

FAITH IN THE WORKPLACE

ALUMNI SPEAKER SERIES

Nursing



Schedule

DATE

Oct. 25, 2024

TIME

2-2:45 p.m.

Swaid Center for Health
Sciences 233

**Dr. Amy
Emerson, M.D.**

Member, Board of
Trustees

3-4 p.m.

Swaid Center for Health
Sciences 201

**Carr College of
Nursing Reception**

Meet-and-Greet with
Alumnus of the Year
Ronda Reely, MSN, RN

Welcome!

The Carr College of Nursing faculty is committed to providing a quality education which leads to an understanding and philosophy of life consistent with Christian principles. The faculty believe health care is a basic right and nurses facilitate optimal health and abilities for patients and families.

In August, the faculty and staff attended a pre-session presentation led by Chan Hellman, Ph.D., one of the authors of Hope Rising. Synthesizing published studies on the science of hope, Dr. Chan stated that hope is the single best predictor of well-being compared to other aspects of trauma or illness recovery. The presence of hope buffers adversity, so hopeful people have better outcomes, and hope can be learned. The mission of the College of Nursing — Developing Nurses as Christian Servants — provides a strong platform from which nurses can facilitate hope in the lives of patients to reach the highest outcomes. Christian professional and advanced practice nurses are needed to promote hope with excellence, competence and

compassion for patients and their families from diverse and vulnerable backgrounds. Nursing graduates are taught to use principles of servant leadership in their work as full partners on the interprofessional teams.

Dr. Amy Emerson ('96) is a role model for facilitating hope. As a pediatrician and director of Hope-Driven Parenting, she will discuss how the science of hope becomes a powerful tool in the hands of medical providers. She currently serves the state of Oklahoma in the realms of human services and juvenile justice, and her knowledge of brain development and positive parenting practices has given her opportunities to weave the science into everyday moments encountered by those in the sacred spaces of healing and medicine.

FAITH AND NURSING

"... inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." — 1 Thessalonians 1:3



Ronda Reely, MSN, RN
Carr College of Nursing 2024 Alumnus of the Year

Ronda Reely earned a Bachelor of Science in nursing from Harding in 1983 and later earned a Master of Science in nursing from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. She worked as nurse and patient educator at Arkansas Methodist Hospital in Paragould, Arkansas, before moving to Searcy to teach in the Carr College of Nursing. She co-taught Health Care Missions and was mentored by Janice Bingham, Jerry Myhan and O’Neal Tankersley. She organized medical mission trips to Tanzania and Guatemala where students applied the knowledge and skills they learned in the classroom. She values these mission experiences as a highlight of her professional career.



Dr. Amy Emerson, M.D.
Member, Board of Trustees

Dr. Amy Emerson is a pediatrician with a special interest in developmental-behavioral pediatrics who currently works as a consultant for several nonprofits focused on providing safe and nurturing environments for families and young children. She was recently named director of Hope-Driven Parenting, an initiative of Hope Rising Oklahoma, and she serves on several boards including Lilyfield and Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness. She also serves on the board of Oklahoma’s Office of Juvenile Affairs and advocates for Reach Out & Read and Dolly Parton Imagination Library. She and her husband, Clint, have four children and attend Park Church of Christ in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where she is involved in community outreach and serves on the youth ministry committee.

