

INSPIRE

AUGUST 2022, ISSUE NO. 12

Hope Magnified

By Ron McCaskill - Chairman '22

My wife (Fran) and I moved to seminary in May 1974 with five-month-old twins. Having already served as a pastor, I thought I could easily acquire a church vacated by one of the graduating seminarians. In late August, I found myself still unemployed when we received a letter from someone we did not know.

We had been brought to the attention of a family who were members of some organization called the "Foundation Board of New Orleans Seminary," and they wanted to help us.

Enclosed was a check for my entire matriculation fee and expenses for the fall semester! Tears filled my eyes as I read their letter. They were apologizing to me that they could not send more!

HOPE MAGINIFIED, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



June 13 & 14, 2023
WWW.NOBTS.EDU/VISITNOLA



The New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Foundation Board

Hope Magnified

CONTINUED from pg. 1

“


A seed was planted in my heart that, one day, I hoped that I could be like these people.

Ron McCaskill

”

As our babies were sleeping, Fran and I sat at our card table, which was the sum of our kitchen furniture, and held each other's hands tightly as we thanked God for such wonderful Christian people who were willing to help us to pursue our dream of attending seminary.

A seed was planted in my heart that, one day, I hoped that I could be like these people. Indeed, God has blessed Fran and me, and we are humbled to be Foundation Board Members. Through the work of the Foundation, God has allowed us to pour into the future of thousands of students and touch the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Only when the Foundation Board family stands before the Lord will they know how much they helped us and the magnitude of hope they planted in our hearts. 

ADA Project Updates

This semester our facilities team will complete two Courtyard Apartments. With Hurricanes Zeta and Ida delays behind us, we look forward to grateful students occupying these newly renovated spaces!

The ADA was enacted to protect individuals with disabilities from discrimination. Increasingly, NOBTS and Leavell College seek to serve those with disabilities, so they can live, work and attend classes with the ability to move around their homes and campus freely. As Foundation Board members, you have made it possible to serve them as Christ commands.


A big "thank you" to Dr. Jim Parker, Associate Vice President of Facilities, and his team for their diligent follow-through. Thank you, Foundation Board members, for making it possible.

John 13:35 HCSB "By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

[ADA PROJECT UPDATES, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3](#)

ADA Project Updates

CONTINUED from pg. 2

This past March, members approved the elevator installation in the Frost Administration Building. According to a recent conversation with Dr. Jim Parker, the elevator was ordered in May and should arrive by November. The elevator's installation is a bit more involved because of the electrical and foundational adjustments required before installation. However, he expects the job to be completed by June 2023. Please pray for the arrival of the elevator and the construction efforts. 

Looking Ahead

By Mike Wetzel

As we begin our 106th year as an institution, we are so grateful to God for what He has done, what He is doing, and what we know He will continue to do. We are so thankful for the many supporters and friends, new and old, who walk with us.

The Fall Semester has begun, and we will have had our first week of class by the time you read this. I wanted to take a moment to mention a few things.


- Elsewhere in this newsletter, we list the names of the honorary members you pre-approved us inviting them to work alongside the Foundation Board.
- You should have received the Foundation Board Directory. Let us know if you have not received it yet. 504.816.8224
- We exceeded our goal for the Providence Fund. Thank you for your generosity and the matching gift for Giving Tuesday 2021 so many of you gave.
- Your team leaders have worked hard and have met twice since our annual meeting.
- **Please save the date for our next annual meeting, March 10-11.**
- Please take the time to look at the invitation for the “Footsteps of Paul-an NOBTS Biblical Pilgrimage Greece Trip” with the Dews.

We eagerly anticipate our next opportunity to gather. But, again, please know that we pray for you, and we know that you pray for us.

Honorary Members

Waylon Bailey	FBC Covington, LA
Eddie Wren	FBC Rayville, LA
Fred Luter	Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans, LA
Leroy Fountain	New Orleans Baptist Association - Church Health Strategist
Chad Gilbert	FB New Orleans, LA
Gil McKee	FBC Tuscaloosa, AL
Thomas Strong	Metairie Baptist Church, Metairie, LA

As voted on by all present at the annual meeting, up to ten pastors with significant influence and love for NOBTS & Leavell College will be asked by Dr. Mike Wetzel to join the Foundation Board as honorary members. These pastors will abide by the terms of membership less the annual \$5,000 financial gift to the Foundation Board Endowment.

