President Horton
Announces Retirement
Celebrating 60 years of ministry
It is my privilege to give a brief 60-year history of Pensacola Christian College and its related ministries. Beka and I graduated from college in 1951. One year later, in May 1952, we came to Pensacola and started this ministry. We never had long-range goals, only a day or year at a time. Our desire was to do what’s right and serve the Lord with all our heart. We anticipated having a large family, but God did not lead that way. Instead, we have spent our time in God’s work with leadership responsibility. Personal desires have always been subordinated to ministry responsibilities. It amazes us what the Lord has done. We view this ministry as God’s doing.

**Camp o’ the Pines** began in 1953. Since then, over 37,000 children have attended camp, with countless decisions for Christ. In recent years, our summer Sports Center Day Camp, academic camps, and Teen Extreme camps have all had a strong outreach ministry, teaching youth about Christ. This past summer, over 5,000 campers attended our camp programs.

In 1954 Pensacola Christian School had a humble beginning with 35 students in kindergarten through second grade.
When it moved into a new building on Brent Lane, the name changed to 
Pensacola Christian Academy.
Each year, since 1970, over 2,000 students in kindergarten to grade 12 have received their education and been spiritually impacted, many for salvation. Families are also spiritually impacted.

In 1969, our educational clinics began, first the Principals Clinic, then Summer Seminars and Teacher Clinics. About 93,000 Christian school principals and teachers have attended these Clinics. The Academy continues to host these each year.

Christian schools in the U.S. and other countries attend Regional Clinics and In-Service Seminars. Approximately 100,000 educators have attended these Clinics in past years.


Rejoice in the Lord TV is videotaped in Campus Church. Dr. Mullenix’s messages and the music are on 11 TV stations, plus Daystar, and streamed around the world.

In 1973, Pensacola Christian School published curriculums for Christian schools. Buzz Baker, an administrator at that time, introduced us to a wealthy man in Chicago, who visited our small school. He liked what he saw and financed the printing of several books: little K5 readers, grades 3–8 arithmetic books, and a fifth grade reader, Of America. This motivated us to write other books our students needed.

A Beka Book was the first to publish Christian textbooks. Since my wife Beka guided the textbooks, Buzz Baker named it A Beka Book.

Today, 10,288 Christian schools and daycares and over 105,000 homeschoolers use A Beka books. This year, around 730,000 students are learning from A Beka Book. We anticipate 40,000 students on the virtual A Beka Academy this year.
The **Campus Church** began summer 1974, before the first semester of Pensacola Christian College. The Campus Church continues as a strong spiritual influence for students, faculty, and community folk. God has given us good pastors. We are grateful for Pastor Denis McBride's messages, which are greatly used by God.

In 2003, **Joyful Life Sunday School** literature was first published for adults through nursery. Over 2,000 churches use these materials.

College began fall 1974 with 100 students. This fall, over **3,800 students** enrolled in undergraduate, graduate, and seminary areas. Today, over 16,600 PCC grads serve around the world.

The goal of this ministry has always been to glorify God by teaching and reaching others for Christ. God has given us a beautiful College campus and Academy (kdg. to grade 12) and Camp o’ the Pines facility.

**Hortons’ Retirement**

My wife Beka and I never thought about retiring from this ministry until late last spring. Then, the Lord began to confirm to us it was His time for us to retire. We asked God to lead regarding who the next President should be.
At the Nov. 2011 board meeting, I told the Board of Directors we were planning to retire after the May 2012 College Convocation, and I felt Dr. Troy Shoemaker had the best qualifications to be the next President. Since Beka and I have grown up with it over the years and the heavy responsibility of a large, diverse ministry, the next President needs to be able to continue what it is today.

As a 1989 PCC graduate, he started when students walked across the railroad tracks to go to church and chapel. He has served 22 years in this ministry, first teaching Academy upper-level science and math for 3 years.

When Dr. Petermeyer, Principal for grades 7–12, retired, she recommended Dr. Shoemaker as her replacement.

In 1994, he received an education specialist degree from the University of West Florida, and 2007, a doctorate of education from PCC.

Three yrs. ago he came to the College as Academic Vice President, overseeing the academic areas and continued to oversee the Academy. He is very capable in all areas and knows how to select leaders. Recently, he led our PCC faculty to successfully move the accreditation process along.

