

The Torch of Truth



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Southland Bible Institute and Camp Evangel
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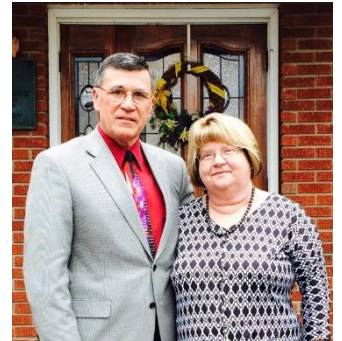
Embracing Life's Seasons

"To every thing there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the heaven:"
Ecclesiastes 3:1



Everything God designs is for a purpose, including the seasons of life. There is always a transitional period when moving from one season to the next. It doesn't all happen overnight, but there are gradual subtleties that occur every day, signifying the change. One of the hardest things to accept in life is change itself. Yet, change is inevitable. Just like the seasons, life goes through cycles—moments of growth, moments of retreat, moments of transition. And much like how we see the seasons shift from spring to summer to autumn to winter, we too must embrace the flow of life's transformations. Even though we are never comfortable with changes, sometimes they are necessary for things to continue. This is true not only in nature and in life, but in churches and mission organizations as well. They need new leadership to grow and take the place of those who are now rejoicing with the Lord, or who are unable to continue in the ministries they have loved and served for years.

Such is the case at Southland. After over 30 years as President of Southland, Arnold Adams has been elevated to the position of President Emeritus. His health issues have made it impossible for him to continue doing the work he loved. He and his wife, Phyllis, have been instrumental in every aspect of the ministry. Only eternity will reveal the impact they have had in recruiting students, raising funds, using his gifts as a builder to erect buildings, doing maintenance on the campus, working in the office, cooking, reaching out to pastors and making known the ministry of Southland Bible Institute. We are grateful for their years of service and the effectiveness of their ministry through good times as well as hard times.



The board recently voted to promote Dr. Larry Spencer from Vice-President to President. When Dr. Spencer left his teaching position at Southland back in 1978 to pursue higher education, he never dreamed the Lord would one day lead him back to Southland as President. During the ensuing years of continuing his education, culminating in a Doctor of Ministry degree, and pastoring several churches, he remained a faithful friend to Southland. He is a teacher by nature, by calling and by choice. Every effort is pursued to extend knowledge of God's Word. Dr. Spencer attends conferences to inform other pastors and people of the ministry of Southland and to recruit students. There are some possible ministry opportunities we are currently pursuing and we need your prayers. Dr. Spencer is currently in need of additional support, and we ask you to pray concerning this need, as he fulfills the role the Lord has given him during this season. We also ask you to pray that the board will soon appoint a new vice-president to continue taking the ministry forward.

Camp Evangel 2026

Into The Jungle

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

John 15:5

We chose this year's theme as an exciting way to incorporate a jungle atmosphere into crafts, games, and decorations. But beyond the interesting theme, the above verse is what our entire program will be focusing on during the retreats and throughout the weeks of camp. The challenge to our campers is twofold: Are you in Christ? And if you are a Christian, what fruit are you bringing forth for Christ?

Our speakers and counsellors will share the answers to these questions from the Word of God with every camper that attends a week of camp. Please pray for our staff, speakers, and campers as their hearts are being prepared to be at camp even now.

Camp has had great interest for future staff from visiting churches and colleges. We have some wonderful college age and young adults that have committed to be staff over the five weeks of camp. This is a definite answer to prayer as we must recruit staff every year.

Please keep praying for us as we are striving to make updates around the camp as the Lord leads. Some of the things we need to get done include:

1. Roof for our large 60ft x 30ft multipurpose Picnic Shelter
2. Road fixed to pool
3. Porches and steps to cabins
4. Repairs to Go Carts and track including sealing it
5. Purchasing food for 5 weeks of Camp and the weekend retreats and for the group of teens coming to help us prepare the last of April

There is always a place for Christian individuals to serve. We have a need for you to pray and come help us!



July 6-10 - Junior Week 1
July 13-17 - Teen Week 1
July 20-24 - Teen Week 2
July 27-31 - Junior Week 2
-www.campevangel.org-



Campus News



Much of the past three months have been spent renovating the apartment in the dorm after the last occupant moved away. There was much work to be done, including cleaning, painting, replacing floors, blinds, and repairing 3 room HVAC units to name a few. While this was a very expensive job, (close to \$5,000) it was necessary to prepare it for a new volunteer. Annette Spencer has a master's degree in education and while she will continue teaching at Grace Christian School, she will also be helping with some office duties, as well as teaching English and Speech here at Southland. We are excited to see how the Lord will use her.



We are also excited to see the progress our new Head of Maintenance has made around campus. What a blessing he has been in the 6 months he has been here. He has been busy, not only with the apartment renovation, but with cleaning up the buildings and grounds, and organizing the dorm and other buildings to be more efficient. Now, it's back to mowing season which takes much time during the warm months. There are many plans which still need to be accomplished in the days ahead as the Lord provides the money and strength. We are grateful for the abilities the Lord gives to people He sends to work with us.



What about YOU? Could you serve the Lord by volunteering some time at Southland? There is much to be done and few hands to accomplish it. We need someone to help with the grounds upkeep, especially the weed eating this summer. Come spend a day, a week, or whatever time you have available and see how the Lord is working. We may be small, but we remain faithful to what the Lord has called us to do and that is to provide "Training That Prepares For Service" for the people of eastern Kentucky and the entire tri-state area. In today's culture the need for Bible training is greater than ever. However, our culture has also turned many away from

seeking a knowledge of God's Word. Southland's ministry has remained the same, but we continue to pursue new ways to reach out to those called by God and to provide Bible teaching, including online classes and extension classes through local churches. We currently have one extension class in Pikeville, KY taught by board member Richard Meek (G '75), which is the third class he has taught at his church, Justiceville Bible Baptist Church.

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP SOUTHLAND AND CAMP EVANGEL FINANCIALLY

Please credit my gift to Southland Bible Institute/Camp Evangel as follows:

_____ SBI General Fund _____ Student Aid Fund
_____ Missionary Support for _____
_____ Camp General Fund _____ Camp Scholarship Fund _____ Summer Workers Fund
_____ Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

Online donations may be made at www.southlandbibleinstitute.org

Make checks payable to Southland Bible Institute—Thank You!

(Please use the designations above and do not write the name of missionary on check)

Some Upcoming Events

April 16-18 – Booth at Hillbilly Days in Pikeville
April 21 – Semi-annual Board of Directors meeting
April 24-25 – Junior Retreat at Camp Evangel
May 1-2 – Teen Retreat at Camp Evangel
August 17 – Fall Semester Begins
October 15-16 – Fall Bible Conference



Southland



Camp Evangel

Don't Forget

ONLINE CLASSES

AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

ONLINE GIVING

AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

YOU COULD BE RECEIVING THIS
NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL!

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WEBSITES

www.southlandbibleinstitute.org

www.campevangel.org

Look for our
Facebook pages
and follow us for
up-to-date
information.



Dr. Larry Spencer is still available to speak at churches and conferences to tell you more about Southland and Camp Evangel. He can be reached at 828-736-0175 or emailed at lspencer1146@gmail.com



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