Looking Back and Forging Ahead

Remembering
Greetings from Grayson, where KCU is in its 100th year of educational ministry. J.W. Lusby had been active as a Christian leader and educator for years before he formally established Christian Normal Institute (now Kentucky Christian University) in December of 1919 and set the course for advancing the kingdom of Christ through the lives and ministries of tens of thousands of students! As you read this issue of The Voice, you will notice a lot of “remembering” as celebrating a milestone serves as a natural time to reflect on memorable moments along the way.

One of my favorite parts of serving as president of KCU has been interacting with others who share a connection to the college. Whether at college functions, scheduled visits with alumni and friends, or even serendipitous meetings with strangers who notice my KCU apparel when I travel, it never ceases to amaze me how powerfully God has worked through this little college in eastern Kentucky!

Memories and Ministry
I think of Gordon and Connie Lunsford as they fondly recalled beginning their married life in KCU student housing – a literal log cabin! Or J. Lowell Lusby’s daughters, Nan (Griffith) and Sylvia (Giese) walking me across campus one day and pointing to a couple of very nice buildings and saying, “they stand where we used to milk cows on the college farm.” I think of James Nipper, whom I came to know as an elderly friend and donor, and his recollection of arriving in Grayson literally penniless and somehow having his school bill paid while he lived—temporarily—in the president’s home!

If Walls Could Talk
There are favorite stories and pranks (who doesn’t know about the cow in the men’s dorm or moving all the furniture from Dr. Lusby’s office into the gymnasium?) that never get old.

However, all the talk of buildings and places, and unusual situations virtually always segues to the truly cherished memories of KCU – memories of people that God used to make a difference in their lives and equip them to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus in their personal and professional lives. I am touched when I hear Ernie Miller (’62) talk about how his first steps on a path toward vocational ministry was because a local basketball coach he knew took a job at KCU. Ernie chose to attend KCU because he wanted to play basketball! When we talk about his time at KCU, however, Ernie rarely talks about basketball; he talks about how people—like Coach Dace—poured into him in the name of Jesus and planted within him a vision for a life of ministry.

Looking Ahead
As we cast a glance at the next 100 years of educational ministry at KCU, we do so with terrific excitement and anticipation. New programs and opportunities for students will unfold and KCU will almost surely look very different in the years to come. As KCU changes and develops, may God continue to raise up men and women who will lead faithfully – faithful to the gospel of Christ and faithful to His servants who planted and nurtured the educational ministry of KCU.

Share Your Memories With Us
Everyone loves to reminisce about the good old days. In the last 100 years, there are thousands of stories from faculty, staff, and students who have walked the campus of Kentucky Christian University. Some of those stories continually get retold but they never get old. We want to hear your stories. Tell us about the people, places, and things that made your time here at KCU so memorable. Share pictures with us – be sure to tell us the significance of the picture (i.e. What’s happening? Who’s in it?).

Go to kcu.edu/memories to share your stories and photos with us.
In Search of KCU’s Sixth President

by Diane Mansfield
Search Committee Chair

Kentucky Christian University has been blessed with a rich history of longevity in our presidents. In 100 years of service, KCU has only had five presidents – an unusual statistic for colleges.

Following the announcement of Dr. Jeff Metcalf’s resignation, effective August 26, 2019 at the end of his current contract, the search for KCU’s sixth president began. The search committee has been named and they have started the process of reviewing the personal information of the candidates.

Applications are still being accepted until the position is filled. Details for applying can be found at kcu.edu/jobpostings.

Please be praying for the search committee as they seek to follow God’s leading.

Introducing Our New Board Chairman

Kevin Pickett was elected as the new Kentucky Christian University Board Chair at the Winter Board Meeting in February 2019. When asked about his new position, Kevin replied:

“I am humbled and honored to serve as the Chairman of the KCU Board of Trustees knowing I sit in the shadows of incredible men and women who have served before. I have been profoundly impacted by the faithful men and women who today and in years gone by lived out the mission in my life.

As a student (1990 graduate in Bible and Business Administration), alumnus, donor, staff member and now Trustee, I have been connected with and benefited from KCU for the majority of my life.

