



From The President



Why Seminary?, Part II

Thanks to all of you who responded to my last email and the question, "Why Seminary?" It was fascinating to read the different ways that the seminary experience formed you and continues to influence your ministry. A couple of folks decided to let me know what was lacking in their seminary training. I appreciate that as well.

A personal reflection. Although my current role in ministry is quite different than what I anticipated when I was a seminary student,

I can say with full conviction, that I use my seminary training every day. Whether it's humbling myself before the Lord and seeking wisdom in prayer, or theologically assessing strategic priorities in the budgeting process, or searching the Scriptures for insight into a particularly complex problem, or depending on relational skills to have those tough conversations every leader has to have from time to time—all of it springs from the foundation that I gained in seminary. All ministry activities and responsibilities are first and foremost theological tasks that must be grounded in and girded up by a strong hermeneutical foundation. Any other approach to ministry is barely Christian.

So keep those reflections coming. Let us know how you would answer the question, "[Why Seminary?](#)" My goal is collect as many as possible and begin using them to help prospective students gain a sense of the value of seminary.

Stay faithful, friends. The work of the Kingdom has no peer.

End of Year Giving

As you are planning your year end giving, please consider giving to the Alumni Scholarship Fund. You can [give online here](#).

Denver Seminary is now on [AmazonSmile](#)! Select us as your charity and .5% of your Christmas shopping purchases will be donated to the Seminary Fund.

Upcoming Events:

We might be coming to your area. Check the [events](#) page regularly to see where we will be.

Community Christmas Celebration



Alumni Updates



Dick Hart (M.Div., 1977)

Dick Hart retired in October 2013 after 28 years as director of the Program for Theological Education by Extension (PTEE). Last month PTEE leaders from around the Middle East came to Amman, Jordan to pay tribute to Dick and his work with the program. Under

his leadership, PTEE has grown from its one room office in a local church to the recent purchase of its own building in the city after years of renting office space. During that time PTEE expanded from a handful of classes in Jordan to classes having taken place also now in Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Sudan and Egypt, as well as among Arabic speakers in Australia, Canada, Sweden and the USA.



Lexi Ellis (M.A. Counseling, 2014)

Lexi is the director at Hope Academy, Denver Street School. This is a program for adolescent girls (12-18) in the Metro Denver area who have been sexually exploited or trafficked. The program is essentially comprised of five major components: individualized education, counseling, vocational training, expressive arts, and health and wellness (therapeutic yoga,

dance, nutrition). It is still in the development phase and will open in the spring of 2015!

Alex Bricker (M.A. Leadership, 2013)

Alex and his wife Mary work with International Students, Inc. in Fort Collins, CO, working with international students at Colorado State University and Front Range Community College. Their hope is to "love the foreigner in our midst" and share Christ's love with internationals. Check out their website here: www.alexandmaryinfo.com. Alex is also working on a book about understanding your motivational gifts based on the assessment tools created by Life Outfitter, LLC. He hopes to complete the book by next Spring and see it complement the assessment, as well as encourage individuals, teams, and couples in relating with one another and seeking their next career, major, or chapter in life.

December 4th, 2014
6:30-8:00 pm. Denver
Seminary Chapel,
Littleton, CO.

Come and celebrate the Advent season with students, alumni, faculty & staff. Family photo & childcare provided.

[Register Here.](#)

Alumni Resources

- [Job Board](#)
- [Alumni Webinars](#)
- [Denver Journal](#)
- [Other Resources](#)



Andrew Crowson (M.A. CFSC, 2011)

For the past three summers, I have come to an oil and gas compound in a closed, Muslim kingdom in the Middle East to minister to the expatriate youth living here. It has been an amazing adventure and I have seen some unbelievable things and felt the hand of God on the ministry there.

Those summer experiences enlightened my heart to the needs of expatriate kids. These kids are Americans, Brits, Kiwis, Aussies, and South Africans whose families have moved overseas for work and who desperately need the love and support of a youth minister. Expat youth as a group represents an almost unreached people group in terms of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Because they grow up in the global arena, many of them fall through the cracks of traditional ministry.

In January of 2015, Lord willing, I will be moving to Dusseldorf, Germany, to begin working with Youth For Christ to reach expat youth living in that city. I will be leading a chapter of a ministry called YouthCompass specifically targeting the teenagers of expatriates who work in the business sector of Dusseldorf. I covet prayers for this ministry and for the hearts of the students I will encounter. I also ask that people continue to pray with me for the hearts of the students I led while in the Middle East. This is a great adventure to seek and disciple international youth, and I am excited and confident in the provision of God.

[More Alumni updates](#)

What's New with You? We want to know your ministry and family updates and anything else you would like to share! Send your update along with a photo, degree and year graduated to alumni@denverseminary.edu to be included in the next Alumni Connection.

