



*mission, purpose, & goals*

## **MISSION**

Clearwater Christian College exists to provide an excellent liberal arts education centered on God's Word, with a focus on challenging students to love God wholly, to know Him intimately, and serve Him fervently; educating men and women to minister faithfully and humbly with evangelistic zeal as they impact eternity for Jesus Christ in every avenue of life.

## **PURPOSE**

Clearwater Christian College is a fundamental, Christian, liberal arts, coeducational college which is denominationally unaffiliated and dedicated to sound academic instruction while propagating the historic Christian faith. The College is committed to a program of instruction which will cause its scholars to maintain personal allegiance to the whole counsel of God. Through its educational programs and the administrative and educational support services, the College attempts to provide the kind of atmosphere which will promote the intellectual, spiritual, social, and character development of students. Clearwater Christian College is committed to provide programs which will develop in the student godly character and a desire to achieve academic integrity and excellence. As a liberal arts institution, the College prepares students for many avenues of service, including the church, business, education, and the arts. Areas of study may be developed which are within the liberal arts tradition and consistent with the College's founding purpose.

## **GOALS**

1. Provide programs which develop in the students godly character and a desire to know God and His Word so that they become more and more conformed to the image of Christ.
2. Provide programs which will develop the students' communicative and quantitative skills to prepare them to function effectively in society.

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3. Provide programs which will prepare students for their chosen ministry or profession or to pursue graduate or professional studies.
4. Provide students with the opportunity for cultural enrichment, assisting them in developing personal standards for evaluating the arts (music, drama, visual art, and literature).
5. Provide programs which will encourage the students to recognize and to fulfill their responsibility to serve Christ and to witness to others.
6. Inform students of modern religious movements which have deviated from orthodox Christian theological positions.
7. Help the students understand the foundations which have made our nation great so that they will conduct themselves as responsible citizens.
8. Help students understand the Biblical account of special creation and be able to answer non-Biblical theories of origins.
9. Attract and retain a competent faculty dedicated to the College's purpose and the ministry of teaching while expecting high standards of student performance.
10. Maintain fiscal stability and financial solvency within a balanced operating budget.
11. Broaden the College's base of financial support and advance its reputation through fund raising, alumni, and community relations.
12. Provide services, facilities, and equipment adequate to support the educational program.
13. Attract and retain a growing number of predominately traditional college-aged, full-time residential Christian men and women capable of pursuing and benefiting from the academic offerings of the College.
14. Provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment for the entire College family.
15. Attract and retain personnel who have appropriate skills, interests, and experience in support of the College's mission to assist the College in fulfilling its purpose.

## HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE

Clearwater Christian College began with a burden in the hearts of the founders concerning the trends in evangelical colleges away from biblical standards of morality and from the historic biblical fundamentals. The founders also perceived a growing casual attitude toward doctrine and lack of emphasis on personal soul-winning. They were burdened about the trends in Christian colleges toward the ecumenical movement, new evangelicalism, and ecumenical evangelism.

In July 1965, the possibility of establishing a Christian college on the west coast of Florida came closer to reality after an exploratory trip to Florida by Dr. Arthur E. Steele. This was followed by a year of calling on pastors in the area and

surveying the possibilities of and the need for a Christian college. Dr. Steele then moved his family to this area. Many friends made themselves available to help in the founding of this college. The college acquired fifty waterfront acres at the eastern entrance to the city of Clearwater.

On September 17, 1966, fifteen students enrolled as the first class of Clearwater Christian College. The Lord providentially supplied funds, friends, faculty, facilities, and a promising student body. The great enthusiasm and sense of expectancy during that first year has continued throughout the years.

In 1986, the college celebrated twenty years of operation under the leadership of Dr. Steele. In January 1987, the Board of Directors named Dr. George D. Youstra to succeed Dr. Steele as president. Dr. Youstra brought an extensive record of accomplishments in Christian education and government to this leadership role at the college. Since 1987, the college enrollment has more than tripled, new buildings have been added, 88 additional acres have been acquired, new programs offered, and in 1998, gained reaffirmation of SACS accreditation.

