

# The OKLAHOMA BAPTIST

Serving Churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Oklahoma

Volume LX

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Number 6

## “Second Mile Christian”

By Pastor David Langley

Matthew 5:41

*And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.*

Someone once said that Spurgeon instructed preacher boys to preach from Matthew chapter 5 at least four times a year.

After D.L. Moody passed away and the folks who do such things analyzed his sermons, they found that over 50% of all the sermons Moody ever preached came from the text in Matthew chapter 5.

So, it stands to reason that if those two men believed Matthew chapter 5 was so important, then perhaps there is something there for us as well.

Someone shared a little history about the Persian rule and how they instituted a law that said anyone employed by the government could demand that average people work for the government anytime they were asked...on the spot...a mile at a time.

When the Romans took over, they liked and kept that part of the Persian law.

Even at the cross, we can see that take place when the soldier commanded Simon (Mt 27:32, Mk 15:21, Lk 23:26) to carry the cross for Christ, after Jesus collapsed under the weight of the cross.

In Matthew 5:41, the Bible says that “whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.” It isn’t enough to do what is expected, we should do more than what is required.

The take-away message from the sermon is that as Christians we should be willing to do more than is expected of us. There are many different areas of our lives in which we should

be second-mile Christians, home, work, church, marriage, politics, etc.

**These are things I’m pondering about my own life...perhaps they will speak to you as well...**

*-How much of a second mile Christian are we at home? We should want to be better Christians at home than we are anywhere else.*

*-Do we do just enough to get by or do really go the second mile?*

*-Do our spouses feel that we give ourselves to them with the same dedication we give ourselves to others needs?*

*-Is God’s love and goodness recognized and shared in our homes more than just on Sunday?*

**These are things I’m pondering about my own life...perhaps they will speak to you as well...**

*-I confess that “walking the second mile” does not come naturally to me. But I also know that Jesus is wise, and His words are life.*

*-Walking the second mile does not mean you never rebuke or discipline a divisive, quarrelsome person.*

*-Friends, please pray for me in this regard.*

*-Please pray for your Pastor and your local church. Pray we will be known as second-mile pastors, serving in second-mile churches.*



To love your neighbor  
is the first mile



to love your enemy  
is the second mile.

To bless those who bless you  
is the first mile

to bless those who curse you  
is the second mile.

To do good to those who do good to you  
is the first mile

to do good to those who hate you  
is the second mile.

Praying for those who pray for you  
is the first mile

praying for those who would use you  
is the second mile.



# "God's Purpose is People"

Luke 19:9-10

*And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

Everyone has lost things in their life. We've misplaced keys, dropped money, allowed our children to wander off at Wal-mart. But when Jesus says He had come to seek out that thing which was lost, He wasn't referring to something He'd left on the kitchen counter that accidentally got dropped in the trash.

No, His most valuable possession was torn from Him, stolen by His nemesis. The enemy of mankind crept into this world and conned God's creation into choosing him over their Creator. The most effective way for Satan to wound the Father was to kidnap His children.

But Heaven was not willing to leave it at that. The devil may have drawn first blood, but this battle was far from over. The Son of man would come to this world Himself, not just to seek after, but to save that which was lost.

And He would win this treasure back in the most reprehensible way possible,

through surrender. By giving up His life, He won back the power over death. Through His sacrifice, we are redeemed.

"By His stripes we are healed."

What price would Jesus Christ pay to be reunited with mankind?

- He would leave Heaven and come to this filthy earth filled with sin.
- He would choose to love people who would choose not to trust Him.
- He would empathize with their grief and sympathize with their failure.
- He would suffer the stings of their insults, and the stupidity of their insolence.
- He would allow them to beat Him, bludgeon Him, bruise Him.
- He would forgive their ignorance, and

- ignore their flaws.
- He would extinguish their anger, by extending His love.
- He would bestow His glory on them, because they are the glory of God.

Did you think the cross was the only price Jesus would pay for you? Don't get me wrong, His crucifixion is far more than we're worth, but Jesus viewed our value as even higher.

To pay our debt, to be separated from God, He was willing to be separated from God. And for the first and only time, the bond between God the Father and God the Son was severed.

*"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me."*

I am not the one to speculate on which of these hurt most, but this I know, Jesus went through all this pain to win back people. We are His prize! We are the treasure lost, for which He would come to the earth to seek and not leave until He had saved.

