

FALL 2011

# THE CONNECTION

Trinity College of Florida



SO MUCH

*More*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Endless Treasures

*H*ave you ever asked: Will I have *enough food*? Do we have *enough time*? Do I have *enough help*? Will I have *enough money*?

These will always be concerns in this world. However, in Christ believers never have to worry about limitations. The Lord Jesus Christ will always be more than expected; more in provision; more in discovery!

Watch carefully the wording of Ephesians 3:8 NLT:

"Just think ... about the 'endless treasures' available to them in Christ."

There will always be an "endless" abundance of treasures in Christ. The Apostle Paul often uses expressions like:

"... infinitely **more** than we dare to ask or hope."  
EPHESIANS 3:20 NLT

"...**far above** any ruler or authority or power or leader, or anything else in this world or in the world to come." EPHESIANS 1:21 NLT

"... you will always have everything you need and **plenty left over** to share with others."  
2 CORINTHIANS 9:8 NLT.

Paul even penned prayers requesting Christian hearts to "be flooded with light" so that they can understand the wonderful future Christ has promised to believers.  
EPHESIANS 1:18 NLT

Science seeks to understand limits. As physicists probe deeper into the nucleus, protons, and electrons of the atom, some theorize we will never reach the 'bottom.' There will always be something smaller; something more to see!

There will always be questions like, "Does the universe end? And if there is an end, what is beyond the end? Are there limitations to the heavens? If there are, what are beyond those limitations?"

The bottom line is: "Christ existed before everything else began, and He holds all creation together." Colossians 1 states that "Christ is the visible image of the invisible God so He is first in everything...**Yet now He has brought you back as His friends.** He has done this through His death on the cross in His own human body. As a result He has brought you into the very presence of God and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him **without a single fault.**"

What more can be said? This is an unmatched standing and position! There is so much more to know, seek, feel, and think about this great truth! There is so much more to imagine; more than we can comprehend; more than any thought we have ever had!

Begin exploring the endless treasures in Christ – there is so much more! The discoveries, thrills, and understanding will never be exhausted! And think of this:

"...For this is the secret: Christ lives in you."  
COLOSSIANS 1:27 NLT

Now that needs exploration. In a thousand years from now, let's compare notes!

Seeking so much more,



Mark T. O'Farrell, D.D., President of Trinity College of Florida



# THE CONNECTION

Trinity College of Florida

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## THE CONNECTION

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

### Blinders

*H*ave you ever wondered what a horse thinks when his rider removes his blinders? Blinders are those rectangular black panels which are part of the horse's bridle. Blinders are used by equestrians to focus the horse's attention on the task before him. Blinders are a tool. Without them the horse would become easily distracted and possibly spooked. This uncontrollable chain of events could endanger the health and safety of not only the rider and bystanders but also the horse himself.

I accept and embrace the use of blinders as a method to domesticate horses but have you ever wondered what fills a horse's mind when those blinders are finally taken off? Perhaps, for the first time all day, the horse can finally experience his full range of sight. They no longer suffer from tunnel vision. They no longer are forced to only see what is before them – they can fully and completely use their God given sight to see all their eyes can absorb.

I don't know about you, but I am perplexed when I hear others claim that they've got God figured out. Whether it's a particular church or denomination or political party or 'Christian' business, so many individuals believe they know God and are ready to tell you how you should react. In our western, scientific, technologically advanced, information driven, consumer culture Christians like to do what I call, "Prepackage God." You see, we think we've got God all figured out; therefore, it's easy for us to cram God in box, slap a label on the package and sell Him to others. Rarely, in our instant gratification, fast paced society do we take the time to think about God in terms of His infinite and transcendent nature. In other words, we need to realize God is so much more than what we believe Him to be.

Like the horse wearing blinders, we need to take off our self-imposed blinders and see God for who He is, not what others prepackage Him to be. Imagine reading God's Word without a preconceived filter? Imagine reading each account, warning, parable, principle and promise with an unvarnished and pure motive? Imagine seeing God as so much more!

In this issue of *The CONNECTION*, we explore the powerful truth that God is so much more; that ministry is so much more than what we've come to believe. I traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with Ed and Jan Brandt, alumni who are serving God in unique ways; gaining access to the hearts of others who would shut the door to traditional vocational ministers. Dr. David Benedict, our new Academic Dean, reminds us that an education at Trinity College of Florida is so much more than lessons in theology or history of the Christian faith; it's an all-encompassing answer for the Christian seeking to change the world. Finally, in *The Last Word*, David Dupere, PsyD helps us embrace the future by reminding us we need to leave our comfortable 'ghettos' to experience positive growth.

You might need some help taking off your blinders, but get ready for a powerful experience in seeing that when it comes to our God, there is So Much More!



Kevin D. O'Farrell, Editor



# TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA

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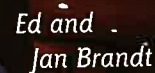


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Ed and  
Jan Brandt

# SO MUCH *More*

by Kevin D. O'Farrell

*W*hat would people think? What would they say? Is he burned out? Did he mess up? Why can't he handle the job? When Ed Brandt prepared to leave the traditional vocational ministry, he was faced with these questions. No one knows what others' perceptions of such a move are but the potential answers haunt anyone contemplating or making a transition from vocational ministry to a new occupation.

