

PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE *UPDATE*

Fall 2018 | pcci.edu/Update

A photograph of a campus scene. In the foreground, three flagpoles stand on a grassy area. The leftmost pole flies the United States flag. The middle pole flies the Florida state flag. The rightmost pole flies a blue flag with the Pensacola Christian College seal. Behind the flags is a tall palm tree. In the background, a modern brick building with large windows is visible. The building has a sign that reads "Rebekah Horton LIBRARY". The sky is clear and blue.

MINISTRY
on Campus pg. 2▶

From the **President**

Dr. Troy A. Shoemaker @PresidentPCC



As PCC begins its 45th year, the energy on campus is clearly evident. Students and faculty have returned after the summer break, invigorated from ministry, and their zeal is contagious.

During the summer months, many of our students and faculty served in local churches during their time away. (On pp. 8–9, you can read about ministerial students who interned with seasoned pastors this summer.) Others stayed and served on campus, welcoming campers from across the country and around the world who attended Youth Outreach Ministry summer camps (pp. 2–3).

Other students, led by volunteer faculty members, traveled across the globe on Youth Outreach Ministry summer mission teams. The 12 teams saw much spiritual fruit from their gospel outreach.

When I consider all they've accomplished for God through His power and by His grace, I can only ask: What leads God's people to purposefully abandon their comfort zones and give of themselves to the Lord's work in this way?

The answer, I'm convinced, is found in the words of Jesus Himself: "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (John 9:4).

Only by following the example of Jesus, the light of the world, can our lights shine before men so that God can be glorified.

That's why it's of eternal importance that we prepare and empower our students to influence the world for Christ. While we train and educate students in their areas of study, we are committed to

shaping Christian leaders who graduate ready to exemplify Christ in their future endeavors.

Alumni around the world are doing that faithfully as pastors, home-school moms, missionaries, nurses, engineers, and many other vocations. You can read about some of our alumni who are influencing Christian education (pp. 6–7). As you read, I trust you'll notice what I did: their love for the Lord shines through their teaching, showing their students a glimpse of the Savior.

May we all shine the light of Christ in our personal areas of influence. ■

It's of eternal importance that we prepare and empower our students to influence the world for Christ.



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Connect with Us





▲ For 10 years, Youth Outreach Ministry has held Teen Extreme Youth Camp on PCC's campus.

GIVING BACK

Happy shouts of children ring out in the Sports Center water park on a summer day. Not far away, a group of teens navigate through a secret compartment inside the Escape Room. Just across campus in the Palms Grille, Christian school teachers and pastors take a break from summer sessions and seminars to fellowship with each other over refreshments.

While these may not be typical scenarios on a college campus, they have become the norm at PCC. Rather than letting the facilities sit empty after students return home from college, PCC welcomes children and teens attending Youth Outreach Ministry's (YOM) many camps: Sports Center Day Camp, Teen Extreme Youth Camp, as well as sports and academic camps. Additionally, children attend Camp 'o the Pines overnight camp just north of Pensacola.

Bethel Stone's daughter Ivana has been attending YOM's Sports Center Day Camp for the past few years. She appreciates how well Ivana is taken care of as well as the Christian values she learns each day. "Ivana comes home talking about the fun she's had at camp,"

Bethel said. "She was thrilled when she learned how to ice skate last summer."

Campers like Ivana take full advantage of activities like bowling, miniature golf, ice skating, and air hockey. Most importantly, the children learn biblical truths that will stay with them for years to come.



PCC student **Kevin Ramirez (Jr., NC)**, a Day Camp leader, said, "The thing that makes this camp unique is that we have eighty percent of our campers for the whole summer. We see them the full week for ten weeks straight. We're able to lovingly care for these kids every day and are able to show them the gospel." Some campers have come to trust Christ as

MINISTRY ON CAMPUS

▼ YOM's Elementary Education camp



▼ Pensacola Theological Seminary summer module



Savior through the ministry of Sports Center Day Camp.