In May 2002, Dr. Richard A. Stratton assumed the presidency. In addition to his heart's desire to preach, Dr. Stratton brings to his position a wealth of experience in education and business.

Through the years the college "family" has seen the Lord provide miraculously for the continuance of this ministry. This provision is due to the position the college has taken against doctrinal extremes, apostasy, and error, and its commitment to the fundamentals of the historic Christian faith. Clearwater Christian College began in the will of the Lord through much prayer and will continue to operate seeking His guidance, protection, and provision.

## DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

We believe and maintain the following:

- The plenary, divine inspiration of the Scriptures in the original languages; their consequent inerrancy and infallibility; and as the Word of God, their supreme and final authority in faith and life.
- The triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- The essential, absolute, eternal Deity; and the real and proper, but sinless, humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- His birth of the Virgin Mary.
- His substitutionary, expiatory death, in that He gave His life "a ransom for many."
- His resurrection from among the dead in the same body in which He was crucified, and the imminent, premillennial bodily return of Jesus Christ in glory to this earth.
- The total depravity of man through the Fall.

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- Salvation, the effect of regeneration by the Spirit and the Word, not by works but by grace through faith.
- The everlasting bliss of the saved and the everlasting suffering of the lost.
- The real spiritual unity in Christ of all redeemed by His precious blood.
- The necessity of maintaining, according to the Word of God, the purity of the church in doctrine and life.

## PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

Clearwater Christian College is founded on the belief in the inerrant, inspired Word of God, the Bible, which is the only infallible rule of faith and practice. The College seeks to integrate Biblical principles into the liberal arts in order to equip students to establish priorities and develop discernment for making decisions which will be glorifying to God.

We believe God is the Author of creation and the Source of all truth. Scripture teaches us that truth is revealed by God through Christ, “in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Colossians 2:3). True Christian education is based on the principle that no dichotomy exists between the secular and sacred. There should be no disjunction between piety and scholarship, faith and reason, religion and science, or theology and philosophy.

## INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Virtually every phase of operation at Clearwater Christian College is affected by the growing institutional commitment to developing reliable measures of effectiveness. Student surveys measuring the learning environment, library services and resources, and understanding of the overall college purpose and objectives are conducted annually by the College. Student opinions of instruction are solicited systematically. Each academic division has developed instructional objectives and prepared strategies to implement and evaluate these objectives. The faculty perform self-evaluations and are evaluated by their division chair each year. As a result of these activities, college personnel are familiar with what their intended outcomes are and are able to assess progress toward the established goals.

## HONOR STANDARDS

It is the College’s belief that an individual’s commitment to the Word of God will affect his day-to-day conduct. Realizing that our students come from differing backgrounds and levels of spiritual maturity, the College has formulated a basic standard of conduct that it will expect students to conform to while they are in attendance. Rules and regulations are formulated on the basis of Biblical principles, individual safety, and Christian testimony. Specific expectations, and the penalties

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associated with a failure to adhere to them are given in the student handbook. The College reserves the right to refuse admission, place on disciplinary probation, or dismiss any student whose personal conduct and/or attitude in the judgment of the administration is not consistent with the Christian spirit and standards which the College seeks to maintain.

## LOCATION

Clearwater, Florida, is located halfway down the Florida peninsula on the west coast. It is north of St. Petersburg and just across Tampa Bay from the city of Tampa. The entrance to the College is on Route 60, the main highway between Tampa and Clearwater. This is also known as the Courtney Campbell Causeway. The College is within sight of the city of Tampa. Our 138-acre campus is situated on Tampa Bay, the eastern boundary of the city of Clearwater. The western boundary of the city is the Gulf of Mexico.

The College is ideally located for a Christian liberal arts college in a cluster of towns which provide opportunities for Christian service in fundamental, separated, soul-winning churches. There are also many employment opportunities for students in small industries and shopping centers. The greater metropolitan area also provides access to faculty and alumni for graduate studies.

