

EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN SEMINARY AT MILLIGAN

# ENVOY

FALL 2015



## A COMMITMENT TO THE LOCAL CHURCH

Semester in  
Ministry

Emmanuel & Milligan  
now ONE

Master in  
Christian Ministries

“What we need are  
EQUIPPED AND MOTIVATED disciplemakers  
to lead our churches, plant new ones, and  
SERVE GOD faithfully in  
every corner of our society”

## SEMESTER IN Ministry

by Brooke Gomez, PR Intern



Emmanuel alums Ethan Magness (center) and Erin McDade (right) run the Semester in Ministry program for Mountain Christian Church and Milligan College, with Sue Payne, administrative assistant

He chose to be a part of a solution to meet this need by developing and directing a ministry internship program called Semester in Ministry (SiM) which partners with undergraduate Milligan College students.

Ethan Magness (MDiv '00) came to Emmanuel following completion of an undergraduate degree in math at Swarthmore College. After serving as a youth minister at Grandview Christian Church in Johnson City, Tennessee, he was called to serve with Mountain Christian Church in Joppa, Maryland, as their spiritual formation pastor. He was hit by the sobering reality of the need for church-planters in the Northeastern U.S.

“What we need are equipped and motivated disciplemakers who are ready to lead our churches, plant new ones, and serve God faithfully in every corner of our society,” said Magness.

“Now is the moment when EVERY person in the church must be either BECOMING one of these disciplemakers or TRAINING the next generation.”

—Ethan Magness ('00)  
Director, Semester in Ministry

“The Semester in Ministry is a holistic program of ministry formation that encompasses three interwoven areas,” said Dr. Curtis Booher, professor of Christian ministries at Milligan.

These areas include Supervised Ministry, Spiritual Formation, and Academic Training.

“Ethan’s leadership during the SiM program pushed me to grow farther than I had thought that I could grow spiritually and professionally,” said Jarod Hensley, a senior Bible major who participated in SiM in Fall 2013. “His honest and personable working-style causes those who work around him, especially those who are under his leadership, to be true to their celestial calling to further the Kingdom of God on earth.”



Interns Jarod Hensley, Grace Rea, Olivia Merchant, John Allen, and Zach Hollifield

Alongside Magness, Erin McDade (MAR '03) shares the same passion for raising up the next generation and has served as the Assistant Director of the SiM program since 2012. Her journey towards vocational ministry began during her college years at Georgia Tech where she found herself under the leadership of ECS alum Rick Harper (MAR '87) serving with Christian Campus Fellowship (CCF).

“I graduated with a fervent desire to see like-minded Christian communities develop across universities worldwide,” said McDade.

With this desire, McDade realized God was leading her toward vocational ministry and decided to serve with the international campus ministry of Christian Missionary Fellowship (CMF).

“I longed for higher education, a chance to cement my faith in the Lord even further and fill my ministry tool belt with essential equipment for making more and better disciples,” said McDade. “Emmanuel provided that necessary foundation.”

After a term of effective ministry with CMF she and her husband, Nathan, decided to learn from and serve alongside a thriving local church, bringing their love for discipling young adults to Mountain Christian Church and the Semester in Ministry program.

“I became forever hooked on the vision Paul lays out for Christian leaders in Ephesians 4:12-13,” said McDade.

“Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12-13, NLT).

Emmanuel’s goal to prepare men and women for effective ministry is accomplished in people like Ethan Magness and Erin McDade, and they, too, are investing in the same vision for the next generation. ✠

The semester at Mountain completely changed my view of ministry. I realized that God was calling me to a life of ministry, and Mountain gave me the confidence and experience to pursue it.

—TYLER BRACKINS ('14)

My semester at Mountain Christian Church changed my life! Although it was challenging learning new ministry skills and balancing classes, the support from my supervisor and Semester in Ministry staff kept me afloat. Most importantly, my faith in Christ strengthened through the spiritual training we received from everyone.