Teen Extreme, a week-long youth camp for grades 7–12, kicked off its tenth camping season this June, centering around the theme “Under Construction.” Each new week brought in a different group of young people, with all bringing the same enthusiasm and energy to favorite activities like rock climbing, Wacky Olympics, paintballing, the Escape room, and kayaking at West Campus. The highlight for many was the time spent around God’s word, hearing challenging messages from pastors with a heart for young people.

Dr. Johnny Pope of ChristChurch Baptist Fellowship in Houston, Texas, spoke during the first week and could often be spotted around campus surrounded by a group of teens. He said, “From the minute Teen Extreme 2018 began, I sensed an overpowering witness of the Holy Spirit. I was thrilled with the number of campers consumed with finding God’s will and purpose for their lives. This week we experienced a rendezvous with destiny.”

Summer ministry focuses not only on children and teens but also on providing encouragement to those looking to further their education through graduate classes and educational seminars. Each summer, teachers, pastors, missionaries, and their spouses are challenged and uplifted with new perspectives on timeless truths that they can then take back to their pulpits and classrooms to inspire others.

Dr. Tim Willingham, who teaches music classes during summer sessions, says that these classes are especially



helpful for those in Christian education. “It’s great when you’re in the ministry to come back and get ideas and get refreshed and encouraged. It’s very flexible for those working bit by bit through a degree.”

Over 11,000 campers attended YOM camps this summer. And though the summer passed quickly, we trust the work that God did in each heart and life through the ministries on campus will continue to bear fruit. ■



So thankful that our son trusted the Lord as his personal Savior last night! This is a week that he will definitely remember! We have been praying that the Lord would speak to him this week!”

—Parent (FL)



Part walkway, study spot, meeting area, and outdoor event space, the Varsity Terrace has served many purposes over the last 36 years. To better meet the growing needs of the student body, a new design was needed.

Over the course of the summer, the Varsity Terrace gradually transformed from its well-worn brick surface into a mountain of orange dirt, to a maze of wooden forms and freshly poured concrete, and then finally into the (much anticipated) spaciouly tiered seating area complete with tables and benches.

The construction began in late May as crews tore away old brick and cleared tree roots that had caused the original bricking to crack over time. Little by little, what had been left of Varsity Terrace disappeared, and just in time for the new school year, construction crews put the final touches on the new design.

The raised wall that has historically been packed with festive students during Christmas Lights was redesigned and replaced with spacious tiered seating. In addition, the number of picnic tables on the terrace was doubled, and a streamlined table layout now provides passing students an unobstructed walkway.

Students arriving back on campus this fall gravitated towards the enhanced space, which quickly became a favorite spot for outdoor studying or chatting with friends after a long day of classes. "I love how the new terrace gives a more open and connected feel on campus," said Kali Hebert, a junior from Virginia. ■

VARSITY TERRACE RENOVATION

▼ The completed renovation features tiered seating topped with concrete tiles.



▼ Demolition on the original terrace began in May after the spring semester ended.



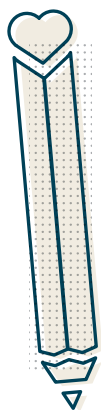
A Piece of History

As workers removed the terrace's original brick this summer, they discovered a student ID card lost to time. The card, over 25 years old, belonged to Dr. Tera Storms ('93), now a clinical psychologist living in New York. "The Varsity Terrace was a place for me for meaningful connection and community. I am grateful that PCC had such a place," she said. Asked whether or not she remembers

losing this card, she said, "An honest confession...I was always losing my ID card." It's always satisfying to find pieces of history in unexpected places.



▲ Constructed alongside the Varsity in 1982, the terrace has held large events like Greek Rush and Christmas Lights in addition to functioning as a walkway.



A Love for Christian EDUCATION

All across the world, often in little-known places, many graduates work tirelessly to change the lives and destinies of children through Christian education. Each has seen God's sovereign guidance in preparing them for the places He has led them to serve. Here are just a few of their stories.