It is a privilege to serve my alma mater in accomplishing her mission to educate and equip students as effective Christian professionals for servant leadership. These are exciting times in the life of our school, particularly as we are conducting the search for the sixth president. I ask for you to join me and my fellow board members with your prayers and support.”

MSN Celebration Ceremony

Twenty students who formed the second class of Kentucky Christian University’s Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN, FNP) program graduated in December 2018. These graduates received MSN medallions in a Celebration Ceremony on December 8, 2018, and will participate in commencement ceremonies along with all other 2018-19 graduates on May 11, 2019.

AWARDS

Dean’s Award
Andrew Hicks
MSN Servant Leadership Award
Nikki Moore
Clinical Excellence Award
Erica Ezell
Preceptor of the Year
Melinda Ramey
Scholarly Excellence Capstone Group
Ashley Goble, Jessica Bryant, Sonya Remy, Jonathan Wells
Memorial | Honorary | Scholarship | Estate
Gifts received October 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019

**Scholarship Gifts**

Andrea Damron Scholarship
Oak Grove Church of Christ, Grayson, KY

Carole Phillips Scholarship
Oak Grove Church of Christ, Grayson, KY

Dr. Charles R. Gresham Scholarship
Oak Grove Church of Christ, Grayson, KY

Dr. Donald “Dick” Damron Scholarship
First Church of Christ, Grayson, KY
Oak Grove Church of Christ, Grayson, KY

Dr. Lewis Snyder Scholarship
Victoria Snyder Bradford

Eggleton Scholarship
M/M Paul Eggleton

Erby & Lorraine Messimer Scholarship
Wendell Messimer

Huff-Jungers Educational Scholarship
Mary Blanche Jungers

James & Martha Quisenberry Scholarship
M/M William A. Hobstetter
Martha Quisenberry

KCU Scholarships – Undesignated
AIKCU Foundation
Mical Barnhart
Phillip L. DeMotte
First Church of Christ, Grayson, KY
M/M James Gibson
Pricetown Church of Christ, Hillsboro, OH
M/M John Rhodes
M/M Robert A. Seals
Sidney Verble
Southeast Christian Church, Louisville, KY

Mike Leavitt Scholarship
Anthony McCord

Phoebe Horton Huff Memorial Scholarship
Mary Blanche Jungers

Scholarship – International Student
Southeast Christian Church, Louisville, KY

Skye & Bethany Taylor Scholarships
M/M Barry M. Taylor

Southland Mfg. Co. Scholarship
Dr. & Mrs. Jack L. Dyer

Strother Family Scholarship
Commercial Bank of Grayson
M/M Jack W. Strother, Jr.

William Peeples Scholarship
William D. Peeples

**Gifts In Honor**

Davis Burgin
M/M Bill Boatwright

Candy Fipps
J. Ralph Golden

Julie Stowers Gibbs
M/M Julian Stowers

Dr. Fred Klatka
M/M Mark Haven

Kathy Cool Taylor
Glima Hall

Robin & Lori Zimmerman
M/M Perry Carroll

**Gifts In Memory**

Myron Barnett
Glenna Peterson

Pat Baumgardner
M/M Bill Baumgardner
M/M Tom Bender
Carole Knapp

Ronald Albert Briggs
Lenora D. Briggs

Thomas Andrew Dale
Dr. & Mrs. John Owston

Ed Fipps
J. Ralph Golden

Dr. Darrel Frye
M/M David Apple

Thomas Gemeinhart
M/M Francis Nash

Dr. & Mrs. Ard Hoven
Vicki Hoven

Sam P. Jones
Arnold’s Creek Christian Church, Middlebourne, WV

Clarence Mansfield
Cathy Brentzel

Clark & Dorothy McLaughlin
M/M Roger Spring

Dr. Donald Nash
M/M Francis Nash

Dean E. & Iva Lew Speece
M/M J. Maynard Bragg

Martha Jordan
Prayer Garden Gifts
Commercial Bank of Grayson
John M. Jordan
M/M Ernie Miller

Martha Lusby Jordan
M/M Raymond Griffith

Please Note: We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this information. Should you discover an error, please accept our sincere apology and bring it to our attention so that we can correct our records.

The Patron Knight Partnership Program is a means for our alumni to contribute to KCU’s ministry of Christian higher education.

