Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

April E-Newsletter

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An Introduction to My Work

by Mike Brown

If you've seen the movie "A Christmas Carol" you'll remember the thin, impoverished fellow sitting on the high stool at a slanted desk making entries in actual books with ink and a quill pen. I'm so ancient that I was taught accounting by the pen and ink method. It may be time consuming, but it is a very effective way to learn. Providentially, we have some great computers here at the seminary so I don't have to use that method. When I started this job several years ago, Dr. Pipa instructed me to "see that all the money gets put in the bank and STAYS THERE!" It can't, of course, because the faculty and staff expect "paycheques" on payday and the light company will cut off the lights if they aren't paid.

Contributions for the first eight months of the fiscal year are $548,493. Donations for this quarter have increased compared to this time last year. We are currently over budget by approximately $26,676, and our general expenses are approximately $18,935 over budget. In March, we received $50,247. This was $ 953 under budget.

Income for the Capital Funds Campaign has reached $1,908,863 and we anticipate another $1,065,084 in outstanding pledges. As mentioned in previous months, due to inflation and the interest on our loan, we will need to raise an additional $500,000 to complete the objectives of the Campaign.

The most rewarding part of my job is recording donations from our hundreds of generous supporters. I work closely on this with Brenda Benson (we also share an office in the new building), who sends confirmation letters to donors. Which brings me to the main topic of this report, the recording of year-end donations. A donation check dated on or before 12/31/08 can be deducted in 2008 only if it is postmarked in 2008 or received at the seminary's office in 2008, according to IRS regulations. For this reason, we keep envelopes received after January 1st when the donation check is dated near the end of the prior year. If there are any questions about this, please call me or Brenda and we'll be glad to help.

SUPPORT GREENVILLE SEMINARY BY BUYING A BRICK

We are nearing the time to order bricks to be placed on the grounds of Greenville Seminary's new building. This is a wonderful way for individuals, families, churches and businesses to become a permanent part of our new campus. If you would like to have a brick placed in honor of someone or quoting a meaningful verse of Scripture, please click here for a form or call the Seminary at 864-322-2717, ext. 318. Each single brick can have up to three lines of text with up to 20 characters per line (including spaces). Please plan to order by July 31st.

Weren't able to come to our Spring Theology Conference?

Order the Full Conference
on MP3 CD for only $30
on Full Audio CDs for $60
on Cassette Tape for $60

To Order:
please call (864)322-2717
or email *bookstore@gpts.edu*

Spring Theology Conference
GREENVILLE PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
EQUIPPING THE CHURCH FOR MINISTRY

The Pastors' Institute website should be online soon.

To register for this special summer course, please contact the Registrar's office.

GREENVILLE PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IS ONE OF THE SPONSORS OF THE CALVIN 500 COMMEMORATIVE TOUR. SCHEDULED FOR JULY 2009, THIS PROMISES TO BE THE TOUR OF A LIFETIME AS WE CELEBRATE WHAT GOD HAS DONE WITH THE BIBLICAL INSTRUCTION AND LEGACY OF JOHN CALVIN. WHEN YOU REGISTER, PLEASE INDICATE THAT YOU ARE AFFILIATED WITH GREENVILLE SEMINARY IN ORDER TO RECEIVE OUR $175 GROUP DISCOUNT. *PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST REGISTER BEFORE JULY 31, 2008 TO GET THE FULL GROUP DISCOUNT.*

www.calvin500.org

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