



GRACE COMMUNION
SEMINARY

DECEMBER 2025

GCS NEWS

A Newsletter for Students and Alumni of Grace Communion Seminary

GCS STAFF

PRESIDENT

Dr. Michael Morrison
m.morrison@gcs.edu

DEAN OF FACULTY

Dr. Lance McKinnon
lance.mckinnon@gcs.edu

PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY

Dr. Gary Deddo
gary.deddo@gcs.edu

REGISTRAR

Georgia McKinnon
registrar@gcs.edu

INSTRUCTORS

Dr. Jeff Broadnax
Dr. Gary W. Deddo
Dr. Stephen L. Dolson-Andrew
Dr. Timothy Finlay
Dr. Charles Fleming
Dr. Jeannine Graham
Dr. Larry Hinkle
Ted Johnston
Dr. Lance McKinnon
Dr. Michael Morrison
Dr. Dan Rogers
Dr. Greg Williams

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR

Eric Larison

VICE CHAIR

Dr. Randy Bloom

Dr. Jeff Broadnax
Becky Deuel
Robert Meade
Dr. Michael Morrison
Gabriel Ojih

CONTACT INFO:

3120 Whitehall Park Drive,
Charlotte, NC 28273
1-800-851-2611
or 1-980-495-3978
Fax: 1-844-350-3419

President's Letter



Pass it on

In Paul's last known letter, he tells Timothy, "What you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well" (2 Tim. 2:2). It was a time of transition for Paul, and

the ministry of the gospel would need new leaders, new teachers.

A time of transition would eventually come for Timothy, too, so he needed to pass on "the deposit of faith" to others, so that the ministry and message would continue in future generations. But Paul did not ask Timothy to train one leader to be his replacement – he asked for more than one. He was interested in multiplication, not just in maintenance. Each generation needs to teach multiple teachers.

In Grace Communion Seminary, we aim to do this. But the job is not ours alone – it is also yours. You, too, are asked to teach people who will be able to teach others. GCS is a teacher training college. We train trainers, and one thing that we train them for is that they should also train trainers. Knowledge is not given just for a student's personal enjoyment and satisfaction. Like any gift from God, it should be used "for the common good" (1 Cor. 12:7).

What should you teach? The most important thing is that you teach about Christ. There are many subjects that are good and helpful, like

mathematics and languages, and those things can be helpful in ministry, but that is not what Paul is concerned about. He wants Timothy to teach and multiply people who can teach about Christ.

But we do not simply teach facts about Christ – that he is fully God and fully human, that he lived at a certain time in Galilee, and was crucified by the Roman rulers in Judea. He did this, he did that. Knowledge alone does not save us. Paul's ministry involved a lot



of information, but it did not stop there. His teaching also includes exhortation that grows out of that truth. Paul wanted people to be led by the Holy Spirit into a more Christ-like way of life.

Some scholars use Greek grammatical terms to describe this: the indicatives (statements) of grace should be followed by the imperatives (commands, or exhortations) of grace. This

Cont.

Cont.

should be true in our lives, and in our preaching. When Scripture gives us commands, we teach commands, with the grace that is also proclaimed. We always need both.

If we love God, we should also love our neighbor. But love is not defined by our emotions, not by the changing whims of culture, and not by the demands of the people around us. The teachings of Jesus and his apostles give us more details about what it looks like for us to be led by God's love.

The second thing that needs to be said is actually a clarification of the first: What we say about Jesus should be true. What we say about what Jesus wants us to do should also be true. That's why it should be entrusted to faithful people. We give the truth to all people, but the ones we trust to teach others should be faithful, should repeat it accurately.

Over the centuries, and in our modern cultures today, the gospel is often

garbled, often mixed up, and in places wrong. The preachers who lead people to faith may also hurt them and damage their faith because of various misunderstandings or personal agendas.

The good news is that Jesus knows how to rescue people from our fumbles, and people are saved anyway. Even so, he wants us to fumble less and to be faithful transmitters of who he is, what he did, and what he wants. This is our goal at Grace Communion Seminary. We want to be faithful stewards of information and exhortation. We look to Scripture for the most authoritative guidance on what we should believe and do. Theology helps us see how it all fits together. History courses give us perspective. Ministry courses help in certain aspects of church leadership and personal growth.

We could say more about that, I suppose, but the main point of this article is not to praise our own work, but to encourage you to continue the work, to train additional people to be

faithful teachers of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Many of us are familiar with the King James Version of 2 Tim. 2:15: "Study to show yourself approved." It was a wonderful reminder that we all need to study. But a little further study tells us that the Greek word actually means to be diligent - not just in studying the Bible, but in all of what we do. The New Revised Standard Version has it like this: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth."

Explain the truth, and do it right. Give it to faithful people who can pass it on. That's what we're aiming for. That's what our Triune God by his Word and Spirit will enable us to do. What a joy. What a privilege.

