

EXPECTATIONS!

Looking Ahead to a Consolidated University

Stepping foot on campus at CBC in 1993, I knew it was exactly where God wanted me to be. The sign on the campus proclaimed it was “for the training of ministers and missionaries” and Central Bible College delivered on its promise. At Evangel, my wife Heidi had a similar experience. After graduation, we both finished our Assemblies of God education at AGTS.

Great leaders like Byron Klaus, Robert Spence, Opal Reddin, Doug Oss, Robert Stallman, and Twyla Edwards taught us to love God with our whole hearts and minds. They modeled Spirit-filled academics while sharing practical ministerial training. We learned the importance of adapting ministry methodology while never compromising Pentecostal theology.

Early Pentecostal leaders were Spirit-filled innovators. Led by the Spirit, they accomplished amazing things. We too must follow the Holy Spirit’s direction in this dynamic world. Twenty-first century pastors and missionaries face twenty-first century challenges. Like early Pentecostal innovators, we must stay on the edge of where God’s Spirit is taking us even in our training. Our Pentecostal message cannot change, but our methods of training must adapt.

I believe the consolidated Evangel University embodies this Pentecostal innovation. Our Spirit-filled faculty and staff will pour themselves into students. New technologies and academic disciplines woven together with the Pentecostal message will result in Evangel graduates who are Spirit empowered to advance the Kingdom of God. They will be equipped both spiritually and vocationally to advance the Kingdom of God whatever their profession.

“Training ministers and missionaries” is imperative in our Fellowship. As alumni, it is our responsibility to keep this priority in front of our Fellowship. I’m excited the consolidated Evangel University will help us accomplish this task.

A few weeks ago, I was able to be on all three campuses in one day. Just like before; I knew this is exactly where we are supposed to be for ministerial training.

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Consolidation is contingent on approval from the Higher Learning Commission.