



**Fall 2015**

*The College of Bible and Ministry of Harding University seeks to lead all students to know, live and share God's Word and to understand, love and serve God's world through and beyond their chosen vocation.*

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## **KAY GOWEN RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED CHRISTIAN SERVICE AWARD**

Each year at our annual Harding Bible Lectureship we are pleased to present Distinguished Christian Service awards to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the cause of Christ. On Wednesday night (September 30) of this year's lectureship that award was given to Kay Gowen, Director of our Abundant Living ministry.

The Abundant Living ministry is a service of the Office of Church Relations, in partnership with many generous donors. Kay has led the program since 2006 and has spent countless hours and traveled many thousands of miles to promote ministry to, and with, senior Christians. She created and edits the quarterly *Abundant Living* magazine and serves as an invaluable resource to many individuals and churches throughout our brotherhood.

**Participants in the Seniors Ministry conference at Harding in June 2015**



For example, Kay organized a Seniors Ministry conference in June here on our campus. The conference attracted 29 participants from Arkansas, Kentucky, New York, Tennessee and Texas. She also conducted our second GrandCamp for grandparents and their grandchildren on July 14-17.

Each year Kay organizes an Abundant Living track at the Harding Bible Lectureship. On September 30, Howard Norton shared three presentations on "Keep Working for Jesus" and Kay hosted an Abundant Living luncheon. You can hear recorded presentations from this year's lectureship, and learn more about next year's program, at [www.Harding.edu/lectureship](http://www.Harding.edu/lectureship).

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Our ninth annual Abundant Living Retreat was held at Branson on October 6-9. In each of the last three years, we have had from 225 to 240 attendees from 20 states gather for four nights and three days of encouragement, inspiration, equipping and challenging older Christians to find their niche and staying active in the Kingdom. For more information about next year's retreat visit [www.abundantlivingseniors.com](http://www.abundantlivingseniors.com).

Thanks to Kay's initiative, Abundant Living now offers mini-versions of the Branson Retreat in areas throughout the nation, in partnership with local congregations. This year the mini-retreats attracted 627 participants in six locations: Clarksville, Tenn., on May 30; Searcy, Ark., Aug. 7-8; Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 15; Jackson, Tenn., Aug. 28-29; and Mesquite, Texas, Sept. 19.

In partnership with Arthur & Sheri Shearin, Kay's office sponsored a Restoration History tour last May that attracted 56 participants.

Kay is ably supported by her husband Jim, who serves as the Director of Men's Intramurals here at Harding University.

My thanks to Kay for all she does to help so many seniors experience the promise of Jesus: "I have come that they might have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Our congratulations to her on receiving this well-deserved honor!

-Dan Williams, Vice-President  
Office of Church Relations



Dan Williams presenting a Distinguished Christian Service Award to Kay Gowen at the 2015 Annual Bible Lectureship, September 30, 2015.

# GLOBAL MISSIONS EXPERIENCE HOSTED AT H.U.T.



This year Harding University hosted the 55th Global Missions Experience, typically known as the World Missions Workshop. Over a thousand people from across from the United States and around the world traveled to Camp Tahkodah for a weekend of hands-on experiences in missions. The overall theme for the weekend was “Relentless”. During keynote sessions and classes students were encouraged to answer the Relentless call that God has for His people. The event challenged students to Relentlessly participate in God’s mission through their career, to Relentlessly serve God’s purposes, and to Relentlessly seek God wherever they go. The theme verse for the conference was John 5:17, “My Father never stops working and so I keep working too.”

Students from Lipscomb University, Freed-Hardeman University, Faulkner University, Ohio Valley University, Oklahoma Christian, Summit Christian College, York College, Pepperdine University, Adventures in Missions, Crowley’s Ridge College, and current and alumni Harding students attended. Over the course of the weekend there were six keynote presentations taught by missionaries each with experience on a different continent. Classes, learning stations, and simulations were taught by sixty presenters representing over thirty countries.

This event, unique to Harding University, housed students in Tahkodah’s Global Village, which simulates the living

conditions of seven different areas from around the world. This facility provides a platform for students to learn about cross-cultural dynamics, missions principles, appropriate technology, sustainable agriculture, sharing the gospel, planting churches, working with house churches, and learning how to serve God among the poor of the world. Learning stations in the Global Village allowed to students to actively engage in training. Some stations emphasized sharing faith and having spiritual conversations, such as answering the questions of skeptics, laundromat ministries, and Discovery Bible Studies. Others highlighted development ministries such as beekeeping, cross-cultural health care education, rainwater catchment, sustainable agriculture, and water purification. In addition to all of the classes and learning stations offered at HUT 190 students stayed in the Global Village, 100 of whom stayed in the refugee camp. The rest of the weekend visitors stayed in cabins at Camp Tahkodah and in “Tent City”.



