

The *Bethel Magazine* is published two times each year for alumni and friends of the college. Please send correspondence and address changes to the editor.

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Bethel College was founded in 1947 by the Missionary Church, a denomination with roots in both the Mennonite and Methodist traditions. The college has maintained a close relationship with the denomination throughout its history and considers itself to be a part of the evangelical movement in the United States. The college chooses for its motto the phrase, "With Christ at the Helm."

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Each new academic year brings with it a certain "buzz" as the students return to campus — although some may say that the energy never left for the summer months. This summer, Bethel hosted academic and sports camps, International Bible Quizzing and the Missionary Church General Conference.

About 1,000 visitors, including church delegates, their families and pastors, flooded the Bethel campus this July for the 20th Missionary Church General Conference. It was a wonderful time that included guest speakers Jim Cymbala, from Brooklyn Tabernacle, and Jerry B. Jenkins, internationally known author of the "Left Behind" series. It was definitely a refreshing time in the Lord for all in attendance.

Like many other institutions, this has also been a difficult summer in some ways. As you may be feeling the economic downturn personally, it's also been difficult for the many academic institutions all around the country. But for all the challenges, Bethel College is still moving forward.

As in many recent years, the college is expectant that one of its constants will continue — growth. In fact, we anticipate that the 2009-2010 school year will be a year for record enrollment at Bethel. The final count will be ready in the coming days, but nonetheless, we are excited about the possibility of educating more students than ever before. These students will use what they learn academically and spiritually to impact the world around them. Current Bethel students want to be just like their counterparts who have come before — "world changers."

You are probably aware that Bethel has alumni who are doing great things. And this issue will focus on a few of those dedicated alumni who have wonderful success stories to share postgraduation. You'll read about a former student who videotapes news in a war zone and a recent graduate who shared the gospel with a "forbidden" tribe.

While we can't showcase all our alumni in this issue, we know that you are all continuing to strive to be "world changers" wherever God has placed you.

God bless, and hopefully we'll see you all on campus for Alumni Weekend October 9 and 10.

Steven R. Cramer

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President