



**Spring 2019**

*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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## The Legacy of Carl & Frankie Mitchell

By Dr. David Burks, Chancellor  
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Dr. Carl Mitchell died December 18, 2018 in Mesquite, Texas and his wife of 65 years, Frankie passed away 18 days later on January 6, 2019. Dr. Mitchell served as Dean of the College of Bible & Religion at Harding from 1989 until 2006 and then taught Bible and worked in the office of the President as a counsellor until his retirement in 2013. Frankie worked in Human Resources under Lott Tucker.

Leah and I loved Carl and Frankie Mitchell very much. A close bond was established very early in our relationship and we were privileged to travel with them overseas on many occasions. Carl and Frankie were spiritual giants and mentors for us.

One of the first projects that I collaborated closely with Dr. Mitchell on was the development of plans for the McInteer Bible & World Missions Center. Carl and I both wanted it to be the centerpiece of our work at Harding University, and we worked to create a facility which emphasized world missions. As you enter the rotunda in the McInteer Center, you'll see the Great Commission in large letters around a map of the world. Carl was always interested in sharing the good news of Christ to everyone around the world. In fact, it seems to me that missions and the names Carl and Frankie Mitchell simply are synonymous.

One of the special features of the McInteer Plaza is the fountain in the middle with a baptistry, which is patterned after one found in Ephesus. Carl first pointed out this baptistry to me and suggested it for this location.

Carl was also extremely interested in counseling with people. He helped establish the MFT program at Harding and simply insisted that I put this program into place. I seldom ever said "No" to Carl Mitchell.

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Early on, I realized that Carl had a passion for encouraging people everywhere to read the Bible through every year. Before coming to Harding, he had sponsored a steak dinner in other places where he had preached for the people who had read through the Bible. He asked me to assist him in that regard and we started having a steak dinner for Harding and at the College church, a practice which continues today. Carl always produced a daily Bible reading schedule. He included it in his Christmas cards and gave it to his friends. I remember a number of dinners when we cooked the steak outside. Carl was also quite particular and wanted the steaks cooked in just exactly the right way and -- he *seldom* thought my way was the right way.

He loved our International Programs and was instrumental in starting our work in Italy, our first campus overseas. Carl was one of the strongest proponents of International Education. On numerous occasions, we were privileged to travel to these campuses with Carl and Frankie and they were always our guides.

One personal trip that I'll always remember was a cruise to the Baltic Sea. While on the ship, as would be Carl's custom, he got a notice put in the ship's paper that on Sunday we would have the Lord's Supper for anyone who wanted to participate. We thought we might have 5-6 people in addition to the four of us. We ended up having 40 people at our service! We had to improvise with the Lord's Supper because we didn't have that many supplies with us. We had been given a bottle of wine by the ship's captain, so it became the Lord's Supper. It was difficult to get the cork out without a corkscrew, but Carl managed with his pocketknife after a LOT of effort.

On one trip, Carl was supposed to drive. He drove for two blocks and then decided that he did not want to drive so he turned this honor over to me. It was very interesting to drive in a small car for two weeks with Leah, Carl, and Frankie all telling me where to drive and where to turn. They had three maps and they seldom agreed on where I should drive. It was fun on the roundabouts.

I loved working with Frankie in Human Resources. She worked for Lott Tucker, who was an icon at Harding, and only Frankie could accomplish what she was able to do. She was able to "out-Lott" Lott Tucker, and not just anybody could do that. I could hear Frankie coming down the hallway before she ever arrived. She had a contagious personality.

On a more personal note, I seldom ever said the word "Carl" without saying the word "Frankie." They were simply inseparable. They loved each other, believed in each other, believed in the work of the Lord's kingdom, and were an example for many because of their commitment. I was always amused when we went out to eat because Carl would order his meal and Frankie would then order her meal and then almost without exception, Frankie would eat Carl's meal and Carl would eat her meal.

In addition to his love for God, and the Lord's church, it would be fair to say that Carl knew how to live life to the fullest. He loved people, and he loved to play golf and tennis. A number of us loved to play golf with him on a regular basis. One of my favorite memories would be times when he and Howard Bybee would be playing together and Keith Cronk and I would simply listen to their banter. I wish I had a recording of it -- it would be priceless. Carl was always right. So was Howard.

I think it would be fair to say that Carl was one of the strongest encouragers ever to walk on Planet Earth. He strongly believed in the priesthood of all believers and believed that all people should proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. He talked or preached this message whenever possible. He did it both in word and in example. The Mitchell Center on our campus is named in their honor because of his love for vocational missions.

Hebrews 11 is the great faith chapter in the Bible it contains a roll call of men and women who made an eternal difference through their lives of faith. If such a list were being written today, I believe Carl and Frankie Mitchell would be included among the inspiring examples of trust and endurance. In the fourth verse of chapter 11, the writer mentions Abel, observing about him, "And by faith he (Abel) still speaks, even though he is dead." This is the very definition of legacy. I believe that through faith Carl and Frankie Mitchell still speak to us today, and they will for decades to come. Heaven has gained a wonderful couple.

