

# MIRROR

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF ROSEDALE BIBLE COLLEGE

- **What are our big ideas?**  
Unveiling the vision
- **Catch up with us!**  
Tours, travelers, and more

Fall 2006 Vol. 33 No. 1

*I didn't grow up in the Mennonite culture, so before I came to Rosedale I didn't know much about Anabaptism.*

*And I've really come to appreciate and respect the sincerity I see at RBC: the way people strive to make their lives match what they believe . . .*

*Sarah Staley, RBC student, on thinking about Anabaptism*

Small College . . .

# BigVision

[www.rosedale.edu](http://www.rosedale.edu)

Evangelical, Anabaptist, Engaged

# Unveiling the Vision

By Vicki Sairs

“We must all answer the question ‘What is it that we are called to do at this moment in history for the cause of Christ?’ At Rosedale Bible College we have spent the past year wrestling with this very question.”

With these words, President Dan Ziegler introduced RBC’s Vision Plan to an audience of 1100 at the Friday evening session of Conservative Mennonite Conference’s 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, held in Plain City, Ohio, from July 27–30.

Speaking for the Rosedale Bible College community, President Ziegler said, “We are pleased to present to you, the gathered church, a strong declaration of what we believe to be God’s calling upon this small college: **Our vision as Rosedale Bible College is to be a center for the advancement of an engaged and evangelical Anabaptist faith.**”

We want to engage the culture, he said, because we are called to be salt and light, and “to reach outside of our comfort zone.” We are evangelical because we uphold the authority of scripture and stress the need for “a personal faith relationship with Jesus Christ.” In addition, we are committed to sharing “the good news of salvation and reconciliation with God.”



President Dan Ziegler addresses Annual Conference.

And we are Anabaptist, said Ziegler, because of our “understanding that the New Testament and its revelation of the teachings and acts of Jesus Christ represent “the fulfillment of the written revelation of God’s word to humankind.” We believe that “knowing Christ means actively following Him in a simple life of service and generosity that is not conformed to the values and influence of this world.”

Knowing Christ also means “we are called to promote the welfare of others, even our enemies, in nonresistant love that bears witness to the values of the Kingdom of God.”

Ziegler listed a five-point plan for becoming a center for the advancement of such a faith:

## **Become an intellectual and spiritual gathering place for the evangelical Anabaptist faith community**

“Our hope,” said Ziegler, “is that this little college can be a witness to an Anabaptist faith grounded in Scripture.” Rosedale faculty met this summer to define what RBC means by the term ‘evangelical Anabaptist’ (see p.4). They plan to present the resulting statement as “a working document” when RBC hosts a three-day symposium on evangelical Anabaptism this November.



**“It’s about vision, it’s about faith, it’s about doing God’s work, and it’s about a little college in Rosedale, Ohio, that has something to share with the world — a world that sorely needs to hear what it has to say.”**

# ... "It's about faith"

The symposium is part of Rosedale's effort to identify and connect with the wider evangelical Anabaptist community. It will take place on campus each fall for at least the next three years, with speakers from across the evangelical/Anabaptist spectrum. This year's slate includes Dr. Ron Sider, president and founder of Evangelicals for Social Action, Dr. James Rhodes, EMU & RBC professor and former pastor of Dayton (Va.) Mennonite Church, and RBC professor Eric Kouns, former general secretary of the Evangelical Anabaptist Fellowship.

## Foster academic excellence

"Our goal is to do our best for the students at Rosedale," said Ziegler. This means helping them ensure transfer success, because "college is expensive." The college already has accreditation with the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE), and in the last five years RBC students have successfully transferred credits to over 50 colleges and universities, both public and private. RBC's plan to pursue regional accreditation will open even more doors for our students.

The college will also switch to a semester system in the fall of 2007 (preserving a six-week winter term between semesters), initiate an online distance education program in 2008, and invest in faculty enrichment and continuing education.

## Develop ministry training experiences

Ziegler reported that when he spoke with CMC pastors in the past year, he heard this question over and over: "Can you teach our young people how to do ministry?"

In response, RBC plans to develop the Christian service component of student life into a ministry learning/mentorship opportunity. The college will also develop new academic concentrations, starting with business, education and youth ministries in the fall of 2007.

We will strengthen the international component of a Rosedale education, said Ziegler, by developing a cross-cultural experience in Costa Rica, maintaining overseas educational trips such as the European/Anabaptist History Tour and the Celtic/C.S. Lewis Tour, and continuing support for the Kenyan extension program. We will also increase the academic interface between an RBC education and Rosedale Mennonite Missions' short-term programs.

