

# Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

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## NEWS

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## Lewis Drummond announces retirement

Dr. Lewis A. Drummond, fourth President of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, has announced his retirement at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. President Drummond presented the following statement:

### Retirement of President Lewis A. Drummond

Some four years ago . . . the Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, elected me as the fourth president of this institution. It has been four years of ferment and fervent labor. Yet, it has also been four years of building for the future. The future always figures prominently in Kingdom progress.

The Seminary has experienced difficult days . . . during these past four years. . . . Now we rest on the brink of building the institution . . . on the foundation of nearly four hundred years of Baptist educational history. And build we shall by God's good grace.

In light of the task before Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in rebuilding faculty, administration, student body, etc., it has become increasingly a clear conviction that I must leave that rebuilding to another. I have made my contribution, under God, in a . . . transition time. Now I lay down the mantle in retirement for another to pick up and move forward.

Therefore, I present to you my retirement as the fourth president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, effective June 30, 1992, the end of our current academic year. I do it with gratitude to God for the privilege of serving His Kingdom in this challenging work in these challenging days. May our Lord send His chosen successor to you to carry on this vital rebuilding work.

My wife Betty joins me in expressing gratitude for your support, prayers, love and concern. Pray for us as we seek usefulness in Christ's mission in the days ahead. To Him be glory and praise for all His goodness and mercy. Amen!

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The Trustees responded with the following declaration:

In light of Dr. Drummond's announced retirement, the Executive Committee of the trustees wishes to make the following statement:

Lewis Addison Drummond became President of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary on March 14, 1988 and has led the seminary during a very difficult and trying time. When he became President, it was a time of transition, but he led in a positive way with a loving spirit. Because of his Godly spirit and leadership, Southeastern has been able to face her problems and has established a stronger foundation on which to build.

During Dr. Drummond's administration a new Faculty Selection Process has been implemented with the selection of some outstanding scholars. The Center for Great Commission Studies has been established which will have a world wide impact for Christian evangelism. Fraternal relationships with Eastern Europe and Asia have already been established. An Institutional Self-Study along with a Long Range Plan for the rest of this decade has been put into operation. A Purpose Statement has been re-written and a spirit of enthusiastic evangelistic teaching has been generated.

Mrs. Drummond has been her husband's constant companion and pillar of strength during his time as President. Her faith in Christ, her Christian spirit and fervent prayers have been a sustaining factor for the seminary family. She has contributed greatly to the seminary as a whole, as well as being a devoted wife.

In appreciation for the vision and establishment of the Center for Great Commission Studies, the Executive Committee of the trustees will recommend to the full Board in their March meeting that the Center bear his name. It is our constant prayer that Dr. Drummond's expertise, guidance and teaching will be utilized in the future in the missionary work of this Center.

As Dr. and Mrs. Drummond leave Southeastern and enter retirement, we wish to assure them of our prayers in the new and exciting period of their lives. The fruit of their labor here will bear fruit until the end of this age.

Dr. and Mrs. Drummond expressed their gratitude for the years of service at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.