We thank God for these men who've accepted Dr. Wetzel's invitation. Please pray for the growth of board membership through these new honorary members. 

What must I do as a member of the Foundation?

- Membership* is a three-year commitment to give or raise a \$5,000 minimum per year for the Foundation Board Endowment.
- A commitment to continued giving on an annual basis.
- Attendance at the Annual Meeting is missed only by excused absence.
- Members are to pray for the Seminary daily.
- A member who gives \$100,000 or more in a one-time gift secures a Lifetime membership. (These persons are encouraged to continue providing to meet the Seminary's needs.)
- Members are encouraged to enlist new members within three years.
- Members give to the Giving Tuesday Matching Gift fund above their annual \$5,000 commitment.

**A person is eligible for membership by enlisting others who meet the membership requirements or securing gifts from an outside entity that matches the membership requirements. These persons are encouraged to give personally on an annual basis.*

Welcome, New Members!

Kurt Auger



**Pastor at FBC Farmerville,
Louisiana for 15 years**

Married to Rene' Long Auger

Three children and three grands:
Magen (Cody) Keys: Piper, Deacon
Jake (Jenny) Auger: Brooklynn Brooks Auger

Neal Condrey



COO of Goldman Equipment LLC

Married to Angela

Member of FBC Rayville

These two men have joined the Foundation Board! Our NOBTS & Leavell College Trustees will confirm these men during their October meeting. Our membership is made stronger because of you! - Welcome. 🌸

Officers 2021/22

Chairman - Dr. Ron McCaskill
Vice Chairman - Mr. Cory Armand
Recording Secretary - Dr. Chris Townson
Treasurer - Mr. Brett Allen
Executive Secretary - Dr. Mike Wetzel

Team Captains

Recruitment - Jody Dean
Events - Carol Wilken
Board Training - Chris Townson
Giving Tuesday - Mike Haley
Directory & Fellowship - Becky Wallace Harris

Jody Dean, PhD, is our Recruitment Team Leader. If you have questions or need information regarding recruiting new members, don't hesitate to contact him directly at jdean@nobts.edu.

On Your Mark...Your Calendars

Prepare Here Conference

New Orleans, LA – October 14 & 15 - www.nobts.edu/prepare/here.html

Hosted by the Jim Henry Leadership Institute, this new conference will prepare and encourage every church staff member and church lay leader. Each individual will have opportunities to attend breakout sessions pertinent to their area of service, be emboldened, and leave better equipped for the ministry to which each is called. Speakers are Jamie Dew, president of NOBTS and Leavell College, Frank Williams, pastor and president of the National African American Fellowship of the SBC, and Jim Henry, pastor emeritus, FBC Orlando, FL.



President's Christmas Dinner

New Orleans, LA – December 1, 2022

There is no better way to start your holiday season than attending the President's Christmas Dinner on the campus of NOBTS! Dr. Jamie Dew will bring a word of encouragement and vision for the seminary. So come enjoy an evening of great food and fellowship around the table.

ON YOUR MARK...YOUR CALENDARS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

On Your Mark...Your Calendars

CONTINUED from pg.6



Abide - Women's Conference

New Orleans, LA – February 3 & 4, 2023 - <https://prepareher.com/abide/>

Through rich Bible teaching, practical breakout sessions, and sweet times of fellowship, we hope you will leave this conference knowing how to abide with God by being a woman who lives on a mission — in your home, neighborhood, community, and around the world. This conference is open to all women. The special speaker for the conference is Kelly Minter, author, Bible teacher, and musician. She is joined by Tara Dew, wife of NOBTS and Leavell College president Jamie Dew, and Stephanie Lyon, Women's Life Coordinator at NOBTS and Leavell College.

Defend + Contend Conference

New Orleans, LA – January 2-6 & 7, 2023 - <https://defendthefait.net>

Dr. Bob Stewart, professor of Philosophy and Theology and Greer-Heard Chair of Faith and Culture Experience at NOBTS & Leavell College, invites you to five full days of teaching from world-renowned apologists. Receive access to all breakout session audio recordings. Enjoy "Coffee & Conversations" with guest speakers every day. Dr. Stewart added a new component this year named CONTEND. On January 7, high school students will be equipped by world-renown apologists to answer tough questions!