We continually hear alumni almost apologizing for the fact they cannot give more to KCU – “I can’t afford to give much to KCU and besides, how could my meager gift possibly help?” Sustained gifts to KCU, regardless of the amount, can make a very big difference in the lives of KCU students.

Patron Knights, with God’s help, pledge at least $25 per month in unrestricted gifts to support the KCU Great Commission Fund (General Fund) from which over $2 million are paid annually in student scholarships.

Jake (*’15*) and Molly Allen (*’13 & ’17*) began contributing back to the school soon after they graduated and quickly rose to the President Circle level. Molly returned to KCU to receive her Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner with the first class in 2017. Recently we asked them to share their reasons for contributing to KCU. Here is what Molly told us:

“We are honored to give to KCU and the people there who gave so much to us. Jake and I are proud to support a university that loves and encourages its students in a way that affects the rest of their lives. KCU made such an impact on our lives- it is difficult to put into words. Our prayer is that it will be life changing for generations to come which is why we feel so led to continue to give back.”

- Molly Metcalf Allen

Experience the joy of becoming an active financial partner with your alma mater as a Patron Knight.

**Convenient “AutoGift” Plan**

Direct deposits to KCU from your personal checking account

Sign up to have your gifts to KCU automatically withdrawn from your personal checking account. It is easy to sign up and is guaranteed to be secure by one of the nation’s leading providers of this service. This feature can be used for single and recurring gifts.

More information about this convenient way to support KCU can be found at www.kcu.edu/give. Or if you prefer, contact Jeff Greene, Director of Development at jgreene@kcu.edu or 606-474-3298.
The unique Christian mission of KCU is brought to life by exceptional Christian educators. The moment Dr. Gail Wise appeared as a candidate to be the inaugural dean of the fledgling Yancey School of Nursing at KCU (in 2001), stands as one of the true “God moments” – times when I was keenly aware that God was providing for the needs of this educational ministry.

Nursing faculty are notoriously difficult to attract, an issue only exacerbated by our rural location and unique Christian identity. To find a nursing educator who was a member of a Restoration Movement church; who had a passion for Christian ministry; who possessed a terminal degree and the requisite experience and credentials; and, who had a passion to build a high-quality program from scratch? On its face the prospect was daunting, perhaps seemingly impossible.

Yet, this is exactly who the Lord brought to KCU in the form of Dr. Gail Wise. Not only did Dr. Wise meet and exceed the expectations for the first ever Dean of the Yancey School of Nursing – as it turned out, she was almost literally in our back yard the whole time as a resident of nearby Maysville, KY!

Diminutive in stature, and unassuming in character, Dr. Wise stands as one of the giants of KCU when you consider the lasting impact she has made. She quietly and expertly guided the development of the curriculum, recruitment of like-minded faculty members, attainment of rigorous regional and professional accreditations, and recruitment of students. Throughout this time her husband, Tom, has been a constant encouraging presence.

Dr. Wise’s contributions are many, and can be celebrated when we note that the Yancey School of Nursing boasts one of the largest enrollment of any family of majors at KCU. Or when guests and students visit the beautiful state-of-the-art Yancey School of Nursing building. Or when the college promotes the outstanding success of many years of nursing students, including those from its newest nursing program, the Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner program. However, her most lasting contribution might just be that she built something that will outlast her physical presence at KCU – the infusion of the core principles of Christ, Character, and Career that make nursing at KCU true educational ministry.

I have been honored to work with many fine colleagues during my 23 years at KCU, none of whom I admire more than Dr. Gail Wise. We have cajoled Dr. Wise into delaying retirement for as long as possible and now we must accept the fact and celebrate her transition. Gail and Tom: you will be missed sorely on both personal and professional levels!
Kentucky Christian University turns 100 years old on December 1, 2019. This is an incredible accomplishment by God’s grace because of the dedication of faithful servants. Over the next three issues of The Voice, we are going to share some of the highlights of our beloved institution. The extent of these articles come from the writings of Dr. Lowell Lusby, the University’s second president, and our archives. Our story begins with the Christian Normal Institute years.

The year was 1901 when J. W. and Emma Vea Lusby came to Grayson, Carter County, Kentucky from Owen County, Kentucky. Their announced purpose was for Mr. Lusby to practice law but for four years he struggled as a “newcomer” attorney.

