

**LUTHER RICE SEMINARY INC.**

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LRSU admits students of any race, color, sex, and national or ethnic origin.

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**LUTHER RICE SEMINARY AND UNIVERSITY**



**PIONEER**  
FALL 2011 EDITION

**Luther Rice Doctoral Student Trains  
Thousands of Pastors Around the World**

**T**he average pastor in Cambodia makes \$240 a year.

The average monthly church offering is \$8. Men and women of God in this poor nation can't afford to go to Bible school and don't have access to online training.

Yet they're doing the dramatic work of God in a needy area — rescuing women and girls from the sex trade, providing for widows and orphans, and more.

Who ministers to these ministers?

Crossing Cultures International, an amazing training organization founded by David Nelson — a doctoral student at Luther Rice.

When you stand with us, you're empowering David, his wife Mindy, and their team to impact the world with the Gospel through the equipping and multiplying of Christ-like leaders in underserved countries.

***Equipping, Entrusting and Empowering for God's glory!***

CCI currently provides pastoral training in Cambodia, East Asia, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Thailand. In the Philippines alone, CCI now has one national director, four regional coordinators, and 14 staff managing 123 classes with 1,623 pastors and leaders in training, plus

800 graduates.

Some 3,000 students in 18 countries are being trained, and 1,350 graduates have completed the training in seven countries. These 4,350 leaders are each impacting at least 50 people in their area as pastors, church planters, evangelists, teachers, and church leaders.

By God's grace, we are part of helping over 200,000 people in Asia hear the Word of God more clearly.

Twenty Cambodian pastors — who travel from three to 30 miles to attend CCI classes — spend every Saturday, all day long for training. CCI provides the training manuals, food for each pastor, and a special gift for each one as well. As the result of such a workshop in April, there are six new classes ready to start in different parts of the country.

Crossing Cultures International is a 501(c)(3) charitable religious

organization. CCI relies on gifts from donors that support their efforts to train pastors in needy and developing areas of the world. More information on CCI can be found on the website [www.CrossingCulturesInt.org](http://www.CrossingCulturesInt.org).

Luther Rice students focus on spreading the message of Christ's love and redemption to people around the globe. David Nelson is a prime example of that effort and we applaud his and his wife's efforts, all by the grace of God.



**Save the Date — May 17th, 2012**

**Come Celebrate What the Lord Has Done at  
The Luther Rice 50th Anniversary  
Gala Reception and Banquet**

**Scenic Evergreen Resort and Conference  
Center in Stone Mountain Park, Georgia**

**Y**ou will want to be a part of this grand time of looking back at the history of Luther Rice Seminary, including video from the original Jacksonville campus and testimonials from long-time Faculty and key supporters. Memorabilia will be displayed from the early years including the very first graduation program from April 26, 1964, historical pictures and many other items. There will be fabulous food, wonderful fellowship, and spiritual thanksgiving.

If you have any historical Luther Rice mementos you would like to donate to the institution for the display, please contact Laura at [lpowell@LRU.edu](mailto:lpowell@LRU.edu) or call 1-800-442-1577 ext. 258. Donated items cannot be returned but will be stored in the institutional archives in perpetuity.

**More Details Coming Soon ...**

Nestled in the scenic mountains of Georgia, the 50th Anniversary Gala Reception and Banquet will be an extraordinary time. With beautiful scenery, delicious food, and rich fellowship, we will celebrate what God has done through Luther Rice over the past 50 years, and will also look ahead to what God has in store within the next season of ministry. We look forward to gathering together with you!



**INSIDE THIS EDITION, YOU'LL FIND**

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# A Personal Word



from **DR. FLANAGAN**

**F**all semester is here, and Luther Rice is exploding! As I write, we have 24% higher enrollment than last year.

2012 represents the culmination of our 50th Anniversary celebrations, with the 50th Anniversary Banquet on May 17, 2012 at the Evergreen Resort in Stone Mountain Park.

As a part of the activities, there will be a time when those who have been instrumental in the founding and development of Luther Rice will be honored.

Among those who are instrumental today is the Board of Luther Rice. They are strong supporters of our mission and students. I am grateful to them for allowing me to serve our Seminary and University. What a great encouragement they are.

