

DENVER SEMINARY
C A L U M N I
C O N N E C T I O N



From The President



“If you don’t define yourself, someone else will do it for you.” A seasoned pastor passed that bit of wisdom on to me several years ago. Living outside the United States definitely made that adage come to life. Neighbors, colleagues, friends and acquaintances in the different places we lived all had some preconceived notion of who we were as Americans, even before they met us. Therefore, we had to be intentional in defining ourselves first and foremost as followers of Jesus. Doing so required time, presence, hospitality, generosity, mercy and grace worked out in daily life. It wasn’t easy, glamorous, exciting, or quick. But it was deeply satisfying to see people begin to change the way they viewed us and our Lord.

It’s terribly unfortunate that evangelicals have allowed others to define us in the United States. Not that we don’t deserve it. For over forty years high profile, media savvy, preachers and leaders who call themselves evangelicals have taken it upon themselves to define us primarily as social and political conservatives. What a travesty and tragedy.

Let’s resolve to reestablish our identity as people of the gospel, those who Peter reminds us in 1 Peter 2:10 “once were not a people, but now are the people of God.” Our primary identity is not based on our citizenship, race, or political party. We are first and foremost the people of God whose primary loyalty and passion are directed toward the Lord Jesus. All other identities, loyalties and passions must be subsumed in our lives or they become idolatries.

In the last few days before the November elections, let’s make sure that everyone who knows us, everyone who might read our social media accounts, and everyone who could look at our checking accounts would know for sure who we are and where our true loyalty lies (Mark 12:17).

Mark Young
President



This year the Grounds Institute of Public Ethics will focus on the theme of **Power, Politics, and Christian Faith**. This year's program is a 2-day, combined event featuring the **Kent Mathews Lectures and the Rally for the Common Good**. The lectures will be delivered by **Richard J. Mouw, PhD**, President Emeritus and Professor of Faith and Public Life at Fuller Theological Seminary

Dr. Mouw will reflect on the following topics:

- **The Power of the Gospel and Political Power**
- **Christian Citizenship in Confused and Confusing Times**
- **The Political Authority of Jesus Christ**

The Kent Matthew's presentation will be made during the Seminary's chapel service on October 3rd and 4th which begins each of the two days at 11:00 a.m. The Rally for the Common Good will be held on October 3, from 6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. in the Denver Seminary Chapel.

We extend a cordial invitation to you to attend the lectures. For more information, visit denverseminary.edu/KentMatthews2016



Q Commons Denver

You are invited to join 250 remarkable local church and cultural leaders **at Denver Seminary** for Q Commons Denver from 7:00–9:00PM on Thursday evening, **October 13th**. This special event will link over 150 cities and 25,000 people for an important conversation about engaging our culture as Christians to advance the common good.

Our nation's and Denver's most respected thought leaders including Dr. Ravi Zacharias (Apologist and Author), Kirsten Powers (Political Commentator), and Lecrae (Grammy Award winning Hip Hop Artist) will join via LIVE downlink. Our local speakers include Bennie Milliner (Denver's Road Home) and Kelli Woodard (African Community Center), who will educate and stimulate your thinking on how we as Christ followers can participate in helping Denver flourish.

See official event website here: www.qcommons.com/Denver



Network for Alumni

This is a space and time for professional and ministry partners to spark new connections and offer support to one another. Whether you are looking for professional or personal growth, service opportunities, creative ideas, or ways to grow your contacts, you will benefit from this time spent with like-minded Denver Seminary alumni.

Network for Alumni groups are meeting in Littleton, Broomfield and Colorado Springs (see sidebar for dates and times). Send us an [email](#) if you have an interest in starting a group in your area.



Sample a DMin Class - for Half the Price!

Ever wonder if a Doctor of Ministry degree is for you? Now is a good time to try a sample course to find out. And for those not already enrolled, you can receive a scholarship for half tuition! Credit earned can apply to your degree program if you eventually decide to enroll.

Two courses are offered January 9-13: *Growing Healthy Congregations* with professors Gordon MacDonald and Scott Wenig, and *Family Development and Intergenerational Ministry* with professors Elisabeth Sbanotto and Brenda Snailum.

Two additional courses are offered January 17-20: *Staying Alive as a Leader* with professor Tim Dolan, and *Leadership in Community Spiritual Formation*

with professors Keith Meyer and Howard Baker.

Course descriptions are [available online](#). **Application deadline is October 10.**

“This is a terrific opportunity to see for yourself if your ministry would benefit from a DMin,” said Marshall Shelley, director of Denver’s Doctor of Ministry program. *“Plus, Denver is a great place to be in January.”*

For more information, email Marshall.Shelley@DenverSeminary.edu.