—ELIZABETH GENTRY ('14)



Interns Eric Vines, Austin Chhut, Meredith Deel and Hillary Hughes

I grew in every way imaginable from my Semester in Ministry experiences at Mountain. It was a great way for me to get experience in many diverse areas of ministry that I otherwise would not have been able to try. We went on retreats and trips with the Mountain staff (my group of interns was able to go to the Catalyst Conference in Atlanta) which offered new perspectives on the work of ministry. I was challenged spiritually, emotionally, academically, and socially, and I grew in such unexpected and wonderful ways.

—BRENDAN SHELTON ('13)

From the moment I arrived on Mountain’s campus, I felt like I was home. While there I not only learned how to better lead an effective children’s ministry, but I also experienced being a part of a staff that desired to help me grow in personal wholeness in Christ and integrity in ministry.

—DANIELLE MERANTE ('15)



# EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN SEMINARY AT MILLIGAN

ON JULY 1, 2015, EMMANUEL BECAME PART OF MILLIGAN COLLEGE

## A PROUD HERITAGE

The vision for Emmanuel Christian Seminary began with then Milligan College President Dean E. Walker in the 1950s. Dr. Walker saw a need for an exemplary graduate seminary in which biblically faithful ministers would prepare for service to the church and the world. That dream became a reality in 1965 when the first class met on the campus of Milligan College.

## A PROMISING PRESENT

Fifty years later, Emmanuel offers four graduate degrees, including the Master of Divinity (MDiv), Master of Arts in Religion (MAR), Master of Christian Ministries (MCMIn), and Doctor of Ministry (DMin). Each of these programs is designed with a rigorous curriculum that prepares students to minister in a changing world by equipping them in three ways: (1) **Scholarship**—they must understand the message; (2) **Community**—they must be equipped to engage a broken humanity with grace and love; and (3) **Faith**—they must live what they preach.

Emmanuel graduates now serve as preachers, counselors, youth ministers, campus ministers, military chaplains, church planters, Christian educators, missionaries, and in a host of other ministries.

“We remain committed to carrying out Emmanuel’s mission. Dr. Rollin Ramsaran serves as the dean of the seminary, working closely with Milligan’s vice president for academic affairs and the faculty of Emmanuel, who have all joined us, alongside the existing Bible faculty at Milligan. Together, this is an amazing group of committed Christian scholars.”

—Dr. Bill Greer, President, Milligan College

## A BRIGHT FUTURE

After 50 years as an independent institution, on July 1, 2015, Emmanuel Christian Seminary joined Milligan College. Together, these two institutions are building on one another’s strengths. They have achieved greater operational efficiencies by combining duplicated services. Emmanuel students now have access to enhanced student services, such as the wellness center and counseling and health clinics. Emmanuel’s B. D. Phillips Building provides space not only for seminary classes and offices but also for new academic programs that will allow our undergraduate and graduate students alike to further impact the world for Christ.

Milligan College is committed to honoring and continuing Emmanuel’s legacy by offering academically-sound, advanced degrees in Bible and ministry. The need for thoughtful Christian leaders with deep theological training is greater now than ever. We are grateful for the over 1,000 congregations and individuals who partner with the seminary each year in preparing the next generation of men and women for effective ministry. The future for Emmanuel is brighter now than ever before. ☩

# 50 YEARS AGO...



Classes first met on September 15, 1965, on the campus of Milligan College. In this photo, Dr. J. H. Dampier, Chairman of the Board of Emmanuel School of Religion, watches Steve Lacy, Chairman of the Board of Milligan, sign the contract which resulted in a 3-year lease of the use of the classrooms, library, and office space from Milligan, where Emmanuel held classes until the completion of the B. D. Phillips Building in 1973. The Phillips Building is located on Hill Beautiful (now known as Emmanuel Hill), the site of Milligan President Josephus and Sarah Hopwood's retirement home, which still stands.