By the world's measurements, Ed was a successful minister. Having served for a decade as the senior pastor at a major metropolitan church in the Washington D.C. area, Ed had seen the church grow from a Sunday attendance of 60 congregants to over 1,200. Fifteen full-time staff members served under Ed's direction and the church was doing well. But God was getting ready to uproot Ed and his wife, Jan, and plant them in a new field to build His Kingdom.

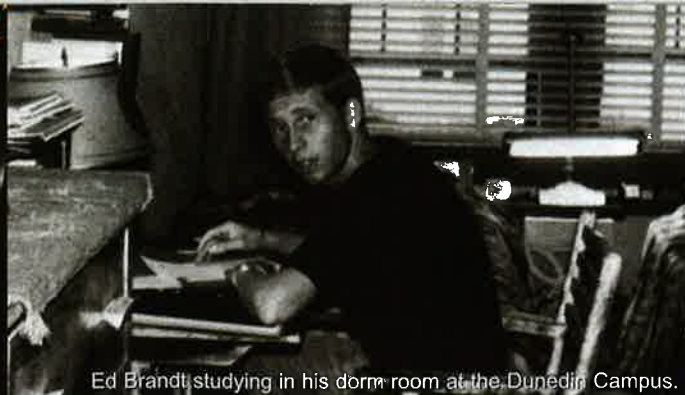
## *Walls & Bridges*

Those who serve in the traditional vocational ministry can attest to the perceived wall which seems to exist between them and those to whom they attempt to show God's grace. The idea that pastors are paid to talk about God just as doctors are paid to practice medicine, teachers are paid to educate students, and auto mechanics are paid to repair cars create frustrating labels. Those labels have a way of defining and separating people and in some ways dehumanizing the individual. Ed felt this maddening phenomenon in his own life. "As much as I love the ministry, I've found you're greatly limited," recounts Ed. For him being a pastor was a blessing but to some he encountered, they could not see past his ordination and often built a wall of separation rather than a bridge of acceptance.

Today, Ed views ministry as an open door. He and Jan have found that when a person makes himself or herself available to God, God will create unexpected and unbelievable opportunities to share His truth in others' lives.

Presently, Ed is the founder and president of E.W. Brandt & Associates, LLC, a Washington D.C. consulting firm specializing in non-profit management, training, and resource development. He has served various organizations as an executive, consultant, grantor, and volunteer. He has been involved with organizations in the faith-based, public, private, and education sectors. He also has worked to establish and administer the Arlington County, Virginia School Teachers Retirement System, served as Superintendent of the Staunton Military Academy, held the position of Senior Vice President of Fazio International (an international resource development firm), and served as the Executive Vice President for Missing Kids International, which is part of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

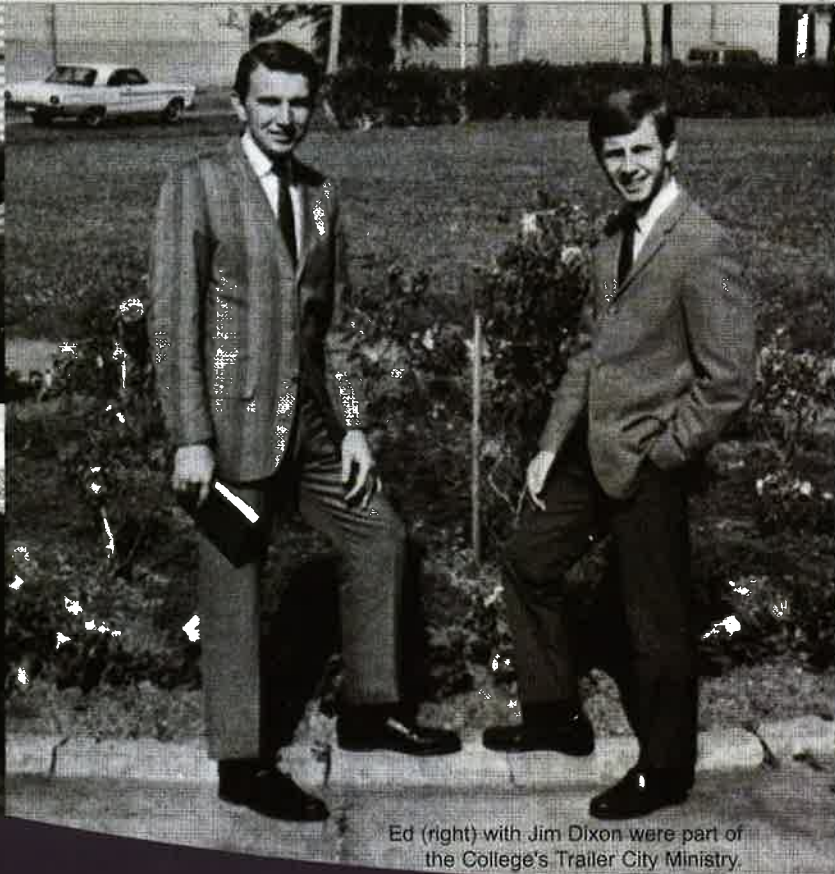




Ed Brandt studying in his dorm room at the Dunedin Campus.



Jan (center) was a member of the College's athletic committee.



Ed (right) with Jim Dixon were part of the College's Trailer City Ministry.

Along with Jan, who is an intellectual property consultant with Finnegan,

Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP, one of the largest international intellectual property law firms, Ed has found countless opportunities to impact others with the message of Christ. He and Jan continually pray, "Lord, you lead us. You open the door and we'll step through it."

