

# MIRROR

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF ROSEDALE BIBLE COLLEGE

- **The Next Big Thing!**  
Changes at Rosedale
- **The Best of Both Worlds**  
Holding on to what's good

Winter 2007 Vol. 34 No. 1



**Laura Gehman and Liz Diller in  
*The Miracle Worker*, January 26-28**

Small College . . .

# BigVision

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Engaged • Evangelical • Anabaptist

# The Next Big Thing...Semesters!

Anyone who's attended Rosedale knows what it's like to come to the end of the term: papers and projects are due, tests loom large, and five and a half weeks of too little sleep starts to kick in just when you need to keep your eyes open the most.

At RBC, the phrase "Brethren, the time is short" takes on new meaning at the end of each term. But things are going to change.

Rosedale Bible College is switching to a new academic schedule in the fall of 2007. Previously, full-time students attended five six-week terms per year. Now they will complete two 12-week semesters (in the fall and spring) and one 6-week winter term.

Come September, RBC students will find themselves able to complete all their work in a timely fashion, absorb the fine points of their course work, and get a good night's sleep before final exams.

Okay, maybe things won't change that much, given that students tend to be procrastinators by nature. Still, we want you to know why we're making this change and what it means for you and any students you know.

## It's been a long time coming

Academic dean Jon Showalter explains that from the beginning, Rosedale's academic calendar has been composed of "discrete six-week terms." This schedule was



Lydia Fath takes advantage of a warm fall day to study outside.

in keeping with the way Bible institutes were run, and the short terms allowed people to come and go throughout the year as their schedules permitted.

That kind of flexibility was a priority in the Bible institute context, says Showalter, but all along, the intense pace of the courses (classes meet five days a week) has been a challenge for students and instructors alike.

As Rosedale has changed from an institute to a college, the benefits of the old system have started to be outweighed by the disadvantages, says Showalter. More students are taking a full year of classes, and faculty and students alike have voiced their desire for a more sustainable pace.

Speaking of the advantages of the semester system, faculty member Reuben Sairs says, "I think it will give our students more time to process and assimilate the information they learn in class."

Other benefits, according to Sairs: more time for students and teachers to get to know each other, more time for difficult concepts to sink in, and an opportunity "to explore different kinds of materials for the class – especially different kinds of textbooks, because there'll be more time to read."



Justin Yoder, left, and Bennett Wenger catch up on classwork.



# Another Big Thing...Scholarships!

Faculty member Phil Weber isn't sure students will take advantage of the new time frame, but he says he does support the switch to a system that reinforces Rosedale's transition to a college.

And Jon Showalter believes that retaining a six-week winter term will preserve, at least in a partial way, the school's ability to "meet the needs of people who'd love to study at Rosedale but who can't come for a year."

The six-week winter term will also make it possible, he says, to continue to invite adjunct faculty to teach at the school. "So we're all very excited about this new arrangement...we're eager to try it."

This unique approach allows Rosedale to achieve better alignment with a "typical" college schedule, says Showalter, while still maintaining a commitment to offer the Bible institute experience to those who want it.

## New Scholarships at Rosedale

Rosedale Bible College is offering more scholarships than ever before in its history, according to President Dan Ziegler: "In the past two years, our board has designated over \$17,000 in new scholarships, including new academic scholarships for incoming and returning students."

The President's Scholarship and the Dean's Scholarship are newly established, merit-based awards worth \$1,000 per academic year. This brings total scholarship aid offered in the 2006-2007 academic year to over \$100,000.

The college awarded President's Scholarships to five first-year students for the 2006-2007 academic year: Andrea Gingerich, West Jefferson, Ohio; Margaret Gullman, Singers Glen, Virginia; Sarah Martin, Atmore, Alabama; Melody Stauffer, Irwin, Ohio; and Tyler Warfel, Greenwood, Delaware.

Eight students received Dean's Scholarships: Elizabeth Diller, Belleville, Pennsylvania; Ethan Mast, Napoli, New York; Matthew Plett, Arborg, Manitoba; Jason Ropp, Albany, Oregon; Sarah Staley, Belleville, Pennsylvania; Brittany Tull, Nashville, Indiana; Jason Yoder, Greenwood, Delaware; Dwayne Zeiset, Akron, Pennsylvania.

Rosedale continues to offer scholarships based on financial need, Christian service, and other criteria, and has introduced a discount for Canadian students, who are not eligible for U. S. federal aid. This year's students received roughly \$300,000 from all sources (RBC, state, federal, and church aid).

### What will change when Rosedale Bible College switches to semesters next fall?

#### BEFORE

Full-time students:

- attended five 6-week terms per academic year
- completed two 3-credit courses per term

Classes met five days a week for 80-minute sessions.

#### AFTER

Full-time students:

- will attend two 12-week semesters (fall and spring) and one 6-week winter term per academic year
- will complete four 3-credit courses each semester and two 3-credit courses in the winter term

Semester classes will meet:

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 70-minute sessions
- Tuesday and Thursday for 105-minute sessions.

Winter term classes will meet five days a week for 80-minute sessions.



Andrea Gingerich knows how to cope with winter at Rosedale.



Captain Keller (Philip Troyer) and wife Kate (Ashley Root) struggle with the dilemma of having a daughter who cannot communicate with them.

Rosedale Bible College students performed William Gibson's *The Miracle Worker*, a drama about Helen Keller and her teacher, Annie Sullivan, January 26-28 in the Rosedale Bible College chapel.

The play was part of Discover Rosedale, a special weekend when high school students visit the college, attend classes, and experience campus life. Enrollment Services Coordinator Starla Swartz said 52 prospective students took part in Discover Rosedale. About 775 people saw the play.

Gibson's play was a good fit for director Christa Keim. "It's about redemption and relationships and healing and restoration and discovery," she said. "It's not overtly Christian, but I feel like the body of Christ can definitely benefit from seeing these themes acted out." Keim teaches Intro. to Fine Arts at Rosedale.



Antonio Ulloa, Eastern Mennonite Missions coordinator for church consultation, reminded RBC students and faculty that our task in missions is not yet done. Ulloa was the keynote speaker for Rosedale's 56th annual Missions Conference, held March 1-2. Representatives from 12 missions agencies attended and shared information with students about service opportunities.

### Accreditation Renewed Until 2017

Rosedale Bible College's accreditation has been renewed until 2017 by the Commission on Accreditation of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE).

"It feels like a very significant milestone in a process that has been fully underway for over a decade," said Jon Showalter, Rosedale's academic dean.

Continued accreditation is advantageous for the school, said Showalter, in part because it plays a "significant role in facilitating the transfer of credit from RBC to a variety of other colleges and universities."

Rosedale achieved applicant status in 1992 and candidate status in 1998. The school's administrative team completed self-studies in 1998, 2001, and 2006, and ABHE granted initial accreditation for five years in 2002.

The self-studies were a major investment of administrative time and resources, according to Showalter, and he is delighted with ABHE's decision to extend accreditation. "We will be able to concentrate more time and energy on the achievement of other components of our institutional vision."

### The Vision Takes Shape

Rosedale Bible College's vision is "to become a center for an engaged and evangelical Anabaptist faith," and in 2006 the school embarked on a three-year campaign to develop the campus and curriculum in that direction. So far, nearly \$200,000 has been raised to support this initiative.

In the fall of 2007, Rosedale will offer three new concentrations: business, education, and youth ministries. These will be in addition



to existing concentrations in Bible, theology, pastoral studies, missions, general studies, and music and worship. The college will also launch classes in Spanish and a cross-cultural study term in a Spanish-speaking country. Look for details on these new programs in the next *Mirror!*

### Rosedale Hosts First Symposium

Over one hundred people came to Rosedale Bible College's campus to think and talk about what it means to be an evangelical Anabaptist at the symposium "True evangelical faith' – Evangelical Anabaptism in Action," held November 16-18.

Keynote speaker Ron Sider, president and founder of Evangelicals for Social Action, called his listeners to proclaim the gospel the way Jesus did, in word and deed; James Rhodes, pastor and pro-life peacemaker, invited them to practice a consistent ethic of life in the peace tradition.

Sider began his third and final address with these words: "I really endorse and embrace the vision of evangelical Anabaptism that you're working on. I hope it will flourish and become the theme of the whole Mennonite church."

Steve Swartz, CMC general secretary, expressed gratitude to Rosedale Bible College for helping the conference take a fresh look at evangelical Anabaptism. "Beyond acknowledging the sad reality that evangelical Anabaptists have become far too identified with secular culture," he said, "the symposium held forth as an answer the best of evangelicalism and the best of Anabaptism as derived from the Scriptures."



The 2006 - 2007 Salt & Light Co., left to right: Jason Yoder, Hans Hochstedler, Bennett Wenger, Bethany Christophel, Elisha Beachy, Michelle Hertzler, Andrea Gingerich, and Brittany Tull.

This year's Salt & Light Co. toured Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio, performing the program *Come, Follow Me* for enthusiastic audiences in nine churches and three schools. Grace Kurtz of Mechanicsburg Christian Fellowship brought years of stage experience to her role as director of the company and was assisted by her husband Paul and daughter Joelle. Ashley Koppenhaver created a multi-media presentation to accompany the program, Kelsey Miller did the choreography, Carolyn Beachy wrote the script for *Come, Follow Me*, and Darnell Brenneman served as sound technician. Salt & Light coordinator Tim Stauffer reported that many people who saw the group were impressed by their sincerity, and he was too. "In addition to great talent, the 2006-2007 Salt & Light Co. had a strong heart for ministry," he said.



The men's ensemble Cross Reference toured nine Midwestern states from February 4-18, 2007, performing a mixture of barbershop, gospel and classical music. They are: (rear, left to right) Jason Yoder and Jason Ropp; (front, left to right) Tim Miller, Eli Beachy, and Ethan Mast.



1970s News

**Gloria (Yoder) Diener (71, 72)** says: After my year at Rosedale, I went to Costa Rica at Mark Peachey's suggestion for a summer VS assignment that extended into a year. There I met my husband, Gene Diener, and we've been married for 32 years. We have two adult sons—Obie and his wife Kari are living in Sudan, and Brian lives in Washington DC. I spent 23 years teaching high school English, and Gene owns an insurance agency. We attend Park View Mennonite Church.

I have good memories of my year at Rosedale—it's amazing how many significant events in my life were shaped by that one year.

**Evelyn Endersby (75, 76, 77)** reports: I have one son, Jordan Brock, age 22 and a student at the University of Cincinnati. He is the light of my life. In 2002, I labeled a complete line of automotive fluid maintenance products, and opened a new business. I supply new car dealerships in the Central Ohio area. I make my home in the Logan, Ohio area, on Lake Logan, very close to Old Man's Cave. (Chorale members will remember singing in the cave.) I would love to hear from old friends—to see where life has taken you (*see online reunion for contact information*).

1980s News

**Melvin Sayer (80-82)** graduated in May '06 with his Th.M. degree in Missions and Evangelism from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He and

his wife **Priscilla (Beachy) (80-81)** and family continue to serve with the Evangelical Free Church of Canada Mission in Ukraine where they have been since 1996.

**Kenlyn Miller (86, 87)** says: I am living in Harrisonburg, Virginia and working as an ophthalmologist in a group practice. My wife's name is Carolyn and we have been married 15 years and have 5 children ages 2-9. I enjoy the challenge of my job and spending time with the kids. I also have been able to participate with several eye surgery projects to Central America and Southeast Asia. We have been attending Westside Baptist church and are active in the children's ministry.

1990s News

**Colleen Maust (95, 96)** says: I have been globe-trotting for most of the last 10 years, but am now back in Indiana working as a peer counselor at a pregnancy care center. All of my clients speak Spanish... God has given me great opportunities to share Jesus with them. I am seeking a long-term mission assignment...I served as a Spanish translator on three different mission teams this year.

**Loren Miller (94)**: After leaving Rosedale, I went back to school in Arkansas (B.A. in psychology, master's in social work). I have been married to Jamie (Dickson) Miller for eight years and have two beautiful children...Jamie is a nurse practitioner working in a Migrant Health Center and I work at a

hospital as director of social services and inpatient psych.

**Sylvia (Witmer) Rhodes (97, 98)** is living in Durham, North Carolina with her husband Martin. She is a social worker and he studies theology at Duke Divinity School. They're expecting their first child in March.