Following God's Plan

Not many freshmen in college have a plan beyond their first semester, but Monte Ashworth ('91) did—even before he arrived on campus. "When I realized as a junior in high school that God had called me into teaching, I immediately knew I would need to get my master's in education," he said. "After a little research, I knew I wanted to attend PCC and planned to become a graduate assistant immediately after receiving my bachelor's degree in math education."

God continued to solidify this calling to Monte throughout his years in college. After graduation, he, along with his wife Angie (*Elementary Education*, '90), taught and served as a principal at Pensacola Christian Academy before accepting the call to go to Landmark Christian Academy in Louisville, Kentucky.

While serving staff, students, and their families as administrator, Monte also enjoys teaching. "I am very thankful that PCC trained me with two teaching fields," he said. "However, in my 27 years of education, I have also

needed to teach many classes outside my fields. I have been able to apply the methods I learned at PCC from one subject to others, and, combined with a lot of grace, God has been able to use me."

Faithful in the Little Things

Immediately after graduating with a degree in biology education, Lee Atkinson ('98) returned to his home church as part-time staff while also teaching at the Christian school he had attended. After pursuing higher education at a local university, he married Bethany Chace (*English Education*, '97).

"Not long after this, some church members voiced a burden for us to start a Christian school in our church," Lee said. "With this possibility before us, I realized a need for more education. Not wanting to end my educational experience with the experience I had in a state university, I chose to return to PCC and work on my doctorate in educational administration."

In 2006, Plum Creek Christian Academy opened its doors with eight stu-





dents. In those early years, Bethany did not have the opportunity to teach literature. Instead, her second teaching field, music, enabled her to teach elementary music and private piano lessons.

As more grades were added, however, Bethany was overjoyed to teach another one of her favorite subjects. She said, “Literature class provides an atmosphere that gives opportunity to point students to Bible truth as our objective standard. Engaging students in lively discussion that leads to the imparting of spiritual truth thrills me.”

Today, the school has grown to over 200 students with the first senior class set to graduate in 2020. “Our burden for Christian education was formed in our years at PCC, and it’s a privilege to spend and be spent in Christian education,” Lee said.

Doing What’s Difficult

While human nature can lead some to shy away from the uncomfortable, some actually seek out the more difficult tasks in hope of making an eternal difference. Jeff (*Professional Writing*, '95) and Ghada (*Music Ed.*, '97; *Master's*, '00) Pribble are two such individuals.

During a trip to the Middle East to serve Syrian refugees, the couple saw firsthand the great need for Christian workers in that region, so they began to fast and pray, seeking God’s leading. “As we prayed, we found out about a Christian academy, through an online advertisement, started by a couple who has been involved in Christian education in the Middle East for about 30 years,” Jeff said. “We were the only people who saw the ad and responded, and here we are four years later!”

The school began with 40 students, and now entering their fifth year this fall, expect to have around 240 in attendance. The Pribbles, whose own children attend the academy, say that less than two percent of the student body are expatriates, with most coming from local Christian and Muslim families.

Jeff serves as the school principal, while Ghada teaches music. Last December, she put together a large Christmas musical focusing on the birth of Christ. Dressed in festive costumes, each class performed a special part while proud parents and family looked on—some hearing the true Christmas story for the first time.

“We’ve had a lot of exciting moments since we’ve been here,” Jeff said. “It’s always meaningful to see our students recite Scripture in a language they have just learned, and several of our local teachers have begun following the Lord faithfully as a result of our daily staff Bible studies.”

Day after day, year after year, these faithful workers continue to labor. Only eternity will tell just how far their influence reaches.