## CAMPUS FACILITIES

### **Cathcart Hall**

This multi-purpose building borders beautiful Tampa Bay. The College cafeteria is on the first floor and the second floor houses administrative offices. The observation deck on the second floor gives a picturesque view of Tampa Bay, while the lobby of Cathcart Hall serves as the reception area for visitors. This building was provided through the generous gift of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Paden of Arlington, Virginia, in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Cathcart.

### **Dambach Hall**

Named in honor of William L. Dambach, a longtime friend and supporter of the College, Dambach Hall was one of the first buildings on campus. In 1990, the building was renovated and enlarged to become our main classroom building. In addition to classrooms, the east wing houses the Gospel Center Memorial Chapel, an auditorium that can seat over 500.

### **Easter Library**

The Easter Library was built in 1970 and expanded in 1989 with gracious gifts from Dr. and Mrs. Lowell Easter and several other donors. The collection includes

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over 112,000 volumes; 2,293 regularly received paper and electronic periodical titles; and thousands of music scores and multimedia materials. The library also contains collections of children's literature, curriculum materials, pamphlets, and the College archives. The collections were provided, in part, by a timely gift from Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Murray.

The Library is recognized for outstanding holdings in creationism, Biblical studies, Native Americans, and American Presidents. The main reading room features individual study carrels, tables, reference collection, and a current periodical display. The service-oriented staff is dedicated to providing quality research and instructional support through information sources and changing technologies. The library's collections are accessed through the online catalog which contains the records of 12 local public and college libraries. It can be viewed on the library's homepage along with many reference and research tools for the preparation of course assignments.

The Easter Library is a member of three professional networks: the Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC), Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) and the Association of Christian Librarians (ACL). These networks enable the sharing of valuable resources of over 43,000 libraries in 87 countries with over 51 million records.

### **Emmons Hall**

Emmons Hall is one of two residence halls on campus for women. The residence hall is designed for family-style living. Each unit has a furnished living room, four bedrooms, and a bathroom. The entire suite has central air conditioning and heating. Coin-operated laundry facilities and vending machines are conveniently located. Emmons Hall was named on behalf of Mrs. Anna Emmons, a long-time supporter of the College.

### **Gymnasium/Centre Court Café/Rehearsal Hall**

This 12,000 square foot athletic facility is home for all indoor intercollegiate and intramural sports activities. The gymnasium is equipped with six backboards enabling two full-court competitions at one time if necessary. The stage on the east end is utilized for drama productions as well as the platform for activities requiring a large auditorium area.

Major expansion of this facility in 1997 included the addition of a large rehearsal facility (Rehearsal Hall) for the College orchestra and choirs, and a student lounge, snack shop (Centre Court Café), bookstore, and post office. Funds for this project were provided in large part by an anonymous donor.

## **Merritts Hall**

This men's residence hall is adjacent to the College gymnasium. The residence hall resembles a hotel-style arrangement where the individual rooms open to an interior hallway. The rooms are carpeted and have an individual air conditioning/heating unit, small vanity, and walk-in closets. Restrooms and showers are centrally located on each floor. A large, second-floor study lounge overlooks one of the campus lakes. A major remodeling and a wing addition were provided by the gracious gift of Rev. and Mrs. Paul Merritts in 1995.

## **Paden Hall**

This women's residence hall was built along the same concept as its earlier counterpart, Emmons Hall. The building was provided in part by the gracious gift of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Paden of Alexandria, Virginia, in honor of his parents. A major addition to this building was dedicated in February, 1997, and more than doubled the housing capacity of this residence hall.

## **Steele Hall**

This residence hall/science classroom building is named in honor of Dr. Arthur E. Steele, founding president of the College. The building, dedicated in September 1999, provides housing for up to 100 men on the second and third floors. The first floor space is used for faculty offices, two science labs, a lecture hall, and a classroom. Faculty offices are also located on the third floor, conveniently accessed by an elevator.