## ROSS-SMITH LECTURES in PASTORAL CARE

**Once Upon an Addiction:**  
Narratives of Substance  
Abuse, Faith, and Recovery

**Dr. Stephen Loyd, MD**

**October 13-15, 2015**

Details at [ecs.milligan.edu](http://ecs.milligan.edu)

## CONGRATS 2015 ALEXANDER CAMPBELL SCHOLARS



The Alexander Campbell Scholarships are awarded each year to four newly enrolling Master of Divinity students who show potential for significant success in ministry. This year's recipients come from distinctly different undergraduate institutions and bring with them varied academic pursuits and goals. Pictured clockwise:

### **KELLI ALLEN**

Kelli graduated from Georgia Tech with a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

### **KALEB SACKETT**

Kaleb graduated from Truman State with a Bachelor of Science degree in Linguistics and minors in Greek and Classics.

### **SARAH (UNDERWOOD) COLSON**

Sarah graduated from Milligan with an Interdisciplinary Honors Bachelor of Arts degree combining Multimedia Journalism and Missions.

### **BRIANNA OLSON**

Brianna graduated from Messiah College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Digital Media with a concentration in Church Media.

## APPLY NOW FOR 2016 SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni, friends, and churches, Emmanuel offers scholarships for all programs. Visit [ECS.MILLIGAN.EDU](http://ECS.MILLIGAN.EDU) for details and application deadlines.

# Different times. Different needs. Same quality education.

The MCMIn program meets people where they are — already serving our churches.



When Emmanuel first opened its doors 50 years ago, there was an important order of things. People who wanted to go into the ministry would pack their bags, head to school, spend three or four years getting a good theological education, then start applying for jobs.

Now in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, an expansion of seminary education is vitally needed. Churches are looking for talented people in their midst and often hiring from within, even if that person has never set foot in a Bible class. Many of our larger churches have

a staff of gifted people who have a passion to serve, but some need more academic and ministerial training. It is oftentimes impractical for them to uproot a family and leave full-time church work to attend seminary full-time.

The Master of Christian Ministries degree program was developed to meet their needs. Using a combination of online and hybrid classes, Emmanuel brings the classroom to the student, wherever he or she might be located.

The program began in January of 2012 and this past May graduated its first large cohort, many of whom are on staff at Mountain Christian Church in Joppa, Maryland. Each year, the geographic reach of the program is expanding, as students from different

states, and even different countries, are making use of the opportunity to study under Emmanuel's world-class professors. A new group out of Boise, Idaho, is now poised to complete their first year in the program.

The MCMIn—and all of Emmanuel's programs—are accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS), as well as by our regional accreditor. This provides graduates with an important endorsement and confidence in the quality of the education and ministry preparation. Practically, if you're considering further graduate study, not all institutions will accept degrees or coursework from an unaccredited school. Always consider your occupational and educational goals when selecting an academic program.

For more information, contact Emmanuel's Director of Admissions, Lauren Gullett (MDiv '02), at [ECS@milligan.edu](mailto:ECS@milligan.edu), or Dr. Michael Sweeney (MDiv '85), the Director of the MCMIn program, at [MLSweeney@milligan.edu](mailto:MLSweeney@milligan.edu). ☩

PO Box 550, Milligan College, TN 37682 | 423.926.1186 | [ecs.milligan.edu](http://ecs.milligan.edu)

Rollin A. Ramsaran, Dean • Dan R. Lawson, Director of Seminary Development

Emmanuel Christian Seminary at Milligan College is supported by the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ and provides theological education for men and women from across the United States and around the world. Emmanuel is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools, 10 Summit Park Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1110, phone: 412.788.6505. The following degree programs are approved by ATS: Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Religion, Master of Christian Ministries, and Doctor of Ministry.

**EMMANUEL**  
CHRISTIAN SEMINARY  
AT MILLIGAN



Article and photo reprinted with permission from [www.stadia.cc](http://www.stadia.cc)

# Church Planting “Bug”

## DEVELOPING AND CARING FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

Nathan “Chivo” Hawkins (MDiv ’05) has joined Stadia as the new West Regional Executive. In this newly created role, Nathan will implement Stadia’s overall strategy in the western U.S., focusing on partner development, U.S. church planting, global church planting and Stadia advancement.