And if Jesus would go through all that for people, shouldn't people be our ultimate goal as well? Shouldn't taking others with us to heaven become the highest reason for our existence?

To invest our lives proving His ways with our walk, because someone needs to know.

To open our eyes to the hurting in this world, because someone needs to know.

To risk all we have or ever want, because someone needs to know.

To live and die for the cause of Christ, because someone needs to know.

To love people the way God loves people, because someone today needs to know.

If Jesus was willing to die for people, shouldn't we be willing to abandon our lives for them as well?

Isn't that what it means to follow Him, to represent Him, to take on His name?

Can we truly call ourselves Christians if we do not willingly and wishfully continue with His purpose?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Kids Camp

July 14-18

Camp Cedar Hills  
Binger, OK

### Save the Date

### ReCharge '25

September 29-October 1

Guest speaker Sam Rainer

## BMAOK Annual Meeting

October 3-4

Sunray, Purcell

## The OKLAHOMA BAPTIST

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# "I Was Just Thinkin' "

By Narita Roady

## "Wisdom From Critters and Bugs"

Last month we began looking at the four seemingly insignificant little creatures in Proverbs 30: 24-28 that God has chosen to teach us about how to wisely live the Christian life. We have already looked at the ant, and next in line is the conie.

"The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks;" Proverbs 30:26

A conie, better known as the rock hyrax, is about the size of a well fed rabbit, but they bear more resemblance to the guinea pig.

These shy, timid animals live in colonies of up to 80 individuals. During winter months and cold days you will find them huddling together to obtain warmth from one another.

What a coincidence, that 80, is about the size of an average church in the U.S. When the "winters" of trials and hard times come into our lives, we could certainly benefit by following the example of the conie and stay close to our church family.

Far too many Christians do the opposite when they are in spiritual warfare, staying out of church and avoiding fellow believers. Others remain in the church but withdraw from their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Satan is a predator and his plan is always to isolate us so he can finish us off. Once we have pulled away, He shoots at us with the fiery darts of discouragement, hopelessness, and despair.

When facing tough times, we NEED to be with other Christians to draw strength and support. They will uplift us not only with their presence but also with love and prayers.

"Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as

also ye do." 1 Thessalonians 5:11

These small, weak little fellows are excellent climbers and make their homes deep in the crevices of large rocks, high in mountainous terrains. The greatest distance they will stray from the safety of their homes is about 55 yards, and this is only to eat and graze on surrounding grasses.

They never wander far from the protection of their rocky shelters and for good reason.

They are very weak and their only defense is how quickly they can seek security in their hilly homes. This feeble animal KNOWS his weakness and inability to fight any battles therefore never attempts to, choosing only to seek sanctuary in the only safe place he has.

Why can't we see how much we are like the conie? We are weak and our only strength is in Christ. He is our only protection and defense.

"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9a

When will we ever learn that our only security is in our Rock, Jesus Christ?

"The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower." Psalms 18:2



While the ant was a sterling example of team work, our next tutor from nature, the locust, shows what power and influence there is in numbers.

"The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands;"

Proverbs 30:27

Alone, a single locust is barely noticeable, and by itself, harmless and of little concern. Ah, but when locusts come together, the world sits up and takes notice. Just ask Pharaoh and the Egyptians!

The largest swarms have covered hundreds of square miles and consisted of billions of insects! Now that is a force to be reckoned with!

God never intended for us to work alone. In Ecclesiastes 4:9 He even tells us, "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour." There is no doubt there is strength in numbers!

While the obvious is believers working together in serving the Lord, the true beginning starts with each individual being where they should be spiritually and in Christian duty.

Consider politics. If every believer cast their votes on issues and candidates according to God's Word, what kind of government would our country have?

If Christians took a stand against evil in their communities, cities and states, strongholds of wickedness wouldn't stand a chance. Bars, liquor stores, abortion clinics and gambling casinos would have a hard time surviving.

Consider prayer. If each of us prayed without ceasing and diligently pleaded for the sick and lost, what great miracles and revival would we see in our world?

Apply this concept to church attendance, tithes and offerings, to name just a few. We would be a mighty force for God such as the world has never seen!

("Critters and Bugs," cont on pg 7)

# ***“Children and Their Rights”***

**By Dr. John Adams**

**Executive Director, Moral Action**

Dr. Chuck Swindoll: “Sometimes I meet parents who think that if they love their children enough, they will never have to exercise corporal punishment.

