

Denver Seminary

SPRING 2013
MAGAZINE



This document of identity is issued with the approval of His Majesty's Government the United Kingdom to young persons to be admitted to the United Kingdom for educational purposes under the care of the Inter-Aid Committee for

THIS DOCUMENT REQUIRES NO VISA.

PERSONAL PARTICULARS.

Name **GRAUMANN Thomas Herman**
~~HOCHBERG Thomas Graumann~~

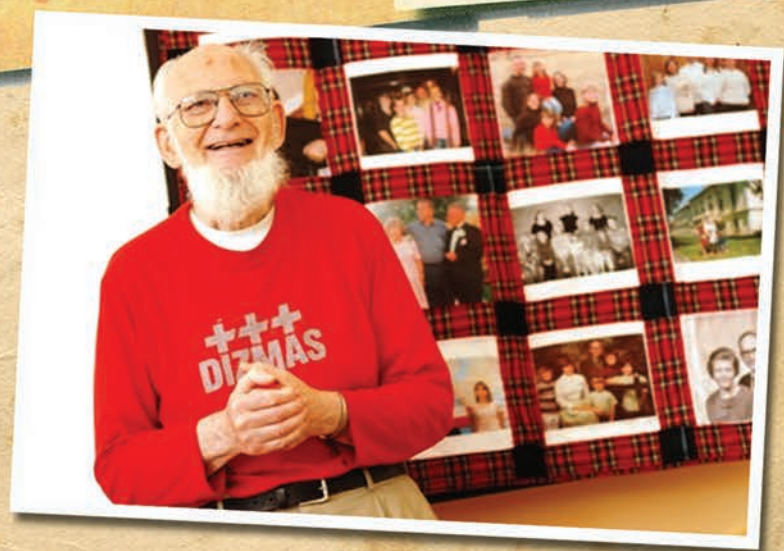
Sex **MALE** Date of Birth **28/1/1931**

Place **JESANY, MORAVIA**

Full Names and Address of Parents
HOCHBERG Julius & Frances
Jesany near Brno



**BRITISH COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN
IN PRAGUE.**



twice

THE RESCUED CHILD

Denver Seminary

SPRING 2013
MAGAZINE



7 The Twice Rescued Child by Pamela Burton

Denver Seminary alumnus Tom Graumann is a Czech Jew, naturalized American, and Christian missionary to the Philippines, and one of the 669 children rescued by Nicholas Winton in 1939.



5 Changing the World, One Business at a Time

*Alumnus Dave Terpstra,
ministering in Mozambique*

12 God's Tenacious Grace in My Life

By Erin Lloyd

13 Training Hispanics in the Denver Area

*It all began with a meeting
at Starbucks*

15 Preparing to Make a Difference

*Interview with M.Div.
student Angela Blattner*

18 Chancellor's Corner

By Gordon MacDonald

Departments

Message from the President	2
Campus News	3
Did You Know...?	17

MISSION

Denver Seminary prepares men and women to engage the needs of the world with the redemptive power of the gospel and the life-changing truth of Scripture.



Message from the President

Was the Apostle Paul crazy?

Evidently some people thought so. Otherwise,

Paul wouldn't have written in 2 Corinthians 5:13, *If we are "out of our mind," as some say, it is for God.* At least Paul was in good company. Jesus' own family once described him as "out of his mind" (Mark 3:21).

Why did some people think that Paul was crazy? Paul's life was characterized by a willingness to act with total devotion to his convictions. Throughout his life we see this pattern. As a young man he embraced Pharisaism with such passion that he was willing to destroy those who confessed Jesus as Messiah (Phil. 2:4b-6; Acts 8:3). After he met the risen Christ, Paul lived with a compulsion to preach the gospel, a sense of obligation that he could not escape. He cried out in his first letter to the Corinthians, (9:16) *Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!*

Paul's inner sense of compulsion even led him to put his own life at risk. While traveling to Jerusalem, he told the elders of the church in Ephesus, *And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace* (Acts 20:22-24).

Someone driven by a compulsion that makes them so singularly focused that they won't even look out for their own well-being makes us nervous. We're so unaccustomed to meeting someone with that level of conviction and devotion that we would likely think of them as a dangerous fanatic. I'm convinced that if Apostle Paul showed up in one of our churches today, we'd immediately recommend counseling for him.

Maybe Paul was crazy.

He didn't think so. Just after admitting that there were some in Corinth who thought he *was out of his mind, he went on to say, If we are in our right mind, it is for you* (2 Cor. 5:13b). Paul lived his life with a sense of mission. Yes, he was driven. He writes, *For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died* (2 Cor. 5:14). The animating force in Paul's life was a deep and profound awareness of Christ's love.

Paul was driven by Christ's love for the world, by Jesus' shameless self-deprecating, sacrificial love for all expressed on the cross. Sentiment alone would not compel Paul to live the kind of life that many considered crazy. No. Paul was driven by a bone-deep conviction that Christ's love for the world must lead us to selfless acts of devotion and sacrifice to make that love a reality in the lives of all people.

In this edition of *Denver Seminary Magazine*, you'll come face-to-face with folks that are compelled by Christ's love for the world. In reading their stories you may be tempted to think they're crazy for taking the risks that they did for the sake of the gospel. According to the world's values they probably are crazy, but they value something far greater than anything this world has to offer—the all-encompassing, never-ending love of Christ for the world.

What compels you? What bone-deep conviction would cause you to take risks, even sacrifice your own well-being in order to live it out? We're all driven by something. May Christ's love for the world consume us, compel us and complete us.

Mark

DENVER SEMINARY MAGAZINE STAFF

Vol. 9, Number 1, Spring 2013

Managing Editor:

Pamela Burton

Editorial Assistant:

Suzanne Matson

Design:

Kristi Wimbish, KBW Graphic Design

Photography:

Ignite Images
Denver Seminary Archives

Denver Seminary Magazine is published free of charge three times per year by Denver Seminary for the benefit of students, staff, faculty, mentors, alumni and friends.

Address corrections or subscription requests can be sent to:

Denver Seminary Advancement
6399 S Santa Fe Dr
Littleton CO 80120
or e-mailed to
magazine@denverseminary.edu
800-922-3040 or 303-761-2482

Copyright 2013 Denver Seminary. All rights reserved. No material may be reproduced without the written permission of Denver Seminary. All Scripture, unless otherwise noted, is taken from the New International Version, copyright 1978 by the New York International Bible Society, used by permission.