By 1905, he changed vocations, being chosen as the principal of the Grayson Graded Schools which, at the time, included a Grayson High School. In order to acquire qualified teachers, Mr. Lusby established the Grayson Normal School, a private institution. The purpose of the Normal School was to prepare students to pass the County Examination, whereby certification was granted. In 1923, Mr. Lusby would go on to write his own book called The County Examiner.

It was during this interval that J. W. Lusby concluded there was a real need for a school with a definite Christian emphasis. He advertised in the pages of Christian Standard for someone to come to Grayson and assist him in a Christian-school venture. J. O. and Rosella Snodgrass of Iowa answered the plea for help. They came to Grayson and with the assistance of a Board of Trustees, all of whom had an interest in the promotion of Christian education, established Christian Normal Institute on December 1, 1919.

An interesting side note is that the school almost did not happen. If the roads and railways had been better in the early nineteen hundreds, Lusby may have set up his law practice in Pikeville. Mr. Lusby evidently made his way by train to Catlettsburg, Kentucky, and from there traveled by riverboat to Pikeville. At that time, the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway had not been completed into the Big Sandy River Valley and the roads were of such poor quality that it was almost impossible to get in or out of the area. As a matter of fact, it was necessary to wait until the Big Sandy River (Levisa Fork) was in flood stage before Mr. Lusby could make his journey to Pikeville. It was the lack of means of travel into Pikeville which helped bring about the decision to settle in Grayson, which could be reached by the Chesapeake and Ohio and the East Kentucky Railway lines.

Although the purpose of the school was left rather vague in the Articles of Incorporation, the printed materials of the time list the term “Bible College,” which was to be included with the continuation of both high school and normal school.
Continuing For The Good of the Cause

FIRST DECADE (1920s)
The first sessions of the new institution were in the Lusby building, located on the corner of Hord and Second Street. At times, the Grayson First Church of Christ was also used, both for Chapel and classes. The founders realized another location was needed, so property was acquired on the northern city limits of Grayson by purchase from T. S. Yates and a gift from J. W. Lusby. By 1923, R. B. Neal Hall, a dormitory for women named after the circuit riding preacher and trustee, was occupied and three other buildings were under construction (the Administration Building, along with homes for the Lusby and Snodgrass families). Both of the homes were constructed to accommodate students in the upper stories.

Many students during the first decade found living quarters in the homes of Grayson residents, and others commuted from nearby areas, either by train or by what was known as the Blue Goose (a vehicle using railroad tracks and powered by a Model T Ford motor). In the late 1920s, Pablo Pacheco, Jr., of Mexico, was the first international student to enroll at the school. Extracurricular activities included two literary societies, Hi-Y Club, Baseball and Tennis.

Second Decade (1930s)
In the early years of the 1930s housing was a desperate need and the problem was partially solved through the construction of log cabins. Using mostly student labor, the one room cabins (later expanded to two rooms) were built for about two hundred dollars each. At first, young men lived in the cabins, but when a second room was added, they were used for married couples.

During the mid-1930s, the college purchased what came to be known as the J. W. Lusby Memorial Farm, a total of 769 acres south of Grayson. The idea behind the project was to have facilities for extensive gardens and the raising of cattle. The farm would eventually be sold in the 1960s and the funds used to construct the first free standing library. That building, now called Trinity Hall, has since been remodeled and is presently being used by the Biology department.

On June 27, 1937 J. W. Lusby suffered a fatal heart attack while surveying the J. W. Lusby Memorial Farm to locate more trees with which to build additional cabins. Mrs. Lusby was named acting president by the board, and retained that position until her son, J. Lowell Lusby, was named second president at the age of 22. J. O. Snodgrass was named Vice President. Lowell Lusby would begin steering the school toward becoming Kentucky Christian College.
Kentucky Christian University’s Bible and Ministry program continues to be a frontrunner in educating students for ministry. We offer a double-major in Bible and Ministry, and these ministry majors select one or more areas of emphasis: Preaching, Youth and Family Ministry, Christian Leadership, Missions, Worship, and Pastoral Care.

