Yet they found that online education could challenge them academically and equip them for ministry in the kingdom of God. We look forward to seeing how God will use these servant-leaders in His church.

To ask Dr. Jamie Franke about online education, you can call or text 573-542-0555 or email online@cccb.edu. He can help you take the next step to an online degree.





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INFOCUS FRIDAY CAMPUS VISITS

COME EXPERIENCE CENTRAL!

- See our unique learning environment
- Learn about life as a Central student
- Tour our comfortable, safe campus
- Understand more about service-learning opportunities
- Take home your own CCCB swag and souvenirs

2019 dates: July 19, Aug 2, Sept 20, Oct 11 & 25, Nov 8

You can also schedule a day that works best for you!

SIGN UP AT CCCB.EDU/VISIT





SERVING AT A DEAF CHURCH

Rosie Borgaila (Honey Creek, Iowa) **Junior Student**

Many Bible college students have grown up in a Christian home, going to church every Sunday, participating in Bible studies and camps. My beginning is similar to that but with one significant difference: I grew up going to a Deaf church. The first reaction when I tell people this is usually a lot of questions: "What is a Deaf church?" "How does a Deaf church run?" and "How do they worship, do they sing songs?"

These questions are answered by knowing Deaf culture. Deaf church is exactly what it sounds like: a church with services all done in ASL (American Sign Language). If

there are hearing people attending the church, we will have an interpreter voice the services so the Deaf people still have it in their language but the hearing people can understand as well.

The order of service also works a bit different from other churches. A hearing church might start out with a few songs, then go into communion and offering, sing a song or two for those, then have announcements and the message, finally closing in a departure song. (Lots and lots of singing!)

In a Deaf church we don't have many songs, because it's hard to enjoy music when you can't hear it. We usually start services with prayer, asking God to move and be prevalent in the message. Then we greet visitors, followed by prayer time. This happens with everyone gathering around the room in a circle and sharing their praises and prayer requests with God. This promotes community and opportunity for God to be present since we are all praying 'aloud' for everyone to hear. After that we'll have a time where everyone in the church greets every person. This usually lasts longer than regular greeting times since Deaf people don't just shake hands. They ask questions and have a conversation that they might pick up later on after the service.

In the middle of the service we have a sermon. All of this is in ASL, though we sometimes use videos with words on it, or the ASL translation of the Bible by Deaf Missions. Having the church service in the Deaf person's language helps them get the full meaning and not a translation. Finally we have communion, which will sometimes be in groups to further promote community.

Deaf church has helped me understand there is not one set way to do things. We must adapt the message to different groups. This doesn't change the meaning of the gospel but how we say it and how we get the word out there.

Students like Rosie are part of our Servant-Leader Sponsorship program. You can sponsor one of them or another student with a monthly commitment of \$25 or more. Contact Director of Donor Relations, Kevin Brown, at 660-372-2510 or kevinbrown@cccb.edu to sponsor a student.



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HERITAGE DAY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019

An annual gathering of parents, alumni, and other friends of Central to visit campus, enjoy fellowship, and learn together.

SCHEDULE:

10:00 AM Heritage Chapel12:15 PM Heritage Banquet2:00 PM Heritage Reception

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Music and messages by CCCB Graduates
Recognition of Fred Green as Dedicated Friend
Celebration of Bill Walton's Teaching Career
Introduction of Honored Alumni
Announcements of Future Plans at Central
Alumni Class Reunions and Refreshments
REGISTER AT CCCB.EDU/EVENTS

19 Reasons Not to Miss Heritage Day 2019:

- 1. You can hear music by "We Are Saints" worship band.
- 2. You can visit with faculty, staff, and current students.
- 3. You can worship with Central's students and staff members.
- 4. You can enjoy refreshments made by Reta Ollman!
- 5. You can hear a sermon by **Garrett Shelp** (Class of '09) in Heritage Chapel.
- 6. You can meet some of our newer faculty members.
- 7. You can join in honoring another Dedicated Friend of Central, **Fred Green**.
- 8. You can be part of class reunions from 1969, 1979, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2009.
- 9. You can meet some of our most recent graduates from the Class of 2019.

- 10. You can join with other friends of Central to celebrate our heritage together.
- 11. It will be the last chance to take home a piece of orange carpet!
- 12. You can hear **Jeff Butler** (Class of 1979) speak during the Heritage Banquet.
- 13. You can help dedicate the new Christensen Preaching Center.
- 14. You can explore our renovated lobby and hospitality rooms.
- 15. You can hear about our Saints GPS service for graduates.
- 16. You can hear first about new programs and future plans.
- 17. You can tour campus and find free books in the library.
- 18. You can recognize Bill Walton's 40th & final year of teaching.
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MEMORIAL GIFTS

The **following people** have been remembered between April, 2018 and April, 2019 with a **Memorial Gift** to Central Christian College of the Bible.

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"Blessed are the dead

who die in the Lord from now on.... so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them." (Revelation 14:13, NASB)

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ead now on.... their labors, th them." ASB)

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HONORARY GIFTS

The **following people** have been honored in the past year with an **Honorary Gift** to support Central Christian College of the Bible.

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