



INSPIRE

FEBRUARY 2021, ISSUE NO. 7

Foundation Board Virtual Meeting

BY DR. MIKE WETZEL

How important can a meeting be? I don't think that I'm overstating when I say that this might be the most important Foundation Board Annual Meeting since Hurricane Katrina!

We were not able to meet at all last year, even though we certainly called and emailed to accomplish some pressing business. This year we can all meet using technology instead of being in person.

Here is what to expect in the coming weeks. We will send you an email link next week for you to test and make sure that you can connect using audio and video. We will offer two times for this test, one during the day and one in the evening.

ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 13, 2021

9:00 am

via

BlueJeans

Video Conference

VIRTUAL MEETING, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



The New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Foundation Board

Virtual Meeting

CONTINUED from pg. 1

We will also send the minutes from the past two years of meetings to approve, a list of membership qualifications that we would like to adjust, plus our project ideas for the next three years.

The meeting itself, March 13th, at 9:00 AM CST, will be full of ideas that we want to bring to the table and opportunities for you to be involved. We are excited and pray that you will plan to interact with us.

Continue to pray for us that we may lead this Foundation Board in a way that will be God-led.

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The most important
Foundation Board
Annual Meeting since
Hurricane Katrina.

DR. MIKE WETZEL

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Foundation Board Awards

The Foundation Board presents two awards each year. The first is the Mike Moskau Award. This award recognizes a layman and their outstanding Kingdom service. The second is the Nelson Price Award which recognizes a churchman for their faithful church leadership. Here is a little more information regarding these two awards.

The Mike Moskau Award for Outstanding Kingdom Leadership was established to honor Mike and his selfless contributions to NOBTS. This award is given to an outstanding Kingdom servant in Mike's name as part of his great legacy.

The Nelson Price Award for Outstanding Church Leadership was established to honor Dr. Price for his faithful service in the church. Dr. Price led Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta Georgia, for 35 years. He is an NOBTS alumnus. He served as a Seminary Trustee for 16 years and has been a member of the Foundation Board since 2000. This award honors a Foundation Board member whose servant leadership in the church is beyond measure.



Ginger Moskau presenting the Mike Moskau Award to Dr. Phil Walton - 2019



Dr. Nelson Price receives the Inaugural Nelson Price Award - 2019



NOBTS & Friends Events

NOBTS & Friends Events are a way to introduce your circle of friends to the Seminary. At each event, Dr. Jamie Dew, President, and Dr. Mike Wetzel, VP for Institutional Advancement, will be present to share the overall vision for the Seminary and tell your guests how they can be a part of the exciting things that are happening.

If you would like to schedule an event, give Mike Wetzel a call at 504-282-4455 ext. 3252, and we will start the planning.

Here are the simple steps to Host an Event:

1. Guest List

Share with us a guest list with names and addresses of those individuals and couples whom you think should hear the NOBTS story.

2. Date and Location

Give us several dates that you are available for the Event. Let us know where the event should take place, either a church, a home, or a restaurant.

3. Pray for the Event

Pray for each person on the Guest List, that they will hear the heart and vision of our President for NOBTS.

Providing Access is Progress

BY MARK HAGELMAN

From the letter of the law to the spirit of the law, you have made the difference. This year's Foundation Board project is providing increased access to buildings like Leavell Chapel, Hardin Student Center, and the Frost Building. Accessibility upgrades to these buildings are important to everyone, especially to those who have restricted mobility.

The buildings pictured are just a sample of what has been accomplished since our Foundation Board vote to move forward back in September of 2020.

Dr. Jim Parker, Director of Facilities, has been overseeing the installation and quality of the project's progress. You will hear directly from him during our meeting as to all the work accomplished to date.

Furthermore, you will be presented with the opportunity to vote for projects that will make a lasting, positive, impact on the Seminary grounds. We ask that you begin praying now for how the Lord may use your influence as a Foundation Board member to be involved in the process and share the excitement with those around you.

We are grateful for your steadfast support of the Foundation Endowment which makes possible these and future projects. Through your encouraging generosity, you are enabling NOBTS and Leavell Colleges' Gospel teaching to continue.

Our aim is to make New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College the greatest learning lab as we prepare servants to serve anywhere the Lord calls them.



LEAVELL CHAPEL



LEAVELL CHAPEL



FROST BUILDING



FROST BUILDING



Say Happy Valentine's With a Legacy Brick

BY DR. MIKE WETZEL

The Legacy Brick Project at NOBTS and Leavell College is your opportunity to honor loved ones this Valentine's Day. We want to help you celebrate those you love and admire with a unique, permanent gift.

A Legacy Brick is a customizable engraved brick, placed in Legacy Plaza outside Leavell Chapel on the Seminary's campus. Normally, Legacy Bricks donations are \$250. Right now, you can save \$50 when you make your donation before Valentine's Day. This exceptional opportunity ends on February 14, 2021, so act today!

