



# LIVING UNIVERSITY

2301 Crown Centre Drive, Suite A, Charlotte, NC 28227-7705

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 16, 2016

Dear Friends and Supporters of Living University,

What an exciting time of year this is for Living University! This morning we celebrated our eighth annual commencement exercises where we conferred credentials on eighteen graduates (seven *in absentia*) from five nations. Six of the 18 graduates are ministers in the Living Church of God. Executive Vice President Scott W. Winnail presided.



Our Living University Graduates for 2016

The invocation was given by Charlotte Living Church of God associate pastor Roderick McNair. The National Anthem followed, being directed by LU Financial Controller and Business faculty member, D. Jerry Ruddlesden. Bachelor's degree candidate Deborah Joanne Ross delivered the student discourse with the University's new *Academic Distinction Award* conferred on Lori Morgan. The award acknowledges baccalaureate degree candidates achieving a 4.00 GPA (having earned all A grades for their LU coursework).

Following the award, the 2016 Commencement Address was given by evangelist Gerald Weston. Next came the conferring of credentials by LU Chancellor and LCG presiding evangelist Roderick C. Meredith. The benediction was given by senior evangelist, Richard F. Ames. A reception in honor of the graduates followed.

This is the first year that the Admissions and Registrar's Office fully organized the event. We are grateful to Registrar and Director of Admissions Kenneth Frank and Assistant Registrar Michelle R. Broussard for their exemplary organization. On behalf of the University, I want to acknowledge and thank pianist Marcus I. McCullough for providing music for the ceremony, deacon Lehman Lyons, marshalls Kyle Keas and Rebecca Rodzaj, and the many volunteers who aided in making this exciting ceremony possible.

Today we wrap up another successful academic year, and we charge ahead to the 2016 fall semester. Sometimes people ask why we do not offer summer classes. By the time the Spring semester comes to an end, like most of our students, our four fulltime faculty and staff are exhausted and need the summer months to get some rest. More importantly, there is a need to catch up on a plethora of administrative tasks that go undone during the semester and to prepare for the new Fall semester.

As LU seeks to add an Associate of Arts degree program, a team of examiners from the University of North Carolina visited the campus on November 16, 2015, which began a lengthy, eighteen-month licensure process for the University. North Carolina General Statutes specify that for licensure, fifteen minimum standards must be met by nonpublic institutions in such critical areas as curricula, faculty, library, and financial stability. Our Associate of Theology and the Bachelor of Theology degree programs of study are exempt from the requirements for licensure under provisions of North Carolina General Statutes Section (G.S.) 116-15(d) but an Associate of Arts degree program requires a license.

As the licensure process continues forward the examining committee has indicated it will make recommendations ("shall do" items) and suggestions ("should do" items) for ensuring the University is in compliance with statutory standards. This week I plan to send the examiners a report informing them that LU has made the improvements as they suggested. Hopefully, in June we will hear back from the State and can give you a full report of their response.

Please remember that **your tax deductible gifts to the University should be made directly to Living University**. Money sent to the Living Church of God with tithes and offerings, even when clearly marked for the University, become part of the Church funds and are not passed through to the University. The process has to work in this manner due to federal regulations.

Thank you again for your prayerful and continued financial support of Living University. YOUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS are helping to make a tremendous difference in people's lives all around the world.

Warmest personal regards,



Michael P. Germano, Ed.D., J.D.  
President and Chief Executive Officer