Few things could be further from the truth.”

Proverbs 13:24 doesn’t call that love: “Those who spare the rod of discipline hate their children.” That may make us gag a little, but that’s what God has said.

The simple fact is that fair, consistent, biblical discipline confirms your love for your child. Children don’t know how to behave properly without the security that discipline brings.

Discipline is essential for learning self-control, but take note: correction and discipline should be given while upholding your child’s dignity and value.

Parents, and not the government, have the primary responsibility for the education of their children.

The late President Ronald Reagan in an address to the National Commission on Excellence in Education stated: “Parental authority is not a right conveyed by the state.”

The following are radical ideas being upheld by court decisions:

Children have the right to divorce their parents and receive alimony.

Children are eligible for minimum wages if they do household chores.

Children should be able to charge their parents with child abuse if they use

biblical disciplinary measures.

Children have the right to sue their parents for being forced to attend church or to avoid going places with them.

Children and teenagers should have the right to decide whether to have an abortion, quit school, or to hire their own attorney.

The liberation of children by parents’ slackness has been underway for nearly three decades – so gradually that more parents are unaware of it.

Christianity teaches that one of the most sacred of all rights and responsibilities of parents is to rear their own children.

## **What Rights for Children Does the Child Rights Movement (World Forum Foundation) Seek?**

John Eldsmoe, author of “God and Caesar” answers this question on behalf of Child Righters:

Freedom from any kind of physical punishment. Sweden already has a law prohibiting spanking.

Freedom from any type of religious indoctrination. Parents should not be allowed to compel children to attend Sunday School and church.

The right to divorce one’s parents, arguing that a child should not have to live with his parents if he doesn’t want to.

The right to birth control information and abortion without parental knowledge.

The right to choose one’s own sexual preference.

These so-called kiddie-libbers are certainly not pro-family, and it is unique in that it is led entirely by adults. They have been instrumental in that three decades ago most states set the age of independence of 21, today’s legal coming of age occurs around 14.

## **What are the Pro-Parents, Pro-Family Policies?**

Promotion of the traditional Judeo-Christian values instilled in children by solid families and Bible teachings.

Advocating the restoring of parents to the overall educational process of children and teenagers.

Opposed the government’s role in facilitating and encouraging adolescent sexual activity.

Families, not government programs, are the best way to make our cultural and spiritual heritages perpetrated, and our values preserved. We must be strong on the family unit.

## **What are God’s Guidelines That Instill Strong Family Ties?**

Some people may ask with sincerity, “What would be wrong with giving children every right of adults?” The Biblical News Service publication answers, “Attached to every right is a responsibility!

To give children all adult rights is to burden their immature and inexperienced minds with the responsibility of forming judgments and making life determining decisions which are difficult for even the most mature adults.”

This is child abuse in one of its cruelest forms! Scriptures of God declare great truth:

Proverbs 1:8,9 – “My son, hear the

(“Children Rights,” cont on pg 7)

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***“The simple fact is that fair, consistent, biblical discipline confirms your love for your child. Children don’t know how to behave properly without the security that discipline brings. Discipline is essential for learning self-control, but take note: correction and discipline should be given while upholding your child’s dignity and value.”***



# Builders Work at Go Forth Baptist in Kilgore

After a couple of weeks of rest, The Master's Builders began arriving in Kilgore, Texas, on April 25, to begin work at Go Forth Baptist Church.

The church needed help framing the rooms and walls in a 60 X 100 metal building. Three classrooms, a storage closet, two restrooms, a large kitchen with a serving area, a large pantry, and a janitorial closet were all framed in.

The center of the building will be used as a fellowship hall or gym, as needed, and will accommodate ½ court basketball. The gym/fellowship walls were built with 2 X 6 wood studs that were 16ft. tall!

It was only by God's provision and strength that these walls even went up! The Master's Builders also installed OSB siding on two sides of the gym, up 16ft., and framed out the entryway in front of the building.

They went as far as they could with the building as the electrical work needed to be done before work could go any further.

All this work was completed in five days! However, with the tall, heavy wood framing, our men wouldn't have been able to accomplish this work without the amazing men and women of Go Forth Baptist Church. Many came each day and gave of their time, talent, and especially muscles!

If you follow "The Master's Builders" page on Facebook, you'll see and understand just how AMAZING they

were! It took many people to put those big tall walls in place.

