



## A Light for Our Path

Psalm 119 proclaims that God's Word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path. This issue of the *Unionite* focuses on this promise of guidance for our lives. At Union University, we are thankful for the heritage that is ours and the shoulders on whom we stand. Decade after decade, students at Union have taken courses in Bible as foundational for their curriculum path. Faculty and staff have looked to the scriptures for enablement with the calling to bring together faith and learning and faith and living across the campus. On this 400th anniversary of the publication of the most popular translation of the Bible in all of history, it is a good time to reflect on the influence of the Bible on Union University and the role that Union faculty and alumni have had in the important work of biblical interpretation.

In September of this year, Union will host a time of celebration around the influence of the King James Version of the Bible on all aspects of Western culture. The week will feature the work of Union's faculty in addition to outstanding lectures from John Woodbridge, Timothy George and Leland Ryken. The purpose of the week, in many ways, is to explore the role of Scripture and the Disciplines throughout the history of the Church. The Christian Intellectual Tradition, which shapes and informs the work and mission of Union University, has been greatly formed through the

insights of biblical interpreters. This week promises to be a splendid time. We invite you to join us on September 15-17 on the Union campus for this time of celebration.

George Guthrie, Perry Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Union University, has been given the opportunity to lead a major project that focuses on biblical literacy. The effort is called "Read the Bible for Life." The Spring conference on the Union campus sponsored by the Ryan Center for Biblical Studies was built around this theme. A series of publications will enhance this far-reaching effort. We are thankful for George Guthrie and his leadership at this key time in both Church and society.

This issue of the *Unionite* also provides updates on some of the shaping events that have transpired on the Union campus in recent months. The Spring Commencement service recognized the largest graduating class in Union history. The Class of 2011 will be missed.

Their mark will remain on the campus for years to come. The same could be said for the legacy of retiring faculty members like Charles Baldwin, Sherry Hickey, and Roland Porter. For each of these, we offer thanksgiving to God.

The graduation events provided the wonderful opportunity for the Centennial Recognition of the Tigrett Medal recipients. It was a joy to welcome so many former recipients



back to campus for a milestone in this special aspect of the Union heritage.

We are thankful for God's ongoing blessings in the life of Union University. As we take the next steps on our journey, we do so with gratitude to God for his faithfulness in days past and with confidence in the hope that the Word of God will guide us along the way. Indeed, for the promised guidance found in Psalm 119, we offer thanksgiving for the lamp to our feet and the light for our path.

Soli Deo Gloria,

David S. Dockery