## Create a nurturing campus environment

Rosedale Bible College will hire a woman to serve as a spiritual mentor, providing teaching and nurture for the women on campus and assisting our women's Resident Director and Assistants.

The school will also secure professional Christian counseling support for those whose needs go beyond our expertise, he explained.

## Develop quality facilities and support services

Ziegler cited the higher expectations of "a Christian college in the higher education community," and introduced a series of planned improvements:

- Upgrade the cafeteria and food service by increasing the food budget, moving to buffet-style service, and renovating the cafeteria.
- Enhance the campus exterior through new landscaping and lighting, the creation of a campus focal point, and the purchase of a gazebo as an outdoor gathering place for small groups.
- Provide filtered wireless internet access to portions of the campus.
- Upgrade the gym and recreation equipment.
- Purchase a grand piano for the chapel.
- Address safety and maintenance issues on campus (fire alarm systems, roofing, apartment and dorm décor upgrades, infrastructure needs, etc.).

"RBC is a trust given first to the CMC; it is also a trust given to the alumni."

– President Dan Ziegler, introducing Rosedale Bible College's Vision at CMC's Annual Conference.



Rosedale students explore rainy Ireland.

President Ziegler concluded his presentation noting the \$850,000 needed by December 2008 to achieve this vision, and inviting his audience “to share in this vision with us ... so that RBC can grow in its effectiveness and in its impact for Christ.”

He also asked those present to “help us connect with alumni and friends...in your community” when he launches a Vision Tour, an effort to “spread the word on what God is doing at RBC.”

Ultimately, it’s not about raising funds, he said. “It’s about vision, it’s about faith, it’s about doing God’s work, and it’s about **a little college in Rosedale, Ohio that has something to share with the world** – a world that sorely needs to hear what it has to say.”

### Vision Tour Overview

Here is President Dan’s tentative Vision Tour schedule (alumni and friends will receive more detailed information). If you’d like to know more or schedule a personal visit, please e-mail Dan at [dziegler@rosedale.edu](mailto:dziegler@rosedale.edu), or call 740-857-1311.

Oct 1-4 ..... Grantsville, MD	Jan 20-21 ..... Atmore, AL
Oct 7-10 ..... Greenwood/Dover, DE	Feb 2-3 ..... Hartville, OH
Oct 11 ..... Chesapeake, VA	Feb 10-11 ..... Phoenix, AZ
Oct 13-15 .. Harrisonburg, Central VA	Feb 17-18 ..... Tavares, FL
Oct 28-29 ..... Hutchinson, KS	March 3-5 ..... Hicksville, OH Harlan, IN
Nov 3-5 ..... Kalona, IA	March 16-19 .. Holmes County, OH
Nov 25-Dec 3 ... Belleville, Lancaster, Eastern PA	April 14-15 ..... Albany, OR
Dec 15-18 ..... Goshen, IN	May 5-6 ..... Pryor, OK
Dec 19-20 ..... Pigeon, MI	June 1-3 ..... Lowville, NY
Jan 13-17 ..... Sarasota, FL	June 23-24 ..... Arthur, IL

## Defining Evangelical Anabaptism

A Joint Statement by  
the Faculty of Rosedale Bible College  
June 16, 2006

Our vision as Rosedale Bible College is to be a center for the advancement of an engaged and evangelical Anabaptist faith. Realization of this vision means, among other things, that we will become an intellectual and spiritual gathering place for the evangelical Anabaptist faith community and, in the process, facilitate the formulation, articulation, and propagation of a vital biblical Anabaptism.

By “vital biblical Anabaptism” we mean an expression of Christian faith which seeks, as its highest goal, to know Christ. True knowledge of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, begins with personal faith, and issues in a life of faithful discipleship. As Christians committed to “vital biblical Anabaptism”...

1. We uphold the full inspiration and authority of Scripture and the importance of historical Christian orthodoxy.
2. We believe in the finality of the New Testament. It is the completion of the written revelation of God’s Word to all people.
3. We believe that every individual’s priority response to the love of God, which is revealed in the Scriptures and evidenced in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is personal faith leading to the experience of New Birth by the Spirit of God.
4. We are called and commissioned by Christ to share the good news of salvation and reconciliation with God and to invite others to enter into the same relationship.
5. We believe that knowing Christ means following Him in every area of life.
6. We affirm that, as citizens of Christ’s kingdom, believers are called to promote the welfare of others, including their enemies, in nonresistant love.

