

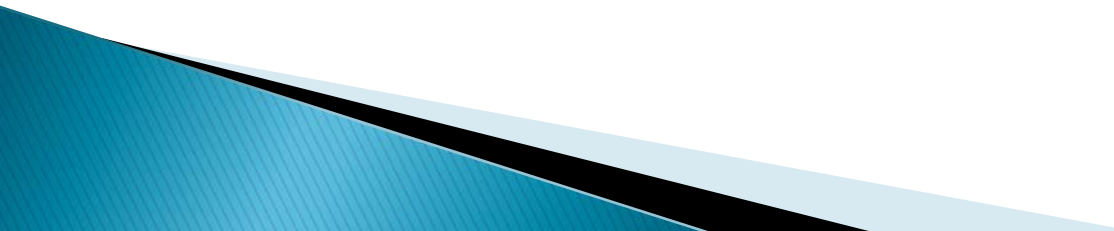
Trevecca
A Wesleyan Institution:
Wesleyan Theology and
Educational Practice

August 25, 2009

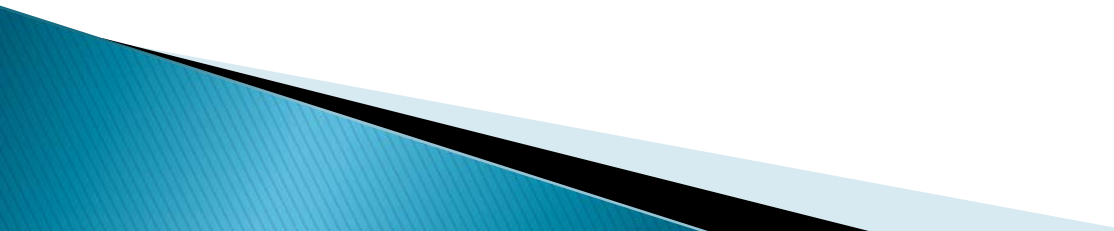


TNU Purpose

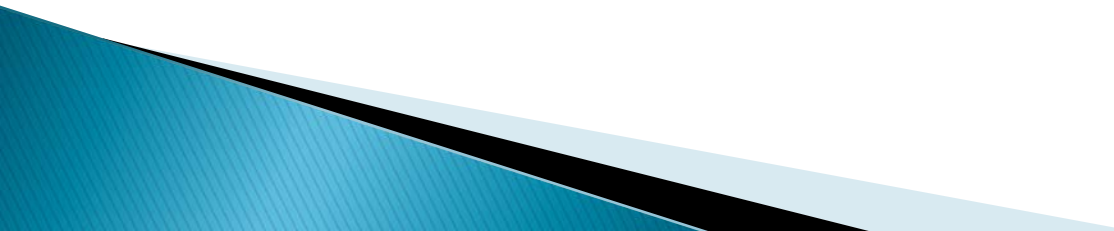
“...private, co-educational, four-year accredited liberal arts school that exists to meet the higher education needs of the Church of the Nazarene. Its educational programs are based on Christian values that promote scholarship, critical thinking, and meaningful worship in preparation for lives of leadership and service in the church, the community, and the world at large”



A Brief History

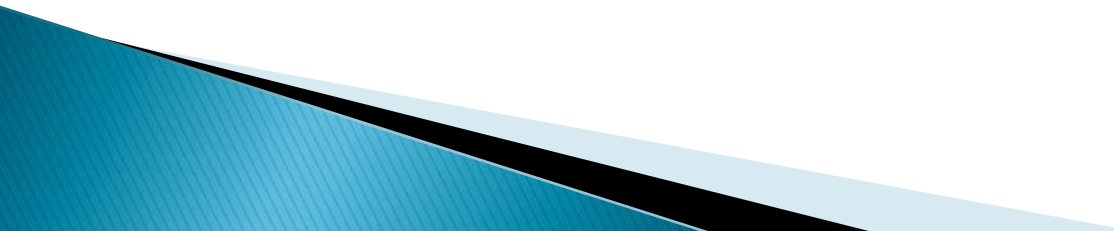
- ▶ Essential to the development of leaders in order to sustain a movement (i.e., clergy, lay ministry, and lay professionals)
 - ▶ Early decision to educate leaders in the broader liberal arts, grounded in Scripture and holiness theology
 - ▶ Financially focused on the critical mass of congregations rather than a small group of individuals
 - ▶ Regional centers of denominational life and theological/intellectual thought
 - ▶ Strong, global consistency of University/Church partnerships
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Generative Questions?

- ▶ Is Nazarene Higher Ed primarily for Nazarene young adults? If so, what is the desired outcome?
 - ▶ What would be the effect of perceiving Nazarene Higher Ed as a “gift” to the Church?
 - ▶ If we perceived ourselves this way, what “gift” would we be giving?
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Distinction #1

▶ Church-based, not Church-related

- Governance
 - Service to the Church
 - Loyalty
 - Financial Support
 - Regional Structure
- 

Distinction #2

- ▶ Pursuit of Truth Across the Curriculum
 - Liberal Arts
 - Wrestling with the “Big Questions”
 - Divine Revelation in Every Academic Discipline
 - Posture of Exploration vs. Posture of Fear

Distinction #3

▶ Communities of Wisdom

- Shaping Christian Minds in Patterns of “the Mind of Christ”
- Posture of Trust vs. Posture of Fear
- Spiritual and Character Formation in Community Life (The TNU “Experience”)
- Community Witness of the Kingdom
- *In loco amicus*

Distinction #4

▶ Catholic in Spirit

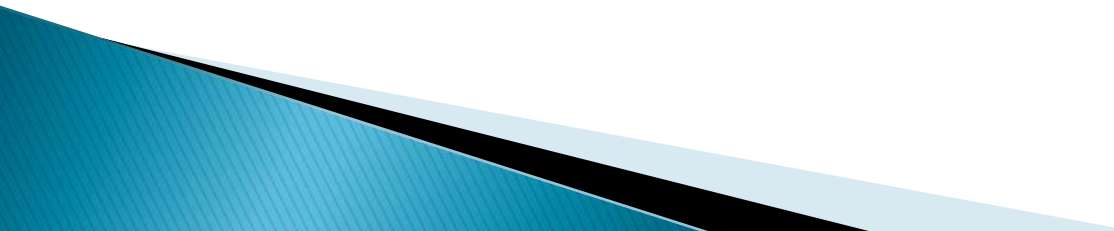
- Holiness Hospitality (e.g., beyond nice)
- Theological Dialogue vs. Propositional Debate
 - Listening, Valuing, Expanding Without Capitulation
- Impacting Other Traditions with Holiness Hermeneutic

Distinction #5

▶ Holiness Hermeneutic

- A Way of Perceiving, Analyzing, Assessing
- Windows to Truth
- Perceptions of Authority
- Integrity of Righteousness
- Range of Social Responsibility
- Redemptive Engagement (theology of vocation)

Distinctions

1. Church-based
 2. Comprehensive Christian Liberal Arts
 3. Communities of Wisdom
 4. Catholic in Spirit
 5. Holiness Hermeneutic
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May the God who called Trevecca into
existence grant you
who care for her present and future
the same measure of wisdom and passion
as those who diligently cared
for her beginnings and past.
May future generations of leaders
look back on your work
with the same gratitude you feel to your
predecessors.
May this all be to the glory of God.
GRACE and PEACE!

