

BLUE MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

2026

MOUNTAIN VIEW



LIVING THE LEGACY

MESSAGE FROM THE
THE PRESIDENT

Barbara C. McMillin



Every campus has buildings. Every university has traditions. But only a few possess something far more enduring: a legacy shaped by generations of faithful people who believed deeply enough to invest their lives in something that would outlast them.

As you turn the pages of this edition of *The Mountain View*, you will encounter stories of places that have anchored our history, alumni whose lives continue to reflect Christ’s love, and exciting opportunities that are helping prepare the next generation of Blue Mountain graduates. Together, these stories remind us that our legacy has never been found merely in brick and mortar. It has always been found in people.

Whether you graduated decades ago or only recently crossed the commencement stage in the MLB, you remain an essential part of that story. Your prayers, encouragement, generosity, and faithful witness have helped preserve the mission of Blue Mountain Christian University while opening doors for those who will follow.

On behalf of our students, faculty, staff, and Board of Trustees, thank you. Thank you for believing in this remarkable place. Thank you for carrying the values of Truth, Knowledge, and Virtue into your homes, churches, schools, businesses, and communities. And thank you for continuing to invest in a university that is committed to preparing graduates who love Christ, serve others, and make a difference in the world.

As you read these pages, I hope you will be reminded that Blue Mountain’s legacy is not simply something we celebrate. It is something we continue to build—together. Each time I have the privilege of writing these opening words, I am reminded what an extraordinary blessing it is to serve a university whose greatest strength has always been its people.



“Our legacy
has never been
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MOUNTAIN VIEW 2026

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Blue Mountain Christian University.*

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An aerial photograph of the Blue Mountain Christian University campus during the 'golden hour' of sunset. The campus is nestled in a valley, surrounded by a dense forest of green trees. Several large, multi-story brick buildings with white roofs are visible, interspersed with green lawns and parking lots. A prominent white church with a steeple stands on the left side of the campus. In the background, a tall radio tower and two large blue storage tanks are visible above the tree line. The sky is a warm, orange-yellow color from the setting sun.

SECTION I

BUILT BY FAITH

*Before us others believed
enough to build.*

PIVOTAL MOMENTS ON THE MOUNTAIN

The history of Blue Mountain Christian University can be read in brick and timber, in fields and foyers, in chapels and gathering spaces. When faced with pivotal moments in our history—moments that required clarity, courage, and conviction—our university has not simply revised policies or issued statements. Instead, our university has recognized these moments as opportunities for growth. Many of these pivotal moments have, in fact, coincided with a literal expansion of the campus.

Each of these expansions marks a defining moment when the institution clarified who it was and who it intended to become. These buildings stand as physical responses to spiritual conviction and institutional need. They are evidence that faith, community, and mission can be expressed not only through words but also through the spaces where life together unfolds.



Anchored:

The Lawrence T. Lowrey Administration Building

Completed in 1928, the Lawrence T. Lowrey Administration Building stands midway up the campus hillside with a commanding view. Designed by Mississippi architect James Manly Spain in the Colonial Revival style, the building reflects architectural permanence and order—qualities Blue Mountain itself was striving to embody.

Its construction, however, was not merely aesthetic. It was essential. Securing a more suitable administration building was one of the requirements for receiving the institution's first accreditation. The Lowrey Building became the milestone that marked the university's formal academic legitimacy. In a very real sense, accreditation followed construction.

Named for Lawrence T. Lowrey, a former president and the grandson of the college's founder, the building reflects generational stewardship. Leadership at Blue Mountain was not episodic but inherited, nurtured, and extended.

Within its walls sits the Modena Lowrey Berry Auditorium, a 773-seat chapel and lecture hall. For generations, the campus community has gathered there weekly for worship. The administrative heart of campus houses its spiritual heart. Governance and devotion coexist. Academic recognition did not dilute Christian conviction; it strengthened it.

The front walkway and steps were gifted by the Class of 1969, and the entryway renovation was funded in 2015 by the Class of 1965. The building remains not merely historic but shared. Alumni continue to shape the space that once shaped them.

The Lowrey Building marks the defining moment when Blue Mountain stood recognized—academically accredited and spiritually anchored.



Welcomed:

Armstrong House

Before Armstrong House was constructed, there was no designated residence for the president. The president and his family lived in dormitories or in houses near campus—wherever space could be found. Leadership was present, but it was not housed.

That changed when alumna Emma Fair Armstrong led the effort to build a president's home and became its largest contributor. Constructed at a cost of \$12,000—a significant investment at the time—the house represented intentional care.

Armstrong House marks a defining shift in institutional maturity. The university recognized that leadership requires stability and space for hospitality. In Christian higher education, leadership is pastoral as well as strategic. Trustees gather around dining tables. Donors are welcomed into living rooms. Students sit on porches and find encouragement.

Hospitality is not peripheral to mission; it reflects the biblical tradition of welcome and fellowship. By building Armstrong House, Blue Mountain institutionalized that tradition.

What had once been improvised became intentional. Leadership was no longer housed wherever possible, but where it was purposed to flourish.

Claimed:

The Paschal Student Union Building

Opened in 1970, the Paschal Student Union Building represented Blue Mountain’s expansion into dedicated student-life space. Designed by JH&H Architects/Planners of Flowood, Mississippi—a firm responsible for numerous collegiate buildings across the state—the approximately 15,000-square-foot facility soon became the hub of campus life.

Yet the defining moment occurred before construction ever began. It began with a conversation.

In 1968, student Sandra Murphy attended a symposium at the University of Mississippi and saw firsthand the impact of a student union building on campus life. When she returned to Blue Mountain, she shared the idea with fellow students and soon scheduled an appointment with President Harold Fisher. Murphy asked a simple question: might Blue Mountain College one day have such a facility?

Dr. Fisher’s response was both encouraging and strategic. He told her that the college certainly could have a student union—but that the students themselves would need to lead the effort. If the students could raise \$500,000, he promised, the administration would approach additional donors to help complete the project.

Murphy accepted the challenge, and the campus rallied behind her leadership.

