

Student Ministry Matters Workers Retreat 2023

By Dan Carson, Director

This year's retreat is shaping up to be a great one. I hope you will consider join us on Sept. 16 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for a day of training and refreshment as we meet for our sixth annual event at Central Baptist College in Conway. Our featured speaker is Dr. Timothy Knight of Anderson University in South Carolina and Nathan Dodson will be leading our worship. Dr. Jonathan Cofer, Dr. Ben South and Angelyn McMurray will be leading breakout groups. Our goody bags this year include gifts from DaySpring, the Good Book Company, Student Ministry Matters, Lifeway and others. Lunch is included, and we will have some snacks and coffee. You can register at SMWR2023.eventbrite.com.

We do our best to keep the cost down and provide help for those that want to join us. College, university and seminary students pay only \$20, and CBC students and staff pay only \$15. While not specifically designed for high school students, you may have a high schooler interested in ministry. They will pay only \$20 for their registration. Normal registration is \$30, plus online fees, and includes a t-shirt, lunch, snacks and, for the first 100 registered, a great goody bag. Anyone that wants to guarantee that they get a shirt will need to register by Aug. 27.

If you have any questions about our event, feel free to contact me at bmayouthdepartment@gmail.com.



Our Featured Speaker

Dr. Tim McKnight is a pastor, professor, author and president of Kingdom Leader, LLC, a ministry that seeks to help Christ followers make a kingdom impact in every aspect of their lives. He is a very active speaker and writer.

Tim is the pastor of Mosaic Church of Anderson, a multi-ethnic multi-generational church plant launching in Anderson, S.C. He's preached for churches and youth groups around the country, serving churches in West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina and South Carolina as senior pastor, associate pastor and youth pastor. Tim was also an infantry chaplain in the United States Army Kentucky National Guard, deploying on Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom (Europe) in 2001-2002.

He serves as associate professor of youth ministry and missions at the Clamp Divinity School at Anderson University. He is also the director of the Global Center for Youth Ministry there. His goal in Christian higher education is to equip Christ followers to engage the next generation and unreached people groups with the gospel.

Tim has written/edited three books and contributed chapters in various other works. His book, *Engaging Generation Z: Raising the Bar in Youth Ministry*, launched in January 2021 and made the number one new release in the Youth Christian Ministry category on Amazon. He is the editor and contributing author of a youth ministry textbook released in 2022 entitled *Navigating Student Ministry*. Tim also wrote *No Better Gospel*, a book that focuses on the theology and methodology of evangelism of George Whitefield.

His hobbies include shooting and martial arts. He is an NRA certified pistol instructor and a martial arts instructor, holding a black belt in Kenpo Karate/Jujitsu. Tim lives in Anderson, S.C. with his wife, four children and his Siberian Husky/German Shepherd "Jackson." In episode 129 of our podcast, we talked with Dr. McKnight about Engaging Generation Z.

Our Breakout Leaders

• **Partnering with Parents with Dr. Jonathan Cofer** — Jonathan has been serving Antioch Baptist Church in Conway since May of 2021. He recently received his Doctor of Educational Ministry from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with a concentration in Family Ministries. Jonathan is married to Meagan, and they have three children, Maci, Maddi and Jonah. They have two dogs completing their family, named Annabelle and Petunia. During his spare time, he loves to exercise on a regular basis and spend time with his family. "Dr. Cofe" has been on our podcast twice. Check out our conversations in episode 117 and episode 153.

• **Understanding Human Trafficking with Angelyn McMurray** — Angelyn was born and raised in New Jersey, but now lives in Arkansas with her husband and three children. She attended Rutgers University, where she earned both a Bachelor of Arts and a Juris Doctorate. While working to lay a foundation for a successful career in the law, her eyes became open to the evil of human trafficking. Faced with that knowledge, she launched We Are Free to raise awareness and provide much needed comprehensive after-care to survivors of human trafficking. We Are Free is a faith-based ministry with a triune mission to combat human trafficking through education, empowerment and the ultimate goal of eradication. We sat down and talked with Angelyn about trafficking and her ministry in episode 166 of the Student Ministry Matters Podcast.

• **Surviving in the Second Chair with Dr. Ben South** — Dr. Ben South has served as an associate pastor at Central Baptist Church in Conway for over 20 years. He is a graduate of Central Baptist College and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He serves as an adjunct professor at CBC and hosts the Chair 2 Leaders podcast. He and his wife, Amy are the proud parents of Connor, Claire, Christopher and Caroline. We talked with Dr. South on episode 61 of our podcast.