Of the students currently in the program, almost 60% are working part-time in local ministries. Our ministry employment/graduate school acceptance rate is currently over 75%. Over the last 10 years we’ve averaged 50-70 students yearly in the program.

Dr. Brian Baldwin, the Dean of the Keeran School of Bible and Ministry, states that the Bible and Ministry degree at KCU offers four key strengths:

**Internship:**
All Bible and Ministry students must complete a 12-credit-hour, 6-8-month internship. Our students can put their coursework into action before they graduate in an environment designed to nurture and challenge them. We believe there is simply no substitute for experience.

**Portfolio:**
We intentionally connect our work in our courses to real-world, practical ministry competence. That means that students graduate with a resource that shows that they are able to put their studies into actual ministry practice.

**Academic Excellence:**
Our faculty are well-prepared and well-qualified. What this means is that they are not just experts in Scripture but experts in putting their studies to work in the real world.

**Pastoral Investment:**
Our faculty have spent time (and currently spend time) doing ministry. We employ faculty who see what they do at KCU as investing in the Kingdom of God. That means you not only get instructors, but also mentors and pastors who see themselves as partners with you in your calling. Our goal that the students receive ongoing mentoring designed to shape them for ministry both inside and outside the classroom.

The heartbeat of KCU has always been about the Great Commission. And that has never changed. We continue to be dedicated in preparing students for ministry. KCU is not only committed to training ministers of the Gospel in content and skills but also in their development pastorally. Our students complete two parallel programs: the Academic Track and the Pastoral Development Track.

“Ministry is a calling. KCU’s ministry program prepared me for this calling. The classes and training were constantly evolving to help me meet the needs of our changing world. The professors worked with you to help you learn practical skills and theological truths, so that you can be effective in your calling.”

*Kyle Davies*
Church Planter and KCU Class of 2013

In the Academic Track students receive a full major of Bible courses (content) and a full major of Ministry courses (skills) to prepare them for lifelong service. When these things are added to our large practical experience requirements, students graduate with a great deal of knowledge and skill!

However, knowledge and skill are not enough for successful ministry in the Kingdom of God. In ministry our skillset is always secondary to our heart for God. Over the years we’ve seen our students struggle outside of class with a wide variety of issues, many of which could damage their future ministry.

Damaged ministries are too common in today’s church. A variety of high-profile ministries have crumbled because of issues that existed long before they came
KCU will continue to invest in training ministers who are not only knowledgeable and skilled but also full of integrity and faithful to Christ.

“The Pastoral Development Track is, I think, one of the most dynamic components of our program. It allows us as faculty to operate as mentors in order to engage students in the transformative process of their continued discipleship. This program offers us the opportunity to come alongside students and nurture their personal and spiritual development, as well as their academic development, so that they are ready to embrace the various challenges and celebrations of ministry.”

Rob O’Lynn, D.Min., Assistant Professor of Preaching and Ministry and Director of Graduate Bible Programs

“Pastoral Development spoke to my sense of worth in a way I had not anticipated. To know my professors cared not only how I was growing educationally and professionally, but also emotionally and spiritually made me feel seen and valued not just as a student but as a disciple and sister in Christ. The meeting itself was warm and encouraging, I developed a deeper sense of trust with my professors, and the guidance I received truly helped me come into my own as a minister more holistically.”

Laurel Guy, Class of 2019

“Pastoral development completes KCU’s excellent ministry training programs by offering individualized guidance, support and accountability for the purpose of strong character development and spiritual formation.”

Jamie Coates, M.M., Assistant Professor of Worship, Director of KCU Worship Collective

“The Pastoral Development has had a huge impact on my growth as a ministry student here at KCU. One of the impacts is that it shows that there are professors here that show a great deal of care by making sure that the appropriate things are in place in my journey of becoming a disciple of Christ, and making other disciples.”

Collin Gay, Class of 2020

For more information about the Keeran School of Bible and Ministry contact Dr. Brian Baldwin (Dean) at bb@kcu.edu.
NEW MISSIONS BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Missions and missionaries have always been an important part of KCU. Having begun its own existence as a mission serving the people of the Appalachian Mountains, Christian missions is simply woven into the DNA of KCU. How exciting it is to see a new “missions” building erected on the campus of KCU. This beautiful new 5,000 square foot facility will not only provide excellent office, storage, and work areas for ICBM but also, importantly, is accessible to KCU students who want to engage with and learn from missionaries, lend a hand with operating the mission, etc.