Denver Seminary admits qualified students of any race, gender, color, and national or ethnic origin.

ats



The Higher Learning Commission
NCA

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP
ALLIANCE



Denver Seminary Approved for New Degree: M.A. With a Concentration in Chaplaincy



In March 2013, the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) approved a new Masters of Arts degree with a concentration in Chaplaincy, to begin in the Fall of 2013. This degree will provide broad-based biblical, theological, and pastoral training needed for any ministry setting, but is also accredited for those who wish to be ordained, or obtain a Chaplaincy Endorsement that require a 72-hour or less seminary degree.

The Chaplaincy program was launched in 1998 with 3 students. By 2010, it had grown to over 100 students! Dr. Jan McCormack was the original director and continues in that role today.

The program is accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) to be a Clinical Pastoral Center (CPE). Denver Seminary was the first evangelical seminary to be accredited through ACPE.

Commencement Schedule 2013

*Commencement events begin
May 17, 2013. We would love
to see you there!*

Friday, May 17, 2013

Awards Chapel

11 a.m. – noon

Denver Seminary Chapel

Join us in celebrating our graduates' accomplishments at the Awards Chapel.

Graduation Picnic

12 – 1:30 p.m.

Vernon and Ann Grounds
Student Center

Everyone is invited to gather on campus for a graduation picnic! BBQ sandwiches, hamburgers, and the usual picnic sides and drinks will be served. This is a ticketed event, \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Please contact Denver Seminary at 303-761-2482 for more information on purchasing tickets.

Saturday, May 18, 2013

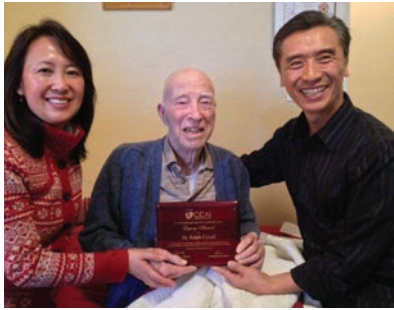
Commencement Service

10 – 11:30 a.m.

Southeast Christian Church
9650 Jordan Rd. Parker, CO

Our commencement speaker this year will be Chuck Swindoll, the founder of Insight for Living and senior pastor at Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, Texas.

The Passing of Dr. Ralph R. Covell



Dr. Covell celebrating his 90th birthday with Josh and Lily Zhong of CCAI. The Zhongs presented Dr. Covell with the CCAI Legacy Award, honoring his 20 years of passionate support for CCAI.

We are saddened to announce that Dr. Ralph R. Covell, who served Denver Seminary for over 24 years as academic dean, professor of missions, and senior professor of World Christianity, died on Saturday, February 2, 2013, at the age of 90.

Dr. Covell joined the faculty of Denver Seminary in 1966 as professor of missions and assumed the role of dean in 1979. He retired from Denver Seminary in 1990.

Dr. Covell received a Ph.D. from the University of Denver, and an honorary D.D. from Denver Seminary. He earned a Th.M. from Fuller Theological Seminary, a B.Th. and a B.D. from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a B.A. from Eastern Baptist College.

Before joining the Seminary, he served as a missionary with CBFMS (now World Venture) in China and Taiwan for 20 years. He translated the New Testament into the language of the Sediq, a Malayo-Polynesian people living in the mountains of Taiwan, and continued to be an advisor on the translation of the Old Testament. He also acted as translation consultant for the Bible Societies of Taiwan.

Dr. Covell also served as chairman of the board for Chinese Children Adoption International (CCAI) since 1992, being its longest standing board member. In addition, he was a consultant for the Lausanne Movement, on the board of China Partner Inc., and authored numerous books, many based on his experiences in China and Taiwan.

How Did Black History Month Begin?

Black History Month has a long history that goes back to the early 1900's. Carter Woodson, the son of former slaves and the second black person to receive a degree from Harvard University, felt it was important to preserve one's heritage and, upon his urgings, the fraternity Omega Psi Phi created Negro History and Literature Week in 1920. In 1926, Woodson changed the name to Negro History Week. He selected the month of February for the celebration as a way to honor the birth of two men whose actions drastically altered the future of black Americans: Abraham Lincoln, the U.S. President who issued the Emancipation Proclamation was born on Feb. 12; and Frederick Douglass, one of the nation's leading abolitionists, was born on Feb. 14.



Black History Month 2013

Theme: *Bridging the Gap*

Each year The African-American Initiative (AAI) of Denver Seminary hosts activities for Black History Month. This year the topic was *Bridging the Gap*. The events took place during Chapel services on Feb. 18-19, with special guest Eddie Broussard speaking at the first event on *Bridging the Gap: A Theology of Incompleteness*. Mr. Broussard is Senior Vice President and Associate Director in US Field Ministries with the Navigators and spoke on I Corinthians 12. In reference to verses 12-14, he spoke of how God designs things with purpose, and that purpose is that we would not only be one body, but WE would be many making up that body.

The second event on February 19 involved a discussion panel that included:

- Dr. Daniel R. Carroll, Distinguished Professor of Old Testament, Denver Seminary
- Jeff Johnsen, Executive Director at Mile High Ministries
- Dr. Margie Lewis, President, Center for Community Excellence and Social Justice
- Dr. Malcolm Newton, President of The Urban Tikkun Centre, Denver Institute of Urban Studies

Anthony Grimes, discipleship pastor at Wellspring Church and a 2012 Denver Seminary graduate, was the moderator for the event. Some of the topics discussed were: how does the color line come into play in the church and the Denver Seminary community; engaging ethnicity and race in the US and how we can do that practically; and what each of the panelists would like to see happen in creating a reconciled community.

To listen to these presentations, go to www.DenverSeminary.edu/Chapel and look for the Feb. 18-19 chapel audio.



Changing the World, One Business at a Time

There are 27 million men, women, and children being held as slaves around the world—more today than in any other time in history. Eighty percent of those slaves are women and girls... as many as two million children are subjected to prostitution in the global commercial sex trade.

There is probably some truth to the idea that Dave Terpstra received his entrepreneurial spirit from his dad. A 2001 graduate of Denver Seminary (M.Div.), Dave prefers to create businesses, not run them.

The businesses he creates have an ultimate purpose: to support people in a sustainable manner while using these enterprises as a vehicle to develop leaders for the Kingdom. Open a gym that supports getting boys off the streets? Done! Collect bras for trafficking victims to sell? Yes, he's done that too! Dave has other business ideas brewing as well, all based on his belief that even for those who do faith-based work, business can be a vehicle for changing the world.

Dave and his family moved to Mozambique as international staff for World Venture, with the plan to work with church leaders to develop their leadership skills. He also works with them to develop businesses that will financially sustain their local ministries.