Dr. Shoemaker has the character to do what’s right and make tough decisions that top leaders make. He is 45 years old, an ideal time to take on larger responsibilities. I was that age when Pensacola Christian College began.

The Board of Directors unanimously voted for Dr. Shoemaker to be the next President. His presidency begins after PCC’s May Convocation.

Dr. Shoemaker’s Response – PCC Chapel Feb. 7, 2012

Dr. and Mrs. Horton and Board Members, I extend my gratitude for the honor to serve as the next President. Students, you are here at a historic time in the life of our College. You have had the privilege to know the founders and be blessed by their leadership. Dr. and Mrs. Horton have provided a clear sense of purpose and direction. Because their leadership has been based on biblical principles, God has richly blessed this place.

This is an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to preserve and strengthen the foundational principles on which this College has been built.
When the Founding Fathers created a government for our Republic, they took pains to ensure that it was such a one as would keep powers of various governmental branches in check via the powers of other branches. In other words, each of the three branches—executive, legislative, and judicial—would not only have distinct roles to play in governance, but would also serve as a check on the powers of the other two branches at any given time.

The Obama administration’s obsession with appointing a wide range of “czars” flies in the face of this construct and is dangerous to our form of government.

Under the system America’s founders created, a piece of legislation passed by Congress and signed into law by the president, for example, can be overturned (or disallowed) by the Supreme Court if said court finds the law unconstitutional. On the other hand, if a president has a hankering for legislation that Congress believes to be unconstitutional, House members can balk at the idea and refuse to take up the legislation in the first place, thus avoiding a constitutional train-wreck by deciding not to board the train to begin with.

Therefore, while the powers of our government can truly be said to rest with the American people, who elect presidents, congressional members, and senators—the latter of which are charged with confirming or rejecting judicial nominees—the Founding Fathers envisioned this power being delegated by the people to the various agents of the three branches of government (those agents most popularly referred to as the president, congressional members, senators, and jurists).

It is important to note that none of these various agents has original power in and of themselves. Rather, the power resides wholly in the people, and the agents of the government only have such powers which they derive from the citizens, as outlined in the Constitution.

Nowhere in the Constitution will one find even the slightest hint of the office of “Czar,” much less the power of a czar to rule over the American people. Yet the Obama administration is rife with such officeholders, put in place as a way to enlarge the role of the president in the midst of system that was not meant to be enlarged upon in such a way.

For example, President Obama has a health czar: (Nancy-Ann DeParle), an information czar (Vivek Kundra), an intellectual property czar (Victoria Espinel), and an intelligence czar (James Clapper). None of these agents are kept in check by the system our Founders established and which has kept our nation politically solvent for nearly 240 years.

And in addition to these czars, the Obama administration literally has approximately 34 others....

Placing power in the hands of unelected officials who have no explicit constitutional limits on their powers and no congressional oversight on their offices is certainly a recipe for disaster.
Due to web licensing, the article “Abortion: Ultrasounds May Save Life” originally appearing in this space is available only in printed version of Spring 2012 PCC Update.
Founding Father and second American president John Adams forecast just 13 days before signing the Declaration of Independence that we can change our rulers and forms of government many times, but without ethics, morality and religion there would be no lasting liberty. He later emphasized, “Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

Patrick Henry, who before the American Revolution challenged the people to rise up and win their liberty from King George III, declaring, “Give me liberty or give me death!” also preached how the Gospel was so closely tied to our nation’s future: “It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great Nation was founded not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For that reason alone, people of other faiths have been afforded freedom of worship here.”

Thomas Jefferson’s words also rang true in this regard: “God who gave us
life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the mind of the people that these liberties are of the Gift of God?” He added: “[Liberty to worship our Creator is] deemed in other countries incompatible with good government and yet proved by our experience to be its best support.”

And, of course, there was George Washington, our inspirational war-time general and first American president, who also echoed these sound thoughts, preaching, “I am sure that never was a people, who had more reason to acknowledge a Divine inspiration in their affairs, than those of the United States, and I should be pained to believe that they have forgotten…the omnipotence of that God who is alone able to protect them…. True religion affords to the government its surest support. Religion and morality are the essential pillars of civil society…. It is substantially true that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government. The rule, indeed, extends with more or less force to every species of free government. Who that is a sincere friend to it can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?”