▶ Alumni Spotlight Videos

See the work of other alumni sharing their experiences in Christian education.

pcci.edu/EDUgrads



Real MINISTRY

How PCC's pastoral ministries program prepares servants of the Lord outside the classroom

Just outside the bustle of Nashville city life, **Clay Cox** (*Sr., MI*) carefully reviews his notes for the lesson he will be teaching the youth of Bible Baptist Church of Hendersonville, Tennessee, on Sunday morning. "This isn't rehearsal, it's real life," he said. "I'm teaching real kids real Bible stories—some who have never heard them before."

This summer, over 150 young men like Clay brought their youth and passion to churches across the country as part of PCC's pastoral ministries program. They had the opportunity to take lessons learned in the classroom and watch them come alive under the guidance of seasoned pastors.



Dr. Jody Wolf (*Bible, '98; M.Div., '02; D.Min., '15*) who co-pastors Heritage Baptist Church in Pensacola, while also teaching several ministerial classes,

said, "As with any area of study, the classroom is only one vital component to a student's preparation for future ministry. The firsthand experience gained under pastors ministering in established churches is not possible to replicate in the classroom. The relationship that a student builds with these pastors as they invest their lives into the students often results in an added source of counsel and encouragement well after graduation."

During the semesters, the College hosts a variety of pastors and church staff who come to meet and recruit pastoral ministries students to intern in their churches. Clay discovered Bible Baptist through his friend Bobby Smith (*Youth Ministries, '17*) who serves on the church staff. "Pastor Greg Mutsch had asked Bobby if he knew anybody from PCC that would be a good fit for an internship this summer—he called

me up, and I had the opportunity to meet with him on campus when he came down for Educator Recruitment,” he said.

During his time in Tennessee, Clay assisted with prison ministry, teen and youth camps, taught life groups and children’s church, preached to the congregation, made house calls, and helped with summer construction projects. “The things I’m using are skills I learned from speech class and preaching labs,” Clay said, “You’re a little bit nervous when you get up to preach in front of a class for the first time. All those things that you’ve learned are helpful even under pressure.”

Looking back over the summer, Clay learned a lot from working closely with pastoral staff, whether visiting with cancer patients, sharing the gospel in the community, or fellowshiping in between services. “Pastor Mutsch is a great teacher,” he said. “Watching him has been like four years crammed into one week!”

Dr. Wolf said, “As a Bible major, I had a preconceived notion of what ministry was. It wasn’t until I worked in a local church, laboring with a pastor who sought to invest in my life, that I received an accurate understanding of what it was to be a ‘minister of God and...a fellow-laborer in the gospel of Christ’.”



Remembering his internship, alumnus **Xavier**

Small (*Youth Ministries, '14*)

said, “It was so hands-on, and I was immersed in the Bible. It was one of the best summers of my life and absolutely instrumental in who I am today.”

Bible faculty hope to instill in their students a deep reliance on the God who called them, a sincere love for His Word, and a heart consistently engaged in prayer.

Xavier currently serves as assistant pastor of Orlando Baptist Temple in central Florida. “Every day is filled with purpose!” he said. “Everything I asked for in a ministry is there. I asked God to be able to work with the teens, teach in our Christian school, and work with the music—and I get to do all three. It’s truly a blessing.”

At times, however, challenges present themselves. “Ministry in itself is difficult,” Xavier acknowledges. “I had to overcome some dark times as I learned how to handle counseling the issues in the lives of the teens.”

Though nothing can completely prepare those called to ministry for the overwhelming needs they will face in the

ministry, PCC’s Bible faculty hope to instill in their students a deep reliance on the God who called them, a sincere love for His Word, and a heart consistently engaged in prayer.

“People need someone who would not only preach

to them, but also be able to listen to them and show them genuine care and concern outside the church building as well,” Dr. Wolf said. “I understood relatively quickly, that if I was to succeed in ministry, I needed more than simply theories from the classroom. I needed practical applications and biblical principles anchored to the solid foundation of God’s eternal Word. What I learned in my classes at PCC was immediately applied to real people going through real life, facing real problems while carrying real burdens.” ■

Explore PCC’s Bible Program
pcci.edu/Bible



Campus Church Welcomes New Pastor

Pastor Jeff Redlin, PCC alumnus and former Campus Church youth pastor, answered the call this summer.

