



LETOURNEAU  
CHRISTIAN CENTER

*Building on a Legacy  
for the Kingdom of God*



# A Letter from our Director

Dear LeTourneau Family,

There have been few people in my life who have impressed and encouraged me by their Christian walk as much as Ron Davis. This past year, Ron, a former director, longtime board member, and all-around friend of LeTourneau Christian Center went home to be with the Lord. Ron was beloved by so many for his smile, incredible voice, storytelling, and kind heart. Personally, I respected Ron for all of these reasons, but most of all for his integrity and faithfulness to the Lord. Ron's wife, Carol, fell in love with Ron at LeTourneau. Together, they made tremendous contributions to the ministry. Ron's brother and sister-in-law, Ray and Linda Davis, have been incredibly helpful over decades to expand the ministry. Other members of Ron's family, too many to list, have been faithful partners as well.

In honor of Ron and the Davis family, who have invested decades of time and resources to the ministry of LeTourneau Christian Center, we happily announce plans to build a gym and name it the Davis Sports Facility. The facility will be the first of a multi-phase building plan including a guest lodge, expanded offices, and additional meeting space. The Davis Sports Facility will be located at the top of the hill above the bungalows. This new building will allow us to minister to far more groups, provide much needed year-round indoor activity space, support our summer children and youth programs, and allow us to begin new community outreach clubs and sports leagues! LeTourneau has not had a major building campaign since 1996 when the current Dining Hall was built. A \$100,000 matching grant has been offered to jumpstart this season of fundraising for the Davis Sports Facility. The opportunity to create such a wonderful space for Kingdom ministry is incredibly exciting.

I hope you will worship the Lord with us as you read this booklet. It will share with you more exciting details about the Davis Sports Facility, highlights from our six areas of ministry, the multi-phase building plan for the future, and some meaningful ways you can join us. It's a glorious time to serve the Lord.

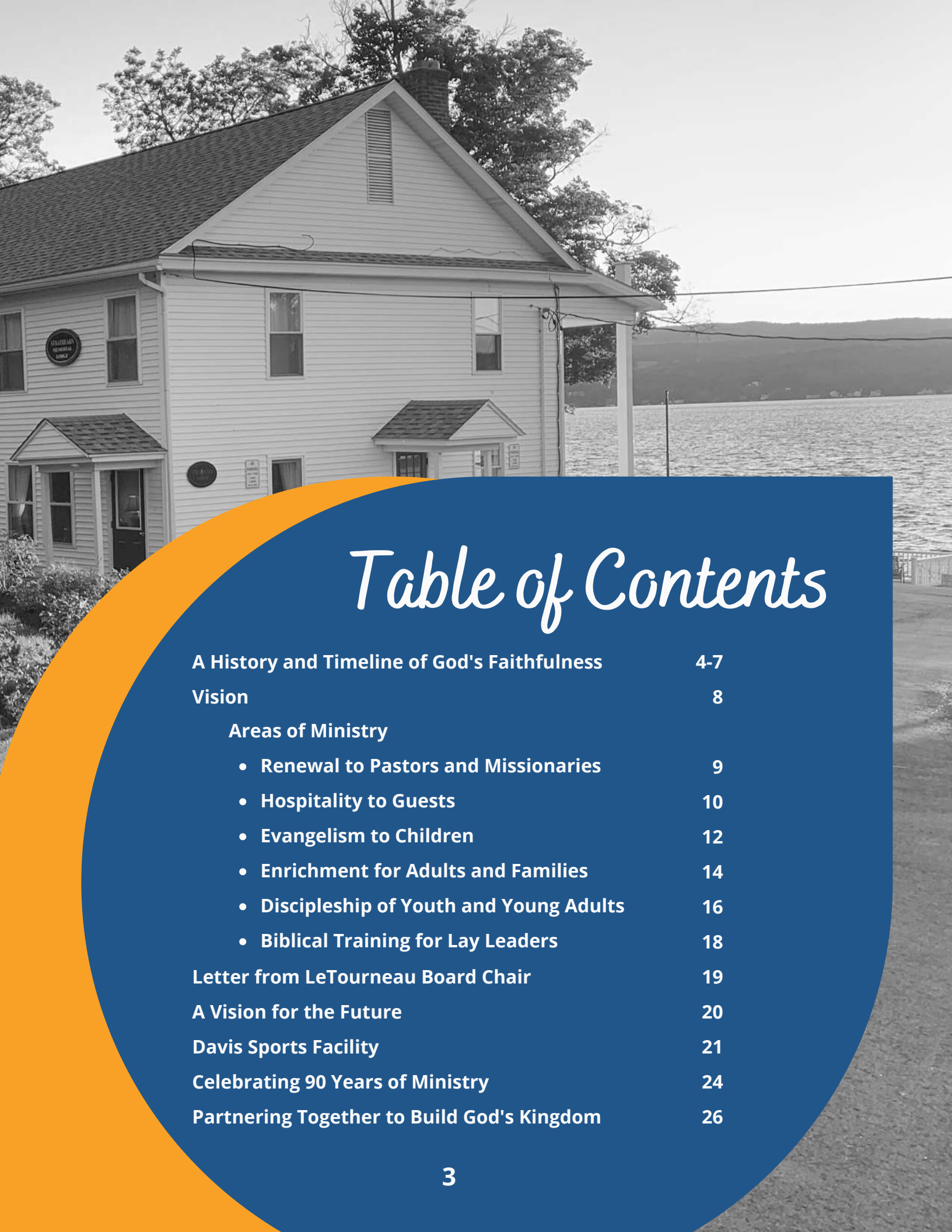
In His Service Together,

*Jamie Fischer*

Jamie Fischer  
LeTourneau Director  
Psalm 90:16-17







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# A History and Timeline of God's Faithfulness