So when we do take to the streets… it should not be just to protest government and its failures, but to preach to the American people, in the words of our Founding Fathers, that it does not matter how many times we change rules or forms of government; without ethics, morality and religion we will not have a functioning country. And, indeed that is just what has occurred in a record 236 years since the colonies declared their independence.

We must…stop our corrupt government and its enablers in their tracks peacefully…and rebuild with the vision of our Founding Fathers. This will not be easy. With each successive generation, our nation has grown more corrupt. But we need to make a start and take strong action and do so forcefully as “One Nation Under God,” because the end is otherwise not far off.

Let us once again occupy Washington with God!

Reprinted with permission from WND.com.
The New Atheism is now an established feature of the intellectual landscape of our age. Thinkers such as Richard Dawkins, Daniel Dennett, Christopher Hitchens, and Sam Harris are among the figures who most regularly appear on the front tables of America’s bookstores and the front pages of our newspapers. And, along with their vigorous defense of atheism, we most often find an equally vigorous defense of evolutionary theory. This is no accident.

Atheism has appeared in some form in Western cultures since the midpoint of the last millennium. The word “atheist” did not even exist within the English language until the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. The earliest atheists were most often philosophical and theological skeptics who denied the existence of any personal God. Nevertheless, the God they almost always rejected is the God of the Bible — in other words, a specific rejection of Christianity.

The early atheists...were well-known heretics. Their denials of God and the Christian faith were well-documented and understood. But the early atheists had a huge problem—how could they explain the existence of the Cosmos? Without a clear answer to that question, their arguments for atheism failed to gain much traction....

Every philosophy of life must offer some account of how we and the world around us came to be. The creation myths of ancient cultures and the philosophical speculations of the Greeks serve as evidence of the hunger in the human intellect that takes form as what we now call the question of origins.

For some time, atheists were hard-pressed to offer any coherent answer to that question. Once they ruled God out of the picture, they had virtually no account of creation to offer.

Of course, all that changed with Charles Darwin.

Darwin’s theory of natural selection and the larger dogma of evolution emerged in the nineteenth century as the first coherent alternative to the Bible’s doctrine of Creation....

The Dogma of Darwinism is among the first principles of the worldview offered by the New Atheists. Darwin replaces the Bible as the great explainer of the existence of life in all of its forms. The New Atheists are not merely dependent upon science for their worldview; their worldview amounts to scientism — the belief that modern naturalistic science is the great unifying answer to the most basic questions of human life....

The New Atheists would have no coherent worldview without the Dogma of Darwinism. With it, they intend to malign belief in God and to marginalize Christians and Christian arguments. Thus, we can draw a straight line from the emergence of evolutionary theory to the resurgence of atheism in our times. Never underestimate the power of a bad idea.
On December 6th, in a speech in Geneva marking international Human Rights Day, Secretary of State Clinton called for all nations to embrace the goals of LGBT activism, declaring that “gay rights are human rights, and human rights are gay rights” and that “it is a violation of human rights when governments declare it illegal to be gay, or allow those who harm gay people to go unpunished.”

Unfortunately, her speech, which was hailed by gay activists worldwide, was an…insult to several billion people worldwide.

Mrs. Clinton had the audacity to compare religious or cultural objections to homosexual practice to “the justification offered for violent practices towards women like honor killings, widow burning…” as if the religious and moral objection to men having sex with men is somehow equivalent to the Muslim practice of honor killings or the Hindu practice of burning widows.

“In each of these cases,” she said, “we came to learn that no [religious] practice or tradition trumps the human rights that belong to all of us.” And she said this in our name, as Americans.

She stated that “opinions [on homosexuality] are still evolving,” just as opinions evolved over time with slavery,…if you believe that God made men to be with women, then you are the moral equivalent of a slave trader or a slave owner.

All this…from the lips of our Secretary of State at the same time that President Obama issued a memorandum instructing government officials to “ensure that US diplomacy and foreign assistance promote and protect the human rights of lesbian, gay, and transgender persons” around the world….

As expressed by Uganda’s John Nagenda, a senior adviser to the president, “I don’t like her tone, at all…. I’m amazed she’s not looking to her own country and lecturing them first, before she comes to say these things which she knows are very sensitive issues in so many parts of the world, not least Africa.”

Of course, Mrs. Clinton stated that America still had a way to go on the issue of “gay rights,” but it is sheer arrogance to claim that the religious and moral views of several billion human beings must change….