Give where
you live



Remember us on Colorado Gives Day
Tuesday, December 6

online at ColoradoGives.org

\$1 Million Incentive Fund



#COGivesDay

Alumni Updates:

James M. Christensen, MA Practical Theology, 1978

Rev James M. Christensen passed away on the morning of August 16, 2016. He was 79 years old, born on May 1, 1937. He served as president of the Heaven and Home Hour for 38 years, during which time he served on the board of the National Religious Broadcasters, retiring in 2011. He continued in ministry for another four years until health issues brought another retirement.

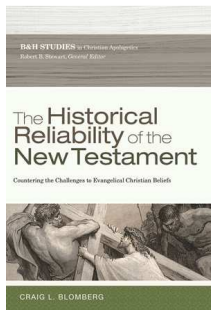
At an early age he would listen to the broadcast of the Heaven and Home Hour from his home in Iowa. Then it was at the 1963 Billy Graham Crusade in Los Angeles that he accepted the Lord - the same time that he heard the call into ministry, which he followed until his death.

During several Billy Graham crusades in the 1980's and throughout his many years of ministry with Heaven and Home Hour, he traveled the world over for the cause for Christ.

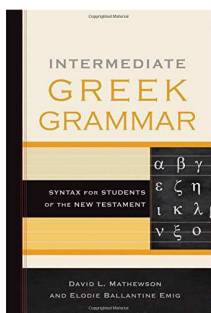
He is survived by two daughters, two sons, eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and many friends and family around the world. His wife, Betty, preceded him to glory in 2012.

Faculty/Staff Updates:

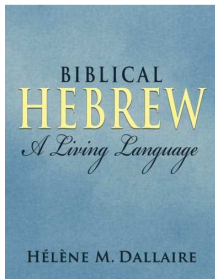
We are pleased to note the most recent publications from so many of the faculty at Denver Seminary. Their contribution to the writings of theological studies is significant and a positive reflection of the strength of our community.



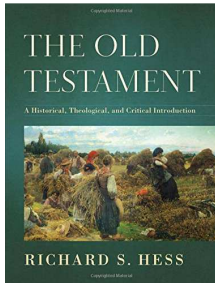
Blomberg, Craig L. *The Historical Reliability of the New Testament: Countering the Challenges to Evangelical Christian Beliefs*, Broadman & Holman, 2016. (November 1, 2016)



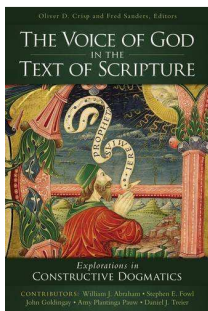
Mathewson, David L., and Elodie Ballantine Emig. *Intermediate Greek Grammar: Syntax for Students of the New Testament*, Baker Academic, 2016. (August 16, 2016)



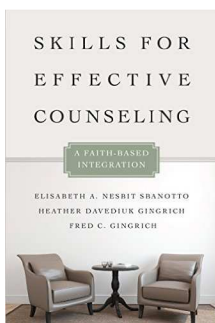
Dallaire, H  l  ne Marie. *Biblical Hebrew: A Living Language.* CreateSpace, 2016. (September 15 and 23, 2016)



Hess, Richard S. *The Old Testament: A Historical, Theological, and Critical Introduction.* Baker Academic, 2016. (November 15, 2016)



Heim, Erin (Contributor). "Paths Beyond Tracing Out: The Hermeneutics of Metaphor and Theological Method." *The Voice of God in the Text of Scripture: Explorations in Constructive Dogmatics.* Zondervan, 2016. (November 1, 2016)



Elisabeth A. Nesbit Sbanotto, Heather Davediuk Gingrich, and Fred C. Gingrich. *Skills for Effective Counseling: A Faith-Based Integration.* IVP Academic (October 14, 2016)



Shelley, Marshall. "The Year of Fear: the State of Church Ministry 2017". *CT Pastors*, October 2016.

Additionally we celebrate the fruitfulness of our Seminary family.....



"Grandson Joshua Little born August 30 in West Sussex, England to Beth, our daughter, and Jonathan Little." - **Craig and Fran Blomberg**



"We are celebrating our new granddaughter Emiline Rose Baker born to our son Cody and his wife Heather." - **Howard and Janis Baker**



"We are proud and grateful for our new granddaughter, Odessa Lee Payne, born May 5 in San Francisco!" - Don and Sharon Payne

Faculty Travel Schedule

Our faculty speak across the globe. Find out if any will be near you soon. [Schedule](#)

Come Back to Campus!



We would love to see you and hear your story. In fact, we have a gift for every alumnus that comes to the Advancement office! You are a part of the Denver Seminary family, we care for you, and we invite you to stay in touch.

Denver Seminary
6399 South Santa Fe Drive, Littleton, Colorado, USA 80120
Phone: 800.922.3040 | Email: info@denverseminary.edu

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