**Alan Howell (Montepuez, Mozambique)  
addresses Friday morning crowd on “Relentless”**

The weekend culminated with a commitment service where students pledged to become full-time long term missionaries. When the call was made 229 students went to the front and placed a painted footprint on a large mural under an area of the world they feel called to serve. After they placed their footprint on the mural, missionaries from around the world washed their feet and prayed over them. e are grateful to God for the things that He has done!

# 2015 LECTURESHIP REPORT

This year's Harding Bible Lectureship was another history-making event, with record-setting attendance on three of the four nights of the program. Had it not been for last year's overflowing crowd on Sunday night, when we had Alan Robertson speak, this would have been our largest lectureship attendance ever. (Or, to put it another way, this year's program was the biggest Harding Bible Lectureship without a speaker from "Duck Dynasty" on the schedule!)

We have also received overwhelmingly positive comments in the online survey which all lectureship guests are invited to complete. You may read some typical responses by going to <http://www.harding.edu/events/lectureship>.

If you were not able to attend this year's program and would like to hear a recording of any of the many excellent presentations, they are posted at <http://www.harding.edu/events/lectureship/archive>.


My thanks to all of the speakers and presenters who did such an outstanding job of sharing God's Word; to our Lectureship Committee, who put in many hours of diligent preparation; and to Teresa Castleman, who did a superb job of managing the logistics of this massive event.


Mark your calendars now for September 25-28, 2016, when the 93rd annual Harding Bible Lectureship will be held. The theme of next year's program is "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: Living In The Presence of God."

-Dan Williams


## FACULTY NOTES


**Our Bible faculty are serving the kingdom all over the world. Here are some examples:**


 Dr. Ross Cochran is working on a paper entitled, "Heartbeat: The Ministry and Thought of Landon B. Saunders." It is a theological interpretation of the theological tenets that have guided Landon's attempts to speak to the unchurched. Dr. Cochran will present it at the Pepperdine Bible Lectures in April 2016.

 Dr. Monte Cox led a group of thirty-five on a Deans Tour of Egypt July 29-August 9. The ten-day tour included visits to the funerary temple of Rameses II at Abu Simbel (pictured), Aswan, Luxor, the Valley of the Kings, Memphis, and all the sights around Giza and Cairo. The tour also included a four-night Nile Cruise and a three day visit to the Sinai Peninsula. About one third of the group ascended what tradition identifies as Mt. Sinai, hiking through the night to beat the heat. The group spent the last day on the Red Sea at Sharm el-Sheik. Dr. Cox has led Dean's Tours to the Holy Land--mostly to Israel--since 2005. If you'd like more information about future Dean's Tours, contact him by e-mail at [mcox@harding.edu](mailto:mcox@harding.edu).



 Alan Howell, our visiting missionary from Mozambique, recently published an article entitled "Recognizing Poverty Rules: Addressing the Causes and Patterns of Absolute Poverty Among the Makua-Metto People" in *Missio Dei: A Journal of Missional Theology and Praxis* 6, no. 2 (August 2015).

 In June and July, Dr. Dale Manor continued his work as the Field Director of the Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations in Israel. The work is in collaboration with Tel Aviv University. There were seven people from the churches of Christ, from seven different institutions, who participated in the excavation this year. In addition, Dr. Manor was the guest speaker at Friends' Day for the Norwood congregation in Knoxville, Tennessee.

 The 2015 Annual Bible Lectureship was a great success. The following College of Bible and Ministry Faculty spoke on the program : Dr. Tom Alexander, Dr. Andrew Baker, Dr. Ross Cochran, Dr. Monte Cox, Dr. Dale Manor, Dr. Craig Martin, Karl McLarty, Dr. Sherry Pollard, Terri Rine, Clay Smith, Dr. Phil Thompson, Dr. Anessa Westbrook, and Dr. Randy Willingham. The following Harding School of Theology Faculty also spoke on the program : Dr. Allen Black, Dr. Rick Oster, and Dr. Mark Powell.

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