What followed became one of the most memorable seasons in the life of the college. As alumna Linda Gholston, former chair of the Board of Trustees and a member of that student generation, later recalled, the campaign quickly grew into a campus-wide movement. Students wrote letters, made phone calls, organized bake sales, and created handmade signs encouraging support. What began with a handful of students soon drew in the entire community.



One daily ritual became legendary. Each morning after chapel, students gathered at the mailboxes directly across the hall from President Fisher’s office. They waited eagerly for the mail to arrive, then opened letters together, shouting out contributions as they appeared. The hallway erupted with excitement as students celebrated every gift that arrived.

The noise occasionally drew the attention of President Fisher. When visitors were present, he sometimes opened his office door to quiet the enthusiastic crowd. But on many mornings, he simply joined them in celebrating the progress.

Murphy remembers that the prevailing attitude on campus was not if the student union would be built, but when. The students never doubted that the effort would succeed. Gholston later reflected that the experience taught her two enduring lessons: that a group of enthusiastic students can accomplish daunting tasks, and that visionary leadership can inspire a community to achieve what once seemed impossible.

Even the Class of 1969—who graduated before the building was completed—returned later to see the finished structure and celebrated what had been accomplished.

The Student Union Building therefore represents more than a new facility. It stands as a testament to student faith, initiative, and shared determination.



*Conceptual rendering of proposed soccer field lighting.
Photo by We Can Drone*

Expanded:

The Sportsplex

The development of the BMCU Sportsplex marked a defining moment of expansion—geographically, culturally, and globally.

For years, baseball and softball teams played in New Albany. The hospitality was appreciated. But Athletic Director Curt Fowler recalls the turning point:

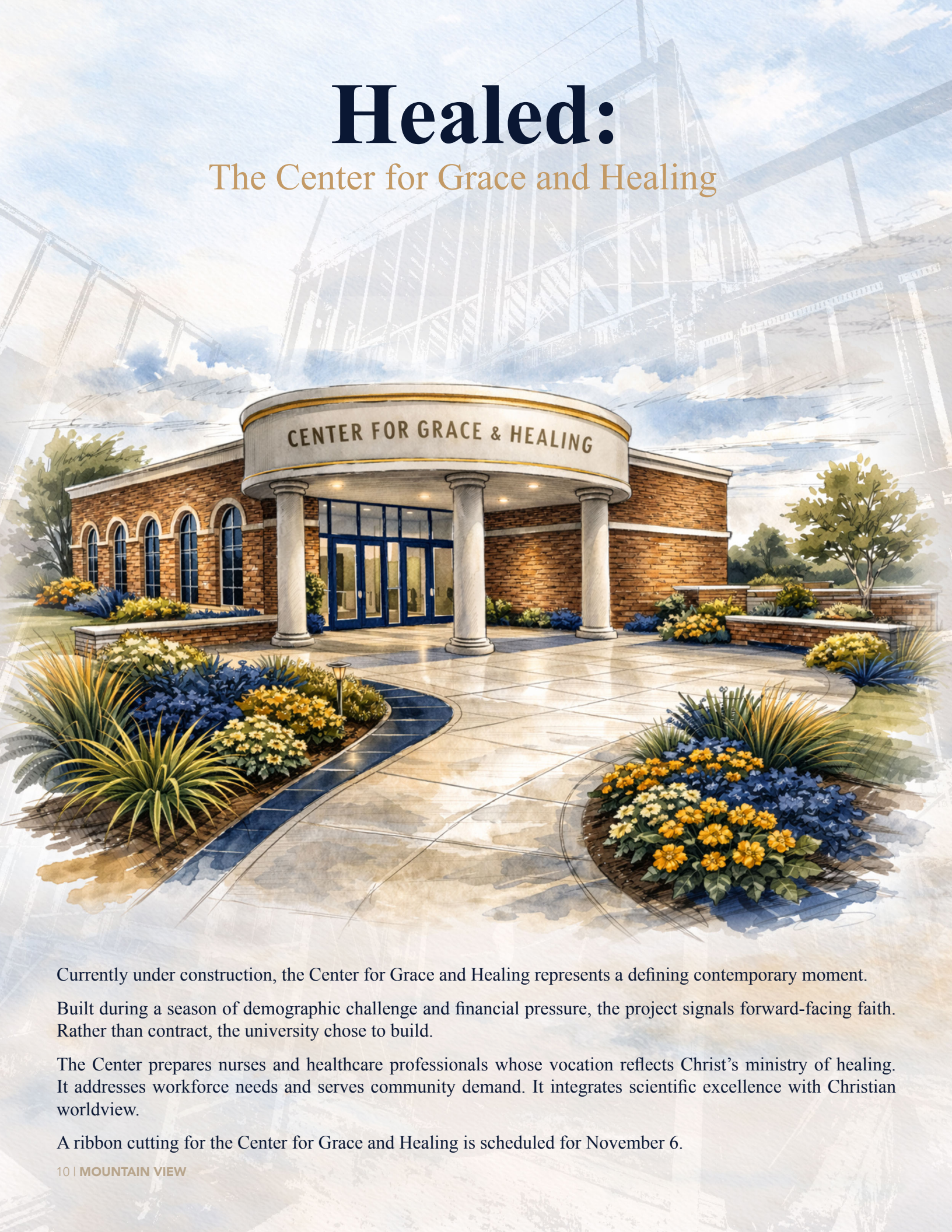
“The Sportsplex was a dream come true especially for baseball and softball. We loved playing at New Albany and appreciated the hospitality they showed BMCU, but we were so grateful to have a real home. Over the years, the BMCU Sportsplex has become a favorite place for other conference teams to play. Our fields are considered some of the best in the Southern States Athletic Conference.”

The defining word is home. The Sportsplex transformed borrowed space into belonging. Over time, the complex expanded to include baseball, softball, golf, soccer, powerlifting, and cross country. What began as provision became platform.

Athletics opened doors to students from across the United States and from multiple nations. The Sportsplex became a gateway through which international students encountered Christian higher education in rural Mississippi. Visiting teams experienced hospitality. Conference peers recognized excellence.

Healed:

The Center for Grace and Healing



Currently under construction, the Center for Grace and Healing represents a defining contemporary moment.