One such ministry door opened in New York following a series of meetings with a Jewish CEO. After building a relationship, he began to confide about his personal life. "He was looking for answers," says Ed. "Here was a highly success businessman, practically in tears talking about the hurt and pain he was feeling." Those kinds of encounters are ones only God can arrange. It is highly unlikely that this CEO would have revealed his personal struggles to a pastor, but Ed met him as a colleague with rapport. "The barriers are gone when you meet someone as a peer," claims Ed. "I've had more opportunities to witness to and counsel nonbelievers as a businessman than as a pastor."

### *Foundation & Training*

For all Ed's success, he still remembers his time at Trinity College. As a transfer student from Columbia Bible College (now Columbia International University), Ed was attracted to the College because of its location. "To be quite honest, I came because the school was on the Gulf Coast – it was beautiful," remembers Ed. But while the location might have been the hook, Ed appreciated the dedication and commitment the College had in developing men and women for Christian service. "Everything was so personal. They [the faculty & staff] really cared. They helped you grow; to mature in ministry. I loved it!"

After graduating from the College in 1968 he married his childhood sweetheart, Jan Cosbey (class of 1966) and returned home to the Washington D.C. area to begin his ministry as an associate pastor charged with visitation at a Grace Brethren Church. Later, he attended Harvard Divinity School but still found his training at Trinity College to be superior. "Hands down there is no comparison. The guts and heart of ministry – I learned at Trinity College. There is absolutely no comparison between Harvard and Trinity," touts Ed.

### *Opportunity & Understanding*

As Ed reflects on his life, he's reminded of Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (NKJV). This was a verse often repeated by Dr. Watson while Ed and Jan were students at Trinity College. It reminds him of God's ability to use anyone, anytime, anyway He chooses.

For Ed and Jan, too many Christians have a limited view of ministry. Pastors and missionaries are important, but so are Christians working in all areas of life. "Don't close your mind to what the ministry is," begs Ed: "everything the believer does should be ministry."

God certainly opens multiple doors to maximize the gifts He gives His children. The on-going challenge for followers of Christ is to present themselves to God for Kingdom Building efforts. Like Ed and Jan, once you throw out preconceived ideas and definitions, you will begin to see that serving God in ministry is: so much more.



# Beyond the Ordinary

by Dr. David Benedict

How should a Christian be educated in order to become the person fit for doing good works; a team player ready to meet the needs of this generation? It takes the competent presentation, teaching and study of the Word of God. While I have only been at Trinity College of Florida a short time, I have seen excellence in the areas of instruction and learning. Training at Trinity begins with students receiving a Biblical education that becomes a life changing experience they will never forget.

## Beyond the Mission

The mission of Trinity College of Florida goes beyond the preparation of future pastors and missionaries. Trinity seeks to equip the whole

person to be an ambassador for God wherever He places them in this world. We believe God not only uses full-time Christian workers but also men and women of every profession to build His kingdom.

More Christians are becoming tent-makers – ministers of God in their chosen profession.

Futurists predict that most individuals will have at least five distinctly different vocations in their lifetime. Perhaps only one or two of these vocations will be as a minister or missionary. The others will

be drawn from the myriad of additional professions. Christians will need to be prepared in a holistic way to be God's ambassador. This preparation is the mission of Trinity College of Florida.

## Beyond the Tool

An education at Trinity focuses on the centrality of God's Word and surrounds this core belief with the tools needed to accomplish God's work with excellence. In order to effectively work with people, one must understand how a person's mind works. Psychology is a discipline designed to unlock this information. To help people solve their interpersonal problems, one needs to understand interpersonal dynamics and how to become a problem solver. Counseling skills provide great tools to accomplish this task. To lead small and large organizations, one must understand how individuals, groups and teams function and how to act on this knowledge with integrity. The study of management and ethics are of tremendous help. Trinity provides these tools and more to fully equip God's person to do God's work in this world.

Beyond providing these tools, Trinity guides Christian men and women to become whole people who integrate their lives into one mission and purpose. Trinity encourages this by integrating faith and learning. This integration is essential for both spiritual and intellectual development. What are the values behind religions and philosophies, and how do these compare or contrast to Biblical principles? In grappling with questions of faith and knowledge, we come to a deeper understanding of the primacy of Biblical truth and the interconnectedness of all truth being God's truth.





## Beyond the Classroom

Another major objective at Trinity College of Florida is to ensure that students learn from theory and practice. Theory presented in the classroom is reinforced by applying that theory to real life situations. Students enhance their ability to handle concepts, take exams and write papers as they gain practical experience working in social situations.

At Trinity, most courses have practical components where students implement what they have learned. Moreover, all students participate in Christian service or an internship each semester. Trinity offers a whole array of internship possibilities with many of these opportunities a result of faculty and staff networking. Internships often provide the entrée for students into the fields and jobs they wish to pursue and students routinely return from these experiences having had their lives profoundly changed.

Another way Trinity endeavors to educate the whole person is through the integration of the domestic and international in their thinking. All theory and practice is geared toward application in both domestic and international service. We are concerned that students recognize and prepare themselves for the opportunities presented in a globalized world understanding that their chosen fields of study hold characteristics of internationalization. Through coursework, students at Trinity are prepared for moving between cultures and for the experiences they will have in internships found in urban, suburban, rural and developing environments.