KCU alumnus, Mike Smith (’75), founder and president of the International Christian Braille Mission (ICBM) approached KCU with a desire to relocate the mission’s central headquarters from Charleston, WV to the campus of KCU. After discussing several opportunities for bringing that vision to fruition, it was decided that ICBM would construct a new facility on the campus of KCU. There are also planned office and shared working spaces that other missions, either established or fledgling, may rent. While the purpose of the shared space is not restricted to missions, it is hoped that other missions will choose to locate in the building, creating a “missions incubator” which will not only offer KCU students an opportunity to volunteer with operating missions, but also to plant within those students a vision for serving as Christian missionaries.

Open House Planned
An Open House and tour of the facilities has been planned to coincide with our alumni Fall Homecoming. Join us on September 27, from 3:00-5:00.

Bible Bowl
Kentucky Christian University

KCU has a long tradition in Bible and Ministry and our special events are also geared toward leading students in growing their personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Bible Bowl is one of those programs that we offer two times each year. Tournaments are held on the campus of KCU each February and June. This tradition is long standing with nearly thirty years of participation in the development of young people who study and memorize scriptures.

Churches from all over the country attend and this allows students to test their knowledge and skills in a competition style tournament against players from across the nation. Each year a particular text is chosen by the National Bible Bowl office and that text is studied by the participants for a one-year cycle.

KCU tournaments are used to prepare students for the National Bible Bowl Tournament which is held each summer in various cities. At the national tournament as well as our on-campus tournament, KCU offers scholarships to students who excel in the round robin tournament, double elimination tournament and on the written test. Each year KCU recruits several new students to become a part of the KCU family.

KCU has been blessed with a rich heritage with the Bible Bowl program and has had as many as forty-two teams competing at one time. Players that attend the college tournaments see each other a few times a year but, for many, friendships are formed that last a lifetime. We look forward to having many more years of partnership with the National Bible Bowl program and all of the young students involved in their study of scripture.
New Testament

Word
Studie

with Dr. Donald A. Nash


WORSHIP

There are several words translated “worship” in the New Testament, but the most frequent is the Greek word proskuneo. Literally this word means to “kiss toward.” A background study will help show why this word came to mean worship.

In a semi-feudal state, land was owned by lords who would rent or assign out this land to husbandmen, farmers who would raise the crop. Naturally a portion of this was to be brought to the lord at harvest time. Several of Jesus’ parables are based on this custom, such as the “Wicked Husbandman” of Matt. 21:33-46. When the husbandman would bring the fruit of the land to the lord he would bow in humble obeisance to the master. The master would extend his hand in formal gesture of acceptance of the fealty of the servant. The servant would then kiss toward the hand. He would not deign to touch it for he was too menial and subservient, but he showed his gratitude to the lord, his acceptance of his oversight, his adoration and love by kissing toward.

Thus in worship of God, we come to Him as His humble creation, recognizing that we are human, He is divine; we are earthly, He is heavenly; we are material, He is spiritual; we cannot actually touch Him, but we can kiss toward Him in token of our adoration of His greatness, power, goodness, and mercy.

Many lessons concerning worship can be learned from this beautiful word picture. One is that humility is necessary to worship. We must recognize that God is love; we are servants. We cannot worship aright when self-will, self-love, self-conceits make us feel we do not need God.

Another lesson is that when we worship, we must bring something to the Master. No husbandman would dare come to worship the lord without the fruit of the ground that was due him. So, we bring to God in worship our gifts as the wise men of old who worshipped the Christ child with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Our gifts include our tithes and offerings (gold), our allegiance and adoration to Him in songs of praise and love (frankincense), and our lives completely dedicated in service to him (myrrh).

We can have the attitudes of worship-love, gratitude, prayer, humble service -at all times and everywhere, just as the husbandman had these as he went about his daily tasks. But there is also a definite time and place to kiss toward God just as there was a time for the husbandman to come before the lord to pay his respects. On the Lord’s Day, commemorating the resurrection of our Lord, around the Lord’s table, commemorating His death for our salvation, in church, the assembly of the Lord’s people, we do this.