Built during a season of demographic challenge and financial pressure, the project signals forward-facing faith. Rather than contract, the university chose to build.

The Center prepares nurses and healthcare professionals whose vocation reflects Christ's ministry of healing. It addresses workforce needs and serves community demand. It integrates scientific excellence with Christian worldview.

A ribbon cutting for the Center for Grace and Healing is scheduled for November 6.



Healing Continued:

The Jessie Mauney Center for Healthcare Education

Alongside the Center for Grace and Healing, another project now rising on the Blue Mountain campus reflects a defining moment of a different kind. The Jessie Mauney Center for Healthcare Education will serve as an extension of the university's expanding healthcare programs.

Jessie Mauney graduated from Blue Mountain College in 1912. Determined to pursue medicine at a time when few women were admitted to medical school, she applied to Tulane University. The institution accepted her application—apparently unaware that the applicant was female. When she arrived on campus, administrators initially attempted to turn her away. Their concerns quickly faded when they realized she had arrived with the required tuition in hand.

Dr. Mauney completed her medical training and returned to Blue Mountain to practice medicine from her home across the street from the campus. For nearly fifty-eight years she served the people of Blue Mountain and the surrounding communities. In 1969 the university recognized her extraordinary life of service by naming her Alumna of the Year.

The Jessie Mauney Center therefore represents a generational return. A student once formed on this campus went on to serve her community for decades, and her legacy now returns to inspire future healthcare professionals.

Building as Belief

Across generations, Blue Mountain Christian University has responded to defining moments not with retreat but with construction.

Leaders built the Lowrey Administration Building to secure accreditation and anchor worship at the center of campus life. Alumni built Armstrong House to sustain leadership and cultivate hospitality. Students built the Student Union through faith and collective effort. The university built the Sportsplex to welcome competitors and students from around the nation and the world. Today, the campus builds facilities dedicated to healing and service.

Behind each structure stand people of conviction—leaders like Lawrence Lowrey, generous alumni like Emma Armstrong, faithful students like Sandra Murphy, visionary coaches like Curt Fowler, and dedicated servants like Dr. Jessie Mauney.

Their stories remind us that defining moments are not created by buildings alone. They are created by communities who believe deeply enough in their mission to build for the future.

On the hillside of Blue Mountain, belief rises from the ground. And through the lives shaped there, its influence continues to reach far beyond it.

SECTION II

LIVES OF PURPOSE

*A legacy is not
simply remembered.*

It is lived.

ALUMNA OF THE YEAR



Carolyn Mounce

The 2026 Alumna of the Year Award is presented to Carolyn Mounce ('60) in recognition of her lifetime of faithful service, steadfast generosity, and unwavering devotion to Blue Mountain Christian University and its alumni.

Following her graduation from Blue Mountain College in 1960, Miss Mounce devoted her entire 44-year career to serving the University through Guyton Library, first as Assistant Librarian and later as Head Librarian. Throughout her years on campus, she faithfully supported students as sponsor of the Mountaineer yearbook and demonstrated remarkable dedication to the Alumni Association, serving as treasurer for 24 years while remaining an active and loyal alumna.

Miss Mounce's commitment to Blue Mountain has extended far beyond her professional career. Her generous financial support includes establishing the Ella Mae Pitts McCord Scholarship in memory of her aunt. The scholarship continues to assist female students pursuing mission endeavors whose lives reflect strong Christian character and ideals.

Even in retirement, Miss Mounce remains a faithful presence on campus, regularly attending theatrical productions, Founders Day celebrations, alumni gatherings, reunions, and student events. Quiet and unassuming in spirit, her lifelong service, enduring generosity, and steadfast love for Blue Mountain Christian University embody the qualities celebrated by the Alumna of the Year Award.

DISTINGUISHED YOUNG ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

The 2026 Distinguished Young Alumna of the Year Award honors Kati Prince Kent ('11) for her outstanding leadership in education, athletics, and Christian service while faithfully representing Blue Mountain Christian University in her profession and community.

A cum laude graduate of Blue Mountain Christian University, Kent earned a bachelor's degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry before completing a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction. As a science teacher and coach at New Albany High School, she has earned the respect of students, colleagues, and parents alike. Recently named Teacher of the Year, she also received the 2025 Fellowship of Christian Athletes Coach of the Year Award. Her undefeated middle school basketball team captured both district and five-county championships during the 2025-26 season.

Beyond the classroom and the court, Kent is deeply committed to serving her church and community. Alongside her husband, she leads children's ministries, mentors young believers through Bible Buddies and Ministry 56, and actively supports families through acts of compassion and service. Those who know her describe her as a woman whose faith is evident in both her words and actions.

Through her commitment to excellence, servant leadership, and Christian character, Kent exemplifies the qualities celebrated by the Distinguished Young Alumna of the Year Award and serves as an outstanding representative of Blue Mountain Christian University.



Kati Prince Kent

ALUMNI AWARDS



FAITHFUL DAUGHTER AWARD

Ann McKinney Gurreri ('75)



The 2026 Faithful Daughter Award is presented to Ann McKinney Gurreri ('75) in recognition of her decades of faithful service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to Blue Mountain Christian University and her fellow alumni.

Graduating cum laude with a degree in Elementary Education, Ann quickly distinguished herself as a student leader, serving as freshman class president, participating in Student Government and BSU leadership, and being recognized in Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. She later earned a master's degree in Student Personnel and Counselor Education from Mississippi State University.

Although she now resides in Colorado, Ann has remained deeply connected to her alma mater and the Class of 1975. During the pandemic, she introduced monthly Zoom gatherings that reunited classmates, strengthened lifelong friendships, and created opportunities to pray together, encourage one another, and plan their milestone 50-year reunion. Her leadership also helped inspire her class's meaningful gift to renovate the lower level of the Student Union Building, while encouraging the Class of 1976 to join the effort.

Known as a faithful prayer warrior and devoted servant, Ann has quietly invested in the lives of classmates, her church, and her community for decades. Her consistent encouragement, leadership, and love for Blue Mountain Christian University embody the spirit of the Faithful Daughter Award and the University's values of Truth, Knowledge, and Virtue.

FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD

Ronald T. Meeks ('83)



The 2026 Faithful Servant Award is presented to Dr. Ronald T. Meeks ('83), whose decades of faithful ministry, teaching, and leadership have exemplified servant leadership and a steadfast commitment to Blue Mountain Christian University's mission.

A Corinth native, Dr. Meeks earned bachelor's degrees in Biblical Studies and English from Blue Mountain College before completing both a Master of Divinity and a Ph.D. from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. After serving churches throughout Mississippi and Tennessee, he returned to his alma mater in 1997, where he now serves as Professor of Bible, Chairman of the Department of Biblical Studies, and Director of Church Relations and Ministerial Recruiting.

Throughout nearly three decades on the BMCU faculty, Dr. Meeks has helped prepare countless students for gospel ministry while faithfully investing in their spiritual and academic growth. His impact has been recognized through numerous university honors, including Outstanding Faculty Member, Faculty of the Year, the Jim Futral Chair of Biblical Studies and Proclamation, and the Palmer-Donnell Servant Leadership Award.

Beyond the classroom, Dr. Meeks has pastored churches, served as an interim pastor for congregations across the region, and preached in more than 400 revivals over five decades of ministry. His life of humble service, unwavering faith, and dedication to Christ and His Church reflects the very spirit of the Faithful Servant Award.

ALUMNI AWARDS (CONT'D)



JOHNNIE ARMSTRONG AWARD

Selina Strickland Reid ('98)



The 2026 Johnnie Armstrong Alumni Award recognizes Selina Strickland Reid ('98) for a career marked by servant leadership, professional excellence, and an unwavering commitment to helping others succeed.

A graduate of Blue Mountain College with a bachelor's degree in Biology and Chemistry, Reid went on to earn a second bachelor's degree in Athletic Training from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a master's degree from Delta State University. During her career at Coahoma Community College, she became the institution's first full-time Head Athletic Trainer, first Assistant Athletic Director, and, in 2023, the first female Athletic Director in the college's history.

Throughout her career, Reid has championed student-athletes both on and off the field. She has secured significant grant funding, taught as an adjunct instructor for nearly two decades, served on numerous campus and community committees, and helped advance initiatives promoting student health, wellness, and safety.

Those who know Reid describe her as a woman of deep Christian faith whose integrity, humility, and compassion guide every area of her life. Whether mentoring students, leading athletics, or serving her church and community, she consistently demonstrates the Champions of Character values of integrity, responsibility, sportsmanship, servant leadership, and respect. Her leadership continues to inspire others, especially young women pursuing careers in athletics and higher education.

CONTINUE THE LEGACY

Reconnect, Remember, Reignite!

From unforgettable campus moments to joyful reunions, Blue Mountain Christian University alumni have shared countless memories—and the best is yet to come! Don't miss your chance to be involved in exciting alumni events for 2026-27. Whether you've been away for a while or never left at heart, now is the perfect time to become an active part of the BMCU alumni family.

Your story continues here — join us and be a part of the memories still to come!



A Legacy of Faith, Service, and Blue Mountain Pride:

Honoring Joyce Hodges Peters



After decades of faithful service to Blue Mountain Christian University, Joyce Hodges Peters is retiring, leaving behind a legacy woven deeply into the fabric of the institution she has loved for most of her life. Her story is one of devotion—to family, to faith, to community, and to the university that helped shape her journey.

Joyce's connection to Blue Mountain began as a student. Graduating magna cum laude in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business, she embraced campus life with enthusiasm and purpose. During her college years, she was actively involved in the Baptist Student Union, Compass Club, English Club, Phi Beta Lambda, the staff of The Mountaineer, and the Eunomian Society. Those who knew her then recognized the same qualities that would define her career and life: diligence, kindness, leadership, and a genuine love for people.

In April 1981, shortly after graduation, Joyce married Tommy Peters, beginning a partnership that would become a cornerstone of her life. Together they raised two children, Carol and Bruce, and later embraced one of Joyce's favorite roles—that of “MiMi” to her beloved grandchildren, Collin and Charlee. Family has always been at the center of Joyce's life, and her love for them

has been evident in every season.

Her commitment to serving others extends far beyond her family. At First Baptist Church in New Albany, Joyce has faithfully invested in the lives of countless people through her work as a preschool Sunday School teacher, a compassionate encourager to those experiencing loss, and a trusted source of support for church staff members. Her faith has never been confined to words; it has been demonstrated through action, generosity, and a sincere concern for others.

That servant's heart has also been visible throughout the community. Whether participating in Service Days, volunteering with outreach efforts, or investing time at ministries such as the Good Samaritan Center, Joyce has consistently sought opportunities to make a difference. She has never sought recognition for these efforts, yet they have touched lives and strengthened communities.

Her commitment to Blue Mountain has been equally profound. Alongside her husband, Joyce established the James E. Williams Scholarship Trust Agreement in memory of her late uncle, James Williams. Through this scholarship,

students have been encouraged and empowered to pursue an education at Blue Mountain, ensuring that opportunities continue for future generations.

Before returning to her alma mater, Joyce enjoyed a successful career with Barclay Furniture Company as an accounting clerk. Then, in 1999, Blue Mountain welcomed her back—not simply as an alumna, but as a leader whose impact would help shape the institution's future.

Over the course of her distinguished career at Blue Mountain Christian University, Joyce served in a succession of increasingly significant leadership roles, including Secretary, Finance Officer, Business Manager, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Operating Officer. As a valued member of the President's Cabinet, she helped guide the university through seasons of growth and change with wisdom, integrity, and unwavering commitment.

While her professional accomplishments are impressive, those who worked alongside her know that numbers and budgets tell only part of the story. Joyce brought warmth to every office, encouragement to every colleague, and genuine care to every student she encountered. She believed in the mission of the university and worked tirelessly to support it. Her leadership was marked not only by competence but also by compassion.

Joyce's love for Blue Mountain extended beyond boardrooms and budget meetings. She was one of the university's most enthusiastic supporters, faithfully cheering on the Toppers and celebrating the accomplishments of student-athletes with unmistakable pride. Her passion for college sports—especially her loyal support of Ole Miss—sparked friendships, lively conversations, and countless moments of camaraderie across campus.

Throughout her years of service, Joyce became more than an administrator; she became a trusted friend, mentor, encourager, and example. Her joyful spirit brightened hallways and offices. Her faith provided strength during challenges. Her commitment to excellence elevated every area she touched.

As Joyce enters retirement, Blue Mountain Christian University celebrates not only a remarkable career but also a remarkable life. Her influence can be seen in the students who received opportunities through scholarships, the colleagues she encouraged, the church members she served, the community members she helped, and the countless individuals whose lives were made better by her kindness and generosity.

Some legacies are measured in buildings, budgets, or accomplishments. Joyce Hodges Peters' legacy is measured in people. It lives in the relationships she cultivated, the faith she modeled, and the love she shared.

On behalf of the Blue Mountain Christian University family, we offer our deepest gratitude to Joyce for her decades of faithful service and steadfast dedication. Though retirement marks the end of one chapter, the impact of her life and work will continue to be felt for generations to come.

Thank you, Joyce. Your Blue Mountain family celebrates you, honors you, and wishes you every blessing in the years ahead.





SECTION III

FORWARD

Today’s achievements become tomorrow’s legacy.

ALUMNI FEATURE

Aubrey Leah Johnson (‘21)
PhD, ACSM EP-C



Since graduating from Blue Mountain College, I earned a Ph.D. in Clinical Physiology and Metabolism from Virginia Tech, graduating with a 4.0 GPA in December 2025. My dissertation examined age- and sex-related differences in 100-mile ultramarathon performance.

Over the past year, I published research in exercise physiology and aging, presented my dissertation findings at the American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting in Boston, and delivered a guest lecture for Howard University on exercise and bipolar disorder.

Professionally, I joined West Georgia Technical College as a Biology Instructor, where I teach Anatomy & Physiology I and II. I enjoy helping students prepare for careers in healthcare and science while continuing to pursue interests in research, teaching, and mentorship. I remain grateful for the foundation and encouragement I received at Blue Mountain College, which helped shape both my academic and professional journey.

Life since Blue Mountain College (now Blue Mountain Christian University) has been an adventure. God has given me a beautiful life. The work that I have been able to do stems from the mentorship and encouragement from a host of amazing people. The influence of these mentors has brightened my life and inspired me to spend the rest of my life encouraging other future educators and scientists to pursue Jesus and commit to doing their best in all things.

“

I remain grateful for the foundation and encouragement I received at **Blue Mountain College**, which helped shape both my academic and professional journey.

”

A Year to Remember: BMCU Athletics Reaches New Heights



The 2025–26 athletic season stands as one of the most successful and inspiring years in the history of Blue Mountain Christian University athletics. Across competition venues, classrooms, and communities, Topper student-athletes demonstrated that excellence at BMCU extends beyond wins and championships to include academic achievement, character, and Christ-centered leadership.

One of the year’s biggest success stories came from the softball program. Under the leadership of Head Coach Matt Brunet and Assistant Coach M.J. George, the Lady Toppers achieved a historic milestone by earning the program’s first-ever berth to the NAIA National Championship Opening Round. Along the way, the team set multiple program records and earned numerous individual honors. Brunet and George were named NFCA NAIA Region I Coaching Staff of the Year, while Anna Harrison and Aspen Teague received All-Region recognition. Harrison established new program records for runs scored and stolen bases, and Neely Cooper delivered a memorable no-hitter.

Just as significant was the team’s recognition away from the field. Blue Mountain Softball received the SSAC Mayor Todd Strange Female Champions of Character Team Award, honoring the program that best exemplifies integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship, and servant leadership. The award reflected the culture of character that defines both the team and the university.

The men’s golf program also reached new heights. Led by Head Coach Kevin Barefield and Assistant Coach Cam Kohl, the Toppers climbed to a program-best No. 8 national ranking and earned an at-large bid to the NAIA Men’s Golf National Championship. The national tournament appearance marked only the second in program history and highlighted the program’s emergence as a national contender. Golfers Cobey Riddle and Alex Nordstrom were named BMCU’s first-ever Second-Team All-Americans. Barefield’s leadership was further recognized with SSAC Co-Coach of the Year honors.

In running sports, Head Cross Country and Track and Field Coach Phillip Laney was honored with the SSAC Coach of Character Award at the conference’s annual awards banquet. Women’s Cross Country and Outdoor Track & Field member Kaedyn Wilson was named the SSAC Freshman of the Year in both sports, including All-Conference in both, SSAC All-Freshman Team and qualified for NAIA Nationals.

Meanwhile, the Bass Fishing Team made a national impact by finishing fifth in the Bass Pro Shops School of the Year standings among more than 130 collegiate programs. The achievement ranks among the strongest finishes in program history and highlights the depth of success across BMCU athletics.

Excellence also extended to the classroom. Fifty-six student-athletes earned NAIA Scholar-Athlete recognition by maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher while competing in collegiate athletics. Representing multiple sports, these students exemplified BMCU’s commitment to developing leaders who excel academically, athletically, and spiritually.

Taken together, the accomplishments of the 2025–26 season tell a powerful story. Historic achievements, national recognition, academic success, and Christ-centered leadership combined to create a year that will be remembered throughout the university’s history. Most importantly, BMCU student-athletes and coaches continued to demonstrate the university’s mission of developing champions not only in competition, but in life.

By every measure, it was a championship year.

By every
measure,
it was a
championship
year.

Faith. Character. Excellence.



*Every legacy
begins with a
single step.*

**For
generations,
BMCU
graduates
have gone on
to lead, teach,
serve, and
share Christ
around the
world.**

**Now it's your
turn.**



BELLE CARTER
Associate Director of Graduate
& Online Recruiting



PHOTO BY DELISE TEAGUE

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE

As a proud member of the BMCU family, you already understand the life-changing impact of a Christ-centered education. We invite you to continue your journey with us by enrolling in one of our distinguished master's programs, tailored to help you grow academically, professionally, and spiritually.