## Beyond the Learning

It is important for our students to see the interdisciplinary nature of the work in which they will ultimately be involved.

True knowledge and its correct application are achieved through the use of information, insights, techniques and theories from many different fields of study. Students' horizons are broadened when they receive an education based squarely on the Word of God and one that uses interdisciplinary techniques to maximize the learning experience.

Through challenging courses, internships, international experiences and other practical experiences, students learn how knowledge must be evaluated in order to provide a complete picture of God's world. Students at Trinity who embrace the integration of faith and learning, theory and practice, domestic and international experience and utilize an interdisciplinary approach to understanding will lead exciting lives in our global society. Because of a strong Biblical base and a passionate vision of Christian service, our graduates are prepared to go beyond the ordinary and become ambassadors for Christ in the role God has called them.

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**Dr. David Benedict** served as a diplomat in the U.S. Department of State from 1980-1989. He holds a Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Pennsylvania and is fluent in Chinese (Mandarin), Spanish and French. Dr. Benedict currently serves as the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Trinity College of Florida.





Over 400 supporters, friends, and alumni of Trinity College of Florida gathered on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay in Tampa, Florida for the College's annual awards banquet. This year's theme was: Answer the Call.

Professor William J. Tsamis received the Wade Academic Service Award, which recognizes a Trinity College of Florida faculty member for outstanding contributions in the areas of teaching. James Perdue was named the 2011 Alumnus of the

Year for his outstanding ministry in Central Florida through Child Evangelism Fellowship. Outgoing Academic Dean, Dr. Jim Lanpher, and his wife, Lisa were presented with the Prokopé Award for their service to the College. Dr. Tom Ash was also recognized for his 19 years of service as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Two days later on May 14, 2011, over 500 guests gathered at the Living Word Church in New Port Richey, Florida to witness

the College's commencement exercises. The graduates were challenged to make their faith, not fear, the driving force in their service to mankind. Dr. Dwayne Mercer, former President of the Florida Baptist Convention and Senior Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Oviedo delivered the commencement address. Family, friends, students, faculty, and staff joined in celebrating the achievements of the class of 2011 and welcomed them as the latest members of the Trinity College of Florida alumni community.



# Answer the Call







Starting from the top, left to right by row: Josh Esparza & Dr. Cox congratulate Emily Miazza on her graduation; Erik Booker and friends enjoy dinner at the banquet; The Commencement Recessional; Tim & Louise Betteli with George Tragos; Richard Bailey with Dr. Mark O'Farrell; Celine Julien & Chris Depoutot with Sera & Andrew Lucas; Charlie & Stephanie Martin with Anna & David Shanks; Mr. & Mrs. Perdue. James was named the 2011 Alumnus of the Year; Friends connecting at the annual banquet.



# Master Plans

by Joel Anderson

Building bridges and making new friends.

The team cleaning the Puente de Esperanza wood workshop.

One thing you learn quickly on a mission trip is flexibility. No matter what you have in mind, God always turns your plans around for the best. You may think you have everything under control, but God gently reminds you that He has everything in His hands. This is something my teammates and I learned very quickly on our mission trip. What we thought was going to be just another ordinary mission trip turned into an amazing experience words can hardly begin to describe.

## Change In Plans

There was no turning back after our airplane departed Miami, Florida heading towards Managua, Nicaragua. We had no idea what was in store for us in Nicaragua. The only thing we could do was to rely on God to get us through. I don't think I've ever prayed more on one specific day than that day. There was a good reason for all of that prayer.

The adventure began when we discovered we could no longer go to our mission location in Nicaragua due to security reasons. This was a big shock to us. Instead of canceling the trip, we were presented with another option.

Our leaders devised a plan to travel to Costa Rica. We would fly into Nicaragua, travel by bus for 10 hours and cross the border into Costa Rica. Ironically, our leaders, while planning for the trip,

did not want another long bus ride similar to the mission trip taken last year in Peru. Right from the start, we were challenged to be flexible.

Before traveling overseas, our team had to agree on going. Personally, I wasn't ready to back down from what sounded to be an awesome opportunity to rely on God. Because God had opened and closed so many doors for me to even be able to go on this trip, I knew God was behind the change of plans. After hearing my fellow team members felt the same way, I got super excited. I could hardly wait to see how God was going to use us for His glory.

## God's Plans

In the midst of the chaos and confusion at the Nicaragua/Costa Rica border, God was at work. Marc Diaz, one of my team members, initiated a conversation with a man by asking the question, "¿Quién es Jesucristo?", which means, "Who is Jesus Christ?" in Spanish. This sparked a conversation between the two, which was translated by Rafael Amador, our leader. As the conversation continued, others listened. A seed was planted in that young man and the others who were near the exchange.

Once we crossed the border, our driver, who was to meet us, was nowhere to be found. We were already tired from walking a mile with all of our luggage and the team supply bags we brought which weighed 50lbs. As we began to worry, we stopped and prayed. After praying, we continued walking down the road. In less than five minutes, we came upon a bus station where we found our driver. This wasn't the first time we saw prayers answered. Prior to leaving Trinity we had to make sure arrangements were in place for our travel to Costa Rica. We began praying that things would settle and that we would be able to go. As soon as we said "Amen," Dan Rumeau, who had been helping us plan the trip, walked out and said we were good to go. At the beginning, we witnessed God's answer to prayer. We all knew that God was in control.