The recent reaffirmation by CSWE in 2018 marks the BSW program’s 20th anniversary as a CSWE accredited Bachelor of Social Work Program.

Effective in August 2019, the School of Social Work and Human Services will have a new name. The new name will be “The School of Social Work and Behavioral Health”. This continues to highlight the CSWE accredited Social Work program, but it will accommodate potential future growth in areas that fit within the Behavioral Health fields.

Currently, the School offers a Bachelor of Social Work and a Bachelor of Science in Counseling Psychology. Additionally, there are four minors offered in the School.
The Kentucky Christian University Athletic Department proudly announces the addition of Bass Fishing to its offerings for the 2019-2020 academic year. Bass Fishing will be a scholarship sport and the program hopes to attract not only the best fishermen and women in this region but throughout the United States and beyond.

"With the abundance of outdoor sporting activities in this region," commented Associate Athletic Director Bruce Dixon, "and the popularity of this new sport on college campuses, this decision was just a natural. We are very excited for what Coach Slone will add to the campus community and to the overall Grayson area."

Brian Slone, a long-time resident of the area, has many connections to the "fishing" community and the up-and-coming talent in the school systems which provides him immediate creditability when speaking with prospective recruits. Coach Slone had this to say about his appointment as the first bass fishing coach at KCU, "When I chose this college nearly 30 years ago I had the desire to serve God but lacked the maturity or proficiency to do it. Thirty years later God has trained, conditioned, and refined me to where I am now. I feel ready to serve this University and to develop a bass fishing program worthy of putting the name of Kentucky Christian University on the front of the jerseys. I feel fortunate to have reached the success in my bass fishing career while following the path that God set before me."

Chuck Wentz, KCU cross country coach, has been tabbed the first head coach for the programs. Coach Wentz has extensive experience in track and field in addition to his work with the Knights cross country team. With coaching stops at Bowling Green State University, Marshall University, Morehead State University, and Shawnee State University, Wentz brings instant credibility to these fledgling squads.

Of his new programs, Coach Wentz remarked, "With the addition of Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field, we are now aligned with fellow members of the Appalachian Athletic Conference. This also gives our current Cross Country athletes the opportunity to compete at championship meets. Our ability to be a competitive, all-around program with a focus in all event areas and not just in the distance events is also increased with the addition. This is an exciting time of growth for our program and the university as well."

Student-athletes interested in this exciting new opportunity should contact Coach Slone at bdslone@kcu.edu.

Coach Wentz is actively recruiting student-athletes. Anyone interested can contact Coach Wentz at cmwentz@kcu.edu.
Ryan Walker Jersey Retired

During halftime of the Knights men’s basketball game against Welch College, former KCU men’s soccer standout Ryan Walker was honored with a very special ceremony.

The Kentucky Christian University Athletic Department has a proud and rich tradition of excellence, not only in team victories and titles but also in the athletes that have graced our campus. It is with this in mind that we add the 20th member to the select few having had their jersey retired. Gathered at mid-court for the occasion, Ryan was joined by his father and mother, Earl and Aimie Walker, his grandparents Ron and Linda Arnett and his girlfriend Bailey Hall.

The criteria for inclusion in this select group is three-fold: (1) Minimally, a three-time NCCAA First-Team All-American, (2) the recommendation of their coach and the Dean of Students and (3) a positive reputation with the campus community that speaks to their Christian character, academic efforts, and moral standing. In his time on the KCU campus, Ryan has more than met these standards and exemplifies what this university desires in its student-athletes.

Athletically, as would be expected, Walker excelled from the defender’s position during his four years on the KCU soccer team and was consistently honored at the national level. He also excelled in the classroom and, most importantly, has made an impact for the Kingdom during his time here at KCU.

KCU Joins New Conference

Kentucky Christian University has joined the Appalachian Athletic Conference (AAC) as a new full-time member beginning with the 2019-20 season. KCU becomes the 16th full member of the AAC. The AAC Council of Presidents approved KCU for membership at its fall meeting in November.

“The AAC is very pleased to welcome Kentucky Christian University to the conference,” said AAC Commissioner John Sullivan. “KCU brings 12 sponsored sports plus cheer to the AAC including football. With the addition of the Knights, the AAC is closer to sponsoring football as a conference sport. We were particularly impressed with KCU’s commitment to character development through sports and its mission focus.”

