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September 2, 2009 Newsletter

Liberty University

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Around the SDR

Liberty University//School of Religion

September 2, 2009

Light Ministries Holds Campaign Meeting

Light Ministries, the short term missions department of the **Center for Global Ministries**, held their 2009-10 campaign promotions meeting in Towns Auditorium on Monday, August 24th at 8. There were close to 2000 students present. Every seat was filled, students were sitting in aisles and on the stage, and there was limited standing room. Doors were held open as students stood and listened from the hallway. Pastor Johnnie Moore cast the vision for the trips and tables were set up around the auditorium where students could get more information from the team leaders of each trip. It is incredible to see the movement God is igniting among our student's hearts for the nations of the world to know the hope, love, and salvation of Christ. We truly believe this can be the last generation to know the term, "unreached people group."



Christian Community Service Update

Over 80 organizations attended the annual **CSER** Registration Fair on August 27, 28, and 31st hosted by the Christian Community Service Office. This was a growth of thirty-five churches and organizations from the previous year. Organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, Concerned Women for America, Habitat for Humanity, National D-Day Memorial,

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

-Matthew 28:19

Dawson McAllister, Salvation Army, Special Olympics, Thomas Road Baptist Church, and Young Life were among the many local and national organizations that were on campus to recruit Liberty University students for their volunteer needs. LU students provided over 234,600 hours of service last year, and are expected to provide more service hours this academic year. The deadline to register for a Christian service is October 5, 2009.



From The Desk of the Dean

The secret to a Christian college is mission, passion, and dedication to Christ. I spoke at the first chapel of Liberty University in September 10, 1971 and said, "We are here to carry out the Great Commission into all the world. Every one of our students must dedicate themselves to be world-changers. Let's win souls, baptize new converts and teach them everything Christ has taught us (Matt. 28:19, 20). Let's go out and capture towns for Christ."

Liberty University continues to explode. In the first year, Jerry Falwell Sr. said would have over 50,000 students. This past year we reached 49,000 we're almost there; 11,300 on-campus students and 38,000 online students. This May we had over 6,000 graduates. Our former students have planted over 200 churches, and we have over 20,000 pastors serving churches. For more from Dr. Towns, visit ElmerTowns.com.

Youth Ministry Summer Overview

The **Center for Church Ministries** was busy this summer. Liberty graduated its first four graduates with a Religion Major and Children's Specialization this past May and currently, there are twenty students enrolled in the Children's Ministry Introduction Course. Children's ministry has become a point of emphasis for many churches and the Center for Church Ministries is working hard to meet this ministry demand. The **Center for Youth Ministries** was also active over the summer months. Thirty-five of our students were enrolled in summer internships. These students typically continue on to finish their Youth Ministries Specialization program. This is very encouraging to see so many students going the direction of vocational youth ministry. The Youth Ministry professors (Vandegriff, Brown, Geukgeuzian) were also active this summer with several different speaking engagements including Student Venture, GoTell, and Summit Ministries. These engagements were great opportunities for ministry as well as promoting Liberty University.



Women's Ministry in Action

Excitement filled the hearts and minds of many **Women's Ministry** students during the summer as they served in the local church, camps, and mission fields as interns. Three young ladies in particular were asked to stay at the church they served in and become full time staff, ministering to the desperate needs of teen girls and women. Although the offices in the Center for Women's Ministry may have been silent over the summer, reports of "women's ministry in action" were heard on a daily basis. Part-time women's



ministry faculty, Mrs. Debbie Beniot and Mrs. Amber Carter, continued to labor over many studies in preparation for doctorate programs. Mrs. Ruth Towns traveled with her husband on several occasions but also spoke at a new church plant in Amherst County, Oasis Church. Although just twelve weeks old, Oasis Church had their first women's retreat with over fifty women in attendance. Mrs. Towns spoke on "Spiritual Gifts for Women." Dr. Monica Rose also shared at the retreat on "The Hidden Beauty of Discretion." Over the summer, Dr. Rose was asked to serve as the church's Women's Ministry Director while still serving on the women's ministry council at Thomas Road Baptist Church. Dr. Rose also shared at "Summit Ministries" camp to female students on "Gender Identity."

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