When the Master's Builders called out to "Raise the Wall", the Go Forth Church family were there to help! Praise God! Thank you to each and every one of them!

There were 10 or 12 who came to help when they could, and many of those worked every day we worked. What a blessing they were to The Master's Builders, and many new friendships were made!

The Builders had eight campers on site at the church, and one couple came from Bethel Baptist Church in Clayton, TX, to help with the work.

This was job #194 for The Master's Builders.

The Go Forth church family served an evening meal every day, and we were able to enjoy leftovers for lunch most days. They certainly saw to our every need while we worked on the building.

They are a church faithful to pray, and they lifted us up in prayer daily!

Pastor John Gradberg and his wife, Mickie, were such a blessing to us in so many ways. Brother John was able to work with the Builders a few days, and Mickie blessed us with fresh eggs from her wonderful chickens.

From the very first day, we felt we were part of the Gradberg family AND the Go Forth Baptist church family. This church family has a special place in the hearts of all of The Master's Builders.

The Lord just keeps on enlarging our family, and for that, we are thankful! That is one of the biggest blessings to enjoy by being a part of The Master's Builders, meeting new brothers and sisters everywhere you go!

The Master's Builders ladies received a special blessing from the ladies of Go Forth with an invitation to attend a real "Tea Party"! For many of us it was the first one ever!

The church was beautifully decorated, and the event was so well planned. The theme of the tea party was "Bloom Where You are Planted".

The fellowship, testimonies, music, and food were wonderful! As a bonus we all got to dress up with our fanciest dresses, church gloves, hats, and "facinators"!!

Once again, you can see more about this wonderful event on our Facebook page. Several of the men from the church served the meal and made sure we were each treated like the blessed women of God that we are!

A special thank you to each one who had a part in making this a wonderful day for all!

Please pray for our Master's Builders family. We need workers to join us! Some of our men want to continue to work, but their bodies are wearing out! They love serving God in this ministry and the blessings that go with it.

Pray for the Lord to send workers and for safety as our men work.

The Master's Builders next job will be at Round Prairie Baptist Church in Fairfield, TX, starting May 28. If you can, PLEASE come visit and see what we do! We would love to meet you and visit with you.

If you have questions about The Master's Builders ministry or your church has building needs, contact Mike Green at (972)935-3877, David Axe at (903)918-0702 or Eddie Sikes at (479)462-1675.

Please follow us on Facebook and pray for us! "Like" our page at "The Master's Builders" (arbor logo) and watch for daily updates while we with lots of pictures and information about this ministry and the work we do.

**Nelda Malone-Reporter**



# "That Reminds Me"

By Jesse Spurlock

## "A Mighty Big Mouse"

We don't normally have mice in the house. However, the garage is attached to the house and mice do get in there from time to time. When we see one, or their evidence, I set out a trap and get rid of them.

However, oftentimes they stay out of sight and I don't know they're there, until after they've brought their family with them. When that happens, the old adage, "You don't have a mouse, you have mice," becomes a reality.

Because the garage is attached to the house and the entry door, we sometimes prop the screen and the door open to bring in the groceries from the car. During that period of time we don't have a guard posted, so one of the furry critters will make his way into the house.

Recently, we had run very low on groceries so we had bought a large amount. Since I hadn't seen a mouse or any evidence of them in a couple of years, we had propped the door open, brought the groceries in, and put them away. I had just gone into my office when my wife let out a blood curdling scream.

I ran to her rescue, expecting to find, at the minimum, an axe murderer in the kitchen. However, Lelia was standing in the doorway of the kitchen ready to flee. She said, "I just saw a mouse! He was this big!" She was holding her hands about two feet apart.

I asked incredulously, "How big???"

Still holding her hands about two feet apart she repeated, "I'm telling you he was THIS big!"

I didn't have a trap for anything that big so I just got a couple of normal sized traps and set them out.



The next morning I had caught the mouse. He was so small I decided to measure him. Although, he had a three inch tail, his body was actually on three inches. I showed him to Lelia who said, "His big brother is still in there!"

Lelia's impression of the mouse reminded me of the victim of a robbery in Los Angeles. The robber had

held him up with a pistol. I asked the man what caliber it was. He said, "I don't know, but the end of the barrel was THIS big around!" And he made a circle with his finger and thumb on both hands measuring about five inches across.

When I was in seminary, the professor often referred to such exaggerations as "ministerially speaking," which is much nicer than saying a preacher was lying about something.