“Kentucky Christian University has sought application to the Appalachian Athletic Conference to align itself with like-minded institutions and a governing body that sees athletics as an integral part of the collegiate experience,” said KCU Athletics Director, Corey Fipps. Fipps added, “We believe the AAC will offer our institution the support necessary to take our athletic department to a whole new level for our student-athletes. It is our goal to move our athletic department into a full functioning NAIA member. Here at Kentucky Christian University we hope to be a strong addition to the Appalachian Athletic Conference adding value to an already strong and proud group of academic institutions who understand the lasting value of collegiate athletics.”

Currently, KCU sponsors 14 intercollegiate athletic programs, 11 of which will compete in the AAC right away. The sports that will compete in the AAC beginning in 2019-20 include men’s basketball, women’s basketball, baseball, men’s cross country, women’s cross country, men’s golf, women’s golf, men’s soccer, women’s soccer, and women’s volleyball. KCU presently competes in football in the Mid-South Conference and also offers men’s and women’s archery.
FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE
Fall Homecoming | Sept. 27-29

Special Friday Afternoon Session
“Personal Reflections” - part of the Public Lecture Series
Alumni Banquet
Sylvia Lusby Giese & Nan Lusby Griffith

Ernie Perry Friday Banquet
Class of 1979 40th Reunion
(Please let the Alumni office know if you would like to help host a class reunion.)
Alumni Spotlight
Doug Henderson

The Lord works through master craftsmen.

Consider Bezalel. Exodus 35:31-35 records Moses’ description of the skilled artist: "The Lord has filled Bezalel with the Spirit of God, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise in all kinds of crafts. He is a master craftsman, expert in working with gold, silver, and bronze. He is skilled in engraving and mounting gemstones and in carving wood. He is a master at every craft.

Consider Doug Henderson. Like Bezalel, he is gifted by God and is a master at his craft. Anyone who has visited The Ark Encounter or Creation Museum, where Doug serves as lead artist, has seen his skillful work. In his role as lead artist, Doug currently supervises a team of six to eight artists who are creating the molded and cast elements of the new Creation Museum redesign.

As part of the redesign, one-third of the museum walk-through has been torn out and will be replaced by new designs containing the team’s newly-created elements. In addition to leading his team of artists, Doug works with the lead designer of the project to develop and invent the techniques and processes used to make the new elements. Doug’s artistic skill is on display throughout the project.

Anyone who was around the KCC/KCU campus in the late ‘80s most likely saw Doug’s work at one point or another. In addition to sketches and drawings for programs and publications, Doug did all the prosthetic makeup work for the plays and musicals which were presented on the campus during those years. Reflecting on how his college work prepared him for his current career, Doug writes, “All of the prosthetics I made for all of the plays at KCC filled the portfolio that got me the job teaching special effects makeup at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, which led me to meet my wife Cathy, who was a designer at the local NBC affiliate. The film and TV projects we worked on together led us to a job at a Christian TV station, which led us to meet Ken Ham, who hired us to work on a bunch of projects that led him to hire us to work at the Creation Museum.” Dr. Betty (Hall) Jones, director of those plays and musicals, recognized Doug’s talent and gave him a small budget, a place to work, and an opportunity to create. The impact of that opportunity stretches across the globe to this day.

When asked to share his thoughts on the impact of his ministry, Doug responded, “Answers in Genesis exists to proclaim the gospel and defend the authority of scripture from the very first verse. Everything we do in the art department is designed to uphold that mission. Countless guests testify to that end and we routinely receive feedback that people are blessed by the message and the artwork, which is very satisfying. But none of that would matter if we were not seeing souls won to Christ. And thank the Lord, we are.”

Clearly, the Lord works through master craftsmen.
Spring 2019 • www.kcu.edu

UPCOMING KCU EVENTS

Bible Bowl
Kentucky Christian University
June 6-8, 2019

Baccalaureate
May 10, 2019

Commencement
May 11, 2019

summer in the son

Grades 9-12
June 16 - 21, 2019

Grades 7-12
June 23 - 28, 2019

summerintheson.org