Surfing with the Costa Rican youth.





The Costa Rican Family of God.

## Many Plans

Once we arrived in Jaco, Costa Rica, we began helping *Radical Life Ministries* which is led by David Knapp. We learned that David Knapp and his wife, Pamela, had graduated from Trinity College. It was cool having something in common with the Knapps. We did not waste any time getting into the 'groove' with the locals. The first ministry of which we were able to be a part was the music ministry at *Iglesia Radical* (Radical Church) which was led by the youth of the church. Some of the team members, including myself, were able to help the youth improve their musical talents and teach them new songs.

Our team was also able to serve the church by preaching and organizing the youth and children's service both weeks we were there. Other ministries in which we were able to be involved included a small children's school in the poorest area of Jaco and one in another location. There is a ministry called *Puente de Esperanza* (Bridges of Hope), which is a wood workshop designed to provide young men with a work related alternative. For young women, there was a jewelry making ministry.

Our major ministry in Jaco was discipling the youth of the church. We spent a lot of time with them building relationships and encouraging them in their faith. One of the biggest ways to connect with the youth in Jaco is to surf. Jaco is a major surfing destination in Central America; almost everyone can surf. We were blessed with the opportunity to surf ourselves and it gave us a greater opening to bond deeper with the youth.

It was amazing to see how God used each and every team member's gifts and abilities on the trip. I could go down the list of team members and tell how God used their gifts and abilities. God had a specific reason for each one of us to be there. By the end of the trip, I uncovered the reason why God had me go to Costa Rica.

Background photo: A Costa Rican Sunset.

## Revealed Plans

Aside from the outreach opportunities we had, we also had time to reflect on what God was teaching us. I feel that was just as important as the ministry we did there. Whether sitting in a rocking chair under a mango tree or lying on the beach listening to the crashing waves, I felt closer to God than I ever have. It was so easy to get lost in the beauty of God's creation. God was molding me and shaping me throughout the trip. I believe the reason God put me on this trip was for Him to reveal His ultimate control over my life. Throughout the trip, I was constantly reminded of the verse, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV). God's plans are far better than any plans I could devise for my life. I learned that I needed to completely rely on God for everything and follow Him, no matter where He calls me, even if it is overseas. I realized the Master's plan is far better than any other plan for my life or yours.



Working with young children.

Joel Anderson, a sophomore majoring in management and ethics at Trinity College of Florida, was a part of a nine-person team that spent two weeks in Jaco, Costa Rica.





# IMPACTING OTHERS

## WITH *So Much More*

by Jerry Osborne

Jesus gives a command: *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven"* (Matthew 5:16 AV).

Dr. Watson liked to tell us the influence of Trinity College of Florida was felt around the world. As an incoming freshman, I did not fully know the scope of the influence of Trinity's alumni. I knew the focus of the studies was teaching the Bible and preparing men and women for ministry. Often we think of ministry as a vocation; however, the word ministry is also an action verb. One of the definitions of minister is a person or thing through which something is accomplished. We are all 24/7 ministers if we are practicing the teachings of Jesus.

Paul writes, *"Only let your manner of life, be worthy of the gospel of Christ."* (Philippians 1:27 RSV) and Peter says, *"Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear"* (1 Peter 3:15 AV).

As alumni of Trinity College of Florida, we should live before others in a manner that will prompt people to ask, "Why are you different?" That question gives us the opportunity to share our faith in Jesus Christ. Trinity graduates and students are around the globe impacting the lives of individuals with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

It has been penned, "As believers in and followers of Jesus Christ, we are in the world but not of the world." We may be the only Bible our neighbors and friends ever read. In the framework of the work of the church, others have a certain expectation of our actions. There is so much more for our witness to be effective.

As Christians we need a platform upon which we earn the right to be heard. Our activities away from the church are where others see us, observe

our actions and consider what we represent. The workplace, neighborhood and entertainment and recreation choices are places and decisions where people really see us and decide if what we believe is genuine.

My personal experience in the Christian walk is:

1. Actions speak louder than words
2. People would rather see a sermon than hear one
3. We have to earn the right to be heard

If Christians are to impact the world for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we want those that are outside the covering of Christianity to see our faith in action and ask, "Why are you different?" and "Why do you have hope?"

One of our alumni paints smooth stones, writes a Bible verse on them and gives them away. Another alumnus is an antique car buff who attends car shows and uses a personal tract with fellow car enthusiasts. Still other alumni have become involved with local governments and try to influence political decisions.

Our obligation as a Christian is to be a flame of attraction for the message of Christ. Trinity College of Florida alumni are so much more than their work. Not all are called to be a preacher, pastor, evangelist or missionary on a foreign field, but we are all called to ministry and to so much more.

Jerry Osborn (1980) is the Alumni Association Vice President for Trinity College of Florida



## MILLENNIAL GRADS

On Saturday, August 6, 2011 Trinity College of Florida hosted a gathering of its Millennial Grads. Millennial Grads are alumni whose graduation year is 2000 or higher. This unique initiative works with the Alumni Association to connect recent graduates with each other and the ongoing mission of Trinity College of Florida. Future events are being scheduled. To find out and attend the next Millennial Grad event, contact Steve Phillips at [sphillips@trinitycollege.edu](mailto:sphillips@trinitycollege.edu).





