

# ILLUMINATION

LIVING UNIVERSITY



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## REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 2015 SEMESTER!

Registration for second semester classes is now underway! The spring semester will begin on Wednesday, January 14. New and existing students may register for the spring semester (fall in the southern hemisphere) anytime between now and January 14. For those who have never taken a Living University course, you will need to enroll in the University first, and then register for your selected course. This semester, along with many of our traditionally offered spring classes, we will be offering four completely *new courses*. A complete listing of second semester courses can also be viewed on the Living University Web site under the link "[Spring 2015 Schedule](#)."

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LIVING UNIVERSITY  
"RECAPTURING TRUE VALUES"

# FACULTY ADDRESS



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE FULL INTERVIEW WITH DR. SCOTT WINNAIL](#)

**I**N this encouraging interview, Dr. Scott Winnail—a Pastor in the Living Church of God, Executive Vice President and Dean of Faculty at Living University—discusses his background in education, the value of godly education, and the opportunities at LU now and in the future. The interview focuses on the need for godly education that contrasts the flawed system of this world, and the future opportunities for Living University and its students.

Dr. Winnail places a special focus on Biblical moral values. The more schools and universities remove God from the educational system, the less quality there will be in their methodology. With each generation this cycle causes institutions to become more detrimental than beneficial to society. Each new generation becomes the leaders and teachers, who train the following generation. Growing immorality and ambiguity creates a downward spiral that takes society deeper into transgression. This ultimately will destroy a civilization as Christ reveals through Scripture. Living University seeks to recapture those fleeting moral values and solidify them in the future generations of God's Church.

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Living University strives to build an atmosphere of faith, so that these future generations will have even more opportunity to receive a godly education and put Jesus Christ's principles to the test. Moses was inspired to write “I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live” (Deuteronomy 30:19).

Join in as Dr. Winnail shares some of his experiences and compares the anti-God views broadcast throughout today's schools and universities to LU's mission—recapturing true values that have become increasingly lost to society. We hope you enjoy the interview (<http://youtu.be/vGzP6T6SXec>), and may God bless you through your incredible journey!

- JUSTIN RIDGEWAY

# A LIVING EXPERIENCE :



Mr. Rod McNair, Assistant Director of Church Administration, in a discussion with Mr. Jonathan Bueno, a Living University student currently working in the Festival Office.

**THE** Feast of Tabernacles is a wonderful time of the year for God's people, picturing the fulfillment of some of God's greatest promises. Surely we've all heard the phrase year after year, "This was the best Feast ever!" There is no doubt that this most likely is the result of spiritual growth over the years. However, there is a great deal of work that goes on behind the scenes to ensure that people are able to have the "best Feast ever." Planning begins early for the Feast of Tabernacles and the Festival Office stays busy nearly all year long.

I work directly for the Festival Office Administrator, Mr. Rod McNair, who is one of the most exceptional bosses I have ever had the pleasure to work with. Mr. McNair wears many "hats" at Headquarters besides Festival Office administration, and therefore I often perform other tasks as well. Nevertheless, the Festival Office is where I spend most of my time. Perhaps a few words on the purpose and structure of the Festival Office and Feast planning would be helpful in giving you an idea of what we do. Sadly, we do not get to "feast" all year long just because we are the Festival Office (We do get in some good chuckles when we can—an experience we share with various HQ departments).

The specific job of the Festival Office is to serve Feast site Coordinators, who in turn serve the brethren and help them obey the command to "appear before the Lord" to worship and have a meaningful Feast of Tabernacles. Many decisions made in the Festival Office affect this—from the selection of Feast sites and Coordinators, to overseeing the content of the FoT Web site and the registration process. The Festival Office supports the Festival Coordinators in various ways—everything from providing helpful materials for new Coordinators and overseeing Feast speaking schedules, to processing Feast "Guest Requests" and handling the Web publication of advertisements for the different Feast sites.

We serve the ministers who are chosen to coordinate Feast sites by providing helpful reminders of important tasks that need to be accomplished along the "road" to the Feast. This includes providing a write-up description of their Feast site as well as recording a welcome video—both of which are posted on the Internet in order for brethren to make a decision on where to attend the Feast. Another crucial task for the Festival Office is to assist Coordinators in uploading content to our LCG Feast Web site. This site is then used by brethren to register for their Feast site and to register and pay for activities ahead of time. The Festival Office and Coordinators in the field work closely with the Internet Department, specifically the Assistant Webmaster, Mark Smith, in matters "techie" and complicated—for which we are grateful.

It is nothing less than an honor and privilege to work for the staff and selected ministers in "the field" who serve God's people in regard to the Feast of Tabernacles. This is the Festival Office.

- JONATHAN BUENO

# LIVING UNIVERSITY FORUMS:



2014 proved to be an eventful and profitable year for Living University and its students. As the college steadily approaches its goals of accreditation and additional classes, God continues to open doors for its growth. This year's Feast of Tabernacles offered a profitable opportunity to "spread the word" and answer some important questions prospective students have about LU. Illumination is happy to share the developments of these events with those who were unable to attend one of several forums during the Feast.

