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Face



Having many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full.

—2 John 1:12

October, 2009

Dear Friend,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! It has been some time since our last newsletter update so allow me to take a moment to share with you the wonderful things God is doing here at Tri-State Bible College. This semester has been a record breaker! The college experienced an influx of new students locally and from around the country. While many of our students have returned for another semester, several new learners have moved to South Point from as far away as Indiana and Northern Ohio. Other students from Akron, Ohio, are participating in both the online and correspondence programs. This growth shattered our old **Full-Time Equivalency (FTE)** record of 26 and now stands at **36.50**. This calculation is based on a formula of the number of full-time students plus the number of hours taken by part-time students divided by 12. This number indicates that our students are indeed serious about the study of God's word!

In exciting news, TSBC has just been **approved** by the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) for the creation of a new **Masters of Arts program!** The thirty-six credit hour Master of Arts degree is a seminal degree intended to build upon the college's Bachelor of Arts program. With an emphasis in research and writing, learners will increase their knowledge of the scriptures while implementing what they learn through practical application. Interest in this new program has generated over seventy inquiries from as far away as London, England, and East Africa! As this program is established, the college will investigate the creation of additional master degrees leading to the Master of Divinity degree (M.Div.).

Also **approved** by the ABHE, is our proposal for **an additional location in Akron, Ohio!** As the college continues to train faithful servants for tomorrow - today, it has become necessary to meet learners where they live. St. Paul Baptist Church has been approved to become an additional location for **Tri-State Bible College – North!** Students there will have access to state of the art technologies while attending classes on campus just like they do in South Point, Ohio. Several local libraries have agreed to allow Tri-State Bible College students to use their religious text offerings and will allow Ohio students to utilize valuable database resources for academic research. The leadership in Akron is excited to become part of what the Lord is doing through TSBC and we anticipate the tremendous opportunities that lay before us!

Tri-State has developed **two new minors** this year. The first is a **new minor in Missions**. This offering will help prepare students for a life in missions at home or abroad and is designed to expand the learners' world view of ministry. We also created a **new minor in music** which accounts for some of the new growth and excitement in our academic programs. This minor is intended to help develop learners preparing for a music ministry or who expect to prepare for further musical training at the graduate level. Music theory, worship styles, and conducting are just a small part of this new minor.

As we look forward to the next school year, Tri-State Bible College is in the development stage of another minor. Beginning in the fall of 2010, TSBC will offer the **Bachelor of Arts degree with a minor in Business**. Students in this program will learn how to conduct business from a Christ-centered perspective while developing a biblical world view. This program is intended to prepare learners for entry level business positions or to continue their studies at the graduate level.

In other news, Tri-State Bible College is now a **member of the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce (LCCC)**. This membership affords opportunity for the college to reach out to the local community with news and events as we develop a working relationship with area business owners. The college is also preparing for our **40th Anniversary** as a college. TSBC was established in 1970 and has had a dynamic impact on learners preparing for vocational ministries around the country and globally!



As we continue to develop as a ministry, the heart of the college is to reach students internationally. For this reason, TSBC has named **Mitch Webb** as **Director of International Missions!** Mitch is working hard to develop opportunities for learners around the world to earn an accredited degree from Tri-State Bible College. The impact of training faithful servants for tomorrow – today around the globe could be staggering! Together with mission’s instructor Todd Kincaid, plans for expanding into the mission fields are being laid. One of our on-campus students, Wycliff K., is an international student and plans to return home to Kenya, East Africa, for the spring semester. Because courses are being offered in an online format, Wycliff will be able to continue his education at home. Please pray for the college that the Lord will provide the needed funds to develop our online course offerings at a greater pace. In a global society it becomes imperative that we keep pace with the needs of the learner. The exciting news is that potential students from around the world have already asked us to develop our degrees online and we want to meet their needs for an accredited and biblical education!

The college has also named **John Arnold** as the **new College Chaplin**. John’s ministry is to the students of Tri-State Bible College. He is always ready to counsel and meet the spiritual needs of our students. John also delivers inspiring messages to our learners during our on-campus chapel services and arranges for special speakers to address the student body. He is a valuable asset to the college and the spiritual development of learners at TSBC.

This semester the college established a new course intended to help inform potential students contemplating enrollment about the many degrees and minors offered at Tri-State Bible College. Free to the public, **Bits & Pieces** is designed to introduce students to the many courses and instructors at the college. Each week a different instructor presents courses and descriptions to learners as they ask questions about course requirements and instructor expectations. Led by Barry Smith, this class has proven to be beneficial to both the students and the college.

With the significant growth and potential at Tri-State Bible College, we have reached the point where it has become necessary to explore the **construction of a new academic complex**. If the Lord blesses the project, TSBC will move forward with plans for a new **Learning, Student, and Library Center**. At approximately 12,000 square feet, the complex would incorporate eight large classrooms, computer lab, student center, and a new library. Existing structures would be remodeled to better meet the needs of an expanding college which would include converting the current classroom building into an administrative facility and renovation of the Henderson Library into a chapel that could also be used to host special events. Please pray with us as we ask the Lord to provide the wisdom and finances for this major project.

Jeremiah 33:3 says, “Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” As the college moves forward with the many opportunities presented to the college by our Lord, we stand amazed at God’s awesome power! We also realize it is through faithful friends of the college that He accomplishes His will. Please continue to remember Tri-State Bible College in prayer and ask if the Lord would desire to have you support this ministry financially. To those who are already sacrificing on our behalf, we thank you for your continued support. In a day where the economy suffers and people often are afraid of the future, it is comforting to know that our Lord is in charge and that we can trust Him to meet our needs. God’s people are truly blessed and we are excited to be part of this college ministry. We sincerely hope that you are also excited about what God is doing here at Tri-State Bible College as we continue **“training faithful servants for tomorrow – today!”**

In His Service



Jack R. Finch
President, Tri-State Bible College