Events & Resources



New Campus Parking Policies.

If you are coming to visit campus, please be aware of the new parking policies. Lots A-D are now permit-only parking except for the marked guest spots. Here is the current [parking map](#). If the guest spots are full, you can park in the overflow gravel lot or get a temporary parking pass from the receptionist in the Graber Administrative building.



Boston Alumni Gathering.

In October, Denver Seminary hosted an Alumni Gathering at Grace Chapel. President Mark Young spoke on the current challenges seminaries face and how Denver Seminary is responding to these challenges.

Publications



Worthy Of Her Trust by Jason Martinkus
(M.A. Counseling, 2008)

This book provides a unique perspective on what it takes to rebuild trust after sexual betrayal or pornography addiction.

Faculty Update from the Demarests



Officially, I 'retired' in 2011 from 36 years of teaching theology and Christian formation. But as pastor Chuck Swindoll mentioned in a message at Denver Seminary, the committed Jesus follower never fully retires, only slows down. I have been teaching both a classroom and an online course

each year, along with leading a formation group each term which allows me to share the Word and life experience with keen disciples in training. I also teach seminars with folks experienced in ministry in Denver Seminary's D.Min. program.

Thankfully, I have fully recovered from a 2012 mystery neurological illness. Elsie and I are actively involved in our town home community with women's and men's Bible studies which we established a decade ago—this place being our 'Jerusalem.' This past summer we visited our three children and their families in AZ, LA, and NY, as well as welcoming them in our home. In June I presented for two blest weeks at the Pecos Benedictine renewal community in NM where I have been involved since the 1990s. July involved teaching a spiritual formation course at Liberty Baptist Seminary in Lynchburg, VA, which proved to be a stimulating experience in a university with 105,000 students. To wrap up the summer, I led a Cherry Creek Presbyterian retreat in the beautiful Colorado high country.

Disheartened friends often lament to us that our world seems to be going from bad to worse. My mind, however, turns to Jesus' parable of the wheat and weeds (Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43), where among all that is deceptive and evil in the world God's saints are scattered abroad, building by God's grace the unshakable kingdom. This theme—that Jesus is Victor and that his kingdom *will* prevail—was powerfully developed at the Seminary's recent "Engaging Hope" retreat in Beaver Creek, CO. You, our faithful alumni, are the sons and daughters God is using to build Christ's kingdom in an anchorless world. Take courage; take hope; rejoice! We *are* on the winning side!

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.

Also, remember that all chapel services are open to alumni. It is held from 11am-12pm every Monday and Tuesday in the chapel on campus. You can also watch the latest chapel services [here](#).

More Alumni Updates

Ron Galpin (M.Div., 1987)

Chaplain at Hope Again in Hollywood, CA.

Judy Hansen (M.Div., 1981)

I am a mental health therapist with a private practice in Denver. As a TCK/MK, I specialize in helping Third Culture Kids (those who grew up overseas) of all ages: teens, college age, married and single. You can find out more about me at [Power for Living Therapy](#). For a long while I thought all God had for me was raising my four children, and then...? I am happy today that I now run a successful private practice and am happy with where I am.

Chad Holladay (M.A. Counseling, 2002)

I posted earlier that I was a youth pastor in Ogden, UT. Now I am seeking God's next pastoral role. I'm open to His leading, hoping to return to Colorado or remain in Utah. Those are the two places/people God has placed on my heart.

Garry Nutter (M.A. Counseling, 2009)

I am an Outpatient therapist at the Mental Health Center of Denver full time and work two nights a week at Front Range Counseling Center in Littleton. I am really enjoying both and am very grateful for the preparation given to me by Denver Seminary!

Lindsay Porter (M.A., Counseling, 2009)

COPE Certified Free Health Coach at Take Shape for Life. After losing 95 pounds a year and a half ago, people began to come to me wanting help doing the same. I began to help them and became certified. I now own my own growing, thriving business, [Health Coaching](#). I coach clients all over the nation via Skype, emails and phone. I could NEVER have imagined how wonderful this career, life and path would be.

Jon Skorich (M.A. Philosophy of Religion, 2007)

I am the Founder of [Ministry Move](#), where I work to help men and women in ministry transitions. I also work at a Christian nonprofit, [Rebuild Sierra Leone](#).

Tricia Thornton (M.A. Counseling, 1996)

After being a licensed therapist with children and family for 6 years, I decided to shift gears and be a full-time mom. Then about 6 years ago, the Lord put in my lap a wonderful career that could be flexible for my schedule with the girls. I also still love to help women, but in a different way! Now, I help women become beautiful outside while enhancing their inner beauty as a consultant with CAbi, [Carol Anderson by Invitation](#).

Jim Watters (M.Div., 1986)

Associate Pastor at Grace Fellowship of Lakewood

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