Nathan’s relationship with Stadia dates all the way back to the days he interned for Tom (MDiv ’82) and Debbie Jones at Emmanuel Christian Seminary. Most recently he has served as a key player in Stadia’s Global Church Planting strategy, serving as Compassion International’s Church Relations Director. Nathan has first-hand experience in U.S. church planting, having led a church plant re-launch in New Orleans post-Katrina.

As an adoptee and adoptive father, Nathan is passionate about children who come from difficult backgrounds. Originally from inner-city Minneapolis, Nathan grew up in a Christian home in a culturally diverse environment. After completing his bachelor’s degree in Minnesota and work in sports broadcasting and rock climbing, he hungered for greater purpose. He served a church in Juarez, Mexico, for a year and a half, which led him to Emmanuel, where he caught the church planting bug.

“I’ve seen and led in all types of human efforts to develop and care for people and God continues to confirm two things: 1. Lasting transformation only happens in the context of a healthy relationship with Jesus and His bride. I am committed to the value of the local church, warts and all. 2. Like wet cement, children are more open to impressions that last; providing for the healthy formation of children is the best thing we can do!”

Stadia President Greg Nettle says he couldn’t be more excited about Nathan joining the Stadia team.

“Nathan brings a deep passion and extensive experience for both church planting and intentionally caring for children,” he says. “With Nathan on board, Stadia will be able to have greater impact throughout the U.S. and around the world!”

Nathan and his wife, Joy, have three young children: Benicio, Taegen, and Grace. The Hawkins are a family that welcomes foster children and loves connecting with the local church. ✝

NOTE: Other Emmanuel alums serving on the Stadia staff include: Tom Jones, David Cauble (MDiv ’07), Doug Foltz (MDiv ’03), Doug Fultz (’86-92), David Limiero (MDiv ’92), and John Wasem (MDiv ’87).

# ENVOY

FALL 2015



  
**EMMANUEL**  
**CHRISTIAN SEMINARY**  
AT **MILLIGAN**

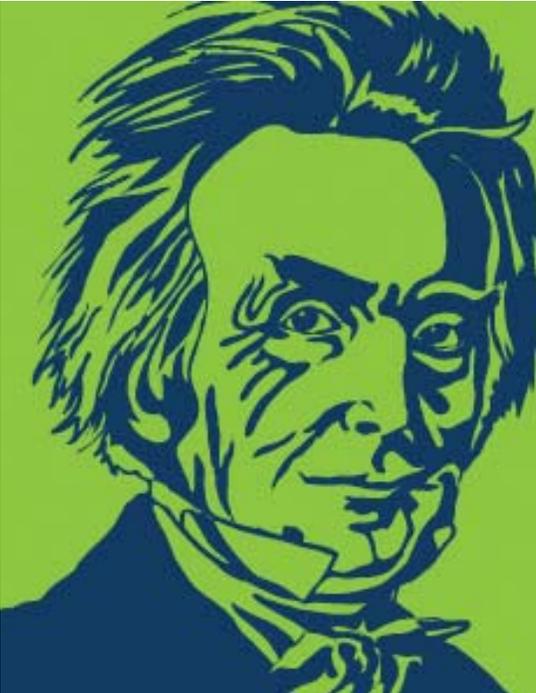
---

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Johnson City, TN  
Permit Number 3

---

PO Box 550  
Milligan College, TN 37682

*Return Service Requested*



APPLY or REFER A STUDENT

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL  
**SCHOLARSHIP**

---

BARTON W. STONE  
**SCHOLARSHIP**

PROGRAM & SCHOLARSHIP INFO at [ECS.MILLIGAN.EDU](http://ECS.MILLIGAN.EDU)

## Alumni Directory

RECONNECT WITH OLD FRIENDS AND HEAR THE AMAZING  
IMPACT EMMANUEL ALUMS ARE HAVING ON THE WORLD.

PLEASE RESPOND WHEN PUBLISHING CONCEPTS CONTACTS YOU. IT'S LEGIT.  
LEARN MORE: [WWW.MILLIGAN.EDU/ALUMNIDIRECTORY](http://WWW.MILLIGAN.EDU/ALUMNIDIRECTORY)