# Alumni UPDATES



## 1950s



**IVAN (1958) & DORIS (SHAMBLIN, 1955) SCHOEN** Ivan and Doris recently completed the translation of the Old Testament into the Wayana Indian language of Suriname and have completed the printing preparation of the manuscript. The printing and binding will be done Tennessee. Ivan and Doris are celebrating 51 years of missionary service. [ischoen@stx.rr.com](mailto:ischoen@stx.rr.com)



**JIM (1965) & VI (FAUST, 1965) WEISS** Jim and Vi are retired in North Augusta, SC. Though retired, they both are very active in ministry in their church, helping with VBS. Jim also leads his church's Men's Ministry.

## 1960s



**BRUCE (1962) & JENNY TAYLOR** Bruce has been a Methodist minister for 45 years in North Carolina. Though retired, he still remains very active in discipleship and other affairs in the Methodist denomination. Bruce and Jenny celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June.



**BILL (1964) & NANCY (1962, DONAHUE) KLINE** Bill and Nancy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year.



**MILTON (1964) & JOYCE (FILLMORE, 1961) LAMBERTSON** Milt and Joyce celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary celebration this year. [mjlambertson@juno.com](mailto:mjlambertson@juno.com)



**DON & CHERYL (JOHANNES) RASMUSSEN (1966)** Don and Cheryl are founders and directors of Missionary Companion Ministries, based in Fayetteville, NC. They have been involved in church planting in Colombia, South America since 1969 and established the country's first Christian drug rehabilitation program. They now spend most of their time ministering to pastors, church leaders and missionaries through MCM. [don@mymcm.org](mailto:don@mymcm.org)



**DAN (1966) & JANIE (WILLIAMS, 1964) ROSS** Dan & Janie reside in Lawrenceville, GA where they are very involved in their local church.



**PAUL (1966) & PAM RASMUSSEN** Paul and Pam continue to serve the Lord in Gospel ministry with New Tribes Mission. This year Paul taught at the Baptist Bible College of Zambia, where his son is vice president. Paul is pictured with one of the college students. [pam\\_rasmussen@ntm.org](mailto:pam_rasmussen@ntm.org)

*cont'd...*

## FALL ALUMNI PICNIC

November 5, 2011 is the date for the Alumni Association's Friends & Family fall picnic at John B. Chestnut Park, 2200 East Lake Rd., Palm Harbor, FL 34685 (11:00am-2:00pm). Join the Alumni Association for FREE hamburgers and hotdogs and be sure to bring a dish to share. To attend, RSVP to Alumni Association Secretary-Treasurer Saralyn Duarte at [saralynduarte@yahoo.com](mailto:saralynduarte@yahoo.com).







# Alumni



## GARY (1967) & DIANE BROOKS

Gary is pastor of the Manatee RV Park Community Church in Florida. He is also involved in training pastors and church workers in Queretero, Mexico. Both he and Diane are involved in outreach to the Latino community in Ellenton and later this year, Diane is traveling to Guatemala on a mission trip. [gcdmb@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:gcdmb@tampabay.rr.com)



## MARY JANE (ABBOTT, 1968) AMES

Mary Jane resides in West Paris, Maine and continues to be involved in friendship evangelism in her community. She is enjoying many ministry opportunities, as well as, her eight very special grandchildren. [maryjaneames@oxfordnetworks.net](mailto:maryjaneames@oxfordnetworks.net)

## 1970s



## R. S. HARRELL (ATTD. 1974)

Roy Scott led his sixth team to western Uganda this year for a two-week mission to provide ministry "tools" for unschooled and untrained indigenous pastors and church leaders. Around 90 pastors and about 130 Christian women attended the two simultaneous conferences. The participants came from Uganda, Rwanda, Congo and Sudan. [cbc@tds.net](mailto:cbc@tds.net)



## RAY (1976) & HARRIET SCOTT

After 35 years in the ministry, Ray retired due to health concerns. Les Harris, Alumni Association President, was present for the retirement ceremony at First Baptist Church of Archer, FL. Ray is still active in pulpits supply for churches. [scott699294@bellsouth.net](mailto:scott699294@bellsouth.net)



**RANDY (1976) & JACQUELINE (RICKETT, ATTD. 1973) WALLACE** Randy is the founder and director of Mustard Seeds & Mountains ([mustardseeds.org](http://mustardseeds.org)), a nonprofit which seeks to see the reign of God established in the lives of people, families and communities throughout His world. The ministry is located in Northfork, West Virginia. [mustseed@mustardseeds.org](mailto:mustseed@mustardseeds.org)

## 1980s



**DALE (ATTD. 1986) & CAREN (HALL, 1986) STOCKS** Caren is currently pursuing her master's degree in special education with an emphasis in reading. Dale & Caren currently reside in Sarasota, FL. [tcaren8563@msn.com](mailto:tcaren8563@msn.com)

## 1990s



**JAMES (1991) AND LORRAINE (SKELLY, 1993) YORK** While on furlough in the U.S., Jim and Lorraine met with friends and supporters including fellow Trinity Graduates Todd Boyle, David & Sue Daniels, Fran Rice and Dr. Gary Williams. Jim and Lorraine work with Operation Mobilization to reach the un-churched in London, England. [yorks4him@yahoo.com](mailto:yorks4him@yahoo.com)