In early 2018, after learning about the upcoming retirement of Pastor Denis McBride, Jeff Redlin ('87) knew that Campus Church would have a great need to be filled, and he began praying for God to meet that need.

For some time at his church in Colorado, Pastor Redlin had already been praying, "Lord, use me to my greatest potential to influence my family and others for You." Then, in May, after much prayer, the Campus Church pulpit committee unanimously voted to invite him to candidate for the position of senior pastor.

Dr. Redlin is certainly no stranger to Campus Church and the ministries of Pensacola Christian College. While still a college student studying youth ministries, he volunteered for three years at Campus Church and would eventually serve as youth pastor for over fifteen years. In 2003 he went on to become senior pastor of Front Range Baptist Church in Fort Collins, Colorado, seeing much fruit during his fifteen years there with his wife Julie ('94) and their son Conner.

During that time, he continued to preach on campus, often speaking in PCC's Opening Meetings at the start of a new semester, in chapel and church services during the semester, and at Youth Outreach Ministry's Teen Extreme Youth Camp.

On Sunday morning, June 24, 2018, Dr. Redlin came to candidate in view of a call at Campus Church, sharing a message about who God uses. During the evening service, he had the opportunity to answer questions and share his beliefs on a number of topics. That evening, Campus Church members voted to extend the call to Dr. Redlin as senior pastor of the congregation.

Having accepted the invitation, Dr. Redlin preached his first sermon as pastor of Campus Church on July 22. Before the message, reflecting on God's leading, he said, "The Bible says that the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord. And all He shows us—all He's promised to show us—is that He'll give us the next step. We are convinced that God has been leading each step of the way." ■



New Grad Certificate Programs

Pensacola Theological Seminary is excited to begin offering new Graduate Certificate Programs this fall.

With specialized instruction in a focused area of study, these online Bible certificates are ideal for individuals desiring to further their knowledge of the Bible.

Dr. Dan Rushing, Dean of Biblical



Studies at PTS, said, "Our seminary faculty have prayerfully worked on these programs, and we're excited about how the Lord might use them

to better prepare His servants for His service."

Online certification is available in five different areas of study: Biblical Studies, New Testament Studies, Old Testament Studies, Pastoral Ministries, and Theological Studies.

These certificates can be transferred into a seminary degree at PTS or can be earned independently. To take these courses, only a bachelor's degree with a minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA is required for those interested in furthering their biblical knowledge. ■

Choose Your Studies
pcci.edu/Certificates

Upcoming Events

Alumni Homecoming for graduates and their families

October 19–20, 2018

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

College Days

for high school seniors, juniors, sophomores,
and qualified high school graduates

Nov. 14–16, 2018

Mar. 20–22, 2019 • Apr. 3–5, 2019

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

pcci.edu/CollegeDays

Bring a group of young people to experience
PCC college life and participate in exciting
activities and classes.

PCC Spring Semester Opening Weekend for family and friends of students

January 19–21, 2019

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

Bible Conference Uplifting Bible Preaching

February 18–20, 2019

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

PCC Educator Recruitment for churches and Christian schools seeking candidates from among PCC students

February 25–26, 2019

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

PCC Career Fair

for organizations and businesses seeking
candidates from among PCC students

February 28, 2019

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

Connections

Stories from PCC

All in the Family

Thirty years and three generations, the East family has made their ministry a family affair. Read why they chose to serve together at PCC.

In the summer of 1988, alumnus Gary East ('81) answered an advertisement in the *PCC Update* seeking a financial controller. He and his wife, Patricia, moved their family back to Pensacola where he oversaw the ministry's finances while Patricia taught at the College. Their two children, Traci and Ben, began attending Pensacola Christian Academy.