I also want to give special thanks to all the employees who have served Luther Rice. God has blessed us with wonderful, dedicated employees who faithfully and professionally carry out their duties each day.

Some of our long-term faculty and staff include:

- Dr. James Kinnebrew, Dean of Faculty (23 years);
- Dr. Dennis Dieringer, VP for Student Affairs (26 years);
- Dr. Dennis Vines, Coordinator for Distance Education (21 years);
- Dr. David Phillips, Old Testament Professor (24 years);
- Dr. Ron Long, Assistant to the President for Missions and Church Relations, (19 years);

- Vanessa Nealey, Executive Assistant to the President (19 years);
- Mr. Louis Hardcastle, VP for Financial Affairs (15 years).

Naturally we can't talk about the impact of Luther Rice and those associated with the institution without mentioning the many wonderful students who have studied here and through distance learning.

A Luther Rice graduate has served, or is serving, in over 100 countries around the world and all 50 states, and all U.S. territories. I have often said that the sun never sets on the ministry of Luther Rice.

And of course we must thank our family of supporters. Whatever our students and alumni are doing for the cause of Christ, *your* investment in their Luther Rice experience is yielding great dividends.

Please pray that our 50th Anniversary Matching Campaign will be successful. The economic downturn has impacted our students greatly. They need financial assistance and scholarships as never before. Thanks for your faithful support and prayers.

*James H. Flanagan*  
President

Years of Ministry  
1962 - 2012



# Reflections

## On 23 Years at Luther Rice

by **Dr. Jim Kinnebrew**

**I** received my first contract to teach Theology at Luther Rice Seminary on July 1, 1988.

With three boys and a U-Haul truck full of used furniture, my wife and I rolled into Jacksonville, Florida delighted that the Lord had finally brought us back to the Sunshine State that had been our home for the first 20 years of our lives.

One of the first people I met on campus was my dear friend, Dr. Dennis Dieringer. Among his first words to me were, "You know we're moving the school to Atlanta, don't you?"

THUMP! That was my heart hitting the floor.

Yet even with the subsequent move to Atlanta, I have found the years with Luther Rice have flown by, and I've seen many changes.

Some of my fondest memories include:

- **Teaching my first evening class, Survey of Theology I, in the old Bertha Smith Library.** Coming into the classroom that first night, I found a man asleep on the floor. Thinking we had a wino in the building, I woke him up and started to share the Gospel. Oooops — he was actually a student with narcolepsy! I had to wake him often in that class.
- **Getting the sign on my office door that said "Assistant Professor of Theology."** Since I was the only professor of theology at the time, I couldn't understand why I was called "Assistant Professor"— who was I supposed to be assisting?
- **Dr. Ben Rogers teaching my children the wonders of God's creation.** Showing them how the air currents, if timed correctly and approached at just the right angle, could waft a paper airplane out of his office window across Hendricks Avenue to the café below. After a full squadron of planes, Josh and Jason proved to be worthy pilots!
- **My first faculty meeting.** Times were hard and it looked like payroll might be endangered ... and

someone observed that there might have been enough if only they hadn't hired that newest faculty member! I don't really think that the salary I received back then made much of a difference though.

- **Meeting the heroes of the faith.** What a joy it has been to meet and teach alongside men like Stephen Olford, Darrell Robinson, Larry Lewis, J. Gordon Henry, Norman Geisler, John Phillips, and so many others that have been mightily used by God.
- **Discovering new heroes.** When word came to us that LRS President Gene Williams' dear wife, Dorothy was ill, we prayed nightly for her around our family circle. My wife and I were in the hospital room when she went home to Jesus. I'll never forget her last words: "I've spent my life teaching my children how to live; now I will teach them how to die."
- **Discipling disciplers.** Often we're tempted to wonder what good we are doing, that's when the Lord will send word from one of our students. It will be something like this: "*Dr. K. I want you to know that your lesson on \_\_\_\_\_ really had an impact on me. As a matter of fact, I used what you said in my sermon last Sunday and three people rededicated their lives to the Lord.*"

Paul told Timothy to teach faithful men who would be able to teach others also. It is a blessing to teach anyone, but when the teaching then goes on to others, it becomes clear that you really are taking part in something bigger than you know. This is the joy of serving Christ! I've been so blessed to do it with so many wonderful people at the best school in the entire world. Thank you, Luther Rice!