DR. JONATHAN COFER
BREAK-OUT LEADER



ANGELYN MCMURRAY
BREAK-OUT LEADER



DR. BEN SOUTH
BREAK-OUT LEADER



- Register for the Student Ministry Matters Workers Retreat at SMWR2023.eventbrite.com.
- Check out the Student Ministry Matters podcast at studentministrymatters.podbean.com or through most major podcasting platforms.
- Join the Student Ministry Matters Community on Facebook at Facebook.com/groups/StudentMinistryMattersCommunity.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 | 09.00-4.00

WWW.STUDENTMINISTRYMATTERS.COM
CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE, 1501 COLLEGE AVE., CONWAY, AR



72 years (1951-2023) of sharing the gospel across ARkansas and beyond.
Our heARtbeat is to see lives changed for the glory of God as we
spread the gospel by planting new churches in AREas where
people need to be connected to Jesus through a community of faith.



Changed Lives

By Ruben Isturiz, Missionary Pastor • Misión Ebenezer, West Little Rock

During the planting of a new church, week after week we see the numbers in attendance, giving etc. But a new work is more than numbers, it is lives changed.

Philippians 1:6 tells us, *"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Christ Jesus."* I see this verse fulfilled month after month at Ebenezer. An example of this is the life of Daniel Pulgar and Evelyn Florez, a couple from Maracaibo, Venezuela.

Due to the political and economic situation in Venezuela, they left for Colombia, Evelyn with her seven-year-old daughter, Valentina and Daniel alone. Although they are from the same city, Daniel and Evelyn met while in Colombia. It is not easy for anyone to emigrate, but they came from Colombia to the USA. It was a difficult journey in their escape from socialism.

I met them last year, and they told me how hard their journey was. They came in search of freedom. In the first conversation we had, they told me they wanted to straighten out their lives and seek the things of God. They surrendered their lives to Christ and were baptized this past July 4. Evelyn is pregnant with a baby girl, and now they want to get married and put their lives in God's hands. They left a country fleeing from dictatorship and found not only freedom from the socialist regime but freedom in Christ.

Only Christ can change a life, I see it in the lives of these young people. Now they are making decisions that go with a change of mind to the mind of Christ. To God be the glory!



The Beauty of the Family of God

By Roberto Marcelletti, Missionary Pastor • Faith Chapel, Flippin

On April 9, Ángeles Ruiz visited us. She is a Mexican woman from Guadalajara, who was living a hard trial, a deep sadness, with a broken heart for the death of her husband at the end of November 2022. She was a Catholic woman for more than 70 years who had come from her country more than 40 years ago alone with her husband. All her children live in Mexico, so the pain and loneliness overwhelmed her because of the hard test she was living.

When she was invited by our sister, Iris Jiménez, she visited us that Sunday. It was the first time she visited a church other than the Catholic Church. By the grace of God, the Lord called her to repentance that day, and she gave her life to Christ. Since that day, she has not missed a meeting. She is the first to arrive, and she does not miss our groups of Grace in the homes. She has many questions and a hunger to learn. It is a great testimony for all to see her at her age with so much desire to know and learn from her Lord. The Lord has been consoling her, helping her with the pain of losing her husband. She testifies that she not only feels free and renewed with new strength every day to face what the Lord has in her way, but she has achieved in Sovereign Grace a family that has filled the emptiness and provided the love she needed in her life.

She recently shared her testimony and allowed us to reflect on the value of God's family for us as Christians. When her husband died and her children are in Mexico, the natural thing was that she would return to Mexico. But God's work has been so beautiful through our church that she has decided to stay with us in love. The friendship and accompaniment we have given her in the midst of her hard trial has been so beautiful that she says that is what she wants and needs now in her life. She told us that with eyes full of tears.



Access to God Through Jesus

Juan Carlos Posadas, Missionary Pastor • Misión Creciendo en Cristo, N. Little Rock

Brenda, 12, was invited to VBS for the second time in a row by a sister from the church. On Thursday during Bible class, she asked if it was wrong to light candles to saints and pray to the Virgin Mary — two questions she had asked her mother and she still needed to clarify in her mind.

The teacher, Sayra, explained that Mary, the mother of Jesus, deserves our respect, but that according to the Bible, there was only one mediator between God and man, and that is Mary’s son, Jesus. Neither the saints nor Mary could intercede for her before God. Also, according to Isa. 59:2, our sin caused God not to listen to our requests.

Brenda’s face showed concern and she said, “I need to ask God for my mom’s problems, we have a baby at home, my dad abandoned us and mom has no money.”