One particular area they felt passionate about was in helping victims of sex trafficking escape that life, using enterprise as the vehicle for that escape. The plan: to help

them find jobs so they could support themselves, support their children, and stay off the streets.

Mozambique is known as a country overrun by the problem of human trafficking. While the exact percentage of those affected by human trafficking in Mozambique is unclear, the stories from those rescued are enough to convince anyone that it must be stopped.

The problem of human trafficking worldwide is staggering: 27 million men, women, and children are being held as slaves around the world—more today than in any other time in history. Eighty percent of those slaves are women and girls. According to UNICEF, as many as two million children are subjected to prostitution in the global commercial sex trade.*

One former victim, Tachina, says she lost hope when she was trafficked for sex at the age of fifteen. "They'd do horrible things to you and then not give you money. Every minute was the worst. Only, when you're in that situation, you can't always see how bad it is," she said.

The idea of collecting bras to be sold by those who escape trafficking came about before Dave even moved to Mozambique. In his visits there, he was struck by how used clothing was a popular item in the marketplace, in particular, bras. He then formulated a plan, based on the following question: "What if we gave the average U.S. woman the opportunity to partner with women who have been rescued from human trafficking?"

After Dave and his wife talked it over with a friend from church, Kimba Langas, they embarked on creating *Free the Girls*, which partners with safe houses and after-care facilities to provide an opportunity for women to earn a living selling second-hand clothing.

How does it work? The women in the program receive their starting inventory as a donation, collected from women across the United States. They buy additional inventory from *Free the Girls* for below wholesale value to help maintain their competitive edge in the marketplace. Since many of the women they work with were sold into prostitution as early as eight years of age, they missed out on going to school and getting an education. Selling bras allows them to work as much or as little as their schedule permits.

Tachina is one of the women that *Free the Girls* has helped. She has two daughters and can now support them with her business. She wants to finish school and go on to become a teacher. She is planning a future that "her daughters would be proud of."

When *Free the Girls* was created it was as a side project and was never expected to receive more than 1000 bras in donations the first year. However, when someone at the Cable News Network (CNN) found them on the internet and asked to film a short piece on their work in Mozambique, their exposure skyrocketed. Since the launch of *Free the Girls* in August 2010, over 80,000 bras have been donated, much more than their original goal. CNN has since produced a documentary on the work done through the organization (You can find it on the CNN Freedom Project website, under the title *Mozambique or Bust*), giving them more attention and helping them reach even more women.

Dave credits his education at Denver Seminary, in particular the Training and Mentoring (TM) program, for helping shape his skill-set as a life-long learner, a skill needed for his work in Mozambique. It's a daily challenge being in a new country and learning a new culture, yet his time at Denver Seminary helps him embrace that change and feel prepared to take on that challenge.

In addition to *Free the Girls*, Dave and his wife work with a team that helps street boys return to their homes. To date, they have helped over 50 boys leave the streets of Maputo and reintegrate with their community. They follow up with each of the boys to make sure they are in school and that their family continues to provide for them.

And in keeping with his commitment to enterprise as a 'vehicle for change', he has recently opened Armadura Gym, a neighborhood gym that helps fund the project to street boys.

Dave is convinced more and more that God is using business alongside of missions to transform lives. As an entrepreneur and follower of Jesus Christ, this is truly what God has called him to do. **DSM**



Learn more about *Free the Girls* at www.freethegirls.org

***(Sources: Trafficking In Persons Report 2010, Kevin Bales, Disposable People, U.S. State Department)**



At the age of 8 years old, Tom Graumann excitedly boarded a train in Prague, Czechoslovakia with a travel document, the number 652 tied around his neck, two suitcases, and a bag of food. His mother told him “Go to Britain, learn English and in a few months everything will be fine and you will be able to come home.” It was August 1939, and what he didn’t know was that he was one of 669 children, mostly Jewish, who were transported from Czechoslovakia to England in order to save their lives before the outbreak of World War II.

Tom was born in Brno, Czechoslovakia in 1931 to a secular, assimilated Jewish family. Tom’s parents divorced soon after his brother Tony was born. His mother eventually remarried and they moved 15 miles away to the small village of Tesany.

The 1930s were uncertain times for many in Europe due to Hitler’s growing presence. Despite warnings from Tom’s family and the annexation of Austria to Germany, the family decided to stay in Czechoslovakia. The Munich Agreement in 1938, in which Britain, France, and Italy agreed to allow Hitler to annex a large part of Czechoslovakia (aka Sudetenland), was the beginning of the Nazis take over of the country. While the Agreement was thought to have averted a world war, it made life difficult for Jews living in Czechoslovakia, including Tom’s family.

The Nazis made their presence known immediately. The commanding officer in the area seized a room in the Graumann’s home and organized his unit from there. Nazis in the village would attract crowds of locals as they sped up and down the streets on their motorcycles with sidecars, at times knocking down anyone who would get too close to the street. Violence against Jews was a common scene as well. Tom and his brother were warned by their mother not to go anywhere near the Nazis.

While the situation was becoming increasingly dangerous for Tom and his family, a young man from England, Nicholas Winton, was planning a skiing vacation with friend Martin Blake, who worked with refugees in Czechoslovakia. Blake instead asked Winton, at the time a 29-year-old stockbroker, to visit him in Prague and help with the refugees fleeing Hitler’s advancing armies.

Nicholas Winton did go to Prague, and he was deeply affected by the thousands of refugees driven out of Sudetenland. Years later he told the BBC, “The task was enormous but I had to do something. The so-called Kindertransports—initiatives to bring children west—had been organized elsewhere, but not in Prague.”



Tom with his mother and brother in 1938.



Nicholas Winton with one of the children from the “Winton Trains.”



THE RESCUED CHILD

By Pamela Burton

Denver Seminary alumnus Tom Graumann (M.A. Missions, 1977) is a Czech Jew, naturalized American, Christian missionary to the Philippines, and one of the 669 children rescued by Nicholas Winton

Winton contacted multiple governments for help, and the British approved his bringing children to the United Kingdom, if he could find them homes and make a deposit of 50 pounds for each child. The train he transported the children on was called “Wintons Train.”

From March to August 1939, Nicholas Winton worked as a stockbroker by day and a rescue worker at night to get children out of Czechoslovakia and to the UK. Winton advertised in British newspapers and in churches and temples to find families. He raised money for transportation and managed logistics—even forging entry permits when the government was moving too slowly.