Dr. Michael Germano, Dr. Scott Winnail, Mr. Kenneth Frank and Mr. Wyatt Ciesielka conducted forums and Q & A sessions at several Feast sites, assisted by Assistant Registrar Michelle Broussard and their student volunteers. Brethren in Jamaica, Palm Harbor, Park City, Myrtle Beach, Gatlinburg, Great Malvern (UK) and Ottawa, Canada met with our LU faculty and their

## DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

[Click here for answers to some of the more frequently asked questions regarding Living University.](#)

assistants, and the response was encouraging. Most of these events saw at least 20 attendees, with a high of about 45. We would like to thank everyone for the interest and support.

Many attendees expressed positive remarks concerning Living University's course offerings, its ease-of-access and the convenience of taking distance-learning courses. Several newly enrolled students and longtime members of God's Church—a few of whom were Ambassador College graduates—expressed their excitement for "learning about the Bible more deeply than they ever had before." Another member found that taking courses at LU helped guide her personal Bible study—a fitting benefit that has been proven to work both ways, especially since "searching the Scriptures" is an essential part of success at "God's college."

One international member attending the forum was "very desirous" of "making the transition to Charlotte," despite the barriers that Living University's non-accreditation currently presents to transfer students from outside the continental United States. However, LU's strength as an on-line college—with a student majority of distance

# FEAST OF TABERNACLES 2014



learning enrollees—is to be able to offer students most of the benefits of a quality God-centered, character-building educational program regardless of where they are. As in other matters, God willing, the doors will open when the time is right—for the college and the students.

Several current full-time students shared their perspective with potential enrollees about how much the decision to take classes and get involved has impacted their lives. This feedback seemed to be very helpful, especially to parents who were interested in the specific ways that LU could help their high school and college-aged children.

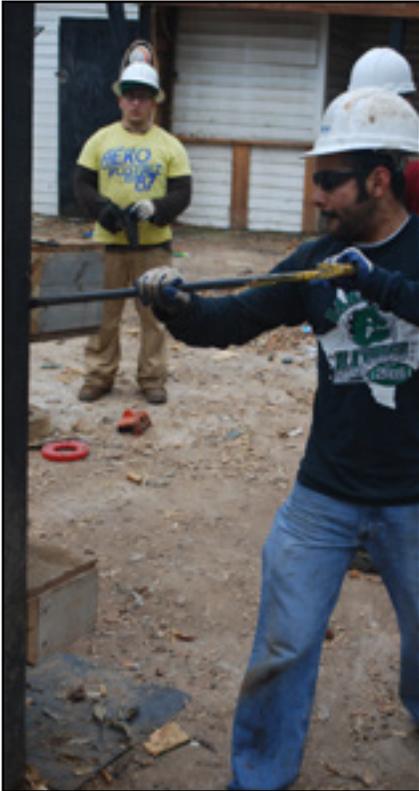
Mr. Ciesielka himself, drawing on his experience as an Ambassador College graduate as well as one of the inaugural students at Living University during its first year, could see that many of the college's initial challenges are being met, and past concerns from potential enrollees could be answered with present confidence. Seven years from its inception, LU's expanding course and certificate offerings have helped replace uncertainty with positive enthusiasm. The choice is no longer between a random theology course here and there and a time-consuming four-year de-

gree, because an increasingly diverse curriculum now offers more tailored options.

Living University still faces challenges, of course, and the push is continually on to address the difficulties that may confront potential attendees. Issues like financial assistance, international attendance for the on-site program, transfer of earned credits to other institutions, and even the availability of on-site housing come up as reasonable matters for consideration. However, one of the greatest factors that has helped the college to address these concerns is the continual faithful interest of the brethren.

Interested in future opportunities to learn? Keep an eye out for upcoming developments, and continue following the progress via this newsletter and forums like those held at the Feast of Tabernacles, 2014. This year, the Charlotte congregation is hosting its annual Family Weekend, from December 24-28. There will be a booth available for visitors to meet and talk with current faculty and students. You can also visit our Web site, [www.livinguniv.com](http://www.livinguniv.com) for more information and to register for classes. We hope to see you soon!

# LIVING UNIVERSITY AND OUTREACH:



**THERE** is no greater bonding experience than to serve side by side in the effort to accomplish a shared objective. A number of the LU on-site students, along with the University's Executive Vice President Dr. Scott Winnail, recently embarked on a joint mission with the local Living Church of God Outreach group in Charlotte and **Habitat for Humanity**.

Habitat for Humanity is known for building new homes. In our area, they also have a program that is set up to fix houses in critical condition. While the impression may be that Habitat gives

their homes or services away, they actually encourage the homeowner to develop financial responsibility even as they provide them a "helping hand." Before someone can buy a Habitat home or be part of Critical Home Repair, they have to diminish any bad outstanding debt. After that, they do not get a free home or renovation, but pay for it at a reduced price gained through donations and the continued use of volunteers. Any loan that Habitat provides to the homeowner is given without interest, according to the Biblical principle of Deuteronomy 23:19. It is an interesting organization and something worthy to participate in.