Brenda was worried because she needed to communicate with God to ask for help for her mother. She perfectly understood the verse, but she knew that God would not listen to her prayer and that neither the saints nor the Virgin Mary could help her.

Sayra let her know that God loves us in such a way that He sent His Son so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. She also explained that, even though we are sinners, Christ died for us, and if we believe that Jesus paid for our sin with His death on the cross and receive Him as our Lord and Savior, God gives us the power to become His children and have direct access to Him.

That night, this 12-year-old girl perfectly understood the gospel and decided to place her faith in Christ, ask Him for forgiveness for her sins and receive Him as her Lord and her Savior. She wanted so badly to have a relationship with God, and she wanted to have access to God so she could pray for her mom and her little sister.

Thank God for those problems that bring us closer to Him. Thank God because, when we have any need, we can approach His throne of grace, in full certainty of faith, and rest in Him. Thank God that, through this problem, Brenda was able to reach Him.

The church had the opportunity to provide food for the family, diapers for the baby and meet other primary needs in the home. Sayra encouraged Brenda’s mother to continue bringing her daughter to church meetings, which she has been doing up to now. We hope that soon she, too, will be able to accept the invitation to accompany her daughter to church.



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Mustang Message

CBC Celebrates the Legacy of Ms. Garrison By Amy Reed

JOYCE GARRISON DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS



On Feb. 18, CBC celebrated Joyce Nell Garrison by naming the Business Department in her honor. Without Ms. Garrison's influence and her time at CBC, the Business Department might have looked a little different.

At the age of 91, she remembers those days fondly. When she began working on the campus in 1956, she immediately felt like she belonged. "Everybody needed everybody, and everybody was friendly to everybody," she said.

The college looked and felt different back then. The girls lived in Bruce Hall and the boys lived on the third floor of Old Main with the bats. Churches donated the food that was prepared in the cafeteria. The salaries were meager, so they provided campus housing for the instructors. The men wore slacks and shirts, and the women wore dresses. Most of the young people didn't have a car, so it made for a family atmosphere. Students did everything together.

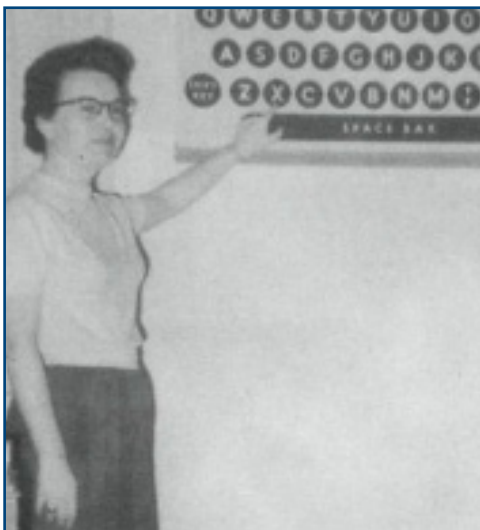
She was working at the shoe factory in Conway when she felt the Lord nudging her to complete her degree. AR Reddin had become President of Central Baptist College and Ms. Garrison attended Central Baptist Church with President Reddin and his family. He asked her to come and work in his office part time while she completed her

degree, and she gladly agreed. She obtained a business degree from UCA. (CBC was a two-year institution at the time.)

During this era, the college had a reputation of being just "a school for preachers." President Reddin wanted to change that. More women began attending the college, and he could see the need for adding other degrees. After graduating with her business degree, he asked Ms. Garrison if she would start the Business Department. She was thrilled and started working on her curriculum while still working as his secretary. In her first three years, she taught only three classes — typewriting, shorthand and accounting. In 1960, she graduated with her master's degree in business, and they continued adding more classes. Over the years, as the school continued growing, she was able to add to the degree and, as the saying goes, the rest is history.

As of today, Business degrees are at the top of the list when it comes to what students are looking for in a career path. CBC has a good variety of business degrees.

Ms. Garrison retired from CBC in 1990. She continued, however, to be involved in the community. In 1992, she ran for a position on the Quorum Court and won. She became the first Republican to hold an office in Faulkner County and served in that capacity for five terms (1992-2002). She was a Discussion Leader in Bible Study Fellowship. She was a member of the Faulkner County Republican Women. She also taught a Sunday School class (SERTRUCHA) at Central Baptist Church. She lives in Stonebridge Senior Living in Conway.



CBC is committed to transforming lives by providing an education that integrates Christian faith and academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment.