



76th Commencement Ceremony
May 8th, 2021

Commencement Speaker



Ed Stetzer, Ph.D., serves as Dean of the School of Mission, Ministry, and Leadership at Wheaton College, and as the Executive Director of the Wheaton College Billy Graham Center. He has planted, revitalized, and pastored churches, as well as, trained pastors and church planters on six continents. Along with his two master's degrees and two doctorates, Ed has written hundreds of articles and a dozen books and is the Regional Director for Lausanne North America.

Stetzer is a contributing editor for *Christianity Today* and a columnist for *Outreach Magazine*. In addition, he is the Founding Editor of The Gospel Project and hosts a national radio show, *Ed Stetzer Live*. He serves as teaching pastor at Highpoint Church in Naperville, IL.

Commencement Ceremony

*Invocation Chantell Mills
Springfield, IL

Welcome and Introduction of Speaker.....Dr. Silas McCormick
President

Special Music: “Christ Be All” Graham Hill, Cooper Smith, Ben South
Worship Ministry Students

Address: “Thinking Christianly in a Divided Age” Ed Stetzer, PhD
*Dean of the School of Mission, Ministry, and Leadership at Wheaton College
and Executive Director of the Wheaton College Billy Graham Center*

Conferring of Undergraduate DegreesDr. Silas McCormick
President

Dr. Brian Messner
Undergraduate Academic Dean

Conferring of Graduate and Seminary DegreesDr. Silas McCormick
President

Dr. Peter Verkruyse
Interim Vice President of Academics

*Benediction Chris Steele
Zanesville, OH

*Recessional

*Audience Standing

Live streaming: <https://lincolnchristian.edu/graduation>

Undergraduate Degrees

Associate of Arts

BIBLE

Marcus J. McCollom, Villa Grove, IL²
Jesse James Ruiz, Las Vegas, NV¹
*Brett Douglas Thomson, Lincoln, IL²

BIBLICAL STUDIES

Sherri A. Bordner, Taloga, OK²

Associate of Science

PRE-NURSING

*Lillian Farar, Bellevue, NE
*Ian Gunner Fraser, Harriman, UT
Melea E. Sowers, Lincoln, IL²
*Madison Lynn Stevens, Clinton, IL¹
Jiahui Wang, Yingtan, Jiangxi, China
Jiazhen Wang, Yingtan, Jiangxi, China

Bachelor of Arts

BIBLICAL STUDIES

Zachary Benjamin Buscher, Sherman, IL
James Carter, Jr., Jacksonville, IL
Mikayla Dawn Greene, Effingham, IL
Morgan M. Hampton, Mattoon, IL
Maximilian Justice Xavier Kirk, Crown Point, IN
Andrew Lyle Watret, Lincoln, IL
Henry (Hank) Wuethrich, Francesville, IN

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Brett Beasley, Towanda, IL
Cailey Brown, Litchfield, IL
Caleb L. DeJarnette, Lincoln, IL
Brooke Anna Kay Ernst, Litchfield, IL
Noah Foster, Indianapolis, IN
Jade Elizabeth Hassebrock, Normal, IL
Charles Edward Jones II, St. Louis, MO
*Cornelius I. Lawhorn, Warner Robins, GA¹
Bryce Allen Pauler, Buffalo, TX
Mikayla Smith, Chillicothe, IL
Mason Jerold Thompson, Stevensville, MI
J. Keagan Thrash, West Frankfort, IL
Joshua Williams, Miami, FL
*Yihang Wu, Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China²

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Samantha Marilee Hazzard, Atlanta, IL
Hannah Elizabeth Klockenga, Mount Vernon, IL

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Tyler Loren Basso, Athens, IL
Konner Blackerby, Herrick, IL
*Shi-yao Chen, Wuhan, Hu Bei, China
Michael J. Cichon, Chicago, IL
*Jason M. Cox, Baltimore, MD
*Matthew Ekiss, Decatur, IL²
*Ashley May Halstead, Las Vegas, NV²
Marcus J. McCollom, Villa Grove, IL
Kyle Eugene Purdy, Rossville, IL²
Jesse James Ruiz, Las Vegas, NV
Blake Scott Shaiper, St. Charles, MO
Collin Scott Smith, Opdyke, IL
*Brett J. Trefren, Rantoul, IL²
*Curtis P. Zehner, Covington, GA²

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Ryan Brady Devlin, Virginia, IL
*Michael A. Eaton, Decatur, IL¹
Robert W. Tucker, Paris, IL

GENERAL STUDIES

*Raymond Dudley Shegog, Sun River Terrace, IL²

HUMAN SERVICES

Renee Hunt-McCray, Danville, IL
Gregory Paul Miller, Bloomington, IL¹

INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Jordan Noel Boyer, Allen, TX²
Raj Bhavesh Patel, Altamont, IL

PREACHING MINISTRY

Michael John Conlisk, Chenoa, IL
Anthony Dale Tuel, Urbana, IL

PSYCHOLOGY

Cynthia J. Bueltmann, Paradise, IN²
Isaac Dean, El Paso, IL
Maria Ann Hight, Muscatine, IA²
Aisha R. Lusaba, Homewood, IL
Desiree Martin, Fort Stewart, GA²
Rylee Renea Mills, Springfield, IL
Kristyn Moody, Cornland, IL
Darrion Smith, St. Louis, MO
Levi David Steele, Zanesville, OH
Katie Lynn Terrill, Denver, IA
Hadley Kate Warner, Georgetown, IL
*Kyle Steven Yacoben, Las Vegas, NV
Allison Grace Yerem, Catlin, IL

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND MINISTRY

Rebecca L. Adams, Crawfordsville, IN²
Maria Angel Love Burke, Ottawa, IL

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Marleigh Noelle Fifer, Camp Point, IL
Graham Alexander Hill, Lincoln, IL²
Machelle Kaley Morgan, Neoga, IL
Camden Sean Radecki, Springfield, IL
Jayce Cooper Smith, Bloomington, IL
Josiah D. Smith, Chillicothe, IL
Carter Walker, Chatham, IL

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Paul Drake Griffith, Mt. Zion, IL²
Faith C. Mink, Le Roy, IL
Caitlin Deann Otey, Bloomington, IL
Seth Alan Webster, Brookville, IN
Collin Reece York, Altamont, IL

**In absentia*

¹ Degree awarded August 31, 2020

² Degree awarded December 31, 2020

Undergraduate Honored Students

AMERICAN LEGION AWARD

Maria Burke is the recipient of the American Legion Award, awarded by Legion Post #263 of Lincoln, Illinois, "in recognition of high qualities of courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship, and service."

DELTA EPSILON CHI

Delta Epsilon Chi is the honor society of the Association for Biblical Higher Education. Membership is awarded by the faculty to graduating seniors who possess high qualities of Christian character and leadership with a grade point average of 3.3 or higher. No more than 7% of the graduating class may be elected.

Zachary Buscher

Maria Hight

Hannah Klockenga

Machelle Morgan

Seth Webster

ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA

Alpha Sigma Lambda is a national honor society which partners with colleges and universities to celebrate the scholarship and leadership of adult students in higher education. Students inducted into the honor society must have a minimum grade point average of 3.2 and rank in the top 20% of their class.

Brett Trefren

LINCOLN LAUREATE

Each fall, an outstanding senior from each of the four-year degree granting institutions of higher learning in Illinois is awarded the Abraham Lincoln Civic Engagement Award. The Governor bestows the awards. They become Student Laureates of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois. In the spirit of Lincoln, Student Laureates are honored for their leadership and service in the pursuit of the betterment of humanity and for overall excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities. This year's recipient from Lincoln Christian University is:

Seth Webster

Graduate Degrees

Master of Arts

Bible & Theology

*Anthony Lawrence Brewer, Plano, TX²
BS, Dallas Christian College (TX), 2018

Tyler Chance, West Frankfort, IL
BA, Southern Illinois University, 2013
MA, University of Missouri-St. Louis, 2017

*David D. Clark, Waterloo, IL¹
BA, Missouri Baptist University, 2003

*Cortney Rowe Givens, Jasonville, IN¹
BSW, Ball State University (IN), 1999
JD, Indiana University, 2003

*Ryan P. Jones, Phoenix, AZ
BA, Texas Tech University, 1996

*Bryson Steven Koch, Floyds Knobs, IN¹
BS, University of Louisville (KY), 2017

*Tony Llanes, Wichita, KS
BA, Wichita State University (KS), 2003

*Timothy Doy Moyer, Birmingham, AL
BA, Western Illinois University, 1995
MA, California State University, 1997
PhD, North-West University (South Africa),
2020

*Jared Anthony Parker, Clarksville, TN
BBL, Ozark Christian College (MO), 2005

Jacob Alan Reeves, Gardner, KS²
BS, Central Christian College of Kansas, 2009

Jake Taylor Saenz, Huntington Beach, CA
BA, Hope International University (CA), 2018

*Jason Brent Thomas, Chillicothe, OH¹
BS, Ohio Valley University, 2002
MA, Lincoln Christian University, 2018

Organizational Leadership

Dallas C. Bear, Effingham, IL
BA, St. Louis Christian College, 1984

Heather Daniels, Lafayette, IN¹
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2018

*Savannah D'Aunoy, Gillespie, IL
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2014

*Amy Marie Edrington, Decatur, IL
BS, Olivet Nazarene University (IL), 2006

*Serena Ann Fee, Chatham, IL¹
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2011

Ashton Taylor Greer, Danville, IL
BS, Eastern Illinois University, 2016

*Jonathan W. Grunden, Decatur, IL
BS, Cornerstone University (MI), 2002

*Shem Hatfield, El Dorado, KS
BGS, Wichita State University (KS), 2012

*Tamera L. Iskarous, Wood River, IL¹
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2014

Kimberly R. Kratz, Bloomington, IL
BS, Olivet Nazarene University (IL), 2013

*Tyese Lee Little, Dallas, TX
BS, Dallas Christian College (TX), 2009

Taryn Mitchell-Mabon, Little Elm, TX
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2018

*Thomas James Montgomery, Bartlesville, OK
BA, Ozark Christian College (MO), 2016

Phillip W. Moss, Austin, TX
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2020

Richard Clarence Nystrom III, Minier, IL
BS, Illinois State University, 2006

*Taylor Olson, Orlando, FL¹
BMM, Ozark Christian College (MO), 2013

*Isaac Payne, Williamsville, IL
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2019

*Glenn A. Smith, Jr., New Berlin, IL¹
BS, MacMurray College (IL), 1996

*Christa S. Staley, Bloomington, IL
BSBA, Colorado Technical University, 2007

*Carla Thoreson, Dallas, TX
BA, University of Nevada Las Vegas, 2013

*Edward S. Thornton, Cleveland, OH
BA, Thomas More College (KY), 2007

Ty Douglas Unger, Lincoln, IL¹
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2015

Lance A. Warner, Cayuga, IN
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2019

Ronda J. Wedel, Manhattan, IL¹
BS, Kansas State University, 1988

*Weston Ray Woodring, Webb City, MO
BA, Ozark Christian College (MO), 2017

Spiritual Formation

*Abigail Crawford, Lanesville, IN¹
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2017

*Kenneth J. Kohler, Lincoln, IL¹
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2018

*Kristina Meece, Gibson City, IL¹
BS, Illinois State University, 1999

*Karen W. Norris, Normal, IL¹
BS, Illinois State University, 1984
BS, Illinois State University, 1988

*Jacob Ostrowski, Dover, NH¹
BA, University of South Carolina, 2007

*Jeffrey Basil Van Meter, Mount Vernon, IL¹
BSBA, University of Missouri, 1995

* *In absentia*

¹ Degree awarded August 31, 2020

² Degree awarded December 31, 2020

Seminary Degrees

Master of Arts

MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY

Joshua Glenn Adsit, Merrimack, NH
BA, Northeastern State University (OK),
2008
Preaching

*Rachel Allen, Champaign, IL
BS, University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign, 2017
General Ministry

*James Baldwin, Crystal Lake, IL¹
BS, Indiana State University, 2006
MA, Ball State University (IN), 2008
General Ministry

*Richard J. Bonifield, Zanesville, OH
Leadership Studies

*Kurt Anthony Busenitz, Nenzel, NE
BA, Moody Bible Institute (IL), 2000
Leadership Studies

*Michael J. Chanley, Corydon, IN
BA, Indiana University, 2015
General Ministry

Stephanie Donnell Doll, Pocahontas, IL
BA, Ozark Christian College (MO), 2019
Pastoral Care & Counseling

*Alex Foltz, Louisville, IL
BS, St. Louis Christian College, 2009
General Ministry

Kayla Dawn Hallstrom, Peoria, IL
BS, Olivet Nazarene University (IL), 2017
General Ministry

Elias Charles Koehler, Sparland, IL²
BS, University of Illinois, 2016
General Ministry

*Mikala Ann Love, Decatur, IL²
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2019
Christian Education

Daniel R. Marlin, Galesburg, IL
General Ministry

*Cody S. Monkman, Clinton, IL
BS, Illinois State University, 2013
Leadership Studies

Steven Wayne Morgan, Neoga, IL
BS, Eastern Illinois University, 1983
Preaching/Preaching Ministry

Steven Samanvay McFarland, Damoh, Madhya
Pradesh, India²
BS, Great Lakes Christian College (MI),
2018
General Ministry

Stacy A. Popejoy, Lincoln, IL²
BA, Lincoln Christian College, 2000
General Ministry

MASTER OF ARTS (FORMATIVE WORSHIP)

Andrew Robert Orr, Quincy, IL
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2019

Zachary Tyler Smith, Indianapolis, IN
BA, Marian University (IN), 2014

MASTER OF ARTS (BIBLICAL STUDIES)

Dalton Byers, Bloomfield, IN²
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2018
New Testament

Chase Dilworth, Webb City, MO
BTh, Ozark Christian College (MO), 2015
MDiv, Lincoln Christian University, 2019
New Testament

Rebekah L. Maddack, Crown Point, IN
BA, Purdue University (IN), 2015
General Bible

Eric Stephen Staley, Bloomington, IL
BS, Illinois State University, 1998
General Bible

MASTER OF ARTS (CHURCH HISTORY/HISTORICAL THEOLOGY)

Brock Michael Eckert, Assumption, IL
BS, Central Christian College of the Bible (MO), 2015

Trent Connor Homan, Richland, MO
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2018

Ryan M. H. Sprunger, Dalton, OH
BS, Tabor College (KS), 2018

MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGY)

*Austin Dale Jesse, Decatur, IL²
BA, Millikin University (IL), 2017

*Cody T. Lekan, Topeka, KS
BA, Manhattan Christian College (KS), 2018

MASTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

*Kathryn N. Clayton, Clinton, IL²
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2014
MA, Lincoln Christian University, 2017

Ryan Emerson Eidson, Moberly, MO²
BS, Central Christian College of the Bible (MO), 2008

Sierra Nichole Porritt, St. Peters, MO
BA, St. Louis Christian College (MO), 2013

MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING

Nicole Barks, Springfield, IL
BA, Greenville University (IL), 2014

Ian Cox, Palmyra, IL²
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2017

Brandon E. Defenbaugh, Athens, IL
BS, Liberty University (VA), 2016

Jordan Elizabeth Halpin, Lincoln, IL
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2017

Jeffrey Robert Hill, Muskegon, MI
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2015

Nicholas Falcon Husain, Decatur, IL²
BA, Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary (Philippines), 1980
BA, Pontifical Urbaniana University (Holy See), 1986
MA, Pontifical Urbaniana University (Holy See), 1986

*Hannah Mikaylin Kavanagh, Sterling, IL²
BA, Olivet Nazarene University (IL), 2014

Omolola Solape Lawal, Lagos, Nigeria²
BS, Olabisi Onabanjo University (Nigeria), 2004

Andrew Luiten, Peoria, IL
BS, Olivet Nazarene University (IL), 2013

Rebekah Lynn Luiten, Middletown, IN
BS, Olivet Nazarene University (IL), 2014

Jessica Kathleen McKee, Effingham, IL
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2014

*Steven Frank Pomian, Lockport, IL¹
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2017

Margaret K. Seymour, Chatham, IL²
BA, University of Illinois at Springfield,
2013

*Nikki Rene Walker, Mt. Zion, IL
BA, Murray State University (KY), 1994

Matthew J. Warren, Crystal Lake, IL
BA, Lincoln Christian University, 2018

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Brian A. Harris, Wilson, NC
BS, Roanoke Bible College (NC), 2006
Church History/Historical Theology

Nawsitar Khinphan, Myanmar
BS, Crown College (MN), 2017
Philosophy & Apologetics

*Thomas Joseph Paresi, Armonk, NY
BM, Catholic University of America (DC),
2010
Old Testament

*HanEol Kim, Daejeon, Korea ¹
BE, Nanjing University (China), 2014
Intercultural Studies

*John Christopher Tanner, Jr., Georgetown, IN¹
BS, Kentucky Christian College, 2002

Linghui Tian, Beijing City, China²
BA, Yannjing Theological Seminary (China),
2008

*Cong Zong, Henan Province, China¹
BE, Nanyang Institute of Science and
Technology (China), 2013

DOCTORATE DEGREES

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Ismael Berlanga, Alice, TX
BA, Heritage Christian University (AL), 2011
MDiv, Heritage Christian University (AL),
2018
Pastor Care

Mark E. Golaway, Berryville, AR¹
BS, John Brown University (AR), 1998
MDiv, Assemblies of God Theological
Seminary (MO), 2005
Pastor Care

*Leah B. Grayer, Peoria, IL¹
BRE, Crossroads Bible College (IN), 2003
MDiv, Anderson University School of
Theology (IN), 2006
Preaching/Preaching Ministry

William Daniel Ison, West Liberty, KY
BA, Kentucky Christian University, 2011
MDiv, Liberty University (VA), 2016
Preaching/Preaching Ministry

Caleb Michael Phillips, Bloomington, IL²
BTH, Ozark Christian College (MO), 2009
BCM, Ozark Christian College (MO), 2009
MBA, Hope International University (CA),
2010
Church/Parachurch Leadership

Rondel Ramsey, Lincoln, IL
BA, Johnson Bible College (TN), 1986
MA, Johnson Bible College (TN), 1999
Spiritual Formation

Robert Perry Rigsbee, McCordsville, IN
BA, Pacific Christian College (CA), 1993
MDiv, Emmanuel School of Religion (TN),
1997
Church/Parachurch Leadership

James Blake Runcorn, Idaho Falls, ID
BA, Fresno State University (CA), 2000
MA, Hope International University (CA),
2013
MDiv, Hope International University (CA),
2017
Preaching/Preaching Ministry

** In absentia*

¹ Degree awarded August 31, 2020

² Degree awarded December 31, 2020

2021 President's Distinguished Service Award James D. Allison



For the past forty-six years, James D. Allison has embodied this scriptural directive as Professor of Worship Ministry at Lincoln Christian University, lending his powerful God-given voice to the cause of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to this generation and generations to come.

Jim's voice was born and bred in Tuscola, Illinois. He entered Lincoln Christian College in August of 1965, studied voice with Marie I. Graham, piano with K. David Hargrove, and travelled extensively to churches and schools throughout the Midwest as a member of LCC's music and drama team, The Restoration Players. In May of 1970, Jim graduated with a Bachelor of Sacred Music degree with a double major in voice and piano.

Four months later, on September 11, 1970, Jim married Glenda Appel, and then entered the United States Army on December 2, serving as Chaplain's Assistant in the Religious Education Unit at Main Post Chapel in Fort Lewis, Washington, attaining the rank of Specialist 5th Class, Acting Sergeant. During his service in Washington Jim continued his voice studies with Florence Orr Klein in Seattle.

After being honorably discharged in June of 1972, Jim returned to the Midwest to pursue a Master's Degree Program at the University of Illinois School of Music, where he studied voice with bass, Mark Elyn, soprano, Frances Crawford, and baritone, Bruce Foote. While there, Jim was selected for special vocal coaching under John Wustman, and studied oratorio under the famed baritone, William Warfield. From 1972-1974 Jim was a performing member of the Illinois Opera Theater, appearing in *The Barber of Seville*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Amahl and the Night Visitors*.

On July 1, 1975, Jim returned to Lincoln, accepting an offer to teach in the Music Department at his alma mater, moving into C144, the Chapel office he has occupied for the past forty-six years. While at Lincoln, Jim taught several music history courses, spanning every era from the stone age through the 21st century, as well as classes in Hymnology, and Vocal Pedagogy. For a time Jim also sponsored a small traveling drama troupe, and directed several campus plays and musical productions, including *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *The Beams Are Creaking*, *Oklahoma!*, *The King and I*, *The Mousetrap*, *Camelot*, *Where All Paths Meet*, and *The Music Man*. Jim also assisted many years with Christmas In The Chapel, and co-directed over twenty other campus productions with Tim Searby.

What Jim will be most remembered and revered for are the hundreds and hundreds of private, weekly voice lessons he has given, and at times, endured over the years. Known as the King of the Punsters, Jim has artfully employed his dry sense of humor, patience, and servant's heart to encourage and champion his students' progress. Thanks to his consummate teaching, there are over one hundred of Jim's former students today using their singing voices, serving in leadership roles in churches, public schools, and universities, and as private teachers around the country.

It has been said that a congregation is just as responsible to sing the Gospel as the preachers are to preach it. Thanks to this powerful gift of voice, given to this man of humility and faith, hundreds of students have left this place with the conviction that the greatest story ever told deserves a voice worthy of the task.

For his forty-six years of obedience in the same direction at Lincoln Christian University, we are honored to present the 2021 President's Distinguished Service Award to Worship Ministry Professor Emeritus, James D. Allison.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:16-17)

2020-21 Faculty

Dr. Kim Baldwin

Associate Professor of Clinical
Mental Health Counseling

Dr. Christopher Beard

Assistant Professor of
Organizational Leadership

Dr. Sharon Bloch

Associate Professor of Science

Dr. Trevor Cochell

Assistant Professor of Old
Testament

Jeffrey Colleen

Professor of Worship Ministry

Dr. Steven Cone

Professor of Theology

Dr. Violeta Cone

Assistant Professor of
Psychology

Dr. Kevin Dell

Assistant Professor of Spiritual
Formation

Dr. Frank Dicken

Associate Professor of New
Testament

Dr. Dinelle Frankland

Professor of Worship Studies

Michael Gowin

Professor of Business
Administration

Dr. Don Green

Professor of Leadership Studies

Denise Houser

Assistant Professor of Clinical
Mental Health Counseling

Dr. Billie Jarvis-Freeman

Associate Professor of English
and Education

Dr. Fred Johnson

Professor of New Testament

Dr. J.K. Jones

Professor of Spiritual Formation
(Normal, IL)

Sue Jones

Professor of Worship Ministry

Dr. Paul Kissling

Professor of Old Testament

Dr. Richard Knopp

Professor of Philosophy and
Christian Apologetics

Dr. Mark Mangano

Professor of Old Testament

Dr. Silas McCormick

Assistant Professor of Law and
Government

Dr. Brian Messner

Acting Undergraduate Academic
Dean; Professor of History and
Interdisciplinary Studies

Dr. Michael Nichols

Professor of Intercultural Studies

Nancy Olson

Director of Library Services

Rondel Ramsey

Professor of Youth Ministry

Dr. Robert Rea

Professor of Church
History/Historical Theology

Dr. Chuck Sackett

Professor of Preaching

Shawn Smith

Registrar

Thomas L. Sowers

Learning Management System
Administrator; Assistant
Professor of Communications

Leslie Starasta

Information Services Librarian

Dr. Tyler Stewart

Assistant Professor of New
Testament

Dr. LC Sutton

Professor of Preaching and
Christian Ministries

Eric Teoro

Professor of Business
Administration

Dr. C. Nolan Thomas

Associate Professor of Clinical
Mental Health Counseling

Dr. Peter Verkruyse

Professor of Communication
Studies

Dr. Barney Wells

Graduate and Seminary
Academic Dean; Associate
Professor of Bible and Ministry

Dr. R. Neal Windham

Professor of Spiritual Formation

Honored Faculty

Jim Allison

Professor Emeritus of Worship Ministry

Dr. Paul Boatman

Professor Emeritus of Pastoral Care and Counseling

Dr. Gary Bussmann

Professor Emeritus of Christian Education

Dr. John Castelein

Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Theology

Dr. Tom Ewald

Dean Emeritus

Alan Kline

Registrar Emeritus

Janet Shaw

Professor Emerita of English and Interdisciplinary Studies

Dr. Wayne Shaw

Dean Emeritus of the Seminary

Dr. Robert Wilson

Professor Emeritus of Christian Education and Family Life

Dr. Walter Zorn

Professor Emeritus of Old Testament

Administrators

Silas McCormick, JD, PhD

President

Danielle Fields, MBA

Vice President of Finance

Brady Cremeens, MA

Vice President of Advancement and Alumni

Mac Ingmire, MA

Vice President Enrollment Management

Jill Dicken, BA

Vice President of Student Development

Peter Verkruyse, PhD

Interim Vice President of Academics

Board of Trustees

Susan Albers

Senior Living Administrator

Indianapolis, IN

Chris Lawler

Lead Pastor

Catlin, IL

Brett Anderson

Financial Advisor and Portfolio Manager

Champaign, IL

Dr. Silas McCormick

LCU President

Lincoln, IL

Jennifer Armstrong

Insurance and Financial Services Leader

Bloomington, IL

Pat McDonald

Retired Consultant

Wentzville, MO

Morgan Arsenau

Discipleship Assistant

Decatur, IL

Dr. Tamsen Murray

Retired Professor and Associate Vice President

Oklahoma City, OK

Darryl Bolen

Retired Minister

St. Charles, MO

Dan Veselsky

Corporate Managing Director

Whitestown, IN

Dr. Gene Harker

Physician

Whitestown, IN

50th Anniversary Class of 1971

Mr. Kenyon R. Aceberg, Bossier City, LA
Mr. David A. Baynes, Milford, NE
Mr. Gary C. Black, Plainfield, IN
Mrs. Janice L. (Killebrew) Bowen, Unknown
Mr. Robert A. Bromley, Joliet, IL
Mr. Stephen C. Brown, Gosport, IN
Mrs. Pamela J. (Goodman) Chambers, Kissimmee, FL
Mrs. Nancy L. (Fahl) Cheatham, Olathe, KS
Mr. Ronald E. Colman, Clay City, IL
Mrs. Toni L. (Maurer) Cooksey, Reelsville, IN
Mrs. Ruth E. (Cook) Cornwell, San Jose, CA
Mrs. Karen D. (Smith) Craig, Lexington, KY
Mr. Glen D. Crouse, Warsaw, IN
Mrs. Mary Ann (Pitchford) Davis, Danville, IL
Mr. Steven A. Denny, Oak Park, IL
Mrs. Rebecca L. (Boden) Earl, Waukesha, WI
Mrs. Karley E. (Finley) Fahlsing, Unknown
Mr. C. Calvin & Mrs. Marcia (Merry) Forman, Virginia, IL
Mrs. Pollyanna L. (Poole) Franks, Laurens, SC
Mr. Anthony L. Gaff, Normal, IL
Mr. Julian D. Gee, Longmont, CO
Mrs. Dorothy J. (Hoagland) Greenlee, Warrensburg, IL
Mr. Van B. Haas, Jr., Watseka, IL
Mr. Stephan W. Harris, Peoria, IL
Mr. John W. Henry, Elizabethtown, PA
Mr. Terry C. Henson, Lincoln, IL
Mrs. Beth M. (Smith) Henwood, Herrin, IL
Mrs. Kaylene R. (Conover) Idleman, Louisville, KY
Mrs. Martha M. (Smith) Janes, Shelbina, MO
Mr. Ronald R. Jarrett, Grove, OK
Mr. Ben C. Jenkins, Unknown
Mrs. Kathy L. (Willey) Jensen, Indianapolis, IN
Mrs. Laurel E. (Leeper) Jordan, Unknown
Mr. Dean E. Kukuck, Lincoln, IL

Mrs. Sandra M. (Anderson) Lantz, Sebring, FL
Mr. Neil O. Larimore, Milford, IL
Dr. Stanley A. Lindsay, Davenport, FL
Mr. Timothy J. Lindsay, Havana, IL
Dr. Loren D. Lineberry, Bryson City, NC
Ms. Fern S. (Starnes) Long, Topeka, IL
Dr. David M. McFadden, Poplar Bluff, MO
Mr. Allen C. Minor, Branson, MO
Mrs. Paula A. (Copass) Moreno, Joliet, IL
Mrs. Natalie J. (Puckett) Nolan, Avon, IN
Mrs. M. Janis (Click) Peterson, Lake Butler, FL
Mrs. Kathy L. (Chew) Randall, Bullsbrook, AUSTRALIA
Mrs. Sandra S. (Shaver) Ray, Ozark, MO
Mrs. Kathleen J. (Cramer) Reside, Madison, AL
Mr. Jay A. Richardson, Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Mrs. Sharon K. (Jackson) Roberts, Davenport, IA
Mrs. Billie K. (King) Scales, Monticello, IL
Mrs. Carolyn J. (Henry) Siuda, Atlanta, IL
Mrs. Joyce A. (Hunter) Smith, Cartersville, MO
Mrs. Ginger L. (Daniels) Smith, Tacoma, WA
Mrs. Bretta B. (Berkland) Stanley, Sullivan, IN
Mr. James K. & Mrs. Edna Mae (Warden) Stevens,
Woodridge, IL
Mr. Tim A. Stiller, Angola, IN
Mrs. Brenda L. (Beerbower) Strong, Kendallville, IN
Mrs. Marsha C. (Heilman) VanVoorhis, Carmel, IN
Mrs. Willette E. (Phillips) Vest, Mount Sterling, IL
Mr. Robert L. Vincent, Terre Haute, IN
Ms. R. Jane (Henderson) Vincent, Lincoln, IL
Mr. Charles A. Wanamaker, Unknown
Mrs. Mariellen (Roberts) Ward, Greenville, VA
Mrs. Connie S. (Beltz) Wells, Marshall, IL
Mr. Donald A. Williams, West Lafayette, IN
Mr. Larry D. Zumwalt, Peru, IN

To the Class of 2021,

Congratulations! You've reached an important milestone in your journey with Jesus! You've persevered and overcome many hurdles to get here today. So celebrate! Take time to reflect on and appreciate all those who have helped you on your journey.

You've also joined a great family - the family of LCU Alumni. As you continue your journey, please consider how you can remain a member of the LCU community. The Alumni Association, under the leadership of the Executive Cabinet, supports the mission of LCU and the lives and service of her alumni. We welcome your ideas, support, and involvement to make Christian higher education possible in the years to come.

Lincoln Christian University has done much to prepare you for the future. Your worldview has been challenged. Your knowledge of the Bible has been expanded. Now, as you move into a lifetime of service, remember your LCU professors, staff, and friends who have poured themselves into your life. Please know that at LCU, you will always find love, compassion, and counsel. You're part of the family!

Hold fast to the love of Christ and His great commission wherever and however God leads you to serve. We pray that you will keep loving the Lord your God with all your heart, your soul, and your mind. Preach, teach, and serve--with your words, with your deeds, with your Christlike character—in order to show Jesus to a lost and hurting world. And remember....we are on this journey together!

Blessings,

Bob Hentrich, LCC 1979
President, Lincoln Christian University Alumni Association

The origin of academic dress dates back to the 12th and 13th centuries and is one of the most colorful traditions in academic life. In 1895 an Intercollegiate Commission met and adopted a code of academic dress for American colleges and universities. In 1932 the American Council on Education revised the code for academic dress, prescribing color, shape, and texture of the academic costume. The code was further revised in 1959 and 1986.

The cap worn almost universally in academic processions is the Oxford cap, better known as a mortarboard. A different style cap, the Cambridge cap, resembles a large beret. The color of **the tassel** indicates the level of the degree earned at Lincoln Christian University:

Associate and Bachelor's degrees – scarlet

Master's degrees – black

Doctoral degrees – gold

The flowing gown dates back to medieval scholars. While it originally may have been worn as protection against the cold of unheated buildings, today it is symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it covers any dress of rank or social standing. Traditionally, it is black for all degrees, with pointed sleeves for the Bachelor's Degree, long closed sleeves with a slit at the arm for the Master's Degree, and full bell sleeves for the Doctoral Degree. Bachelor's and Master's Degree gowns have no trim. The Doctoral Degree gown is faced with velvet down the front, and with three bars of velvet across the sleeves in the color distinctive of the faculty or discipline that pertains to the degree. Bachelor's Degree gowns are worn closed, while Master's and Doctoral Degree gowns may be worn open or closed.

The satin lining of **the hood** is red to represent LCU. The color of the velvet band around the hood designates the academic degree of the wearer.

For Seminary:

MAC – white

MRE – light blue

MA, MDiv, and DMin – scarlet

For Graduate degrees:

Organizational Leadership – beige

Bible and Theology and Spiritual Formation – scarlet

As each master's graduate of the Seminary descends from the platform after receiving his or her diploma and hood, each is given a **towel**. The "giving of the towel" is not part of traditional academic regalia. The practice began at the Seminary more than 35 years ago at the initiation of Dr. Wayne Shaw, Dean Emeritus. Its roots are in John 13 and the Scriptural incident at the Last Supper when Jesus "wrapped a towel around his waist, poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with a towel..." As Dr. Shaw often said to the graduating seminarians: "This towel signifies that when our students graduate, it is not for arrogance, honor, or prestige, but so that they might go out and wash the feet of the world. This is what we are about."

Each non-Seminary Master's level graduate receives a **bookmark**, etched with the words from 2 Corinthians 10:5 on the back and the LCU Seal on the front, as a reminder that worshipping God is the heart of their education and living their mission in the world. It also reminds them to be a lifelong learner as they journey with Jesus.

As each Doctor of Ministry graduate descends from the platform after receiving his or her diploma and hood, each is given a **basin**. The "giving of the basin" reinforces and complements the symbolism behind the Seminary's towel presentation.

The Presidential Medallion, the official seal of the University, is a symbol of the authority vested in the President of the University, and is worn on official occasions. Inspired by the theme, "circling the globe with the Gospel," the Earl C Hargrove Chapel covers the globe and is encircled by arrows to represent all our alumni who have served in the United States and in more than 165 other countries around the world.

VISION

A Transformational Community of Global Difference Makers

MISSION

Lincoln Christian University is a Christian higher education community whose mission is to nurture and equip Christians with a Biblical worldview to serve and lead in the church and the world.

CORE VALUES

We believe our greatest privilege in life is to glorify God, serve His Son, and rely upon His Holy Spirit. To that end, we commit ourselves to these *Core Values*:

- **Authentic community** that fosters Christian character, conduct, accountability, and unity amidst growing diversity.
- **Holistic development** of students in and out of the classroom as spiritually mature and academically prepared lifelong learners.
- **Servant leadership** and its focus on leading and learning through serving, based on one's gifts, passions, and sense of calling.
- **Responsible stewardship** of the abilities and resources that God provides for and through His people.
- Our **Restoration heritage** and its plea for Christian unity and biblical authority in carrying out God's global mission.

These values come out of our desire to

Encounter God's Word
Engage God's World
and ***Embrace God's Work***

At LCU, we believe that a Christian education creates more whole and holy people. Informed minds and transformed hearts go on to make an impact in whatever soil they're planted.



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