Tom’s mother had been visited by a local evangelical preacher and it was that connection that gave Tom the opportunity to escape Czechoslovakia. When he boarded the “Winton Train” in 1939, he did so without his brother, who was sick. The plan was to put Tom’s brother on the next train the following month, but Hitler’s troops invaded Poland that week and all transportation leaving Czechoslovakia was canceled. Tom’s train was the last “Winton Train” allowed out of the country, and his brother stayed with their mother.

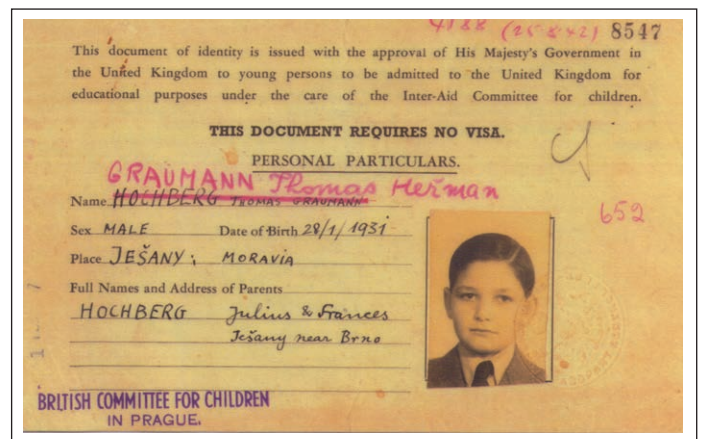
All the children rescued were given a number to keep track of them and tally how many had been taken out of Prague. A total of 669 were rescued. Tom was given the number 652—he was one of the last children to be rescued.

Tom was sent to live with a woman missionary in the western highlands of Scotland. Mary Corson, who was at the time a home economics teacher, welcomed him and one other boy, Tom Schlesinger. Mary had said she could take care of two girls and was quite surprised to find two boys on her doorstep. While the war raged, Tom attended school, learned English, and played with his classmates.

It was during a visit from a children’s evangelist that Tom heard the invitation that all children could come to God through Jesus. He bowed his head and prayed the words of a song, “Come into my heart, Lord Jesus, Come in today, Come in to stay.”

As he began reading the Bible, he came across Exodus 13:2: “Set aside for me the firstborn of every family in Israel. They are mine.” Being the firstborn of a Jewish family, it was in this passage that he saw how God had claimed him for Himself. He had been rescued from almost certain death in a concentration camp; by receiving Jesus he was rescued spiritually—he calls himself the “twice rescued child.”

As the war raged, he heard from his mom every week for the first two years. By 1941 he was receiving one-line messages through the Red



Travel document given to Tom for his train ride out of Czechoslovakia.

Cross, then eventually, nothing. It was after the war that Tom found out the fate of his mother and brother, who were sent to a Nazi concentration camp in Sobibor, Poland and killed the same day they arrived. It was through his 'spiritual rescue' and the amazing grace of God that he was able to forgive the Nazis for what they had done to his family. He never returned to live in his homeland of Czechoslovakia, but stayed in Scotland until he was 18.

Growing up with a missionary meant he heard numerous stories of great men who were missionaries. He was fairly certain he wanted to be a missionary himself but it wasn't until he heard Oswald Saunders of Overseas Missionary Fellowship (OMF) speak at Bible Training Institute in Glasgow that he decided to serve with OMF.



Tribal people on the coast of Mindoro

Tom was sent to the Island of Mindoro, the seventh-largest of the 7,100 Philippine islands. The majority of the missionaries were women, due to the tribal people fearing white men. He spent 8 years on the island, eventually being accepted and introducing baptism and communion as well as a Bible school. At the time this was a controversial move. He was told "Don't plan to teach the whole Bible, these illiterate people cannot understand it." Tom didn't listen and now the school is being taught by the nationals, who are preaching the Bible and have started missionary work to other tribes on the island.

Two other events happened on the island that shaped the rest of his life. First, he met his wife Caroline, who was also a missionary to the Philippines. They have been married for over 50 years and are the proud parents of 4 children and grandparents to 10 grandchildren.

The second event happened when a film crew from OMF visited the island, wanting to capture the outreach to the tribal people there. One of the photographers was asked to speak to the tribal people but refused. Due to this refusal, the tribal people referred to him as "the missionary without a testimony." Tom didn't want his ministry to be impacted by his own inability to share his story, and it was then that he made the decision to always share his testimony, wherever the Lord may take him.

Tom and his wife moved to the United States after their time in the Philippines, with the intention of eventually returning full-time. Knowing he needed more training for the missionary work he was planning, he decided to move to Denver and attend Denver Seminary, known at that time as the Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary. He had heard about the reputation of the Seminary and embarked on getting his degree, all while working full-time as a nurse and raising his family of four with his wife Caroline. He remembers it being a busy time, and despite not being able to return to the mission field due to health issues, felt it was time well spent in preparing him for his ministry later in his life.

Tom knew his testimony and shared it faithfully, yet there was one part of his life that he knew little about; he never knew who had organized his



Tom and his wife Caroline at their first home on Mindoro.

“If Nicholas Winton hadn’t gone to Prague on that day [instead of his skiing vacation], we wouldn’t be alive. There are thousands of us in the world, all thanks to him.”

safe travel out of Czechoslovakia so many years ago. It wasn’t until the 1980s that the story of Nicholas Winton and the ‘Winton Train’ came to light, literally.

In 1988, Nicholas Winton’s wife found an old scrapbook in their attic. It contained stories, names and pictures of young children in the 1930s. Not knowing what she had found, she asked her husband and the entire story came out. Until that moment, Nicholas Winton had not told anyone about the children he had rescued.

With his wife’s encouragement, Winton shared his story, which led to his appearance on the BBC television program, *That’s Life*. And the story took off from there. “Winton’s Children” began to appear from all over, thrilled to be able to thank the man who had spent countless hours securing their safety.

Tom finally found out who had saved him the first time, putting the final piece of his story in place. He carries what he calls a “responsibility to try to do something with my life.”

“Having been rescued from the Nazis, I always knew there must be some reason for my living. I think many of Winton’s children are very conscious of the need to do something with their lives. I have faced the questions ‘Why am I still alive? What am I here for?’ I try to do something with my life.”



Tom with Nicholas Winton

“As Nicholas Winton pointed out, we can do anything if we are given the opportunity. Basically everyone is given an opportunity with their lives; many people waste that opportunity. That’s why, when I was 62, I decided not to sit in a wheelchair for the rest of my life.”

“My message to future generations is... take the opportunity that is given to you and make good use of your life.”

What Was the Munich Pact?

