



November 2023

As we enter November, Southern Methodist College thanks Our Lord Jesus Christ for the privilege of training Christians to serve God and His Church. We also thank the many churches and individuals who support us in this work with their prayers and with regular donations. Without this regular support, we could not continue our mission.

First, allow me to announce a change in the date for the Fellowship Meal in the Spring. The meal will still be held in conjunction with the meetings of the College Board of Directors Meeting and the General Conference Board of Administration, but it will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. The event will be held at Antley's BBQ on Sims St. in Orangeburg, South Carolina. So, please save the date on your calendar.

Second, we are thankful that Brother John Hucks, Jr continues working on the history of The Southern Methodist Church. He reports the following:

I am continuing the project of writing a history of The Southern Methodist Church, a joint project of Southern Methodist College and the General Conference Board Committee on Education. The history is presently 150 single-spaced pages and growing each week. We want to include stories in the history of local church histories and milestone celebrations (i.e., a fiftieth anniversary, or like). Please join us in this project by sending stories to jhucks@smcollege.edu.

Please send them in a Microsoft Word file. Thank you in advance for your help.

Third, we are thankful that the College continues becoming a school of ministry. This includes the incorporation of the Wesley Institute and the Conference Course of Study into College programs. We are thankful for the leadership of Dan Shapley in this matter. Our ultimate goal is to create a unified system through which Southern Methodist ministers can complete the educational requirements no matter what their academic abilities or time constraints are. We will be able to train lay men and conference ministers. Some may advance through the continuing education programs while others will advance through the college and graduate programs.

Fourth, over the summer, we paused the Corbett Book Walks because of the heat. Now that cooler weather is here, we are restarting the activity. The collection of the Lynn Corbet Library continues to be moved to the back of Foundry Press. Once the collection has been moved, shelved, and confirmed, we will make the collection available to local students, ministers, and the general public. As you may remember, a lot of work is required to accomplish this. This is where the Corbett Book Walks really make a difference by providing a group of about six individuals who help clean, transport, and shelve the collection. Most groups come on a Saturday, beginning work around 9:00 AM. They end the day's work before 3:00 PM, and the College provides them a lunch. If your church or group are willing to help please call the college at 803 534 7826 and we will organize the event.

Finally, we are also thankful for all those who generously support Southern Methodist College through their gifts. The College could not make ends meet without your financial and prayer support. May everyone remember to thank the Lord for His blessing in this season of harvest and thanksgiving.

Dr. David Battle
Southern Methodist College