Visit [www.rosedale.edu](http://www.rosedale.edu) for complete statement.

### Chorale knows God is good!

Rosedale Bible College's 2006 Rosedale Chorale toured 20 churches and schools in eight states from March 15 to April 9. RBC faculty member Kenneth Miller, the group's director, said his goal was "to present an uplifting program of worship" that was "aesthetically pleasing and technically well done."

This year's program covered the time periods from the Renaissance to the present, and included an original composition by RBC alumnus Laban D. Miller, an arrangement by Chorale member Chris Yoder, and RBC alum Jared Stutzman's doo-wop arrangement of "God Is Good."



2006 Rosedale Chorale

### Cross Reference breaks the age barrier

Rosedale Bible College's male ensemble Cross Reference performed for audiences in five states this fall. Ken Miller, who teaches music at RBC, said he was "particularly excited about this group of guys because of the blend of talent and dedication that they brought together."

RBC President Dan Ziegler traveled with the group on the last leg of the tour. "The response has been outstanding," said Ziegler. He added that "as a group, they seem to be crossing age boundaries," with high school students and their parents able to enjoy the program. After one performance, an elderly woman approached Ziegler and said, "I'm old, but I like the fast stuff!"



Cross Reference, l. to r.: Jason Yoder, Christopher Yoder, Tim Miller, Benjamin Slaubaugh, and Austin Embleton. Renel Kennell accompanied the ensemble on piano.

### Rosedale teams worship the Lord of all with music, drama

Two Rosedale Bible College ministry teams went on tour this winter: Salt & Light Co. performed in nine states, combining music and drama to highlight the theme "Worship the Lord of All." RBC's Drama Team took its brand of minimalist theater to 14 venues in five states.

Christa Keim, RBC faculty and director of Children's Ministries at Mechanicsburg Christian Fellowship (Mechanicsburg, Ohio), led both teams.



Above, Salt & Light Co., l. to r.: Lillian Lantz, Liz Glick, Tim Miller, Bethany Nisly, Nikki Kauffman, Matt Wolfer, David Miller. At left, Drama Team players, l. to r.: Hans Stutzman, Daniel Ziegler, Holly Yoder, Tirzah DiGennaro, Amber Yoder and Elizabeth Diller.



Class of 2006: Back, l. to r., Myron Roggie, Chris Coblentz, Dwayne Zeiset, Steven Goss, Daniel Shenk, Megan Colwell, Travis Yoder, Joseph Swartzentruber, Paul Sommers. Front, l. to r., Hans Beiler, Bethany Hochstedler, Hans Stutzman, Preston Yoder.



RBC students Sarah Staley, Joanna Plett, and Adam Adams support 'invisible children.'

### Graduation

J.D. Landis, a pastor and bishop in Good News Fellowship of Anabaptist/Mennonite Churches, delivered the commencement address at Rosedale's 55<sup>th</sup> commencement. Drawing on over 38 years' experience in church planting and pastoral ministry in south Alabama, Landis encouraged his listeners to "stay on the mission." There is, he said, only one mission: "That is to bring others back into a relationship with Jesus Christ."

### Celtic Tour

RBC professor Eric Kouns and director of enrollment services Kevin Mayer led 30 people on a 16-day tour of Celtic Christian sites in Ireland, Scotland and England. Participants prayed together in ancient ruins, connected with believers in Scotland who carry on a tradition of worship and service begun centuries ago, and visited C. S. Lewis sites in Oxford and Cambridge.

### Uganda's Invisible Children

In Columbus, Ohio, 33 Rosedale students from participated in the Global



Holly Yoder peeks into the wardrobe with C. S. Lewis at Hollywood Archives Library in Belfast.

Night Commute, an international event coordinated by the non-profit group Invisible Children. By spending the night sleeping out in a public place on April 29th, Night Commuters focused attention on one of the longest running wars in Africa and the effect it is having on Uganda's children.

### "Missions is still before us"

"Missions is still before us; effective evangelism is still before us." With these words, church planter Conrad Esh (Urbana, Ohio) encouraged students to be open to the idea that God might be calling them to the mission field. Esh was the featured speaker at RBC's 55<sup>th</sup> annual Missions Conference, held February 29 – March 2.

### Leadership Seminar

Sixty-one people from 14 states attended Leadership Seminar at RBC, Nov. 17-19. Rosedale hosts this program every fall; the goal is to help church leaders become more effective in Christian ministry. Jon Byler and Toby Travis spoke, and Phil Barr, Stan Grizzle, Alvin Yoder, and Dan Ziegler led workshops.