In an effort to avoid war, the leaders of several European countries met in Munich during September, 1938, to discuss how to avoid war and establish a peaceful Europe. Hitler demanded parts of



lto R: Chamberlain, Daladier, Hitler, Mussolini, and Ciano pictured before signing the Munich Agreement, which gave the Sudetenland to Germany.

Czechoslovakia be absorbed into Germany, and British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain agreed, giving Hitler a chunk of Czechoslovakia (Sudetenland) that was home to three million ethnic

Germans and over 100,000 Jews. With

this deal in place, Chamberlain believed he had satisfied the German war machine.

Immediately after the occupation, a wave of arrests began, mostly of refugees from Germany, Czech public figures, and Jews. Fascist organizations began harassing Jews: synagogues were burned down and Jews were rounded up and attacked in the streets.



Jewish refugees at a tent camp in a no-man's-land between Czechoslovakia and Hungary, October 1938.

The deal ultimately gave Czechoslovakia little power over Hitler and Germany. Since the Sudetenland contained the vast majority of Czechoslovakia's coal, energy, and power, their economic resources were limited—Czechoslovakia was at the mercy of Hitler. The Czech government tried to please Hitler by giving into his demands, but Hitler made it quite clear that he planned to annex the country.

On March 15th, 1939, Hitler informed Czech President Emil Hacha that Germany would bomb the country if Hacha didn't allow Hitler to move troops freely within the country. Hacha agreed, and German troops immediately took over several Czech provinces, and eventually Czechoslovakia itself.



Tom is now 82 years old, and has not stopped sharing his testimony, traveling 6 months out of the year to the Czech Republic. He and his wife travel with the Exit Tour, a ministry of Josiah Venture that tours throughout the Czech Republic, sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in schools. The tour consists of a Christian rock band that leads the lectures and discussion groups. Tom and his wife are the oldest on the tour and Tom smiles when he talks about the generation gap. But he is a "Missionary with a Testimony" and will share his story anywhere and anyhow. And while he still wishes he could have returned to the mission field in the Philippines and apply what he learned at the Seminary, he has found God had a much different mission for him—sharing how God saved him... twice. **DSM**

"I want to tell people that it's important to remember what's happened and that all of this can happen again. If we do not remember history we will repeat it."

God's Tenacious Grace in my Life

By Erin Lloyd

In an all-white room, lit by glaringly bright fluorescent lights that buzzed loudly while everything else remained eerily quiet, I waited for the other shoe to drop. You know the one – that elusive fear that when everything is proceeding according to plan, something will come along to challenge your truest beliefs



At the Nile River with fellow Denver Seminary travelers.



Erin with her host family in Kenya.

been in years. Within two, that same doctor reluctantly agreed that though he did not believe in healing, he could no longer say that my body carried a disease.

So I came to Denver Seminary to get a degree in counseling.

And I met others here who wanted to work internationally in a mission's context with their counseling degree. You can imagine what a different perspective I had when I stepped off the plane for a month-long, short-term missions and scouting trip last summer in Nairobi, Kenya and Kampala, Uganda. I saw the faces of the children in the slums and I knew from my heart that God could see them and could hear their cries for help. I walked with a group of teenagers and spoke continuously about a God who offered grace in relationship with Him. And I visited with a myriad of local coun-

selors who are valiantly striving towards putting a system of mental health care in place that will allow their nation to heal—to know the abundant life of a God who works internally within the deepest parts of our beings just as He does externally.

For that wonderful counselor who walked with me through the dark days, for my peers at Denver Seminary who have helped me reshape this crazy calling, for the seminary professors who have engendered a hunger for the truths of the kingdom of God and the inner workings of his image-bearers, I am so grateful. I have wanted to be a missionary since I was 11 years old. In June, one month after I graduate with a Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, I will be 31. Twenty years after I first understood the compelling nature of Christ's love towards the world, I will finally leave for what promises to be a great and mighty continuation of God's tenacious grace in my life on international soil. I cannot wait. **DSM**

about God, His goodness, or the people you hold most dear. I wish I could say that in that moment I clung to the reassurance the smallest grain of my remaining faith offered to me. But as I waited, I felt the inmost part of my being sink into an ever-widening chasm of sadness. By the time the doctor came in to pronounce a diagnosis which in one word explained the last year of dramatic bouts with illness and simultaneously forecast a lifetime of physical pain, I just nodded, waited for him to stop giving me instructions, and left. It is by God's grace that I remembered the only one of his many suggestions that would lead to life-changing wholeness. "Look," he said rather nonchalantly, "I think you should go to counseling."

And I went. I went to counseling because the doctor told me to, but I also went because suddenly I had nowhere else to go. The prognosis given to me that day challenged everything I thought I knew about where my life was headed. I had a long-ago revealed and much confirmed calling to missions. Now I was very abruptly and physically waylaid from any such journey. I did not know what to do, so I did the only thing I remembered to do. I made an appointment with a counselor.

I know now that God leads clients to counselors just as He shepherds us with many of our most important relationships. In counseling with a wonderfully Godly, calm, and brilliant woman, I realized I did not know grace. Grace that said when I was so sick all I could do was the barest of necessities, God remained lovingly present. And not only did He love me, He saw me, and He heard my cries for help. Within a year of that shoe-dropping moment, I was spiritually and emotionally healthier than I had

Erin Lloyd is the Student Council president of Denver Seminary and will be graduating this May with a Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. She has traveled all over the world. Her plan after graduation is to travel to Kenya and Sri Lanka, teaching and learning more about cross-cultural counseling.

Training Hispanics in the Denver Area

It all began with a meeting at Starbucks. Danny Carroll, Distinguished Professor of Old Testament at Denver Seminary, had been asked many times by local pastors to start a pastoral/lay leader training program for those who spoke only Spanish. After much discussion and meetings at Starbucks, Dr. Carroll started with leaders from three different churches who came to Denver Seminary once a month on Saturdays to learn, eat, and fellowship. Thinking that it would be only a one-year commitment, Dr. Carroll was surprised when the students wanted to continue on in their training. Knowing that he could not commit to another year, Dr. Carroll started looking for someone who could help create a more permanent program. The search led him to Wilmer Ramirez, and IDEAL (The Institute for the Development and Training of Leaders) was born.



IDEAL students enjoying a moment of humor during class.

Wilmer had always had the dream of helping the church develop better leadership. He started his first ministry at the age of 16, where he helped train youth leaders in his home country of Honduras. Wilmer went on to attend Seminario Teológico Centroamericano (SETECA) in Guatemala, the largest seminary in Latin America and a partner of Denver Seminary, with the thought of continuing with his passion for developing strong leaders for the church. At SETECA Wilmer met Dr. Carroll, who was on the faculty there. It was also where he met his wife Vioneth, who received her M.A. from SETECA.

