SNU Announces Center for Pastoral Leadership

Since its founding in 1899 to the present, Southern Nazarene University has been committed to serving the church in preparing the next generation of Christian ministers. From formal degree programs of rich theological education and sound practical experience, to certificates and continuing education for practitioners, SNU has sought to serve the Church with excellence in this regard.

Dr. Loren Gresham, President, recently announced a significant milestone in this mission with the launch of the Resource Center for Pastoral Leadership (RCPL) at Southern Nazarene University. “Such a Center has been envisioned for some time and in recent months has evolved into an initiative supported wholly by the district leadership on the South Central Region,” said Gresham.

In his announcement, Dr. Gresham stated that, “Perhaps at no time in recent memory have the pressures on Christian ministers – especially pastors – been more profound. Even the best-prepared and most gifted pastors find themselves in need of additional tools and resources to meet the constant challenges they face in their congregations and the communities they serve.”

In cooperation with the District Superintendents of the South Central Region of the Church of the Nazarene, Dr. Gresham not only announced the launch of the Center but also the naming of Founding Executive Director, Dr. Stan Toler.

In his introduction, Dr. Gresham noted that Dr. Toler served as a pastor for over forty years, has written scores of books and articles – most of which were written to resource pastors and congregations, and has preached in 85 countries and to 170 different protestant denominations and church groups. Most recently, Gresham reminded the crowd, he served the Church of the Nazarene as the 39th General Superintendent and upon his retirement from the Superintendency was elected to the honorary status of General Superintendent Emeritus. Dr. Gresham said, “He also has deep connections to SNU and is an alumnus who has been honored by the University on different occasions. In this season of his life and ministry we count it a privilege to work with him as he gives a portion of his time to the launch and development of the RCPL.”

Dr. Toler will be assisted by an Advisory Council composed of both lay and clergy leaders to set the direction of the Center. Like the Zig Ziglar Center for Ethical Leadership - the RCPL will reside under the auspices of the Vice President for University Advancement and Church Relations at SNU.

Outlining the mission and purpose of the Center, Gresham said, “We believe that, over time, the RCPL will continue to evolve in its scope and effectiveness in serving the continuing educational needs of Nazarene pastors on the South Central Region, and beyond.” “While the Center’s primary focus will be on serving Nazarene pastors – we will reach out to serve evangelical pastors regardless of denominational affiliation, race or gender.”

The mission of the RCPL will be to create a place where pastors find:

- Direction and inspiration for their **Calling**
- Development and encouragement for their **Character**
- Timely resources to grow in their **Competencies**

The mission of the **RCPL** will be realized through:

- On campus, off campus and on line CEU events
- Quality ministry resources at low or no cost to pastors and congregations
- Utilization of the outstanding resident faculty at SNU complemented by top tier presenters/instructors from around the USA and beyond.

It was noted that the launch and early funding for this endeavor was provided for in the form of a legacy gift for such a purpose. Gresham stated that the University will welcome and need financial support for this effort – if it is to be sustained over time.

“One hundred years ago Dr. J.B. Chapman was elected the fourth President of what is today known as Southern Nazarene University, Dr. Gresham said.” “Dr. Chapman was a champion of Christian higher education and is well known for saying the church needs more and better preachers.” “He was right then and he’s right now; SNU’s future is largely in the hands of our churches. If our churches do well - SNU will do well in serving her needs. We are wholly committed to serving the church through this new endeavor,” stated Gresham.

Southern Nazarene University's mission is to transform lives through higher education in Christ-centered community. As a Christian community of scholars, we model the hospitality of grace, the pursuit of truth and the practice of discipleship, all within the Wesleyan-holiness tradition, as we prepare graduates who THINK with clarity, ACT with integrity and SERVE with purpose.
On October 6, 2013, Pastor Rick Harvey laid out a challenge to Bethany First Church of the Nazarene (BFC), to support the Bethany Community Foundation. This involves an Improvement Plan to remodel the Floyd Center. Dr. Madalyn Long remembers when her family moved to Bethany in 1945 that Bob Green was the youth director at BFC and directed all the youth activities at the Floyd Center.

When I came to Bethany in 1957 the legend of Bob Green still lived. Roughly in the year 2000 when the last old part of the Bethany Public School was torn down, (known as the “West Wing”), a place was needed for the Kindergarten classes to be held. Church leaders learned that a great need and opportunity was available to serve the community. BFC offered the Floyd Center for that purpose.

Once again the Floyd center became a “Community Center.” The Bethany Community Foundation was used and Dr. Jim Poteet became the first director of the after school program. With Federal money available at that time, as many as 60 students from SNU helped tutor and supervise children in both Bethany Public Schools and the after school programs. At first it was just Jim and “Sweet C” McClain and a few volunteers that ran the after school program. Most of the SNU students worked in the elementary school during regular school hours. When Federal money ran out, it left the Church to furnish the money to run the after school program. In 2012, when Andrea Mosshart became the Community Pastor for Bethany First Church, one of her goals was to utilize the Floyd Center as a reach out center.

On October 13, 2013 Pastor Rick Harvey took an offering and pledges for such a plan. As a member of ASP, Andrea and all of us at ASP would welcome anyone who reads this to join in with helping in this endeavor of revitalizing and modernizing the Floyd Center. Andrea is the granddaughter of Bob Green. Would it not be terrific if we could not only help but maybe sponsor a college student to work in this environment?

Thank You,
James Long, Vice President

Morning Seminar With Helen Southerland

Making Memories with Photography

Kim Stubbs, owner of Stubbs Photography by Kim started her photography business in January 2006 and currently has a studio in Mid Town Oklahoma City. Ms. Stubbs found her passion photographing weddings, children and many other events around the state of Oklahoma.

Ms. Stubbs works for a pediatrician. She is married to her best friend Bob for 35 years and is the mother of three grown children. She is a grandmother of two and, of course, loves to take their pictures.

In her spare time she teaches high school homeschooled teenagers about the basics of photography. She also has been a volunteer photographer for the “Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep” organization.

Find out how to take better photographs, where to take them and various photography ideas to show off your photos.

You can see Kim Stubbs work on www.stubbsphotographybykim.com

NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS

3 Daylight Savings Time Ends
11 Veteran’s Day Remembrance Day—Canada
28 Thanksgiving