On our jobsite in the month of December, we had two tasks to complete. One was to dig a trench into which a new water line could eventually be run to the house, because the pipes currently running inside the house and from the street have rust forming inside. Water is vital to life, but in this world there are so few unpolluted sources from which to drink. Jesus Christ will pour out

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE?

If you are a Living University Student, either part-time or full-time, or an Alumnus of Living University and would like to submit an article, please send your article to [RDawson@lcv.org](mailto:RDawson@lcv.org). Please note that every article submitted will be reviewed. However, this is not

a guarantee that every article submitted will make its way into the newsletter. We hope to hear from you soon!

Thank you,  
-ILLUMINATION STAFF

# ALL THE WORLD IS OUR CAMPUS

living water when He returns (Revelation 22:1-2), but for now, we were happy to help break ground for a reliable alternative.

Our main task for the day, however, was to remove a massive carport that had originally been designed to store equipment and supplies for an out-of-business concrete company. As we began to take it apart, we found that its foundation and supports were rotted away due to water damage ([click to see some of the water damage](#)) and were connected mostly through fibers on the outside. With the Feast still in our minds, it reminded us to make sure our foundations are solid (Matthew 7:24-27; Hebrews 11:10) and also to be careful and not let “appearances” deceive us (Matthew 23:27).

We worked side by side as fellow students, as well as with the crew from Habitat, stripping away all of the bad layers, conversing and sharing in this opportunity to help a neighbor. When the Millennium comes, we will be doing the same thing. We will be helping one another, repairing damage, building homes, providing water and sharing the hope that lies within (1 Peter 3:15). While it is very important to care for the body of Christ and not neglect the brethren, there is something to be said about being a light now in a world that is becoming dimmer all the time (Matthew 5:16; James 1:27). While we cannot change the whole world today, we can provide an example that may be more powerful in God’s coming Kingdom than any word we may have said.

In the end, we were able to finish digging the ditch and tearing down the entire carport, filling two big dumpsters in the process. We were dirty, sweaty, tired and very satisfied. It was a great bonding experience for us students and a very rewarding way to serve.

Are you intrigued by life on-site at Living University, or the opportunity to bond in service in your Church area? If you are interested in knowing more about life on-site or how to become a full-time student, be sure to [visit the university Web site](#). If you would like to develop an Outreach program in your area, [follow this link](#).

- DARREN BRINSON



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# DUAL ENROLLMENT AT LIVING UNIVERSITY

**THIS** is my third and final year taking Living University classes through their dual enrollment program. By the time I finish this school year, I will have completed my Certificate in Biblical Christianity. Taking LU classes as a high school student has been an amazing experience. I have learned a ton, as every LU student does, and I have enjoyed every second of it. LU's dual enrollment program has provided me with an opportunity that I could not let pass by.

As a teenager who has grown up in the Church, it can be easy for me to just take the things I have been taught for granted. I did not have to prove the things in the Bible in order to find the church that was right for me. I did not have to search for a church at all. My parents had already done that. I believed the things I had been taught, but I had never really proven it. All of that changed when I began taking Living University classes through their dual enrollment program, as a high school student.

Living University puts me in a position where I have to prove things for myself. The writing assignments and forum posts require me to research different subjects. I cannot just do my assignments based on what I have been told. I have to have resources to back up everything I say. Of course, I have to do a good bit of research to find those resources. Having to really prove these things for myself has strengthened my faith so that I no longer just believe them. I know them, and I am able to discuss them with much more confidence than I could before I began taking LU classes.

I remember one particular occasion very vividly. I had just started my second year with the dual enrollment program and I was working on a discussion post. My grandmother, who is not in the

Church but knows a bit about the Bible, was sitting across from me and wanted to know what I was doing. I explained to her what the discussion post was about and a whole new discussion sprouted out of that. Because of what I had learned from that course and the ones I had taken before, I never had a moment of uncertainty. I felt confident in what I was saying because I knew that it was the truth.

Living University has also helped me to communicate better through writing. There is a lot of writing in many of the courses involved with the dual enrollment program. There is also a lot of writing involved in high school. The feedback I have gotten

**LU has instilled within me a confidence that I do not believe I would have if I had not taken this opportunity.**

from my professors has not only helped me to improve my writing skills for LU classes, but my essays for high school have also improved. Those skills can later be used throughout life, whether for research papers, letters, business emails, or any other form of writing.

Living University's dual enrollment program has been a tremendous help and highlight of the past three years of my life. I have learned so much about how to be a better Christian, how to really prove things for myself, and even how to become a better writer. LU has instilled within me a confidence that I do not believe I would have if I had not taken this opportunity. It is not a confidence in myself, but rather a confidence that what I am doing is right in the sight of God. The experience has been well worth the time and effort I put into it.

-HALEY GINN

TO CHECK OUT LIVING UNIVERSITY'S DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM,  
[CLICK HERE.](#)