Wilmer and his family moved from Guatemala to Boston before they came to Denver in 2008 to take on the new position of Director of Hispanic Initiatives at Denver Seminary. He began by formalizing many of the things that were, as Wilmer put it, “basically going on by inertia.” He also began writing, creating the philosophy and mission of the initiative. There were 60 students that first year from 10 different churches in the Denver metro area. The next year, attendance doubled from 60 to 120 students from 70 different churches, and attendance continues to stay in the 120’s

each year, with 12 professors teaching. IDEAL students come from all sorts of backgrounds. Most are lay leaders in their church who have no previous training in leadership or ministry. They normally work 50-60 hours a week; have two to three jobs; have an education level anywhere from elementary school to high school; are actively involved in their church; and are raising families. It’s a commitment for them to come every month, yet they are dedicated to the program and the process. Since most Hispanic congregations have an average of 50 members, with the pastors working a full-time job while serving, IDEAL helps the churches by providing a program where their leaders can be trained.

One graduate of the program began attending before becoming a Christian. It was during that first year that he decided it was time to make a commitment to Christ. He served at the Denver Rescue Mission for his internship, where he saw the need for an outreach to Hispanics in the program. After graduation he volunteered at the Rescue Mission, which eventually led to him helping as director of the Hispanic program there. He also volunteers at



The Ramirez family at Wilmer's Ordination.

Women from the Oasis program.

IDEAL graduating class of 2010.

In the classroom on a Saturday morning.

IDEAL, taking on many interns through the program and training them the same way he was trained. The personal investment in his life, provided by IDEAL, has been multiplied into touching even more lives.

In addition to the main training on Saturdays, there is a women's group called Oasis, led by Vioneth, Wilmer's wife. Oasis was initially designed for

Center to provide counseling for Spanish speaking Hispanics. (Shepherd's Gate is the counseling clinic at Denver Seminary that offers low-cost counseling services to individuals in the Denver metro area while giving students a practicum experience). The low income of the Hispanic community makes Shepherd's Gate a good fit and they now have a Spanish speaking

IDEAL has not only helped me to better understand the Word, but it's helped me to understand my life.

pastor's wives, who Vioneth and Wilmer always felt was an abandoned group, that work behind the scenes of the church and receive little support. Using a variety of Bible studies, the group helps not only pastors' wives, but has opened up to become a group for women leaders. Churches are sending their female attendees so they can return to their church and teach what they have learned.

Vioneth assists Wilmer in running IDEAL, providing administrative support. As a student in the counseling program at Denver Seminary, she is beginning to work with Shepherd's Gate Counseling

supervisor to serve the Hispanic community.

"Every year we hear reports on the effect IDEAL students have had on their community. One year alone, we had reports of 94 people being led to Christ, all because of the evangelistic practices of the students," said Wilmer. "Ninety-four people, I was so happy about that! And each year we hear more reports of people accepting Christ due to the ministry of graduates of IDEAL."

IDEAL... transforming lives through the love of Christ.

DSM

WHAT IS IDEAL?

IDEAL (*The Institute for the Development and Training of Leaders*) is Denver Seminary's lay-level certificate program that offers classes in Bible and theology to Hispanics in the metro Denver area. Taught entirely in Spanish, the purpose of the institute is to *train Hispanic leaders through the systematic instruction of the entire Word of God.*

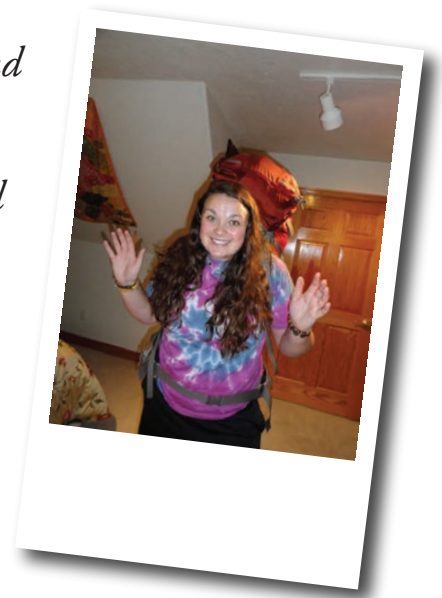
IDEAL uses material produced by SETECA that emphasizes the study of the Bible and covers a wide range of biblical, theological, and practical topics. Courses are offered at two levels: *Plan Básico* is a series of 11 courses that can be completed in one year. *Plan Ministerial* is a series of 20 courses and builds on the *Plan Básico*, requiring two years to complete. Courses are offered once a month on the Seminary campus.

Plan Básico focuses on helping students identify their spiritual gifts and assisting them in excelling at that gift. They might teach, or preach, or provide pastoral care. Once their spiritual gift is clear, they begin attending a track where they can specialize in how the spirit is moving them in regards to this gift.

Plan Ministerial follows the *Plan Básico*, in which students go through an intensive course based on their gift, followed by a year of practice. The goal is for students to have a good foundation of Biblical doctrine and Biblical knowledge, in addition to being able to return to their churches with practical skills in ministry.

Preparing to Make a Difference

Angela Blattner came to Denver Seminary in 2012 to pursue a Master of Divinity degree. She was awarded a Kern Scholarship and would like to use her training in the pastoral field. Her journey, before Denver Seminary, took her around the world with the World Race. Part of that trip had Angie working in South East Asia with women affected by the sex industry. Recently, Angie sat down with us and shared about her journey to Denver Seminary and what she has learned since she came here.



Denver Seminary: Tell us how you came to Denver Seminary.

Angela: I wanted to do overseas missions after completing my undergraduate education. I applied for the *World Race*, which travels to 11 countries in 11 months and serves "the least of these, while amongst real and raw community." While waiting to hear from the *World Race*, I was invited to a preview day at the Seminary by the youth pastor I was working with. This pastor encouraged me to consider becoming an ordained pastor. I knew that I wanted to go into ministry – but I was not sure if this meant becoming a pastor. Interestingly, the day of the preview was the day that I was accepted to do the *World Race*. The news of my acceptance postponed my decision to attend Seminary, although it was still a desire after my travels.

DS: What is the *World Race* and how did it affect you?

A: The *World Race* is a tour that literally goes to 11 countries in 11 months and is about seeing the world transformed through tangible expressions of God's love. I left in the fall of 2010 and traveled to Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and ended the year in India. We worked with local missionaries in each country...preaching, teaching, serving and loving on people from all different cultures and walks of life! It was during my time traveling that I cultivated a heart for women in the sex industry.