"Circumstances in life had prepared me for a change," said Gary. "PCC provided an opportunity to work for a ministry while using my creativity and accounting skills. I was able to work in a godly environment under strong leadership. I saw it as an answer to prayer."

As the years passed and the ministry grew, Gary became the Chief Financial Officer, the position he held until retiring this past May. Meanwhile, Traci and Ben both attended PCC, earning degrees in mechanical engineering ('93) and accounting ('98) respectively. "My daughter, son, and three grandchildren graduated from PCA, and two are still attending," Gary said. "Our daughter and son met and married PCC graduates, and three grandchildren will be attending PCC in the fall."

Though both siblings and their spouses pursued other jobs for a time, they each had a desire to return to raise their



families in Pensacola. "I always had a desire to give back to this ministry which I have benefited from all my life," said Ben, who serves as the treasurer

and is married to Stephanie ('99). "I have also enjoyed working down the hall from my dad for the past 11 years—he was a great example of servant leadership."

In 1995, Traci, the facilities coordinator, married Eric Henderson ('94) who monitored and maintained campus energy at the College before the couple moved away. Several years later, they felt the Lord leading them back to Pensacola.

"My husband missed the work he did while he was employed by the College so we began praying about coming back," Traci said. "We also had two young chil-



dren at the time, and the schools where we lived were not very good—we were concerned about their education. Knowing that [at PCA] they are being taught all subjects with a Christian perspective is a huge blessing."

Though retired, Gary's legacy at PCC continues to live on through his family. "PCA and PCC have provided education and opportunities for the whole family to use their abilities in service," he said.

Ben added, "I've enjoyed being able to apply the professional business experiences I gained after graduation to help the College and its related ministries. Besides the typical benefits you get elsewhere like health insurance, 401k, and paid leave, there are a number of benefits our family has enjoyed by working at PCC like free tuition at PCA, being able to eat lunch on campus with family and friends, and a Christian work environment."

Employment Opportunities

Have you considered what you can do for the Lord's work on a growing college campus? *Openings in the following areas—*

PCC Faculty

- Computer Applications • Computer Science • Mathematics

PCC Staff

- Director of Budgeting and Financial Forecasting • HVAC Technician
- Vice President for Operations

Abeka

- Textbook Field Representative (IL/IN/KY and AR/LA/MS)

Send résumé with short testimonial to Employee Services,
P.O. Box 17023, Pensacola, FL 32522-7023, U.S.A.
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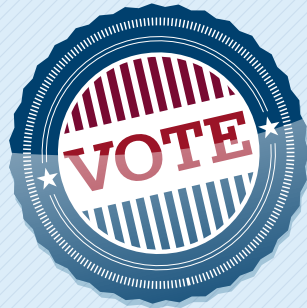
In God We Trust



The Patriot Song • Shenandoah • We Who Come Behind
America, I Still Can Hear Your Song • Under God
In God We Trust • *and more*

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Vote Nov. 6

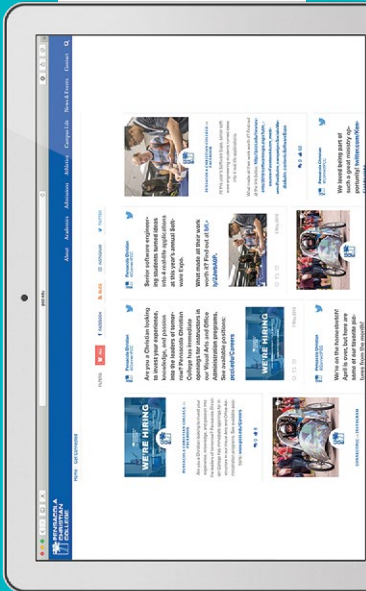
This election will help shape America's future regarding Christian and family values. Laws harmful to your family, church, or school could pass if candidates are elected who do not share your family and freedom values. Be an informed and motivated voter. Your vote counts!

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