# HARDING UNIVERSITY

## SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS

Parents and youth ministers will want to know about two incredible resources for young people. Uplift is about experiencing a deeper faith through worship, Bible study, and processing together. Everything that happens at Uplift is designed to cultivate the strongest spiritual atmosphere possible. There's nothing greater than participating in authentic worship of the One True God with 500 other campers. Those are the moments that campers from Uplift decades ago remember, and we love Uplift because those moments happen here every day. Campers come with a wide range of spiritual maturity, but everyone is given the same opportunity to experience worship in Spirit and truth.

Uplift summer camp is for students rising 7th grade through just-graduated high school seniors. We take the summer camp experience and bring it to Harding's main campus in Searcy, Arkansas, allowing us to use the dorms, cafeteria, classrooms, and recreational facilities to make a fun atmosphere for middle school and high school students. Our Uplift staff consists of Harding employees and college students who have a heart for serving and worshipping alongside our campers.

From archery tag to color runs, ultimate Frisbee to the talent show, card games to basketball, there's something for everyone to have a great time! Come as a youth group or an individual camper and there's a place for you. Each day is mapped out with God time, free time, classes, worship, and so much more.

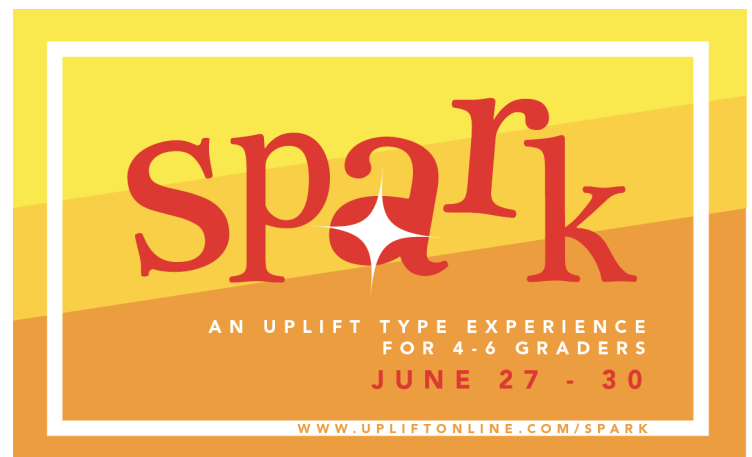
Uplift has three sessions, all in June:

· Session 1: June 8-13 · Session 2: June 15-20 · Session 3: June 22-27

Camp begins with check in on Saturday (8th, 15th, 22nd) from 1-4 PM in the McInteer lobby and runs through breakfast Thursday morning at 9 AM (13th, 20th, 27th).

In addition, Spark is our newest camp for students going into 4th grade through 6th grade. It has one session running from June 27th through June 30th. It also takes place on Harding's campus but focuses on activities, worship, and events for a younger age group to prepare for a life of faith ahead. We take the best from Uplift and bring the experience of worship and Bible study to Spark. Campers at Spark will stay in dorms monitored by our Uplift staff, Uplift counselors, and chaperones from church groups.

For more information, or to register, go to [www.upliftonline.com](http://www.upliftonline.com). A discount applies to registrations received before April 13.



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## Upcoming Events



**2019 Annual Bible Lectureship – FAN THE FLAME:  
Renewed by the Power of the Holy Spirit (Acts) -  
September 29-October 2, 2019  
[www.harding.edu/lectureship](http://www.harding.edu/lectureship)**

# FACULTY NOTES

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

- ◆ Dr. Devin Swindle, Dr. Kevin Youngblood, Dr. Dan Williams and Alexander Jamerison all spoke at the Harding University Preachers Conference on February 19, 2019. The topic of the conference was "Preaching (the rest of) Revelation." 109 preachers from eight states attended.
- ◆ Dr. Monte Cox spoke at the "Connect and Celebrate" event hosted by the Rose City Community Church of Christ and the Sylvan Hills Church of Christ on December 16, 2018. This was the latest in a series of gatherings designed to foster relationships across the racial divide in our fellowship.
- ◆ Dr. Allen Diles published the article "Arkansas College: A Civil War Casualty," in *Restoration Quarterly* 61/1 (2019): 39-52.
- ◆ Dr. Dale W. Manor has given archaeological presentations in September at the Men's Retreat at Ganderbrook Camp in Maine; in October at the Miami Church of Christ in Miami OK; and in November at the West Olive Church of Christ in Peoria, AZ. He presented a lecture at the 2019 FHU lectureship on "Mapping the Exodus: Can We Know the Route?" During November, he presented a paper at the Evangelical Theological Society/Near Eastern Archaeology Society in Denver dealing with "Tel Achzib ('Tel of Deception'): Observations after Digging Ten Years at a Fake Site." The *Biblical Archaeology Review* published an article on Tel Achzib entitled: "The Legend of Tel Achzib, Arkansas." 45/1 (2019): 46-53.
- ◆ Dr. Anessa Westbrook published a series of articles based on her research on the spiritual development of women for Mosaic., a blog run by the Siburt Institute to provide resources on Christian leadership, spiritual vitality, and cultural engagement.
- ◆ Dr. Carl Williamson traveled to Beaumont, California the first weekend of February to work with the congregation to consider ways to begin a process of church revitalization. He will be taking a group of students over spring break to survey the area for potential church growth.