In this, I'm also reminded of Jerry Clower's joke about the young boy who was constantly exaggerating. One day he came running in the house yelling, "There's a lion in the yard!" His parents looked out and saw it was only a yellow collie dog.

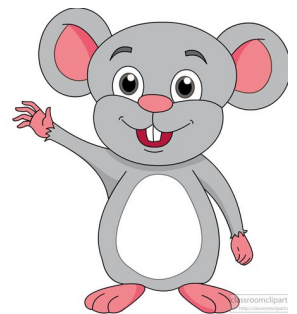
The sent the boy to his room to pray about his lying. He soon came back down and said, "I talked to God about it, and He said when He first saw that dog, He thought it was a lion too."

Although we often find humor in exaggerations or not telling the truth, it is well for us to keep in mind that God hasn't got anything good to say about that.

However, I don't know anyone that hasn't "stretched the truth" from time to time. We may think it is really not all that important, but we need to be very thankful that Jesus died to save us from all our sins, not just the ones we consider big ones.

Even stretching the truth is a sin that has the wage of death attached.

See Romans 14:23 and 6:23



Sunray Baptist Church, 2223 North 9th in Purcell, will be hosting a June Sing gospel singing service on Saturday, June 7, beginning at 6:00pm

Singing will feature  
Tim Menzies, from Nashville, TN  
and  
8th Street, a trio from Sapulpa

A love offering will be taken to help with expenses.  
For additional information, call 405-426-2844.

Bro. Tim will also be staying to sing  
at our morning worship service at 10:30am, June 8.

## **“Critters and Bugs,” cont from pg 3**

Locusts also fly so closely together in unity that swarms have actually blocked out the midday sun!

Ephesians 4:16 describes how God wants His church to operate just as closely.

“From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”

The final tiny source of wisdom is in Proverbs 30:28 “The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces”.

Yes, the creepy crawly little spider is not exactly something we would expect to gain wisdom from. Trust me, this little guy is pretty amazing simply in the fact that one can send teenage girls at church camp, screaming and leaping four feet straight into the air to the safety of a top bunk!

As the scripture states, spiders take the opportunity to work in the rich man's

homes as well as the poor.

Unconsciously Christians will “qualify” those God sends into their lives based on appearances, income, the sins they are involved in and where they live. They then proceed to work within this idea, deciding who they will witness and minister too. Most often the people who meet their requirements are pretty much like them.

The poor are usually disregarded and the wealthy are too intimidating. We need to be more like the lowly spider, seizing the chance to reach whoever God brings our way.

Acts 10:34 tells us “. . . that God is no respecter of persons; and neither should we be. We know that God died for the whole world so it is clear He wants us to share Him with everyone.

Have you ever admired the beauty of a spider's web, glistening in the light? They are truly amazing, intricately created with nothing more than thin strands of material.

Spinning and weaving a web are the only skill and material God gave this tiny living thing to utilize. This lowly arachnid doesn't fret or complain about what it doesn't have, but goes about making the most of what the Lord has provided it with.

Nearly everyone at one time or another has played the “if only I had” game. “If only I had more talent, more money, more time. If only I was like Jim or Sue.” By becoming fixated on what they don't have, they fail to see all God has provided and what is worse let it lay waste.

With God, much is little; doesn't the miracle of the loaves and fishes prove that? Matthew 14:15-21

Whatever the Lord has endowed us with is more than enough to do His work in a marvelous way.

Last of all, I find the most admirable quality I have learned from the spider is perseverance. Just think of how many times you tear a web down, only to find it rebuilt the very next day?

No matter what the difficulties and obstacles they are faced with, they never give in to anger, regret, and discouragement. Wasting no time with self pity, the spider quickly gets to work and does the job all over again, and again and again and . . .

Always working diligently, doing whatever it takes to get the job done and doing it as perfectly as the first time. “

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 15:58

God's ways are truly mysterious. Who would ever think we could receive part of our spiritual education from critters and bugs? I believe that is exactly what He was telling us in 1 Corinthians 1:27.

“But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;”

## **“Children Rights,” cont from pg 4**

instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother; for they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.”

Proverbs 22:6 – “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 23:13,14 – “Withhold not correction from the child, for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.”

Proverbs 29:15 – “The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.”

Hebrews 12:11 – “Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.”

Ephesians 6:1-4 – “Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. Honour thy father and mother which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

# Latest News From Central Baptist College

## CBC Alumni Association "Join in June" Promotion

We're excited to announce the return of the CBC Alumni Association's "Join in June" promotion for a limited time!

