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# TODAY NEWSLETTER

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**CENTRAL  
CHRISTIAN  
COLLEGE**  
OF KANSAS

The newsletter for  
alumni and friends of  
Central Christian College



# SNOWFLAKES



I am not sure in what region of the world you will be reading this today. As for me, I am currently attending the General Conference of the Free Methodist Church, in Orlando, Florida. According to the weather report, it is predicted to hit 95+ degrees. Of course, being in Florida, you would expect it to be hot. Funny part about that is that back home in McPherson, it is predicated to be over 100 degrees. So, while it may be odd to say, I am glad that I am here in Florida where it is slightly cooler than back home.

While I do enjoy summer, there are definitely days like today that I long for the cooling breezes of fall. I would even welcome the presence of a snowflake or two.

According to experts much more knowledgeable than me, there is evidence to support that no two snowflakes are exactly alike. Each is unique...special...distinctive. Each provides a dazzling display of original beauty, unmatched by any of its peers. And yet, even in the face of all this uncommon splendor, there is one common element that makes every snowflake exactly the same. For all their beauty, for all their exclusivity, for all their unparalleled ingenuity, each and every one will melt when exposed to heat. It is a meteorological reality. One

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**“IF WE LACK THE ABILITY TO PERSIST, TO PERSEVERE, TO ENDURE – THEN, LIKE SNOWFLAKES, WE SIMPLY MELT UNDER PRESSURE, AND SO DOES THE MESSAGE OF HOPE THAT WAS ENTRUSTED TO US TO DELIVER.”**

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that has been coopted by culture.

In just a few weeks, we will begin the fall semester for residential students, which will include a whole new class of incoming freshman. Interestingly, the term snowflake has often been used to describe this generation of students. However, rather than focusing on the unique and striking aspects of snowflakes, the use of this term is more focused on the fragility of this upcoming generation, and their tendency to melt under the heat of pressure.

At first, this word was, generally, applied to young people, but has since been applied as a pejorative term for anyone who is overly sensitive and lacks the resilience to stand-up under difficult or challenging times. So, while folks love the idea that they may

be unique as a snowflake, there also seems to be a growing reality that this is not the only element of snowflakes people resemble.

Come to find out, it does not matter how beautiful we think we are, how special we believe we are, or how liked we suppose we are. For that matter, it does not matter our unique gifts, talents, or abilities. If we lack the ability to persist, to persevere, to endure – then, like snowflakes, we simply melt under pressure, and so does the message of hope that was entrusted to us to deliver.

For weather related snowflakes, there is not much that can be done. They are totally dependent on external circumstances, like the temperature. So, when it is hot, they melt. The science is irrefutable. If they only had an internal cooling system, an inner core that provided a buffer against external realities.

In the world of psychology, we refer to this as resiliency. Modern culture calls it GRIT. Of course, the Bible has been talking about this same issue for hundreds of years.

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**Ctd. on page 2**

## FIRST WORD

### Ctd. from page 1

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In the Word it is often referred to as perseverance. Take a look at passages such as Colossians 1:11-12, James 1:12, 2 Thessalonians 3:12, Hebrews 6:11; Luke 21:19, and Galatians 6:9. Beyond these, there are numerous other passages that address the development and presence of perseverance, highlighting it as an essential element related to the development of good character. According to what we can glean, the development of perseverance bolsters good character, allowing us to respond to the pressures of life, not by melting under pressure, but by allowing adversity to strengthen our resolve and bolster our courage.

Taking this perspective, we (who are in Christ) are different than snowflakes. Sure, like common snowflakes, we are unique – designed by God to be distinctive. However, unlike those other snowflakes, we, who are in Christ, can rely upon an internal source to offset the external influences that try to dissolve our resolve. It is the presence of the Holy Spirit and partnership with

this wise Counselor that provides us with the inner vitality to tweak the temperature and persist under pressure.

For us at CCCC, development of perseverance (i.e. resiliency and grit) is an essential element of the mission to provide a Christ-Centered Education for Character. As we define the elements of character, we recognize that perseverance is a key quality of loving the Lord our God with all our STRENGTH. Therefore, in our efforts to cultivate character, students are challenged to develop perseverance.

However, the lesson is not for students alone. It is a reality that could benefit us all. Let's face it. The climate of modern culture is intense. Besides the heated rhetoric thrown at us from so many sources, we also live cluttered lives, driven by ever increasing influences that seek to interrupt our need to commune with God. It is little wonder that there is an epidemic of folks melting into depression, despair, and destructive behavior.

Our capacity to trust God, to be strengthened by the Spirit, and to remain steadfast in our faith provides a

chilling effect on the enemy's plan to defrost and defraud our confidence in God's work in and through us

So, as the hot days of summer flourish, take time to find that inner core kept cool by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Step out of the heat of the frenzied and feverish pace that seems to have taken control of the modern landscape. Allow the presence of the Spirit to redefine your perspective, causing you to draw strength and purpose from the adverse issues you will most certainly face.

And in the end, if people are going to call us snowflakes anyway, we might as well be sure that it has less to do with our timidity and more to do with God's unique and distinctive design working in and through us. "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but of power, love and self-discipline" (2 Timothy 1:17).

Blessings,



**Rev. Dr. Leonard F. Favara**

President | CC '89, '91

## Support Central Christian College and its Mission

### Christ-Centered Education for Character | Get Great Tax Benefits

If you are age 70 <sup>1/2</sup> and are required to take a distribution from your IRS  
**OR** if you will be facing capital gains from securities such as stocks or mutual funds.