### Spiritual Formation Meetings

Brian Hershberger, pastor of Trinity Chapel in Tavares, Florida, led students in meetings January 12-15, encouraging them to evaluate their ideas about who God is and what that means for them.

### Leaders learn from a distance

Eleven pastors and lay leaders took part in RBC's Institute for Pastoral Studies (IPS) this fall: Yasir Makki, Myron Roggie, Duane Derweiler, Ryan Freed, Tim Kennell, Roger Hazen, David Schrader, Bill DiGennaro, John Swartzentruber, Harry Lehman, and Dale Lehman.

### 1970s News

Loren Helmuth (72, 75) of Abbeville, South Carolina, writes that in "the eons of time since the 1970s Rosedale experience" he has married Mairi Bender and survived the grind of medical school and general surgery residency. He has three children and is "practicing (ha!) surgery."

### 1980s News

Leon (78, 79, 80, 82, 84, 87, RBC president 94-05) and Naomi (Ranck) (82, 89, 92-94, 04, chorale and staff Zimmerman are serving in Albania for three years, working in leadership training. They have four children.

### 1990s News

Roselynn Miller (95) of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, reports that "after many years of study" she has completed

her doctorate in clinical psychology at Wheaton College Graduate School.

### Weddings

Crystal Heatwole (03) of Dayton, Virginia, married Eric Blosser of Harrisonburg, Virginia on May 14, 2005.

Christina Kramer (02) of Arvada, Colorado married Steven Menna of Lake Forest, California on September 17, 2005.

Justin Plank (01, 02) of Wellman, Iowa, married Brenda Welfley of Greenwood, Delaware, on May 14, 2005.

Rachel Bender (01) of Grantsville, Maryland, married Sherwin Yoder of Hyndman, Pennsylvania on May 14, 2005. (*Visit our online alumni reunion at [www.rosedale.edu](http://www.rosedale.edu) for news of more weddings!*)

## Pastors & Leaders — Study with Us!

### Institute of Pastoral Studies Classes to Be Held October 2-6

Rosedale Bible College's Institute of Pastoral Studies offers a way for busy church leaders and lay persons to further their knowledge of the Bible and pastoral ministries. Students attend one week of intensive classes on campus per year and complete the rest of their coursework by correspondence. In three years, students can complete requirements for a certificate in Pastoral Studies. Courses offered this year are: Introduction to Theology, taught by Eric Kouns; Introduction to the Old Testament, taught by Phil Barr; and Pastoral Care and Counseling, taught by Steve Swartz.

Registration information is available at [www.rosedale.edu](http://www.rosedale.edu).

Let the little children come...



Kaiya Elle Bontrager

Kevin and Sheri (Stoll) (93, 94) Bontrager of Spencerville, Indiana, announce the birth of Kaiya Elle on September 5, 2005.



M. Samuel Gleason

Matthew and Brandy (Gordon) (92) Gleason of Plain City, Ohio, welcome the arrival of M. Samuel Gleason August 24, 2005. He is adored by Joshua, Zachariah, Nathaniel, Elizabeth, Hannah, and Rachel.



Connor Lane Schrock

Ryan (95) and Katrina (Kampen) (95, 96) Schrock of Goshen, Indiana, announce the birth of Connor Lane Schrock on June 2, 2005. He was welcomed by Destiny and Nikolaus.

Adam (98, 99) and Marci (Bender) (98, 99) Darling of Logan, Ohio, welcomed their first son and first child, Carson Michael, on December 27, 2004.



Carson Michael Darling

Tena (Bontrager) (96, 97) and Daniel Mast of Goshen, Indiana, announce the birth of Cassidy Michelle Mast on August 12, 2005.



Cassidy Michelle Mast

Richard (87-89) and Chris (89, 90) Swartzentruber of Greenwood, Delaware, announce the birth of their fifth child, Josiah Matthew Swartzentruber, on March 8, 2006.



Josiah Matthew Swartzentruber



The Eyler family

Jeff and Gwenyth (Stambaugh) (93, 94) Eyler of Hanover, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of Caleb Jeffrey on November 11, 2005. He was welcomed by sister Hannah Grace.



Kaelin Savannah Miller

Jennifer (Beachy) (99, 00) and Randall Miller of Sarasota, Florida, announce the birth of their first child, daughter Kaelin Savannah, on August 8, 2005.