To make your graduate education even more accessible, we are excited to offer exclusive scholarships for BMCU alumni pursuing advanced degrees in Master of Education, Business Administration, and Master of Science in Kinesiology.

Master of Education Scholarships

100% Tuition Scholarship for BMCU graduates who:

- Earned 120+ credit hours at BMCU
- Completed their degree within four years
- 50% Tuition Scholarship for BMCU graduates who:
- Earned 61+ credit hours at BMCU
- Completed their degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 30% Tuition Scholarship for BMCU graduates who:
- Earned 30–60 credit hours at BMCU
- 25% Tuition Scholarship for certified teachers

Master of Business Administration & Master of Science in Kinesiology Scholarships

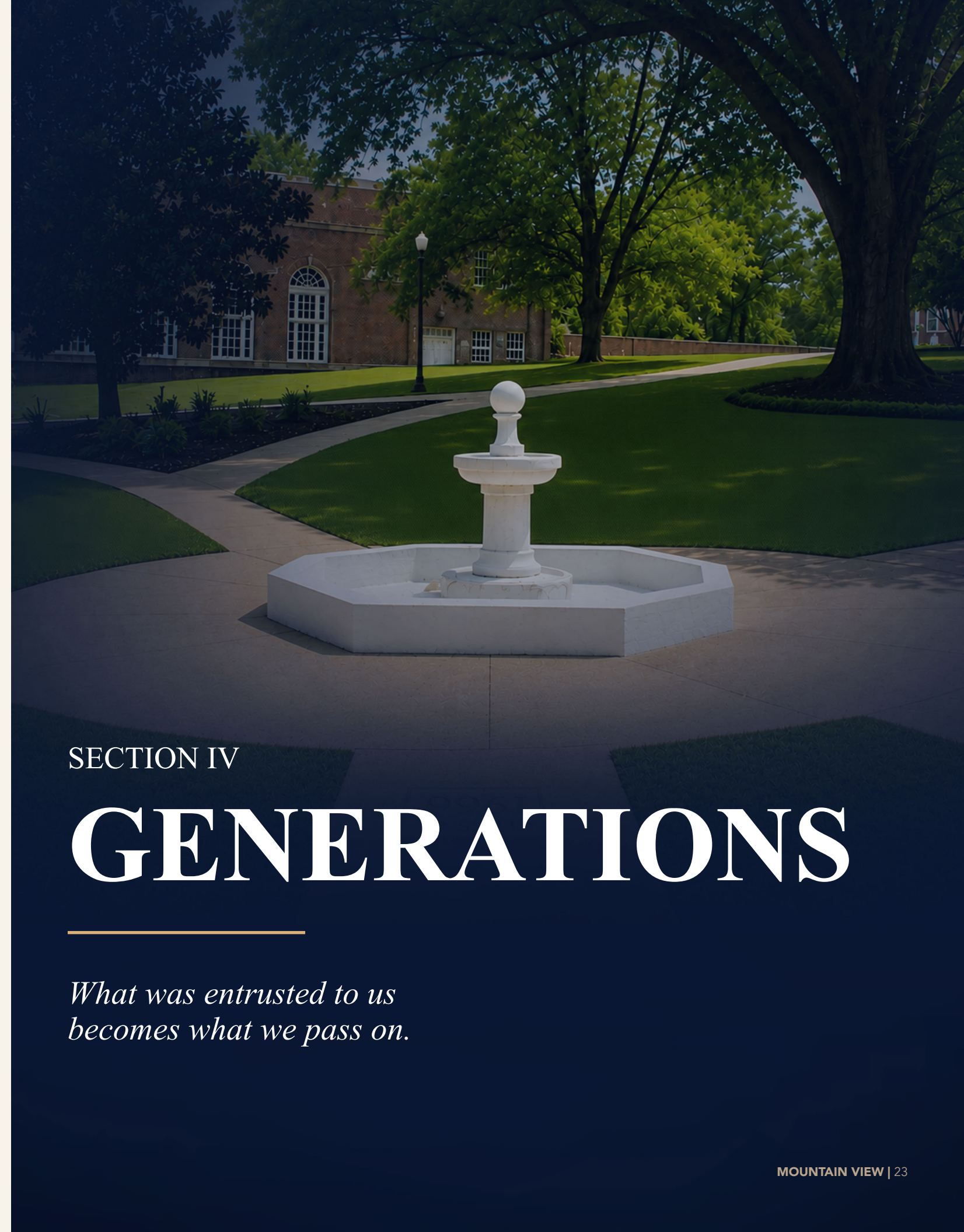
50% Tuition Scholarship for BMCU graduates who:

- Earned 61+ credit hours at BMCU
- Completed their degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 30% Tuition Scholarship for BMCU graduates who:
- Earned 30–60 credit hours at BMCU

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you...

Continue the journey. Live the legacy.



SECTION IV

GENERATIONS

*What was entrusted to us
becomes what we pass on.*

The Blue Mountain Ministerial Collection:

*Investing in the Next Generation
of Gospel Leaders*



At Blue Mountain Christian University, one of our greatest callings is preparing students to faithfully serve Christ in churches and communities around the world. Through the Blue Mountain Ministerial Collection, alumni, pastors, churches, and friends of the university have the opportunity to directly invest in the next generation of gospel leaders.

The Blue Mountain Ministerial Collection was established to provide meaningful financial assistance to students preparing for ministry, as well as to children of missionaries and Southern Baptist pastors. The purpose is to help lift financial burdens so students can focus on answering God's call and serve one of His churches faithfully.

Ministry preparation at BMCU goes far beyond the classroom. Students receive strong academic training that equips them to study and share the gospel with wisdom and conviction. They experience intentional spiritual formation and discipleship that deepens their walk with Christ and strengthens their commitment to the local church. In addition, they gain practical ministry experience by serving in real church and ministry settings while completing their education.

The impact of this support reaches far beyond campus. Every gift becomes an investment in churches, communities, and future generations who will hear the gospel through the lives and ministries of these students. Your partnership helps encourage and equip future pastors, missionaries, worship leaders, and ministry servants who are preparing to carry the message of Christ wherever God leads them.