## A Season of Beginnings

In 1929, Dr. Harold "Doc" Strathearn and other leaders meet in Rochester, NY seeking a way to promote evangelism in local churches, train pastors and students, and advance fundamentals of the faith. In 1933, the ministry formally launches as the Interstate Evangelistic Association (IEA).

On a Sunday afternoon drive, Doc Strathearn and two Christian businessmen, the Joss brothers, discover a 22-acre grape farm for sale along the east shore of Canandaigua Lake, ideal for an IEA camp.

1933

The property purchase, for \$3,000, is finalized in 1934 through a few core givers. Among them, Doc and his wife Dorothy ("Dot") pawn her wedding ring to help with the down payment.

1934

Renowned Christian industrialist and inventor Robert Gilmour (R.G.) LeTourneau meets Doc Strathearn.

1935

On July 4, 1934, the "Tabernacle-on-the-Lake" opens for its first services in the old barn.

1938

Inspired by Doc's vision for the camp, R.G. LeTourneau gives generously to support it. His donations fund construction of many buildings, including cabins, the Tabernacle, and an original dining hall with dorm rooms above.







*"You will never know what you can accomplish until you say a great big yes to the Lord." - R.G. LeTourneau*

## *A Season of Expansion*

In 1939, the grounds are renamed "LeTourneau Christian Camp," in honor of Mr. LeTourneau's witness and generosity.



Many Bible conferences, retreats and church camps are hosted during these early years. Hundreds accept Christ, are disciplined, or make decisions to enter Christian service.

**1940s**

Doc Strathearn's assistant, Harold Seeley, is named Camp Manager and begins a legacy of faithful leadership.

**1946**

**1942**

The first month-long summer camp for WWII refugee children is held, funded entirely by generous donors.

**1950-1980**

Decades of ministry continue, with various amenities, renovations, and occasional acreage added to the property as the focus remains on evangelism and strengthening believers. During this time many faithful servants joined the ministry, making a significant impact. A few notable individuals are Gerri Moose, Avis Sowl, Jack and Shirley Seabrook and Otto and Edie Krein.





# A Season of Partnership

In 1985, shortly before retiring, Mr. Seeley approaches Dick Snavely, founder of Area Youth for Christ ministry (Family Life Ministry) in Bath, NY, to seek a possible merger of ministries.

Nearly 30 years of stewardship of LeTourneau Christian Camp under Family Life Ministries (FLM), begins.

1986

The ministry changes its name to LeTourneau Christian Center and begins operating on a level independently while the all-volunteer board remains under the leadership of FLM.

2008

A fire destroys the Director's apartment and damages the Dining Hall below. With the kitchen unscathed, meal service to guests continues at the Rec Hall and shifts outdoors to tents that summer. FLM conducts a \$450,000 campaign to replace the Dining Hall with a modern facility built that summer.

1996

2013

The Lighting Our Future campaign launches to raise \$600,000 to reimburse FLM for prior investments, with a goal to secure the property deed and acquire stewardship of the ministry.



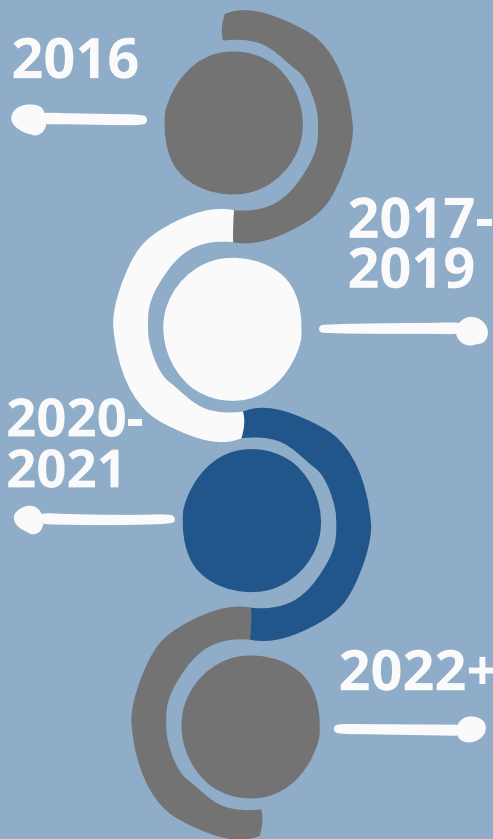


## *A Season of New Direction*

In 2015, LeTourneau Christian Center secures the property deed and returns to independent operations. Multiple new ministries, programs and events begin, including THE WAY Summer Service and Discipleship program and Children's Day Camps.

