



California Christian College Cameo

Summer 2017

The President's Perspective

LOOKING AHEAD

Thank God and the amazing friends of CCC for an unforgettably wonderful Retirement Dinner at the State Association. Anna-Jean told someone later that it is wonderful listening for an hour as people tell you how great you are. Of course we know the real truth—nobody is that good, but it is nice to be appreciated. We will cherish the cards, gifts, and congratulations for years to come. Thanks also to the faculty, staff, and students who also played a key role in making the evening a smashing success.

Yes! We are finally getting excited about retirement, but right now we are trying to keep our plans simple while remaining fully open to God's directions. There is no question we anticipate continuing to live in Fresno where our children are located. The College still needs volunteer helpers; so there will be plenty to do. And after 18 years, Fresno seems more like home than any other place.

Short-term plans include a week-long family vacation plus a two week trip to Pakistan where Trent and I will be staying with friends, touring a bit of the country and visiting some churches. July includes a trip to the National Association and a return visit to a former pastorate.

Retirement officially begins June 30th; so it was a special privilege of mine to introduce Dr. Tim Powell as the newly elected president of California Christian College at the annual California FWB State Association Meeting. He was elected by the Board after months of searching and interviewing various candidates. Although neither college students nor personnel participate in the process, there is unanimous agreement that the Board made an excellent choice.

His many years of practical experience at both the Christian College and Seminary level have more than equipped Dr. Powell for this great venture. Having been a pastor-professor during most of his long ministry, he is very qualified to continue guiding the college on its journey toward a fresh start on the Harmony campus.

More importantly, Dr. Powell has also experienced the inner workings of Cal Christian as a full-time professor-administrator. His administrative roles included Registrar, V. P. for Academics, and Chair of the Bible Department. All of these positions require frequent interactions with TRACS, our accrediting association, and BPPV, the CA regulatory agency. His broad experience uniquely positions him to hit the ground running.

Dr. Powell is academically qualified, a member of Harmony Church, loved and respected by faculty, staff, and students, and also well known and respected throughout Fresno's evangelical community. Hopefully, that will provide an edge in increasing the student body which is genuinely needed.

A man of such caliber brings renewed hope for the future of the college, an institution truly needed by FWB and the central Valley. In the words of Mordecai found in Esther 4:14 who knows whether he has been brought to this position "for such a time as this"?

Having said it many times before, I repeat it once again—the greatest days of the college are yet future. Let's rally around the new president and California Christian College as never before. Surely a united effort saturated with prayer and the supernatural power of God will bring new life and hope for the future, for we know that our God is able to provide all the resources needed to grow the college into the institution He designed it to become.

Wendell Walley

Perspectives from the President -Elect

One word best describes developments at California Christian College and in my personal life at this crucial juncture: **Transition**. My departure from the congregation I've been privileged to pastor for nearly 33 years marks a major shift in both my personal and professional life. In addition, the retirement of our beloved Wendell Walley after nearly 20 years as President means major changes for California Christian College. We salute President and Mrs. Walley for their years of dedicated service and extreme sacrifice. They each deserve a "hero's salute" for the profound impact they have had on the work of God's Kingdom through their ministry at California Christian College. Words are inadequate to express our appreciation for the dedication and devotion they have demonstrated, often in the face of great difficulty. Now, we release them into the plan God's prepared for

their future, confident He will continue to use them in great ways for His glory.

In the midst of the transition, let me say **thank you** to the College Board and constituency for allowing me to assume the Presidency of California Christian College. This was not something I anticipated, nor was it something I coveted, but I trust God has providentially guided the process. The opportunity is both humbling and intimidating. I feel like King Jehoshaphat must have felt when he received the news that a coalition of foreign forces was poised to invade the land of Judah. All he could do was call the nation together, lead them in prayer, and honestly confess: "We don't know what to do, but our eyes are upon you!" (2 Chronicles 20:12)

Without question, I feel **overwhelmed by the privilege** of serving the Lord in this new capacity at CCC. Frankly, I am much more comfortable in the academic arena and in the classroom, but God has a way of pulling us outside our comfort zones and stretching our abilities beyond expectations. I approach this new calling with the same sense of bewilderment conveyed by Moses when he questioned God's choice: "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?" And, like Moses, much of that bewilderment stems from the enormity of the task ahead. I assume the Presidency of the College feeling **overmatched by the problems**, struggling much like Joshua did to assume Moses' position and lead the people of Israel into the land of Canaan, and like Gideon did when God unexpectedly showed up and challenged him to lead Israel into a better future. I share Gideon's bewilderment; I empathize with his sense of inferiority and ineptitude: "How can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family!"

But in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds, I feel **overcome by the promises** of God. In response to Moses' complaint, God said: "I will be with you." His word to Joshua mirrors His promise to Moses: "I will be with you." He encourages Gideon similarly: "I will be with you." His assurance to King Jehoshaphat comes through a prophet: "This is what the Lord says" 'Don't be afraid or discouraged ...For the battle is not yours, but God's!'" And

indeed, not just for Jehoshaphat, but for Moses, for Joshua, and even for Gideon, God made good on His promises: He took over the battle. He showed up in a big way — and when He shows up in a big way, big victories always follow!

That's why I can honestly say, despite the inevitable struggles that lie ahead, I feel **overjoyed by the prospects** God has in store for California Christian College. As we build on the foundations of so many faithful servants of past generations—as we treasure the blessings bequeathed by President and Mrs. Walley—as we capitalize on the expertise of our gifted faculty, staff, and Board—how can we not be excited about what God has in store for our College? After all, if the Chicago Cubs can win the World Series, and if Donald Trump can become President of the United States, surely, with the Lord on our side, California Christian College can rise to new heights of excellence and expansion.

But, in the face of it all, I'm reminded of the words of former President Lyndon Johnson as he took the oath of office in the midst of extremely emotional and troublesome times: "I will do my best. That is all I can do. I ask for your help — and God's."

Timothy Powell, Ph.D.
President Elect



L to R: President Walley, President Elect Dr. Tim Powell, Dr. Chad Williams

WALLEY RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Cal Christian College hosted a Retirement Celebration Dinner for President Wendell and Anna-Jean Walley on May 7, 2017. President and Mrs. Walley were recognized at the Sunday evening service of the CA State Association Meeting by Mike Kilcrease, the Executive Director of the CA State Association, and Allen Kennedy, Chairman of The Board of Trustees of California Christian College. Both men commended the Walleys for their 18 years of dedication and faithful service to Cal Christian and presented them with a plaque and monetary gift. A dinner was served in their honor following the service.



Allen Kennedy presenting the Walleys with a gift from the Cal Christian Board of Trustees.



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5364 E. Belmont Ave.
 Fresno, CA 93727
www.calchristiancollege.edu
ccc@calchristiancollege.edu
 (559) 251-4215

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Cal Christian College Needs List

Classroom Needs
4 6 ft. seminar tables
Cost: \$170.00 each

Library Needs
NIV Application Commentaries
NT set of 20 Cost: \$450.00
OT set of 20 Cost: \$425.00

Note: Cortese Library is always taking book donations to improve our collection.

Prayer Needs
 30 students for Fall
 President-Elect Dr. Tim Powell
 Wisdom to face political challenges coming from Sacramento