**Editor's Note: The Faculty, staff, and thousands of alumni thank Dr. Kinnebrew, and his family, for his many years of dedicated service to God and to Luther Rice Seminary.**

# Faculty and Staff Missions Outreach in 2011

It is not just our students who do missions and church work advancing the Great Commission. Many of the Faculty, Staff, and Board of Trustees are involved in missions' endeavors on a regular basis.

**Vanessa Nealey**, the Executive Assistant to the President, traveled to Nicaragua in June with a team from the First Baptist Church of Conyers, Georgia, and to St. Kitts in July.

Her team's plan to build five houses for needy families in Nicaragua looked endangered by rain — four weeks of non-stop precipitation! But on the Sunday after the team arrived — and prayed for good weather — the rain stopped.

"At the last 'Amen!' during the dedication of the third house, rain started pouring again," Vanessa says. But over the course of two weeks, the team managed to build seven houses despite the weather.

Vanessa also took part in a Vacation Bible School that brought 59 children into relationship with Christ.

And her team helped launch sewing ministries in the villages of Las Palmera and Kilombo, a gardening ministry in Kilombo, and they led a Pastor's Conference.

During their first week in Nicaragua, 66 people accepted Christ as Savior!

(Her trip to St. Kitts brought similar results: at a Kids Camp the team led, 26 children committed their

lives to Christ.)

But Vanessa wasn't the only member of the Luther Rice faculty and staff making a missions journey.

**Dr. Scott Henderson**, Assistant Professor of Bioethics and Apologetics at Luther Rice, travelled to Central Europe and taught a course at LCC International University in Klaipeda, Lithuania titled: *Social Problems in Health Care Ethics*. He also delivered a lecture at Klaipeda University Hospital. Later he traveled to Poland and gave several formal talks and lectures and participated in an apologetics conference at an evangelical seminary in Wroclaw, Poland.

**Adam McNutt**, an employee in the library, is a LRSU student and also runs a missions organization called Christ Alive Care Ministries India. This summer he spent time in the children's home in Kerala, spoke at a pastor's conference and at three churches, and worked at a boys' home in Udaipur.

Adam states, "It is my desire to have fellow brothers and sisters join me in caring for these children, supporting these pastors and journeying to India with Christ Alive Care Ministries India to impact that nation for Christ."

These individuals (and many others) exemplify Luther Rice Faculty and Staff ... Reaching the World.



Vanessa is reaching out to Nicaragua's children through the support of friends like you. Looks like she has also made a new little friend!



Building the Kingdom ... one house at a time. Vanessa and her team were able to build seven houses in two weeks!



Empowering Lithuania's next generation with biblical training. Scott Henderson is pictured here with seven students from LCC International University.



Look at those great big smiles! Here Adam McNutt is pictured with children living in Kerala, India.



# Luther Rice On The Road ... Again

**W**e will have representatives at the following events this coming fall and winter. If you will be attending one of these events please take a moment and stop by the table to say hello. We would love to see you and catch up with you.

- ❖ Mercer-Macon Graduate School Fair — October 21, 2011
- ❖ Missouri Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, Osage Beach, MO — October 31 - November 2, 2011
- ❖ WNIV and WFSH Pastors Appreciation Luncheon, Marriott, Alpharetta, GA — October 27, 2011
- ❖ Georgia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, North Metro FBC, Lawrenceville, GA — November 14-16, 2011
- ❖ National Youth Workers Convention, Atlanta, GA — November 18-20, 2011
- ❖ First Baptist Jacksonville Pastors Conference, FL — January 26-29, 2012
- ❖ Johnny Hunt Men's Conference, First Baptist Church, Woodstock, GA — February 3-4 and 10-11, 2012

## Year of Jubilee

### Year of Jubilee \$200,000 Matching Challenge Year-end Update

By Russ Sorrow, Director, Development and External Affairs

**T**hank you to everyone who has contributed to the 50th Anniversary Scholarship Fund — as of this writing \$75,000 has been contributed toward the \$200,000 goal!

But there's still far to go, and remember ... every dollar will be DOUBLED by the \$200,000 Year of Jubilee Matching Challenge Fund!