*Michael Morrison, PhD
President*

Dr. Gary Deddo Honored



Pictured Left to Right: Dr. Gary Deddo, Dr. Jerome van Kuiken and Dr. Myk Habets

The T.F. Torrance Theological Fellowship is a Related Scholarly Organization of the American Academy of Religion. In the fall, an annual meeting takes place on the Friday afternoon before the AAR annual meeting. The TFT Fellowship annual meeting typically lasts from 1 to 4 pm, including a 1/2 hour business meeting, followed by the annual keynote and discussion.

This year in recognition of his contributions over the years, Dr. Gary Deddo was appointed as Member Emeritus (along with Dr. Paul Molnar and Dr. Elmer Colyer, not pictured). Dr. Deddo was instrumental in founding the TFT Theological Fellowship in 2003 and was appointed the first president. He has been involved as an executive in the fellowship since that time.

Pictured with Dr. Deddo is the incoming president, Dr. Jerome van Kuiken, along with the outgoing president, Dr. Myk Habets.

For more information about the TFT Theological Fellowship and the annual meeting, visit <https://tftorrance.org/Meetings>.

New Board Members

Rotating Off



Dr. Gary Deddo



Linda Rex



Rotating On



Dr. Jeff Broadnax



Becky Deuel

Gary Deddo and Linda Rex have rotated off the board after completing four-year terms. We thank them for their service. They pass the baton to Jeff Broadnax and Becky Deuel who begin their service on the board January 2026.

Spring Semester Online Convocation January 26, 2026

A Time to Gather for Devotion and Prayer



Join us for our next convocation where we meet by Zoom to share in a short devotional, and prayers for the work we are doing together. The meeting is open to current students, alumni, faculty members and board members from around the globe. We hope to see you there.

The convocation for the Spring semester will be held on January 26, 2026 at 8:00pm Eastern Standard Time.

Invitations with Zoom links will be sent to all students who register for spring semester courses. If you aren't taking a class this semester but still want to attend the assembly, send an email to Georgia McKinnon at registrar@gcs.edu.

In a world with more than 24 time zones, we know that everyone may not be able to attend our gathering. If you have a schedule conflict at this time slot, let us know for our future planning considerations.



Schedule of Courses

All schedules are tentative

Spring 2026: Registration begins January 5. The first lecture will be posted on Monday, January 19. Other lectures will be posted on Mondays, January 26 through March 23. All work is to be completed by April 19.

BI501	Biblical Interpretation	Mike Morrison
BI512	Prophets	Tim Finlay
CM513	Trinitarian Worship	Lance McKinnon
TH503	The Holy Spirit, the Church and Last Things	Gary Deddo

Summer 2026: Registration begins May 3. The first lecture will be posted on Monday, May 18. Other lectures will be posted on Mondays, May 26 through July 27. All work is to be completed by August 16.

BI522	The Gospels	Michael Morrison
CH502	Church History: The Second Millennium	Stephen Dolson-Andrew
CM503	Christian Counseling	Ted Johnston
CM511	Homiletics	Dan Rogers
TH515	Theological Ethics	Gary Deddo

Fall 2026: Registration begins August 31. The first lecture will be posted on Monday, September 14. Other lectures will be posted on Mondays, September 21 through November 16. All work is to be completed by December 13.

BI510	Old Testament Survey	Jeannine Graham
BI524	Epistles of Paul	Mike Morrison
CH501	Church History: The First Millennium	Stephen Dolson-Andrew
CM501	Foundations of Christian Ministry	Lance McKinnon
CM507	Experiencing the Trinity	Larry Hinkle
CM514	Missional Living	Charles Fleming
FE501-3	Field Education	Jeff Broadnax
TH502	Jesus Christ, the Nature of Humans and Salvation	Gary Deddo

All schedules are tentative. If fewer than five students register for a course, it may be cancelled, at the discretion of the instructor.
Thesis and Capstone courses for the master's degrees are offered in all semesters.



CONGRATULATIONS To Our Recent 2025 Graduates

Master of Pastoral Studies (MPS)

Glown Kyei-Mensah

CTS & DCM

Certificate of Theological Studies (CTS):

Philip Doele

Nova Musafiri

Richard Ablordeppey

Juan Carlos Barrero

Diploma of Christian Ministry (DCM):

Nova Musafiri

Juan Carlos Barrero

Richard Ablordeppey

Sachin Nirale

Carmen Galvez



THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH GCS

As the year draws to an end, we look back with grateful hearts for those whose passion and enthusiasm for GCS have moved them to partner with us through financial support and prayer. Your sharing with us is a blessing for the seminary to be a blessing to those we serve. We pray God's grace and blessing for you in the new year.

WE HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER GCS IN YOUR YEAR-END GIVING

Financial support from alumni and friends like you has a profound impact on the seminary's mission of *"Equipping Men and Women for Church-based Ministry."*

Every gift is God's provision for his work in Grace Communion Seminary.

Donations to Grace Communion Seminary can be mailed to
3120 Whitehall Park Drive, Charlotte, NC 28273
or donate online at gcs.edu/donate.