Owen Darrell Weber

Jason (94, 95) and Joyce (Bontrager) (97) Weber of Atmore, Alabama, welcomed Owen Darrell into the world on October 19, 2004. Owen is their first child.

John and Jean (Fredenburg) (80) Burkholder announce the adoption of Kenny and Berline from Haiti. The new family members arrived home in White Cloud, Michigan on January 31, 2006.

Linford (90, 91, 92) and Tina Ashmawee Herschberger of Houston, Texas, are pleased to announce the birth of their first daughter, Daisy Nila, on June 22, 2006.

Obe and Jill (Hertzler) (98) Hostetter of Harrisonburg, Virginia, announce the birth of Ryan Darrel Hostetter on October 17, 2005. Ryan was welcomed by sister Karla Grace.

Jerry (87, 88, 92, 94) and Dawn (Jantzi) (87, 90) Kindy of Midland, Michigan, announce the birth of their daughter, Rachel Dawn, on October 2, 2005. She has an older brother, Caleb.

Gene (92) and Letitia (Tisha Shetler) (91, 94) Miller of Marysville, Ohio, announce the birth of Cody Jordan Miller on February 16, 2006. He has two brothers, Austin Cole and Braden Scott.

R. Gordon (96, 97, 98) and Betsie (Howe) (98, 99, 00) Wenger of Woodleaf, North Carolina and Peru, announce the birth of Susanna Grace Wenger on August 5, 2005. She was welcomed by sister Elisabeth Serenity.

Visit the online alumni reunion at RBC's website, and find out more about what your classmates are doing!  
[www.rosedale.edu](http://www.rosedale.edu)

# MIRROR

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF ROSEDALE BIBLE COLLEGE

The MIRROR is a newsletter of Rosedale Bible College published twice a year.

The mission of Rosedale Bible College is to provide an evangelical junior Bible college education in the Anabaptist/Mennonite tradition, equipping students to grow spiritually and academically and to serve effectively in the church and society.

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Vicki Sairs: Editor

## Alumni News Form

Send us your news! The birth of a future alumnus, a career change, marriage, notable accomplishments or service assignments – we want to know about it.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year(s) attended RBC: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address? \_\_\_\_\_ (If so, please list old address here):

News: \_\_\_\_\_

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May we put this in the online reunion? \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing a gift to RBC in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Discovering Rosedale



President Dan Ziegler

*NOTE: Rosedale Bible College inaugurated Daniel Ziegler as its seventh president on November 19 at a ceremony held in the Rosedale chapel.*

This has been a year of discovery for me. I arrived at RBC last September, enthused to be a part of this institution that has faithfully taught the Word of God for 50+ years. While I had known of Rosedale for a long time, and had seen its positive influence

in the lives of numerous friends, I had much to learn. Let me share with you some of my discoveries:

**I have seen the life-changing significance of the “Rosedale experience”:** an experience born of a commitment to God’s Word, sincere worship, a nurturing community, deep friendships, and high student life expectations.

**I have developed a deep respect for Rosedale’s faculty:** men and women who not only excel intellectually and in Christian character, but who also bring to the classroom their own life witness as pastors, missionaries or ministry leaders.

**I am thoroughly impressed with the caliber of RBC students:** bright and energetic young adults who have chosen to pursue a foundational Bible college education before

embarking on a career or further study, and who almost universally exhibit a desire to grow in both spirit and truth. Many of them will serve the cause of Christ well as leaders in the church of tomorrow.

**I have begun to grasp the impact of the 7000+ RBC alumni throughout the world:** I know that most are actively serving the Lord as Christian workers, academicians, businesspeople, tradesmen, professionals, parents, artisans, theologians, and more, and I have already heard dozens of these people reflect that their Rosedale days were “some of the most important times” in their life.

**I have experienced the power of a shared vision:** as the RBC community, we have joined in recognizing our significant place as the only Mennonite Bible college in the United States, and we have resolutely committed to doing what is needed to advance “an engaged and evangelical Anabaptist faith.”

RBC is full of anticipation as this vision unfolds. In the next few months, I will travel across the country on a Vision Tour to share with friends and alumni just what God is doing in our midst and to invite folks to help make this vision happen. I look forward to meeting many of you in person, and to discovering together how God will use this Rosedale family for His glory.

Parents—if this is addressed to a son or daughter who has established a different address, please give us the new address. Call 740.857.1311 or e-mail [info@rosedale.edu](mailto:info@rosedale.edu). Thanks!

RETURN SERVICE  
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