ON YOUR MARK...YOUR CALENDARS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

On Your Mark...Your Calendars

CONTINUED from pg.7

Foundation Board Annual Dinner & Meeting

New Orleans, LA - March 10 - 11, 2023

Mark your calendar for the Annual Foundation Board Meeting held on the campus of NOBTS and Leavell College. You will enjoy getting to see old friends and making new ones. You'll enjoy some good food and lots of fellowship. The business meeting will provide information about FB Projects and updates. You will hear from President Jamie Dew and other NOBTS faculty and staff.

Senior Fest 2023

New Orleans, LA - March 31, 2023

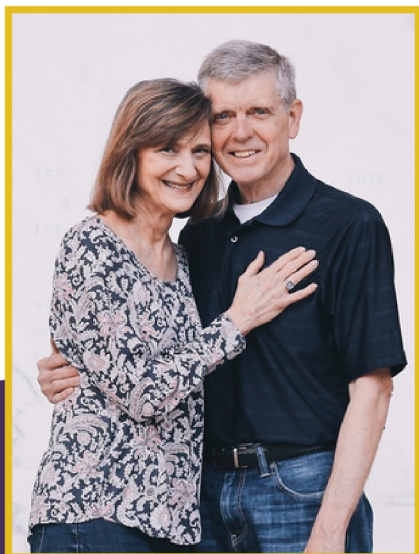
Senior Fest is a one-day conference for Senior adults of all ages. It is held on the NOBTS campus.

Attendees will hear inspirational Bible teaching and insightful educational seminars from NOBTS and Leavell College faculty.

Questions? Contact Jody Dean at jdean@nobts.edu



Transition; Transform



Betty Lynn & Eddie Cambell

Since 1999, Betty Lynn Campbell has worked in the Office for Institutional Advancement. This July 31st, we said goodbye to her as she began a new chapter of her life in retirement. Betty Lynn's husband Eddie served on the faculty of NOBTS and Leavell College for 23 years and recently retired in December. They will enjoy time with family and parents who live outside New Orleans.

Betty Lynn retires after 15 years as the Director of Development Services. As we know, titles do not describe all a job encompasses. Betty Lynn's technical skills, expertise, and vast knowledge of our donors were vital to Institutional Advancement and several other departments of NOBTS. Thank you, Betty Lynn, for your service!

Everyone on campus can say that working with Betty Lynn has been a privilege, and now it's an honor to celebrate her retirement. 🌸

We are excited to inform you that Lindsay Holder is our new Director of Development Services. Lindsay has worked with the Institutional Advancement team for the last five years as our data secretary and Betty Lynn Campbell's right hand.

As Director of Development Services, she will provide long- and short-term planning for information services for the Office for Institutional Advancement. We look forward to what we believe Lindsay will bring to the table.

Additionally, Lindsay is also working on her PhD in missions. Please congratulate and pray for her as she takes on these new responsibilities.

You may contact Lindsay directly at (504) 816-8432 or by email at lholder@nobts.edu.



Lindsay Holder

Director of Development Services

Lasting Legacy

The DeMent Society honors those who have included New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in their estate plans. Last fiscal year, former Foundation Board members' estate gifts totaled \$3,969,097 for accomplishing our collective mission. These estate gifts provided for a faculty chair and an endowment to propel students into urban ministries here in New Orleans. Additionally, an endowed fund for apologetics and philosophy lectures and conferences, a PhD Fellowship, and student scholarships were created.

As a Foundation Board member, you may have made plans to include us in your estate, and we want to thank you.

The act of including NOBTS in your will is more important than the actual amount and serves as an example to others.

Members of the DeMent Society will be honored on several special occasions throughout the year on campus. We are grateful that so many friends share the vision for the seminary.

If you have included the seminary in your estate plan, please let us know so we can add you to the list of DeMent Society members. If you would like more information about the DeMent Society, please call Wanda Gregg at (504) 816-8424 or email her at wgregg@nobts.edu

NOBTS Advancement Team

Mike Wetzel

VP for Institutional Advancement

Nancy Whatley

Administrative Assistant

Lindsay Holder

Director of Development Services

Wanda Gregg

Director of Donor Relations

Mark Hagelman

Director of Development

Elisabet Alfonso

Data Secretary

Shann Phillips

Project Manager

Meagan Stedman

Gift Processor

Laura Glass

Records



Contact Us!

The Office for Institutional Advancement
has a new telephone number.

504.816.8224



The New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Foundation Board

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