While our country certainly has been a force for worldwide good in many ways, when it comes to sexual morality we should be hanging our heads in shame, not lecturing others.

Mrs. Clinton’s speech was a source of national embarrassment, not pride.
PCC Students come from Across America
Graduate perspective—

Troy Arwine (’97 Computer Science grad) works for Microsoft as a security consultant in Microsoft Consulting for IT Operations.

“Before coming to Microsoft, I worked in many positions where the Lord prepared me for my current role,” Troy said. “I worked as a programmer for A Beka Book, then as a systems engineer for Dollar General Corporation in Tennessee. I worked as the enterprise division manager for Metro Nashville Government until 2005 when I joined Microsoft.

“The instructors at PCC were crucial to helping me develop the skills I needed to be successful in a career in programming, systems engineering, IT management, support, and consulting. It was not just technical expertise and gifted teaching abilities, but by putting God first and foremost in every aspect of their teaching, they inspired a like passion in me for putting Christ first in my career.”

Concentrations in

- Computer Science and Software Engineering
- Computer Information Systems

Student Perspectives on PCC Academic Programs
Visit PensacolaChristianCollegeBlog.com for full stories.

Justin  History/English double major
“Perhaps my [public school] background makes me appreciate it more, but I truly love the providential approach to academics at Pensacola Christian College. It’s refreshing to learn how the events of the past not only affected our world, but how they specifically fit into the divine plan of our Lord.” —from “We Wear the Purple” on PCC blog

Megan  Speech Education major
“The course Intro to Dramatic Production is a hands-on opportunity to learn about the different aspects of putting on a production. Our class learned how to hang and set lights, build flats for a background, direct, stage manage, advertise, costume, and makeup. It was a wonderful experience!” —from “It is All a Matter of Perspective” on PCC blog
Assistant professor of nursing at Troy University, Dr. Robin Parnell values PCC’s focus on building skills—and individuals.

Nursing grad Dr. Robin Parnell, RN (’84), directs the planning, implementation, and evaluation of nursing courses at Troy University (Montgomery, AL), including classroom and clinical teaching. What she learned from PCC faculty over twenty years ago, she is now passing on to a new generation of prospective nurses. “Throughout my nursing career, I have strived to focus on excellence, integrity, organizational skills, and caring, just as my instructors taught me,” Robin said.

After graduating from PCC and starting a family with her husband, Dr. Parnell went on to earn master’s and doctoral degrees in nursing. She became assistant professor of nursing at Troy University in 2009. “God led me to this position to allow me to be active in my nursing career while being available to my children during the summer and holidays. It has truly been a blessing!” Robin said.

“PCC’s nursing program focused on excellence, integrity, and organizational skills. These three qualities are essential to the practice of nursing and to the world of academia. I’m so thankful these qualities were instilled in our minds from the very beginning of the program until graduation. I appreciate the small classroom setting and the personal, caring attitudes of the instructors. I wasn’t just ‘a number.’ I was a person they truly cared about, and they had my best interest at heart.”

As Dr. Parnell integrates that philosophy and care into her teaching, she finds satisfaction watching her students develop academically and professionally to become nurses who make a difference in others’ lives. “I have had numerous students thank me for treating them with respect and truly caring about them,” Robin said. “I have noticed that no matter the environment in which you reside or work, people appreciate kindness.”

For over 30 years, PCC has trained nurses who are serving in healthcare or medical missions around the globe. Visit PCCinfo.com/Nursing for more information about the program.

Visit PCCinfo.com/Nursing for more information about the program.
You can continue ministry training with the new Distance-Learning Streaming format from Pensacola Theological Seminary. Streaming courses provide a traditional classroom experience without the need to leave your current ministry for full-time enrollment.

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**Master of Ministry**
The Master of Ministry program is designed for those who are successfully engaged in ministry. Course work is structured to be practical with immediate, hands-on application to ministry. Bible content courses provide students with foundational concepts to strengthen their love for God’s Word.

You may earn up to 24 credit hours online toward an M.A. or M.M. degree, with a minimum of 6 credit hours completed in residence.

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Office of Institutional Advancement
Pensacola Christian College
P.O. Box 18000
Pensacola, FL 32523-9160
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PCCinfo.com/PrincipalsClinic

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