The Ministerial Collection is not intended to replace or divert support from the Cooperative Program, which continues to serve as the lifeblood of Southern Baptist missions and ministry. Rather, this collection serves as an additional blessing for students who are preparing to serve the Kingdom through vocational ministry.

Why does your support matter? Many ministry students carry significant financial responsibilities while balancing coursework, ministry assignments, and personal commitments. The Ministerial Collection helps remove obstacles that might otherwise hinder their preparation. Through your generosity, students are given the freedom to learn, grow, and follow God's call with greater confidence and focus.

Every contribution makes a difference. Whether monthly, annual, or a one-time gift, your support creates eternal impact by helping prepare faithful servants for gospel ministry.

As alumni and friends of BMCU, you have the opportunity to invest in lives that will influence churches and communities for years to come. Your partnership makes their journey possible, and together we can continue equipping students to serve Christ faithfully around the world.

In Christ,
Timothy W. Mims, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Biblical Studies

“Every gift
becomes a
legacy
when it helps
answer
God's call.”

2 Timothy 2:2
*Entrust these to faithful people
who will be able to teach others also.*

LEGACY MOMENTS

WEDDINGS

- 1 **Hailey Stacks Prince** (M.Ed. '26) and **Brandon Prince** were married on November 22, 2025.
- 2 **Hannah Hastings Hamm** ('14) and **Brent Hamm** were married on December 13, 2025.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 3 **Seth Bragg** ('15) and his wife, **Kayce Bragg** ('13), along with big sister Mary Beth, welcomed **Millie Rose Bragg** on May 28, 2025.
- 4 **Hunter Gilmore** ('19) and his wife, **Kelsy Gilmore** ('20), welcomed **Lainey Grace Gilmore** on March 3, 2026.
- 5 **Rachel Fairley Jensen** ('13) and her husband, **Ross**, along with big sisters Harper and Emmy, welcomed **Matt Frazier Jensen** on December 30, 2025.
- 6 **Kati Prince Kent** ('15) and her husband, **Austin**, along with big brother Dansby, welcomed **Darci Kate Kent** on April 14, 2026.
- 7 **Scott Taylor "ST" McMurrian** ('21) and **Lydia Runions McMurrian** ('20) welcomed **Taylor Joe "TJ" McMurrian** on May 18, 2026.
- 8 **Hannah Forsythe Pierson** ('15) and her husband, **Daniel**, welcomed **Shepherd Lynn Pierson** on January 19, 2026.
- 9 **Gigi Pitney** ('22) and her husband, **Drew**, welcomed **Elsie Jane Pitney** on December 22, 2025.
- 10 **Carlye Henderson Ruth** ('15) and her husband, **Danny**, welcomed **Millie Mae Ruth** on January 21, 2026. Millie was welcomed home by her siblings, **Liam**, **Sammy**, **Nora**, and **Charlotte**.
- 11 **Drew Warford** ('18) and **Danielle Warford** ('17) welcomed their daughter, **Annie Claire Warford**, on April 4, 2026. Annie Claire was happily welcomed by her big brother, **Hudson**.



MARKET SMART

Your Voice Shapes the Legacy

Together, we can move mountains.

BMCU is able to assist students in developing intellectual integrity, academic excellence, civility, and Christian character because of alumni like you!

Please take our brief survey to help us understand what's important to you so that together, we can move mountains.



TAKE OUR SURVEY

Scan the QR code to share your feedback.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

1947

Lennie Westbrook

1950

Betty Henry

1952

Martha Fisher

1953

Sue Phillips
Betty Lindstrom

1954

Mary Ann Freer
Margaret Allen
Ida Oglesby
Betty Martin
Annetta Kies

1955

Molly White
June Boyd

1956

Betty A Watts
Carolyn Garrett
Nancy Galatas
Jimmie Rogers
Beverly Hannaford

1957

Betty Lindstrom
Mary Reavis
Lucretia Burton
Leora Duce-Byrd
Jean Davis
Ann Vickery
Elizabeth Smith

1958

Mary Borchert
Mary Jane Okan
Faye Pepper
Marlene Garrity

1959

Betty A Clarke
Shirley McBeath

1960

Carolyn Barr
Carolyn Mounce
Sally Taylor
Mary Jo Lence
Ann Blanchard

1961

Anna Quinn
Rachel Emery
Nancy Hart

Billie Martin

1962

Martha King
Wanda Robinson
Norma Ruth Lee
Martha Randolph
LaDoska Bennett
Dorothy Jackson
Betty Ward

1963

Nancy Bomar
Susie Butler
Patricia Rogers
Carla Freeman Benson
A. J. Pace

1964

Sarah Spain
Margaret Blinn
Judith Swanberg
Janice Nicholson

1965

Leona Bartlett
Mary Ann Brown
Mary Beth Burghard
Charlene Clemens
Diedre Davis
Gail DeBurgh
JiJi Jonas
Patricia Ledbetter
Gayle Smotherman
Susan Pitts
Hope Stone
Gail DeBurgh
Frances Massey
Donna Conklin
Charles Gullett

1966

Joanna Carter
Sharon Enzor
Rose Kemmer
Laura Medley
Mary Shadburn
Dorothy Duncan
Charlotte Lauer
Carolyn Saunders

1967

Margaret Houpt
Leslie Todd
Shirley Futral
Olivia Jane Bryant
Nancy Furnish
Myra Langley
Linda Lim
Lana Anderson

James Futral

Ivey Sewell
Gloria Gates
Constance Russell
Carolynne Fooshee

1968

Sandra Morris
Joe Edd Morris
Lana Thompson
Hazel Tucker
Susan Nations
Linda Johnson
Janie Coombs
Elsie Norgard
Carolyn Rhodes

1969

Kathie Wilson
Donna Brown
Tillie Gullett
Sandra Owens
Hope Inman
Charlotte Palmer
Charlotte Madison
Barbara McConville

1970

Bettye Ahmed
Kathy McCarthy
Ruby Rorie
Patricia Smedley
Linda Underwood
Rex Yancey
Martha Cappleman

