

## CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

With a new building, new faculty and staff, new curriculum, newly expanded financial aid initiatives – and even new art! – Candler School of Theology is moving with enthusiasm and grace through changes that enhance its ability to fulfill its mission: *to educate faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries in the world*. To this end, Candler is constantly working to deepen its already vital relationship with The United Methodist Church.

As one of the 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Candler is grounded in the Christian faith and shaped by the Wesleyan tradition of evangelical piety, ecumenical openness, and social concern. As one of nine graduate level, professional schools of United Methodist-related Emory University, Candler provides a context for learning and formation that engages the most complex and difficult issues of our day. As a school located in the major metropolitan area of Atlanta, Georgia, Candler offers students the opportunity for practice in a highly diverse community, a global crossroads where church growth is expected, cultivated, and actually happening! There is no better place for preparation that resonates with and addresses our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

On September 25, 2008, and with abundant joy, we dedicated Phase I of the new Candler School of Theology Building. A LEEDS silver certificate building, the "CST" includes offices and classrooms that provide the opportunity for technologically sophisticated work and community in an environmentally sound setting. Phase II, to be built in due time, will house the Pitts Theology Library, the Wesley Teaching Chapel, and additional offices and classrooms.

This year we welcomed the arrival of six new faculty and senior staff, five of whom are United Methodists. Forty two percent of the faculty and senior staff is United Methodist, and all but five are ordained. Two new staff positions were created, the Director of Lifelong Learning, filled by Dr. Bob Winstead, a member of the North Georgia Annual Conference, and the Associate Dean of Methodist Studies, filled by Dr. Anne Burkholder, a member of the Florida Annual Conference. Both of these new positions serve the larger church as they connect clergy with new opportunities for learning; connect conferences and students who are ultimately seeking ordination; engage with denominational organizations at a variety of levels; oversee denominational certifications and the Course of Study; advise students; and teach courses. In addition, Bishop Ruediger Minor is with us for two years as the inaugural holder of the Hankey Chair in World Evangelism and Bishop Walter Klaiber is with us as Bishop-in-Residence during the spring semester.

Candler is in the second year of its new curriculum, designed to assist students in aligning their course selection with their call to ministry and integrating the classroom with their contextual education settings. This emphasis is accomplished through the selection of a concentration, the opportunity for special certifications, and joint programs and initiatives with three other Emory graduate schools: Goizueta Business School, Emory Law School, and Rollins School of Public Health.

We are delighted to report that in spite of the difficult economic realities that have had a serious impact on us all, Candler School of Theology and Emory University are faring well, due to sound fiscal stewardship and excellent donor support. The Emory Capital Campaign has achieved \$881 million of its \$1.7 billion goal. Candler's goal of \$60 million will enable us to achieve strategic priorities regarding facilities, student support, lifelong learning, endowed professorships, programs and curriculum development, and international initiatives.

Candler has always been deeply committed to assisting students with generous financial aid, but in light of the current economic climate, we have deepened our commitment to significant student support in two very important ways. This academic year, 80 percent of eligible students received scholarships or grants, with an average award covering 79% percent of tuition. Through these awards, more than \$2.5 million was provided to 196 United Methodist students. In addition, we created "Leadership Candler," an all-expenses-paid discernment experience that draws together distinguished prospective MDiv students from across the country and the world to explore the richness of life and study at Candler.

As a part of its contribution to the new building, Emory University provided Candler with a major grant for the purchase of new artwork. As a result, Candler is now home to the world's largest collection of original works by John August Swanson. Comprising both serigraphs and paintings, the collection focuses on biblical narratives and reflects the storytelling traditions of Swanson's Mexican-Swedish heritage as well as the influence of mosaics and stained glass from the Byzantine and medieval eras.

Candler's student body truly reflects the denominational emphasis on the importance of attracting younger and more diverse people. Our enrollment stands at 493, with 401 seeking the Master of Divinity, 50 the Master of Theological Studies, 18 the Master of Theology, 13 the Doctor of Theology, and 11 enrolled as Special, Non-Degree students. Eighty-three percent are enrolled full-time. The total student population is 24% US ethnic minority, 12% international, and 51% women. More than 50 denominations are represented, with 52% of MDiv students being United Methodist from 40 Annual Conferences, including Bulgaria, East Angola, Mozambique, and Korea. Other Methodist denominations include African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal, Church of the Nazarene, Free Methodist, Wesleyan Methodist, and the Methodist Church of Korea. The average age of our students is 32, with 56% under thirty. The median age of our MDiv students is 27.

Candler is deeply committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the development of persons for Christian ministry, especially in the United Methodist Church. We are grateful for your support of Candler through the Methodist

Education Fund, visits, prayers, nurture of our students, and direct donor support. Come and see us! We would love to welcome you on campus to share your interest, your concerns, and your ideas!

With thanks,

*Jan Love  
Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics  
Candler School of Theology*