Growth of the ministry continues as THE WAY School of Discipleship is founded, several renovation projects begin, and additional staff join the ministry. The hosting of churches and other groups continues and solid relationships with leaders are built and strengthened.

The Lord sustains LeTourneau through the challenges of a global pandemic and even blesses camp with new staff and ample renovation projects including the Gift Shop, Office, Rec Hall and Cove, Lakeside and Hilltop cottages. The additional staff and upgrades help prepare LeTourneau for a return to normal ministry with new event programming, including quarterly REVIVE youth rallies, a winter retreat and Homeschool events.



As God grows the ministry, two apartments are created for staff and a new director's house is constructed. Children's Day Camps and THE WAY School of Discipleship expand and new annual events are launched.

New outdoor recreational activities are added to campus, student dorms are built and overnight summer camps begin. By God's grace, LeTourneau ministries continue to grow and reach more people for the Kingdom of God.

*For more details on our nearly 90-year history scan this QR code:*





# *Vision: To build up the Kingdom of God for His glory and the joy of His people*

In 2024, LeTourneau Christian Center will celebrate 90 years of Christ-centered ministry. While some of LeTourneau's six ministries are well developed, others are still taking shape. What could these ministries accomplish for the Kingdom of God? We invite you to envision with us as we seek to "Build on a Legacy for the Kingdom of God."



*Renewal to Pastors and Missionaries*



*Hospitality to Guests*



*Evangelism to Children*



*Enrichment for Adults and Families*



*Discipleship of Youth and Young Adults*



*Biblical Training for Lay Leaders*

“

"Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands. Yes, establish the work of our hands."

- Psalm 90:16-17

”

# Renewal to Pastors and Missionaries



We desire to provide pastors and missionaries a place to get away and savor undistracted time with God and family while enjoying the peace, quiet, and beauty of His creation.

## *Current Ministry*

- Provide special retreats, underwritten by generous donors to help ministers deepen their walk with the Lord, reconnect with their spouses and children, receive clarity in their calling and be renewed in their love for God's people

## *Future Initiatives*

- Revive our former pastor and laymen's conference as an annual event
- Launch retreats and other events for spouses and children of pastors and missionaries

“

"Thank you so much for offering ministers opportunities to stay at your camp. We had a great trip and we are very thankful for you!

- Micah

”



## *Prayer Focus*

Pray with us for partners who love ministers and for financial provision to provide for current and future initiatives to bless God's faithful servants.



# Hospitality to Guests



We have a very long and rich history of hospitality to guests, and the Christ-centered service of staff and volunteers is a hallmark of any LeTourneau experience. At the heart of our ministry team is a commitment to continue to provide a Christian Center where ministry groups strengthen and encourage believers and the lost encounter Christ.

## *Current Ministry*

- Serve, support, encourage and pray for a variety of groups, which range from church/ministry retreats, ladies luncheons, quilting and scrapbooking groups, family reunions, youth and children's camps, and day-long conferences
- Enrich partnerships with churches to help encourage mutual support



"We find LeTourneau to be a peaceful and friendly place to relax, rejuvenate, revive and reconnect with the Holy Spirit." - Judy





“

"Everyone at the retreat was very impressed by the location, the staff and the accommodations. We just had such a fun time and God was present the entire time. Thank you for such a memorable event!" - Wendy

”

## *Future Initiatives*

- Provide better care for groups with the addition of the Davis Sports Facility, which will extend our ministry throughout the winter and improve meeting and recreational options during poor outdoor conditions for all our groups and events
- Increase the number of guest housing facilities on campus, which will allow larger or multiple groups to better enjoy their retreat

## *Prayer Focus*

Pray with us as we seek to serve God's people well. Also, ask the Lord to provide for the building of additional facilities on campus such as the Davis Sports Facility and a lodge to extend our impact for God's glory and the joy of His people.





# Evangelism To Children



We strive to nurture seeds of faith and the roots of lifelong devotion to Christ in young hearts. From LeTourneau's beginning and still today, teaching the whole counsel of God to the next generation is one of our greatest desires.



“

"I loved seeing the counselors interact with the kids and share Jesus with them every second they could."

- Tonya (mom)

”



## Current Ministry

- Provide eight weeks of exciting themed summer day camps for kids ages 5-13 with opportunities to learn of God's amazing salvation
- Host overnight children's camps to allow children an opportunity to hear more of God's Truth and develop their relationship with Him
- Welcome hundreds to our annual Easter Egg Hunt and Passion week activities designed to reach the community with the Gospel



## *Future Initiatives*

- Offer year-round activities including children's sports leagues, additional overnight camps, and after school clubs
- Provide multi-day retreats and overnight camps for underprivileged children



## *"His Kids"*

"What I liked most about summer camp is I like to be with my counselors and I like to learn about Jesus and God."

- Kathryn (camper)

## *Prayer Focus*

Pray for God's blessing as we seek to tell children of the truth of the Gospel.