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THE MESSAGE

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FALL 2025

Thank you Intersection Online, Inc. for underwriting this issue!



CLOSING & VISION FORWARD

As we draw this 40th Anniversary edition to a close, our hearts are filled with gratitude for all that God has done. What began in 1985 as a small Bible institute has grown into a thriving college and seminary, rooted in the conviction that Scripture must remain central in every endeavor. We celebrate every victory, every graduate, and every moment of provision that testifies to His grace.

Looking back reminds us that our calling has never been about programs or buildings alone. Rather, it has always been about people transformed by the Word, equipped to serve Christ and His Church.

AS WE MARK THIS MILESTONE, WE RECOMMIT OURSELVES TO THAT MISSION:

"South Florida Bible College & Theological Seminary is an institution of higher learning where the Bible is central in preparing men and women for ministry to serve Christ and His Church through Biblical thought and Christian life."

This mission continues to guide every decision we make through academic rigor, spiritual formation, community engagement, and global outreach. Over the past forty years, these commitments have shaped alumni serving in churches, schools, counseling, and global missions.

Tomorrow, we envision even greater impact as we expand degree offerings, build on our athletics program with new sports, and reach more students worldwide through campus and online learning. This fall, SFBC&TS proudly launches its athletics program, opening new doors of community, leadership, and spiritual growth through competition in men's basketball and soccer. Meanwhile, we are advancing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, responding to critical needs in healthcare with a biblical foundation. Our online and hybrid platforms continue to broaden access so that wherever God calls, students can engage with our rigorous academics, spiritual formation, and kingdom mission.

To our alumni, supporters, faculty, staff, students, and friends, thank you for being part of this journey. Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity have built the legacy we honor today. As we step into the next chapter, we do so with faith that the same God who began this good work will bring it to completion. May we go forward together, proclaiming His truth, loving His people, and pressing into all that He has yet to do. **Truly, the best is yet to come.**

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FORTY YEARS *of God's Faithfulness*

In September, we had the privilege of celebrating the 40th Anniversary of South Florida Bible College & Theological Seminary. What a milestone of God's faithfulness. From our beginnings in 1985 until today, the Lord has guided and sustained this ministry, and our celebration was a powerful reminder of His goodness.

We began with a joyful Meet & Greet where alumni returned home, reconnecting with old friends and sharing stories of God's work in their lives. The week continued with a soul stirring concert featuring Blessing Offor, whose music lifted our hearts in worship and thanksgiving. The celebration culminated in our magnificent 40th Anniversary Gala at The Addison in Boca Raton, where we were blessed by the ministry of both Blessing Offor and Paul Wilbur. Together, we rejoiced in all that God has done and looked ahead with expectation to all He will continue to do.

Psalm 145:4 reminds us that one generation tells the next of God's mighty acts. For forty years, SFBC&TS has prepared graduates who are now serving around the world, declaring His works and advancing His kingdom. As we step into the next chapter, we remain committed to equipping men and women of faith who will carry the Gospel forward to future generations.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone, alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends, who made this celebration so memorable. Together we stand as witnesses to God's faithfulness, and together we press forward, confident that the best is yet to come.

Dr. Mary Drabik

Dr. Mary Drabik
President



Dr. Mary Drabik
- President -

*One generation
shall commend your
works to another,
and shall declare
your mighty acts.*

— Psalm 145:4 —



A WEEK TO REMEMBER: SFBC&TS CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

Following Dr. Mary's inspiring reflection, the SFBC&TS community gathered for a week of joyful celebration filled with gratitude, worship, and fellowship.

Each event reflected the same truth that has carried this college from its founding in 1985 to today: **the unmistakable hand of God guiding every step.**

ALUMNI MEET & GREET

September 24, 2025

The festivities began on campus with a warm gathering hosted by Casey Palacios, head of the SFBC&TS Alumni Association. About thirty alumni returned to reconnect with classmates, professors, and friends who have been part of the college's journey. The evening was filled with laughter, stories, and heartfelt testimonies of how

SFBC&TS helped shape their faith and calling. For many, it felt like coming home, a reminder that the SFBC&TS community extends far beyond the classroom and into lives of ministry and service around the world.

BLESSING OFFER IN CONCERT

September 25, 2025

The celebration continued the next evening as more than 180 students, staff, and guests gathered in the Founder's Hall for a free concert featuring Dove Award winning artist Blessing Offer. The SFBC&TS Worship Team opened the night with powerful songs of praise, preparing hearts for an unforgettable evening with Blessing's amazing performance.



40TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

September 26, 2025

The week reached its pinnacle at The Addison in Boca Raton, where 250 guests gathered for an amazing evening honoring SFBC&TS's legacy and future. Among those in attendance were faculty and staff, the Board of Directors, and alumni. Also among the guests were several Deerfield Beach community leaders, including Mayor Todd Drosky, Vice Mayor Ben Preston, Commissioner Daniel Shanetzky, and Commissioner Tom Plaut. The evening featured inspiring remarks, special acknowledgments, a testimonial video dedicated to Dr. Mary, worship music by Paul Wilbur and another moving performance by Blessing Offer.

The Gala was also a tremendous success in support of SFBC&TS's mission, with funds raised to strengthen future ministry and programs. As the week concluded, one theme resonated above all others: gratitude. The 40th Anniversary was not only a commemoration of years but a celebration of God's continuing work through His people. With hearts full of thanks, SFBC&TS looks forward to the next chapter, remaining steadfast in its calling to train men and women to serve Christ and His Church through biblical thought and Christian life.



FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS TO FUTURE VISION

The story of South Florida Bible College & Theological Seminary (SFBC&TS) is one of faith, perseverance, and purpose. It began in 1985 when Dr. Joseph "Doc" Guadagnino, pastor of Christian Love Fellowship Church in Deerfield Beach, answered God's call to launch a Bible institute devoted to equipping believers for ministry.

Operating with modest means but a bold vision, SFBC&TS sought to uphold biblical integrity, train the whole person—spirit, soul, and body—and impact lives through Christ-centered education. By 1988, it had grown into a full Bible College and Theological Seminary, celebrating its first graduating class of eighty students in 1990. Those early graduates set a legacy of faithfulness that continues today through alumni serving in churches, missions, and communities worldwide.

For over two decades, the college operated from its original facility, a converted movie theater, before moving in 2011 to a larger space and again in 2017 to a modern 50,000-square-foot campus that expanded classrooms, student services, and ministry outreach.

A defining moment came in 2013 with accreditation from the Association for Biblical Higher Education, affirming the college's academic excellence and mission. Enrollment soon grew nationally and internationally through both campus and online programs.

In 2016, the Board appointed Dr. Mary Drabik as SFBC&TS's second president. Having served since 1989, she has led the college into a new era of growth, innovation, and global influence.

As we celebrate forty years of ministry, we recognize God's hand in every chapter. What began as a small Bible institute has become a thriving college and seminary preparing generations to proclaim Christ, with gratitude for the past and faith for the future.



SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Pray for us, visit and tour the campus, tell your church about us, donate by going to sfbc.edu and clicking on the donate tab, or scan this QR code.

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