To print your Legacy Brick form, go to www.nobts.edu/brick.

If you cannot take advantage of the Brick promotion opportunity but would like to make a gift to the Seminary, you can make a gift in honor of someone special to you. We will also send them a Valentine's Day Card on your behalf.

Click the "make a gift" button below and make sure to include the name of the person being honored in the comments section.

Make a Gift

Ron McCaskill - recording secretary

BY BOB BUNN

When Ron felt God's call on his life, he began working in a church and was ordained at 19 years old. After a few years, he realized that he needed more theological education.

"By the time I was 24, I had preached all of the sermons that I could borrow and felt that it was time to go to seminary," he said. "I asked my father-in-law, who was a pastor, which seminary was the most evangelistic, and he said, New Orleans. So, my wife Fran and five-month-old twins moved to NOBTS in May of 1974."

The McCaskill's felt God's presence on campus, but they also saw Him in the lives of caring faculty and staff. Their experience created a lifelong bond with the school.

After he graduated, Ron spent several years serving with state and national chapters of the seminary's Alumni Association. As president of the National Alumni Association for NOBTS in 2005, he worked closely with NOBTS and Leavell College leaders to get the school back on its feet in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

"Seminary taught me that I had one singular focus as a child of God: to bring His lost children back to Him," he explains. "During my first weeks on campus, I came across Matthew 28:18-20 installed in the tile floor on the old administration building (now Bunyan classroom building). I stood in its circle and prayed that God would use me to bring this command into my life and to let it be my life's priority."

"I believe that NOBTS and Leavell College still exist with this laser focus in mind."

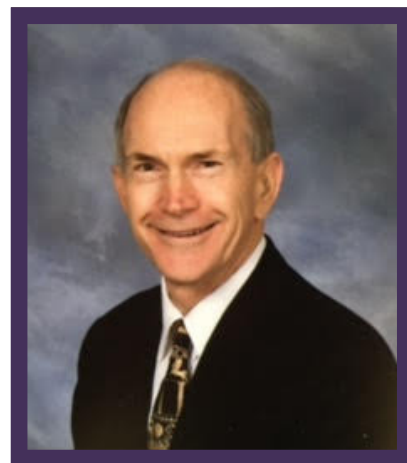
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This school does not just teach students. It invests itself unreservedly into students' lives.

Rev. Ron McCaskill

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The seal that Ron is referring to also exists in Legacy Plaza, in front of Leavell Chapel. The installation and purchase of the six foot brass seal was generously donated by the 2017 Foundation Board members.



Ron and Fran are Lifetime members of the Foundation Board and joyfully serve in Cairo, GA.

Ron continues, "This school does not just teach students; It invests itself unreservedly into students' lives.

The result is students who become living sacrifices for our Lord. I am a product of this investment as my life was changed by this school, and I will be eternally grateful."

This kind of spiritual transformation spurs the McCaskill's service and financial support through the Foundation Board of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Who will you encourage to invest with the same enthusiasm? As Foundation Board members, your NOBTS story is important to share. In this newsletter you will find information on hosting an NOBTS & Friends Event. Your voice is important to the success of the Foundation Board.

Donor-Advised Funds

BY MARK HAGELMAN

Not new but possibly new to you is a charitable giving vehicle called donor-advised funds. Generally, a donor-advised fund (DAF) is a separately identified fund or account that is maintained and operated by a section 501(c)(3) organization, which is called a sponsoring organization. You may recognize Fidelity Charitable, Schwab Charitable, or even the National Christian Foundation, as a few DAF sponsoring organizations.

The sponsoring organization has legal control over your contributions. However, you retain advisory privileges with respect to the distribution of funds and the investment of assets in the account.

NOBTS can receive your DAF contributions. Specifically, you may send your Foundation Board endowment contribution or a gift to the Providence Fund. Your gifts are welcomed and help students in great ways.

A word of caution: DAF contributions may not directly cover the tuition or fees of a named student. The reason for this is that the IRS does not allow individuals to benefit from DAF contributions. Therefore, NOBTS cannot process the gift to directly benefit a student's account.

I hope this helps you in your knowledge of DAFs and how you can use them here. This is not an exhaustive explanation, and we welcome your questions anytime.

As always, please consult your investment and tax professional to see how you may leverage a DAF to benefit Kingdom work.

NOBTS Advancement Team

Mike Wetzel

VP for Institutional Advancement

Nancy Whatley

Administrative Assistant

Betty Lynn Campbell

Director of Development Services

Wanda Gregg

Director of Donor Relations

Mark Hagelman

Director of Development

Richard Harbison

Gift Processor / Providence Fund Manager

Lindsay Holder

Data Secretary

Taylor Anderson

Development Recorder



Foundation member, Mike Shell, passed away December 4, 2020. Michael and his wife Sandra were married 50 years. Both devoted to their marriage and serving others.



The New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Foundation Board

Office for Institutional Advancement 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126