## JOHN & JAN "FOREST" (DUNBAR, ATTD. 1992) REYNOLDS

John and Forest continue to work with youth and adults helping them understand how fossils support the Biblical creation account. Together they have turned their farm into a sanctuary to preserve the rustic nature of God's creation. They belong to Peace River Baptist in Punta Gorda, FL where they work with children's ministries. [forestreynolds@yahoo.com](mailto:forestreynolds@yahoo.com)

## 2000s



## KEITH (2001) & LINDA JOHNS

Keith has joined the faculty of the Baptist College of Florida located in Graceville, Florida where he will be developing a Fine Art Department. He is also pursuing a MFA from the Academy of Art University. [kevin@kevinglenn.net](mailto:kevin@kevinglenn.net)



## ADRIAN "A.D." DAISLEY (2002)

A.D. is the executive director of Créatre, a Christian non-profit organization in Orlando, FL incorporating the arts ([www.creatre.org](http://www.creatre.org)). Créatre was a 2011 Disney Grant Recipient for its work with young people and

the arts. Recently he has partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida to offer instruction in painting, poetry, songwriting & recording, guitar and African percussion for local youth. [eyewitness24@hotmail.com](mailto:eyewitness24@hotmail.com)



## TOMMY (2002) & NIKKI PARK

Tommy and Nikki welcomed the birth of their son, Asher Thomas Park, on June 22, 2011. Tommy is the RUF Campus Minister at the University of North Florida. He and Nikki also have a daughter, Naphtili. [tpark@ruf.org](mailto:tpark@ruf.org)



## TIMOTHY (2005) & HEATHER MAGILL

Alyssa Guinevere Magill, Timothy and Heather's daughter, was born May 5, 2011. Alyssa joins 'big brother' Samuel. Timothy is currently pursuing a M.A. in English at Salem State University. [juriah\\_exile@yahoo.com](mailto:juriah_exile@yahoo.com)



# UPDATES



**JOE & AMANDA (PHILLIPS) ALLOTTA** (2006) Joe and Amanda celebrated the birth of their daughter, Sicily Mae. She was born February 15, 2011.  
allotta.amanda@gmail.com

## KEN BAKER (2009)

Ken is a missionary appointee with World Team to the UK. He will be working with immigrants to the UK who are gatekeepers with those in their home country. <http://abondservant.com> ken.baker83@verizon.net



**MATT (2011) & RACHEL (CASTELAO, 2009) NOBLE** Matt and Rachel were married on March 5, 2011. Together they serve at the First Baptist Church of Wesley Chapel where Matt is the Pastor of Young Adult Ministries. Rachel, after working with children with psychological disorders has recently joined the staff at Trinity College of

Florida in admissions. [rachel.noble@trinitycollege.edu](mailto:rachel.noble@trinitycollege.edu)

## HOME *Goings*

### Alumni

**David R. Sexsmith (1967)**  
July 9, 2010

**Nathan R. Dye (1982)**  
May 2, 2011

**Jessie Peacock (1936)**  
September 8, 2010

**Janet Forbes Simmons**  
(attd. 1969)  
June 4, 2011

**Robert L. Breter (1958)**  
October 16, 2010

### Friends

**Donald R. Hawblitzel**  
(1956)  
March 20, 2011

**Abraham R. Brown,**  
*Trustee*  
September 11, 2010

**Pamela J. Izon (1975)**  
April 24, 2011

**Samuel G. Ferrell, Trustee**  
June 30, 2011



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# When Little is *So Much More*

by Charlie Martin

*I* remember well a little chorus that spoke to my heart as a youth. The words of the song went like this:

*Little is much, when God is in it*

*Labor not for wealth or fame*

*There's a prize and you can win it*

*When you go in Jesus' name.*

The same could be said about "when you give in Jesus' name". I have been amazed at how God will stretch money given to Godly causes. Just as Jesus blessed the lunch of a small child and used it to feed the multitude of 5,000 men plus women and children, so God has done with the gifts given to Trinity College of Florida. We often wish our gifts were larger amounts; however, we can rejoice in the power of God that multiplies every gift given. After Jesus fed the multitudes with the five loaves and two fish, He told His disciples to collect the leftovers. They filled twelve baskets with the fragments that remained. How awesome to demonstrate that the Lord Jesus Christ, who created all things, would care about the leftovers from this simple meal. Ephesians 3:20 speaks of Christ's power, "Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think...". He blesses every obedient act, service, ministry, and gift that is given. He will always provide in every gift, so much more.

Recently, I met and spoke with some of our students who had benefited from scholarships provided by gifts to Trinity College of Florida. These young people are so committed to serving Christ. They were extremely grateful for what had been given and were looking forward to their own ministries where they too could do so much more because of the generosity of those who had given.

*I thank the Lord for those scholarships and for the couple who provided them. They told me of the joy they received because they love what Trinity College of Florida is doing around the world in reaching people with the gospel.*

*I thank the Lord for one of our supporters, who loves to ask me how things are going at Trinity College of Florida. He was led to faith in Christ years ago by a Trinity graduate who visited him in the hospital. He considers a gift to Trinity College of Florida one that does so much more.*

- *A gift to Trinity will enable us to meet the ongoing needs.*
- *A gift to Trinity encourages not only our students, but also the faculty, staff, administration and alumni who love the Lord.*
- *A gift to Trinity does **so much more** by impacting others with the message and hope of Christ!*

Your gift literally increases the megaphone of Christ! No matter the size, your gift can powerfully impact others! I am always happy to hear from folks wanting to know how they can help with the work at Trinity. You can be greatly used of God to help us achieve our tasks, accomplish our goals, reach new heights, fulfill our mission and better serve the Lord. We need your help to pursue the vision and to financially invest in the cause we passionately promote. At Trinity College of Florida, every gift will be used in doing **so much more**.