1971

Barbara Rahrer
Mary A Langston
Audrey Caldwell
Roxanne King
Kathy Voyles
Shirley Gustman
Lynne Heaven
Joy Nanney
Eugenie Kerr
Linda Gambrell

1972

Belinda Pearce
Lyn Melton
Jean Davis
Carol Densford *
Victoria Goeders
Kitty King
Ann Little
Patricia Crews
Pamela Drake

1973

Linda Brooks

Francis Tamboli
Judy Caples

1974

Lea Bennett
Joy Hill
Jan McCrary
Larry McCrary
Deborah Sanders
Wanda Chalk
Teresa Julian
Jerry Beaty
Doris Sanford
Dianne Peeler
Carolyn Ketchum
Brenda McMurray

1975

Patricia Williams-Cyrus
Randy Bostick
Sharon Bostick
Verna Butler
Sheila Freeman
Barbara Goodwin
Ann Gurrieri
Brenda Harrison
Shirley Harrison
Linda Hill
Glendis Hobbs
Pat Hopper
Kathy Hunter
Susan Marshall
Beverly McNeal
Beverly Moffitt
Debbye Newton
Bettye Pitner
Cindy Steen
Bonnie Byrd
Anita Eddings
Shelia Bruno
Bruce Cappleman

1976

Susan Hill
Anita Russell
Dwalia South
Janie Waggoner
Lisa Knight
Leah Crawford
Emma Ainsworth
Cora Davidson

1977

Lee Allen Jefcoats
Sara Stephens
Sharron Finney
Gerry Hood
Nebra King
Vicki Price
Marla White
Rose Bear
Alvis Cooper

1978

Donna Able
Renelda Owen
Donna Pitner
Judy Rutledge
James Towery
Karen Kennedy

1979

Susan Bolding
Chris Burrows
Donna Burrows
Emily Hayes
Pamela Cain

1980

Shelly Parker
Kim Waller
Beth Bailey
Letha Gillham
Phyllis Scott
Lee Tanner
Ouida Gnall
Ellon Yancey
Joyce Peters

1982

Marla Ledbetter
Glynda Hall

1983

Terri Stanford
Jeff Ginn
Nell Ginn

1984

Terry Ledbetter
Bengie Foley

1985

Delise Teague
Soyrietta Valentine

1987

Stephanie Clausel

1988

Dawn Lowery
Beth Robertson
Nola Piland

1989

Mary Epting

1990

Lecia Stubblefield

1992

Andrea Dietz

1993

Laura Baker
Stephanie Hart

1994

Lisa Calhoun
Jennifer Chambers

1999

Leah Deason

2002

Laura Jolly
Ashley Berry

2003

Martha Bending
Maria Teel
Heather Whitehead

2004

Nicole Hitt

2005

Natalie Copeland
Chandra Hisaw

2006

Renee Boswell

2007

Lewis (Louie) Williams
Daniel Jolly
Carol Peters

2011

Thomas Magers
Brittany Raley

2012

Jessica Rester
Shea Lowery

2013

Thomas Doughty
Amanda Magers

2016

Richard Yarber

2018

Jacob Worley
Leslie Pitts
Julianna Garner
Mallorie Lyles

Friends of BMCU

Tom Moffitt
Keith Parker

* Deceased

Reflects dues paid April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026.



IN MEMORIAM

Honoring alumni and friends whose legacy continues to inspire future generations.

1944

Jennie Lucille Owen

1947

Billie Lynn Arthur

1948

Kathryn Eloise Ayers

1952

Melba Rice
Margie Ann Sizemore

1953

Jane Elizabeth Preston
Marilyn Harris

1955

Elizabeth Marmon Newcomb

1956

Roselyn Hulse
Imogene Hardon

1957

Nancy Moore McAfee
Anita Beth Collins

1958

Alva Reed Brent

1959

Mary Alice Heard

1961

Mary Anne Coleman
Wilma Chittom

1962

Cecile Barrington
Rebecca Pete Hobbs

1963

Gerry Marie Morris
Guyla Rebecca Gould
Betty Kay Carr
Dixie Anne Butler

1965

Mitchell Pat Huffstatler

1966

Katherine Dye

1967

Peggy Ann Wroten

1968

Mary Ann Everett
Martha Louise Prather
Wylia Jo Flatt

1971

Paula Ann Westbrook

1972

William Marion Waddle

1975

Drusan Hood

1978

Barbara Dean Creekmore

1982

Earlene Lott Walker

1984

Tommy Frank Wilder

1999

Pamela Garrett Hawkins

2023

Jervon Kobe-Glenn Christian

Friends of BMCU

Frederick C. Tims
Henry Earl Washburn
Douglas C. Bain Jr.
Mildred B. Mullikin
James L. Flatt
Kay F. Brown
Joe Kemmer
Tom Skelton
E. Harold Fisher Sr.
Bobby Mays
Lana Lourene Odom
Beverly K. Hickey

The memory of the righteous is a blessing.
Proverbs 10:7

PASCHAL

STUDENT UNION BUILDING RENOVATION



Building the Legacy

Thanks to the generous support of the **Classes of 1969, 1975, and 1976**, the Paschal Student Union Building renovation continues to take shape.

The new flooring and fresh paint are scheduled to be completed before students return for the fall semester, creating a refreshed space ready to welcome the campus community. Installation of the custom wood beams, made possible through the generosity of **Lawrence and Myra King**, will follow as the next phase of the renovation.



Follow the journey! Progress photos and construction updates will be shared on the Blue Mountain Christian University Facebook page. Stay tuned as we continue honoring the past while building the future.

Thank you for helping preserve a treasured gathering place for generations of BMCU students to come.

Psalm 145:4

One generation shall commend Your works to another.



BLUE MOUNTAIN
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

P.O. Box 160
Blue Mountain, MS
38610

CLASS OF 1972



NOTE: This publication contains dated material
and needs to be mailed as soon as possible.

Living the Legacy

As you leave these pages, we pray you're reminded that the Blue Mountain legacy is more than the memories we've made. It's the lives we've touched, the faith we've shared, and the generations still to come.

*One generation shall praise Your works to another;
and shall declare Your mighty acts.*

Psalm 145:4 (ESV)