

MINISTRY RESOURCE CENTER WEBSITE NOW LIVE

By Beth Jarvis (MDiv '14)

Emmanuel is pleased to announce a new website for the Ministry Resource Center (MRC) at ministryresource.milligan.edu. Funded by the Lilly Endowment Inc., the site provides a robust online resource for ministers and churches.

We want to tell ministry stories. Stories of why people love their church. Stories of how God has rebuilt a community or planted a new community in a new way. Stories that help ministers celebrate alongside each other and with their congregants.

We wanted the MRC's website and new Milligan ministry job board to be colorful, look fun, and showcase the beautiful diversity found in our network of Stone-Campbell churches. We also wanted the website to share something about God.

We believe God is calling new people to serve in new ways. There are good stories out there, even in the midst of a pandemic. God is still working.

Leading with story allows us to discuss the larger narrative of how God calls us. We think this will be attractive to new candidates and ministers discerning a new call as they seek out new ministry opportunities.

In collaboration with Milligan's church relations director, **Kit Dotson (BA '93)**, we spent almost a year working with a team led by ECS alumnus **Andrew Mosby (MAR '13)** at the website company Juicebox. We also

held a variety of focus groups and interviewed church leaders and candidates to learn what they needed in a ministry job board site.

The new job board has two questionnaires: one for churches and one for candidates. In addition to questions about values and culture fit, we have included opportunities for churches and candidates to share their stories. Churches can upload short testimonial video stories or pictures, and candidates can upload videos, too. The purpose of all of this is to help churches and ministers connect.

But the site is much more than just a job board. We also want a place to share mentoring stories and other resources. We hope this website will be a bridge that helps more ministers and church leaders learn about the various continuing education opportunities available through Emmanuel Christian Seminary at Milligan.

In the coming months, we hope to post more stories and candidate and church profiles, along with additional resources from ministers doing good work in our network. We encourage you to explore the many rich offerings you will find at ministryresource.milligan.edu. And we invite you to write us and share any feedback you might have as we continue to build this website.



FIND YOUR VOICE MENTORING COMMUNITY RESOURCES ABOUT THE MRC



SEMINARY LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

In the spring of 2021, Emmanuel received a \$50,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative. Lilly's initiative, focused on ATS-accredited seminaries, aims to help theological schools identify challenges and opportunities related to the work of preparing pastoral leaders, clarify their mission in response to those challenges and opportunities, and develop or strengthen initiatives that will make them more effective and sustainable into the future.

We are pleased to announce the successful completion of this Phase 1 project. We are grateful to the generous alumni and church leaders who filled out surveys and participated in a variety of focus groups this summer. The research team of seminary faculty, students, and alumni worked diligently throughout the summer. They gathered extensive qualitative and quantitative data from a wide range of individuals in our various national and regional constituencies, focusing especially on ministry leaders who guide others toward ministry vocations and seminary. The project culminated in a June retreat which brought Emmanuel faculty and key staff together for conversation around how to make our programs more effective, accessible, and sustainable.

Overall, the Phase I project underscored the crucial role Emmanuel plays as a vital educational watershed for the Stone-Campbell movement and beyond. As just one indication of this vital role, our national survey of Christian Church/Church of Christ leaders found that most leaders overwhelmingly value their calling to ministry and would encourage a young person considering ministry to pursue that calling. Also, most had attended seminary (81.9%), and of those, 67.5% had attended Emmanuel. They overwhelmingly saw

seminary as a positive experience, and almost 80% said that they would recommend Emmanuel to a young person considering ministry. At the same time, the Phase I study identified challenges around the time, cost, and residency requirements that typically come with seminary education, as well as concerns about the future of congregational ministry and the relevance of what happens in the seminary classroom to the work of ministry.

Building on Emmanuel's rich history of forming people for ministry, and responding to these challenges, we plan to use the knowledge gained from this project to develop a variety of initiatives that will make our programs more relevant and accessible to a wider range of potential students. Among those will be a review of our Master of Divinity curriculum and our Doctor of Ministry Program. Additionally, we hope to develop new programs that will place students more squarely in the work of congregational ministry as they pursue their seminary education. We are excited about developing stronger partnerships that will serve churches and organizations as, together, we glorify God and build up the community of God in this world.