During June, alumni who join the CBC Alumni Association will receive an exclusive gift as part of this initiative.

Join or renew your membership today to receive a free alumni cup. Membership rates are \$35 per year for individuals and \$50 for couples. Visit [www.cbc.edu/alumniassociation](http://www.cbc.edu/alumniassociation) to join now!

If you're already a member, no worries! You can purchase an alumni cup for just \$10. For more information, please contact Mallory at [mguyton@cbc.edu](mailto:mguyton@cbc.edu).

**Mustangs in the Making**  
We invite you to enroll your children or grandchildren in our "Mustangs in the Making" program.

This free program is for children from birth through their senior year of high school and allows the CBC Advancement office to nurture our "Future Mustangs" by fostering a love for CBC from an early age.

Each year on their birthday, your child or grandchild will receive a birthday card and a special gift on certain milestone years.

To enroll, visit [www.cbc.edu/makingmustangs](http://www.cbc.edu/makingmustangs) or contact Mallory at [mguyton@cbc.edu](mailto:mguyton@cbc.edu) or 501.205.8875.

## Legacy Leaders

Legacy Leaders is a giving program designed to help alumni and friends of CBC give back to the college. This program recognizes individuals who believe in CBC's mission and future.

Your contribution, no matter the amount, will significantly impact the college and our students' lives.



To join Legacy Leaders, visit [www.cbc.edu/legacyleaders](http://www.cbc.edu/legacyleaders). Contribution Levels:

Pillar: \$10 per month  
Tower: \$25 per month  
Sustainer: \$50 per month  
Leader: \$75 per month  
Old Main: \$100 per month  
1952: \$250 per month

## Homecoming 2026

CBC will host its annual Homecoming activities starting on Monday, January 12, and continuing through Saturday, January 17.

A variety of events will take place throughout the week, with the main events scheduled for Friday and Saturday.

Make sure to mark your calendars for Homecoming 2026!

## Kimbrov Honored at Retirement Celebration

CBC hosted a retirement event honoring President Terry Kimbrov on May 9, 2025. The emcee for the event was Yalanda Merrell, Director of Audience Engagement at Lifeword. Dr. Virgil Porter, Chair of the Bible Department, offered the opening prayer.

The program began with Jason Kimbrov, Terry's son, who discussed the Kimbrov family's journey to Conway and the adjustments they faced over the first 10 years.

Mr. Jim Fink, long-standing and current board member, shared stories about how he became acquainted with Terry and explained how Terry became President of the college.

Mr. Brian Ratliff also spoke about Terry's first presidential project—the Ratliff Bell Tower. Brian highlighted the significance of the replication project and how Terry managed to raise the funds for its completion.

Brad Lacy, President and CEO of the Conway Chamber of Commerce, spoke about how Terry helped put CBC on the map. He described Terry as a key player in the community and detailed how he began to shape CBC's role within the City of Colleges.

Long-time employee Judy Gabbard discussed Terry's impact on academics at CBC. He added multiple majors and minors to the degree plans during his tenure. He also led in writing the Title III Strengthening Institutions Grant, which was pivotal in funding several of these programs, including the construction of the Judy Gabbard Science Center.

Former Vice President for Advancement Sancy Faulk addressed Terry's involvement in Vision 2020, which raised over \$18 million, marking the most successful capital campaign in the college's history.

She also shared stories of how the college prayerfully planned for how it would expand.

Executive Vice President Dr. Jeremy Langley concluded the event by reflecting on Terry's legacy and the school's commitment to continuing it.

Dr. Langley presented Terry with several gifts, including a caricature by alum Gary Thomas (1980), a gift certificate to Spring Creek Outfitters, and the announcement of an established Endowed Scholarship in his honor.

Dr. Joel Slayton led the closing prayer. During the prayer, several men, including Dr. Slayton, Dr. Porter, Dr. Tim Brewer, Jim Fink, Jason Kimbrov, Justin Kimbrov, Brian Ratliff, Cody Hiland, Dr. Langley, Nelson Ortiz, Steve Elder, Kane Harrell, and Kimbrov Harrell, surrounded Terry to pray over him.

President Kimbrov's last day will be May 26.

If you would like to send him a card or letter, please address it to Peggy Pillow, Central Baptist College, 1501 College Ave, Conway, AR 72034.