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Contact the Advancement Office to learn how donating to CCCC can result in tax benefits for YOU!  
Contact Dr. Dean Kroeker at 620-504-3000 (press 1) or Joe Johnston at 620.504.3000 (press 3)

## DONATE ONLINE AT [www.ccckfoundation.org](http://www.ccckfoundation.org)

#CCCK

HC19



## REGISTER FOR HOMECOMING 2019

Homecoming 2019 will be here before you know it! We are so excited for it this year and cannot wait to see all the alumni, friends, and students on campus October 4-6.

We have recently released the schedule of events online at [ccckfoundation.org/homecoming](http://ccckfoundation.org/homecoming). Featured events include the Inauguration of the 14th President, the Music Spotlight and Coronation, Basketball Showcase, 5K Color Run, Decade Reunions, and more!

You will also be able to register at the Homecoming Page to reserve your place. You won't want to miss it! So plan to join us - alumni and students coming together, reconnecting with classmates of the past, and experiencing the Central of today! There just truly is no place like home!



# No Place Like Home



HOMECOMING 2019 | OCTOBER 4-6, 2019

# Inauguration

OF CENTRAL'S  
FOURTEENTH PRESIDENT

REV. DR. LEONARD F. FAVARA JR.

SAVE THE DATE | FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2019

## A PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

As part of the 2019 Homecoming Weekend, we will be celebrating the Inauguration of Central's 14th President, Rev. Dr. Leonard "Lenny" Favara Jr. This is a special occasion celebrating someone who has spent much of his life serving Central. His journey has led him from student, to professor, to provost, and now president.

The Inauguration will take place on October 4th at 3:30 pm followed by a dinner reception at 5:00 pm. We would love to have you join in the celebration. You can find out more information as well as register for the event at [cckfoundation.org/inauguration](http://cckfoundation.org/inauguration).



## BABY BARSNESS!

Welcome Benaiah James Barsness to the ever-growing Central Family! Son of Vivienne and Elijah Barsness (who works in the Student Life Department), Benaiah was born July 17th, 2019 at 2:18 am. He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Vivienne, Elijah, and Benaiah are doing great. We invite you to keep them in your thoughts and prayers during this time of transition!



## JUST PBL BUSINESS

The Central Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) business club attended the PBL National Leadership Convention in San Antonio, Texas from June 24-27, 2019. The event was held in the Henry Gonzalez convention center on the River Walk. Around 1,500 college students, advisors, and professional members from hundreds of colleges and universities across the U.S. competed in over 60 events, networked, attended workshops, and elected new national officers.

This year Central took a small group of three students and one advisor. During their time in San Antonio, the group visited the historical sight of the Alamo, enjoyed strolling and shopping on the River Walk, and tried different local cuisines at the Pearl District.

All three students who attended the conference received national recognition at the PBL Awards of Excellence Program on June 27. The top ten awards received for Central Christian College were as follows:

- Blair Austin Draper (Austin, TX): Ninth place in Help Desk*
- Priscilla Castillo (Quincy, WA): Eighth Place in Administrative Technology*
- Jaycie Rue (Udall, KS): Fifth place in Insurance Concepts*

Central Christian College has a history of doing well at the National Leadership Conference. We have brought home top ten placings for eight years in a row. This is a testimony to the great efforts put forth by the students and professors in our business department. PBL provides a great opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom, while having fun and gaining experience along the way.

*Pictured (L to R): Jaycie Rue, Blair Austin Draper, and Priscilla Castillo*



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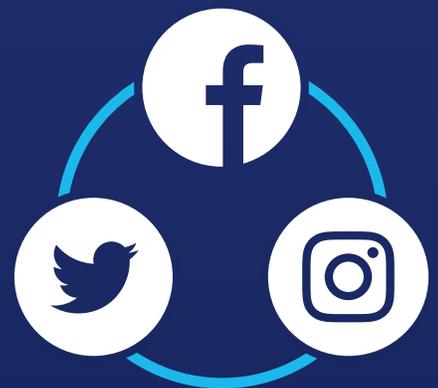
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# McPHERSON *Pipeline* BASEBALL



CHRIS DAWSON



DOUG GOVE

## THROUGH THE PIPELINE

Congratulations to the McPherson Pipeliners for great season, which resulted in qualifying for the playoffs! The Pipeliners are led by Central Christian College Alumni Chris Dawson (CC '15 – Pipeliners Head Coach) and Doug Gove (CC '16 – Pipeliners Pitching Coach). Doug currently serves

as an assistant coach for the Central Baseball Program. As for the players, Central students Tyler Brown (3B – CC '20), Joshua Clyden (OF – CC '21), Trevor Lunkwitz (RHP – CC '21), and Chris Sanchez (2B/SS – CC '21) help make up the team. Central student Baily Bowman (CC '20) is a sports writer for the

team while student Tyler Swanson (CC '21) takes care of the stats.

Make sure to keep track of the local McPherson Pipeliners as they play some exciting baseball. They have a very bright outlook for the years to come!

## POLICE CHIEF SHUFFLE

Recently, two Central Christian College Alumni embarked on new life journeys! For Robert McClarty (CC '14), a graduate of Central's Criminal Justice Program, that meant retirement. McClarty had been McPherson's Chief of Police for eight years before his retirement on June 25.

Another Central Alum, Mikel Golden (CC '15), also a graduate of Central's Criminal Justice Program, was announced as the acting Chief of Police following McClarty's retirement. We thank them for their years of service and congratulate them on their next stages in life!



ACTING CHIEF GOLDEN



## REFER A STUDENT TODAY! THEIR PATH TO LEGENDARY BEGINS AT CENTRAL

Know someone – family member, friend, co-worker – looking to get their college degree? Refer them to Central Christian College of Kansas today! They can email us at [admissions@centralchristian.edu](mailto:admissions@centralchristian.edu) to find out more information. Thanks for your help!



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