DS: Did you see the effects of the sex industry in your travels?

A: Yes, primarily South East Asia, which was the big brunt of it. It was there we did direct ministry with women in the sex industry. Many times over, I thought to myself, "I love this!" I loved working with the women. We would do "bar ministry" at night and go into the well-known Red Light District. We would form relationships with women in need, and then during the day we would do "jungle work."

DS: Jungle work?

A: There was a plot of land that had a safe house for women on it that needed some work done in clearing the land for possible expansions. We would clear the land by using machetes, cutting down trees, and so on. Lizards were everywhere, it was crazy!

DS: What other work did you do with the women?

A: We would have Bible studies and English classes for the women who had already come out of the sex industry. These women were either working by making jewelry or going back to school to get a degree that would help them make a living, such as hotel management.

DS: Was it difficult coming back home to the US?

Coming home really broke my heart for the United States. I began to realize how desensitized the U.S. is to the spiritual warfare taking



place here at home. Seeing it in India and Africa and South East Asia or Central America, where it is very out there and it is very out in the open and obvious. It is so much sneakier, almost like Satan is saying: “Well, if I can get them to believe that I don’t even exist then they won’t even understand that they are under attack.” Sharing my experiences in conversations and at churches, I realized there was a need in the States. This is when I found out about *Street’s Hope*, a ministry in Denver that helps women coming out of the sex trade industry. Wanting to continue ministering in this area, I applied for the job of house mom at their safe house.

DS: Were you still considering attending Denver Seminary?

A: I applied to Denver Seminary and had been accepted, but the scholarship I had applied for (the Kern Scholarship) was only available for students starting in the fall. I was accepted in November of 2011 and I thought “what can I do for 9 months waiting for school to start?” After being offered the position at *Street’s Hope*, I was house mom for those 9 months. Once school started, I became the Director of Ministry and Outreach, which is a 20 hour a week job and allows me to still be involved while I attend the Seminary.

DS: Tell us more about your position as Director of Ministry and Outreach.

A: I work to develop partnerships with local entities and ministries, as well as some case management with women coming out of the sex industry. I also lead a Bible study, which is part of my skills contract for the Training and Mentoring class at the Seminary

DS: In your experience with the women, has it surprised you that there is so much of this happening in the Denver area?

A: I did not realize until I started working there the many things happening in Denver that are scary and taking place in our own backyard. One of my first clients at *Street’s Hope* had been held in a cellar for 18 months: she was held in Lakewood, Colorado! It is experiences like these that really opened my eyes and made me realize that there is so much work to be done for the Kingdom of God right here in Colorado.

DS: How are you using your education at Denver Seminary in your ministry at *Street’s Hope*?

A: I really feel called to pastoral ministry, so I would love to incorporate what I have learned as director of missions and outreach at a church someday. The job is such a blessing because it really is teaching me “what does ministry look like” as a vocation. I have really been blessed by the academic enrichment here. Whether I’m learning more about the Word, the Koine Greek words, through the commentaries and the historical background, it is a big blessing to bring that knowledge into ministry and apply it in every sense of the word.

DS: What are some of the classes you have taken that have impacted you the most?

A: I’m taking *Epistles and Revelation* right now with Dr. Blomberg. This class is a God-send for the Bible studies I do with the women. I am so much more prepared to answer with scholarly answers, as far as historical and cultural relevance. Nearly everything we are taught in this class is applicable – it is a big blessing to my ministry!

I am also in *Pastoral Theology of Worship* with Dr. Wenig and this class has been very applicable. We’ve been learning about baptism and I just had the opportunity to baptize some of the women! *Street’s Hope* and a Master of Divinity really go hand-in-hand. I really feel like I am getting the good training that I need for full-time ministry in the future.

DS: Do you see yourself continuing to minister to those affected by the sex industry after you get into the pastoral role?

A: Yes. I have a huge heart for it and I think a big role I could play in church ministry is to be able to not only bring awareness to the congregation but also to network and partner with different parachurches and ministries in the area. I really believe the Lord has called me to stay somewhere in Colorado, working with organizations and saying, “How can we partner with you to make a difference?”

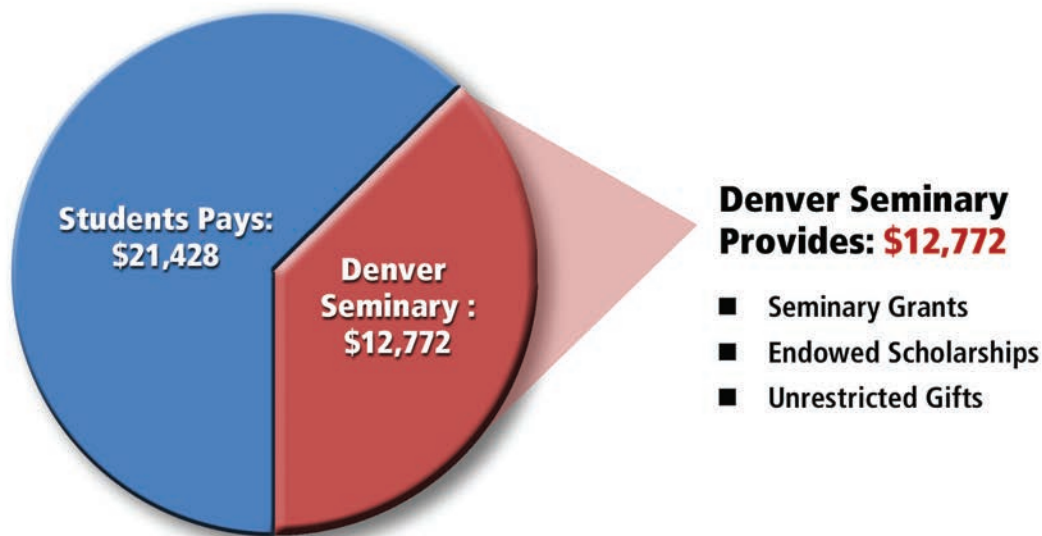
God is preparing me, both in the academic sense but also with the spiritual sense. I don’t have to wait; I can apply what I am learning right now, and make a difference. **DSM**

Did You Know...

Due to generous donors like you, we can keep tuition costs low at Denver Seminary.