PASSING OF DR. JERRY RUDBERG

We are sad to share the news that Dr. Jerry Rudberg, a longtime advocate for Emmanuel, passed away on May 21, 2021. Jerry moved to Northeast Tennessee in 1967 to attend Emmanuel, earning an MRE in 1970. He then returned to Eugene, Oregon, to serve as Emmanuel's associate director of development for the Western region. He served in this capacity until his retirement in 2011.

Over his 40 years of service to Emmanuel, Dr. Rudberg traveled extensively to recruit students and raise support for Emmanuel. "Jerry has been the face of Emmanuel for thousands of people for the past four decades. Anyone who knows anything about Emmanuel in the Pacific Northwest knows the name of Jerry Rudberg. I cannot

think of a more influential representative of our school," said **Dr. Michael Sweeney (MDiv '85)** when Jerry retired.

Jerry is survived by his beloved wife, Rebecca, three sons and their families, two stepsons and their families, 10 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.



MILES COSTELLO: MISSIONARY-IN-RESIDENCE

Emmanuel graduate **Miles Costello (MDiv '16)** is the missionary-in-residence at Milligan University this fall. Miles has served since 2016 as part of Canvas, a CMF International Globalscope campus ministry team in Nottingham, England. He fell in love with campus ministry while an undergraduate at Georgia Tech, where he was active in the Christian Campus Fellowship.

Because the majority of the students involved with Canvas are not Christian, the focus of the ministry is on creating a welcoming community that meets students where they are. Miles says one of his favorite parts about doing campus ministry in Nottingham is that so many of the students he and his team meet would never step foot in a church on their own. Canvas is “a gateway into Christianity for so many individuals.”

Milligan’s missionary-in-residence program has offered Miles a different pace of life and has allowed him to see another aspect of campus ministry. The program provides Milligan students with the opportunity to meet

and interact with a resident missionary for an entire semester. Miles is currently teaching a class called Leadership Development in Campus Ministry that explores “emotional and spiritual health, and the importance of that being developed in the leaders we are becoming and making.”

Miles says that he is grateful for this program because he has been able to hear stories from Milligan students and connect with students who have a heart for missions, as well as share the different forms of international missions students might consider pursuing.



ROSS-SMITH LECTURES IN PASTORAL CARE



On October 14, Emmanuel welcomed Dr. Ellen Ott Marshall, associate professor of Christian ethics and conflict transformation at Candler School of Theology, Emory University. She is also on the faculty for the ethics and society doctoral program in Emory’s Graduate Division of Religion. She presented

a series of three lectures titled “Contemplating Creativity, Resisting Constraint.”

Marshall’s work focuses on contemporary Christian ethics, with particular attention to violence, peacebuilding, conflict transformation, gender, and moral agency. She has edited two volumes and written three books. Her most recent book is *An Introduction to Christian Ethics: Conflict, Faith, and Human Life* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2018).

Funding for these free, public lectures was generously provided by the Ross-Smith Lectures in Pastoral Care.

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

This year’s John Robert Neely Jr. Scholarship recipients are Cybele Jung from Pepperdine University and Corban Romm from Manhattan Christian College. Michael Nickens, Milligan University; Jacob Wickerham, Kentucky Christian University; and Patrick Prodger, Ozark Christian College received the Alexander Campbell Scholarship. The Dean E. and Dorothy Keister Walker Scholarship went to Truman Douglas, Johnson University–Florida.



EMMANUEL’S CLASS OF 2021

The seminary awarded the following degrees in May 2021: three Master of Arts in Religion, 10 Master of Arts in Christian Ministries, 17 Master of Divinity, and three Doctor of Ministry.

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The following degree programs are approved by ATS: Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Religion, Master of Arts in Christian Ministries, and Doctor of Ministry.


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