Here at Trinity, The Office of Advancement is able to help answer your questions about joining the work at the College. Making a gift through Trinity College of Florida is easy and can even be accomplished through your estate planner, tax attorney, or local bank. You can make a difference in the lives of students who seek to become 21st century transformational leaders for Christ. Your gift can do **so much more**!

*Charlie Martin (1967) is the Vice President for Advancement at Trinity College of Florida.*



TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA  
*The Office of Advancement*  
727.376.6911 | [cmartin@trinitycollege.edu](mailto:cmartin@trinitycollege.edu)



## From Ghettos to *Growth*

*H*ave you ever wondered why making certain changes in your life is so difficult, even when the change might move you out of a bad situation and into a better one? It is somewhat embarrassing and revealing of our true nature when we dig in and resist change even when we believe that God has ordained the change. The Bible is replete with examples of people who resisted God's challenge to make changes in their lives, only to suffer the loss of significant opportunities and blessings. In reality, everyone has had trouble embracing change at some time in his or her life. It might be useful to remember that growth, which is central to life, is impossible without change. Growth, in fact, is just another way of identifying healthy and constructive change. The fact that change is inevitable at certain junctures in our lives should move us to understand what makes change so personally difficult for us, as well as, to understand how to break free from the fearful or irrational thinking that often paralyzes us. Without this personal evaluation, we are in danger of missing out on God's plan to bring exciting change into our lives.

### *Dangerous Ghettos*

I have said many times in counseling sessions that we, as humans, often prefer to remain safely in our "ghettos" rather than face the fearful uncertainty of change, suggesting that we still find emotional security in the very settings about which we complain. A social worker once told me of an older woman who was given a new house by a charity group, after living alone in a rundown house for many years. The social worker returned a few months later to check on the woman in her new house. She was surprised to find that the woman had moved back into her old house because it felt safer and more secure than her new house. Even old undesirable situations can feel familiar, like "home," and can be oddly secure and snug for us. Ironically, and sometimes tragically, we find security in whatever situation or circumstance we are accustomed to experiencing. If we do not give ourselves permission to question our thinking about certain experiences of security, then we will be prevented from growing in ways that are healthy.

### *Fear*

Fear is probably the single greatest inhibitor of healthy change that we face. While fearfulness that is realistic can prevent us from getting hurt, most fears that paralyze us are actually unrealistic, and even irrational. If our fears are not based in reality, then we will need to confront them with truth. If we fail to realize that our fears are unrealistic or irrational, then confronting them will seem unnecessary. This predicament may leave us unknowingly paralyzed and, therefore, unwilling to venture into whatever the "dangerous" arena might be. In contrast, II Timothy 1:7 teaches that fear is not to be characteristic of the Christian, primarily because fear is often not based upon truth, in particular, the truth about

who God is. Talking about our fears with a wise and trusted person will help to reveal the untruthful and unrealistic nature of our fears, and afford us the opportunity to correct them. Sometimes, just verbalizing our fears to someone will immediately reveal to us how ridiculous our thinking sounds, before the other person responds.

### *Loss*

The desire to avoid loss of any kind is a normal human trait. Unfortunately, such avoidance may also prevent us from accepting healthy change in our lives, especially if that change involves experiences of loss. There are times when we feel pressured to change from a circumstance or situation that is very comfortable and valuable to us. I have personally known many students who have passed up the opportunity to attend college, simply because they would not let go of the security and enjoyment of their hometown and family relationships. Leaving the circumstances we enjoy and the people we love requires that we be able to effectively grieve our losses, much as we grieve the loss of a loved one. Healthy grieving involves being sad about our loss while simultaneously embracing the potential that our future offers.

### *False Guilt*

Sometimes, false guilt about abandoning our obligations and relationships will paralyze us. Many of us feel an unrealistic sense of responsibility and importance in the lives of people, in ministry positions and jobs, and in roles through which people have come to depend upon our support and service. We actually feel guilty when we think about abandoning our roles, but have actually done nothing of which to feel guilty. Again, sharing this dilemma with a wise and trusted friend or mentor who can bring objectivity and truth can help to free us from any false sense of responsibility or exaggerated sense of importance.

### *Embracing Growth*

Accepting change in our lives is often difficult and requires not only that we have a healthy desire for growth, but also that we have a large view of God. After all, trusting God to see us through all of the challenges that come with change is difficult when our view of Him is that He is small, unreliable, or disconnected. God declares in Jeremiah 29:11 that he knows the plans he has for us, plans to prosper us and not to harm us, plans to give us hope and a future.

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David Dupere, PsyD is a licensed psychologist in Ocala, Florida and a member of Trinity College of Florida's President's Council. Dr. Dupere specializes in marriage and family therapy and works extensively with individuals who are experiencing depression and anxiety.





mo·men·tum: ·noun. speed of movement; the force gained by a series of events

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Check-in (7 am)

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Trinity 101 Q&A Session

Chapel Experience

BBQ Lunch

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