Keeping Tuition Affordable

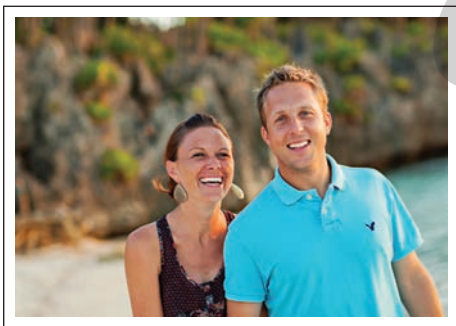
THANK YOU for your generous giving to Denver Seminary! Your support helps us in daily *preparing men and women to engage the needs of the world with the redemptive power of the gospel and the life-changing truth of scripture.*



Average Sticker Price for a 3-year Degree: **\$34,200**

Meet a Student... *John Bell, pursuing an M.A. in Theology and recipient of the Denver Seminary Merit Scholarship and Vernon Grounds Scholarship.*

John and his wife Rebecca worked at the *Micah Project* before he came to Denver Seminary. *Micah Project* is a group home ministry to former street boys in the center of Tegucigalpa, Honduras.



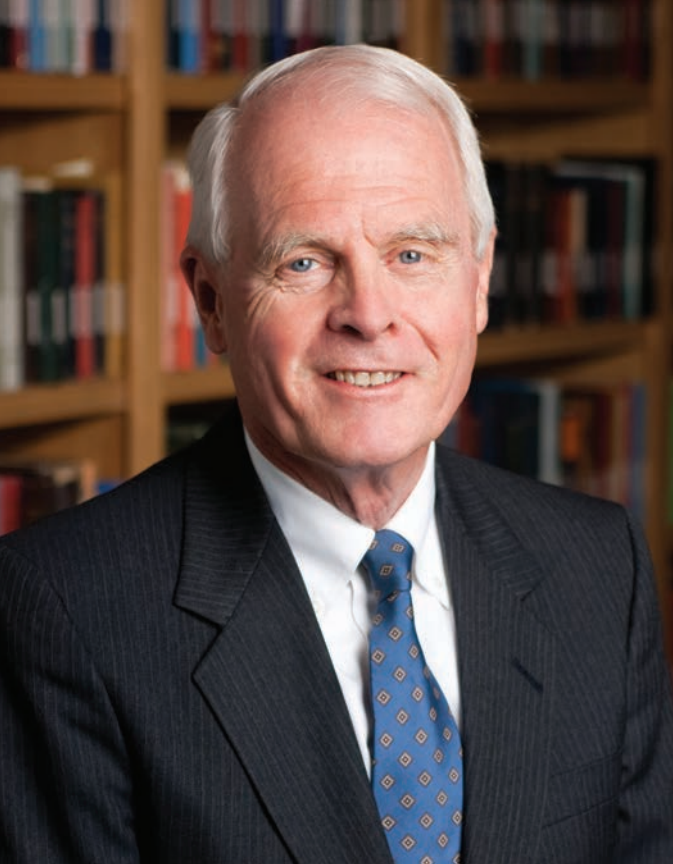
It has been a tremendous joy to walk out my calling as a pastor on the poverty-saturated and sin-stained streets of this city of over a million people.

Upon graduation from Denver Seminary, my wife and I hope to return to Honduras and the Micah Project and work with a small team of people to start Comunidad Soma. Comunidad Soma will be a local church community based in the center of Tegucigalpa that will strive to glorify God passionately, seek Him diligently, serve each other and the local community radically, teach the Bible faithfully, and proclaim Christ loudly and with great love.

I am so grateful for these scholarships, which are helping me to pursue my passion for Biblical understanding and my desire to become a more equipped missionary.

Thanks to generous Denver Seminary supporters, John has been able to study at Denver Seminary. His hope is to become a better follower of Christ, pastor, teacher, and leader.

Please visit www.DenverSeminary.edu/Give for more information on helping students like John receive an education that makes a difference.



Chancellor's Corner

By Gordon MacDonald

It is said that a traveler visiting a monastery asked the abbot, "How many monks live here?"

"About a thousand," the abbot responded. "But only a few are disciples."

Monks... disciples? A difference? So thought the abbot. He intimates that while many wear monastic garb, pursue daily monastic routines, and observe monastic spiritual disciplines, only a few (disciples, he calls them) absorb the character of Jesus Christ and fully commit to the mission of Jesus Christ.

During the last year, our president, Mark Young, has spoken frequently of such a discipleship. He has used words such as risky, daring, even crazy to describe a brand of Christ-following faith that is so unusual that some suspect—as they once did with St. Paul—such a faith-holder to be out of his or her mind.

On other pages of this magazine are the stories of certain Denver Seminary graduates and students who illustrate President Young's description. In one way or another, they have taken the work of Jesus where few others wanted (or were willing) to go. The price has been great; the result, glorious.

This sampling of students represents the result of your prayers and generous giving to Denver Seminary.

It's possible that most of us will at some time in our lives reach a moment when we must decide if ours is such a crazy faith. Could there ever be a task or a mission so consuming that one is prepared to put everything—even life itself—on the line to achieve it?

For my wife, Gail, and me, such a moment came on Sept. 11, 2001. Hearing that the towers in New York City had fallen we headed to Ground Zero and joined the officers of the Salvation Army who were among the first responders to that terrible scene. Soon I was in the pit with the rescue personnel who were frantically seeking survivors. Gail worked at a front-line first-aid station treating minor injuries.

For a week we remained at Ground Zero, 16 or 18 hours a day. We felt compelled (Paul's word) to stay.

Rumors were that the air was toxic, that we risked lung damage. Rumors were that other buildings might fall on us. But no one—Gail and me included—cared. "We're not running," we said, "even if something awful happens."

Never in my life had I experienced that euphoric feeling of total surrender to a mission that was inestimably more valuable than my life. Sanity said, stay away from this place. Mission (compassion) said, give everything you've got!

One never knows when such a moment of risk, daring, a kind of craziness will ever come again. But until it does, each day becomes a faith-building day so that we will respond obediently.

You could say that each day at Denver Seminary is such a preparation day. Here, there is the shaping of wonderful young men and women to hear God's call, to move beyond the routine trappings of a "monk" and emerge as true disciples.



Find us at **DenverSeminary.edu** and on



For a complete list of our Chapel Schedule, visit DenverSeminary.edu/Chapel.

Licensure and Nonlicensure Programs
CACREP Accredited



Earn Your **MASTER OF ARTS** or
MASTER OF DIVINITY
IN COUNSELING

Denver Seminary understands the challenges facing aspiring Christian counselors, navigating two paths: the clinical one of healing and the spiritual one of renewal. This is why our **Master of Arts** and **Master of Divinity** degrees in Counseling and related fields prepare students with a biblical and theological core and clinical instruction in counseling methodologies.

Visit DenverSeminary.edu
and click **DEGREE PROGRAMS** for details.

