

Dear Southern Baptist co-laborers in Christ:

It is my joy to bring you this ministry report from The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, your seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Having now commenced my first full calendar year as president of Southern Baptists' "crown jewel" seminary, it is my deep joy to witness the dawning of a new day at Southwestern Seminary as we seek to be faithful in training of the next generation of pastors, missionaries, and other servants of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

At the heart of this administration's vision for Southwestern Seminary is a reanimation and reinvigoration of the original vision of our founder and first president, the great Baptist pastor-theologian and denominational statesman Benajah Harvey (B.H.) Carroll. That vision – a "big-tent vision" – is grounded in four non-negotiable institutional commitments:

1. an unapologetic embrace and celebration of a high view of Scripture as the written Word of God: inspired, inerrant, infallible, and authoritative;
2. confessional fidelity – from the beginning, the Southwestern Seminary faculty have been confessionally aligned with our Southern Baptist Convention of churches, as expressed in our affirmation of every iteration of the Baptist Faith and Message;
3. a passion for the Great Commission, as demonstrated in the fact that Southwestern Seminary was the first seminary every to have a fulltime professor of evangelism – Dr. Lee Rutland (L.R.) Scarborough, who would go on to serve as the second president of the seminary; and
4. a strong affirmation of the vitality of cooperation in Southern Baptist life, including the genius of the Cooperative Program, with roots that go deep in the life of Southwestern Seminary. To Southern Baptists, we say, "Thank you, for your generous financial support channeled through the Cooperative Program, which helps makes possible all that we do here."

Though we find ourselves in a moment in time too often characterized by dissension and division, I believe there is no more urgent time for Southern Baptists to come together than now. The challenges in today's culture demand more cooperation among us, not less. We desperately need leadership committed to helping equip the people of God not only to evangelize the lost and disciple new believers, but also to teach Christians how to live out a Christian worldview that makes a difference for Christ in our culture, especially while secular voices increasingly demand capitulation and compromise from God's standards.

This goal is our aim at Southwestern Seminary – to be a school that produces Gospel-driven men and women who are able to minister effectively in these urgent days. It is because of our relationships and partnerships with local churches, state conventions, and fellow SBC entities that we are able to meet this challenge. Please pray for us that God would find us faithful and make us fruitful in His service.

The next time your travels bring you to the Dallas-Fort Worth (or as we prefer, Fort Worth-Dallas) Metroplex, please come visit us on Seminary Hill. And as always, please do keep Southwestern Seminary in your prayers.

Adam W. Greenway
President