The Fund was created to raise money to help train pastors and Christian leaders that may not otherwise be able to attend college and seminary. With our increased enrollment, we're experiencing an increased need of financial aid for deserving students. Please give now ... and your gift will be DOUBLED!

And there's another incentive for increased giving today: any contributions dated and postmarked by December 31, 2011 will apply toward this year's taxes. This is true when you give an outright gift of cash — and you may also receive a tax advantage when you consider:

- A gift of appreciated stocks or securities. Donating them now, rather than selling them and donating the proceeds, may help you avoid capital gains tax

and get a bigger tax deduction.

- A gift of a collection, real estate, artwork or other valuable item may generate a charitable giving tax deduction in the amount of the appraised fair market value for the item.
- A gift of an unneeded life insurance policy may also result in a charitable giving tax deduction for you.
- And until December 31 only, people 70-1/2 years or older may give a rollover gift from their IRA, up to \$100,000 without its adding a single penny to your taxable income — plus you may take the applicable charitable giving deduction on this year's taxes.

These are just a few of the great ways to give a year-end gift that benefits you and helps spread the Gospel through the students of Luther Rice Seminary and University. For more information on these or other estate planning options, please contact me at **1-800-442-1577** or **Russ@LRU.edu**.



Luther Rice Seminary and University

Year of Jubilee Matching Challenge

**Yes, Dr. Flanagan,** I want my gift to be DOUBLED in impact through the Year of Jubilee \$200,000 Scholarship Matching Challenge Fund. Please use my contribution to provide scholarships for deserving, worthy students. Enclosed is my gift of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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Behind our Pledge to Friends of Luther Rice Seminary and University

APPLYING A HIGHER STANDARD. SERVING A HIGHER PURPOSE.

**P**romises, promises. Sometimes we're tempted to be cynical about promises because they seem to be made so casually. Promises today are often accompanied by "fine print" that essentially nullifies any obligation to honor them. Sadly, many of us have even come to expect that "promises are made to be broken."

As an organization committed to serving and honoring Jesus Christ, we have promised to operate in a manner reflecting integrity, honesty, excellence, and faithful stewardship of the resources entrusted to us. This has been our pledge to friends and supporters like you. However, we know our pledge can only take on credibility when it is fortified by our actions. We want to prove ourselves faithful to our promises. This is why the ECFA seal means so much to us—and to you.

ECFA (the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability) was founded in 1979 to help ensure the integrity of Christ-centered organizations that are qualified for nonprofit, tax-exempt status. Today, over 1,400 Christian organizations submit to the annual evaluation and approval process established by ECFA—resulting in a powerful collective testimony of accountability before God and man.

Through accreditation by ECFA, we demonstrate our commitment to biblical excellence and accountability. Because we faithfully adhere to ECFA Standards, we have earned the right to display the ECFA seal. This seal tells our friends, supporters,

and constituents that our ministry upholds high standards—not only in word, but also in deed. The ECFA seal means that our organization:

- Has a clear and strong commitment to evangelical Christianity
- Has an independent Board of Directors that governs our activities
- Submits to an annual independent audit
- Manages and applies funds with appropriate controls
- Believes in and practices financial disclosure
- Follows strict standards for fundraising and stewardship

The ECFA seal is an outward expression of our inner resolve to represent truth and integrity in all aspects of our ministry: our fund-raising, financial accounting and reporting, our governance, the stewardship of God's resources, and in our valued relationship with you, our supporter and friend.

So, the next time you see the ECFA seal in relation to our organization, let it remind you of our dedication to the principles upon which this ministry was founded and our commitment to bring honor and glory to God's name. ECFA, in partnership with its members, is truly applying a higher standard and serving a higher purpose—by God's grace.

ECFA welcomes your requests for further information. Visit ECFA on the Web at [www.ecfa.org](http://www.ecfa.org), or call ECFA toll-free at 1-800-323-9473. You may also write to ECFA, 440 West Jubal Early Drive, Suite 130, Winchester, VA 22601.

"Now this is our boast: Our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, in the holiness and sincerity that are from God. We have done so not according to worldly wisdom but according to God's grace."

2 Cor. 1:12 (NIV)



*This seal is our pledge that your gifts will always be used as you planned.*