**Benjamin Hoover (99, 00)** says: I am currently working on my M.S. degree (Horticulture) at Penn State University...I maintain a website with information about my research projects and various other nonsense at [www.personal.psu.edu/bkh152](http://www.personal.psu.edu/bkh152).

**Thank You for Remembering Us**

Rosedale Bible College has received over \$100,000 in bequests since January 2005. These gifts are greatly appreciated, and help make it possible for Rosedale to fulfill its calling as the educational arm of the Conservative Mennonite Conference. Thank you to all who have chosen to give in this way!

If you are interested in finding out more about how you can include RBC in your estate planning, please contact President Dan Ziegler at 740-857-1311. You can also e-mail him at [dziegler@rosedale.edu](mailto:dziegler@rosedale.edu).

*Let the little children come...*



**Lyndon (01) and Krista (Bontrager) Bontrager (00-01)** of Decatur, Michigan, welcomed their first daughter, Karis Lynae, on July 24, 2006.

Karis Bontrager  
**Hans and Carla (Miller) Byler (95, 96, 97)** of Lowville, New York, announce the birth of twins, Josiah Daniel and Sierra Dawn, on May 11, 2006.



Sierra & Josiah Byler



Aubrey Sierra Graber  
**Jeremy and Sabrina (Funk) Lehman (96-97, 98, 98-99S)** of Fayetteville, Pennsylvania, welcomed their first child, Isaiah Mark, on November 12, 2005.

**Greg (94-95) and Sharla (Troyer) (94-95) Graber** of Donalds, South Carolina, announce the birth of Aubrey Sierra on May 13, 2006.



Isaiah Lehman & parents

**Pastors & Leaders — Study with Us!**

**Institute of Pastoral Studies Classes to Be Held October 1-5**

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 this year are: Introduction to the New Testament, Biblical Preaching, and Anabaptist Studies. Registration information is available at [www.rosedale.edu](http://www.rosedale.edu).

# The child is always welcome...



Grace Esther Miller Lowell (91) and Dorothy (Marner) Miller (93, 94) of Kalona, Iowa, announce the birth of their "miracle daughter," Kali Ruth, on February 22, 2006.

**Brent (97, 98) and Kristi (Helmuth) Miller (98, 99)** of Wilton, Iowa, announce the birth of their first child, Grace Esther, on April 6, 2006.



Steven Penner Mark (97, 98, 99) and Megan (Miller) Sarver (98, 99) of Apple Creek, Ohio, welcomed Ian Blake into their family on June 14, 2006. Ian joins big brother Cole Braden.

**Robert and Gloria (Plett) Penner (86, 90-91)** of Arborg, Manitoba, are pleased to announce the birth of their second son, Steven Alexander Riley, on November 6, 2005.



Logan Connor Stoltzfus Eric (00, 01, 02, 03) and Jennifer (Ward) Yoder (00, 01, 02, 03) of Middlebury, Indiana, announce the birth of their first child, daughter Jocelyn Estel, on April 15, 2006.

**Jay (81) and Bonnie (Yoder) Stoltzfus (81)** of Prospect, Virginia, announce the birth of Logan Connor Stoltzfus, their third son and sixth child, on April 15, 2006.



Kali Ruth Miller & parents



Ian Blake Sarver



Jocelyn Estel Yoder



Ava Katharine Penner

**Jake and Lynette (Schrock) Penner (93, 94, 95S, 96S)** of Atmore, Alabama, welcomed their first child, Ava Katharine Penner, on July 11, 2006.



Micah Elijah Steury

**Leroy and Tammy (Knepp) Steury (96)** of Pleasant Lake, Indiana, announce the birth of their fourth child, Micah Elijah. He is welcomed by Madison, Kylie, and Zachary.

**Kevin Hurst (01, 02, 03)** and his wife **Lesley (Johnson) Hurst** of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, welcomed their first child, Michayla Lynn ("a beautiful spunky little girl," according to her father), on January 10, 2007.  
**Victor (83, 84)** and **Becky Stoltzfus** of Cochranville, Pennsylvania, would like to announce the birth of their second child

and first daughter, Ruby Victoria, on July 11, 2006.

**Chris (98, 99, 02S, 03S)** and **Hannah (Schmuck) Weaver (99, 00, 02S, 03S)** of Goshen, Indiana, announce the birth of their second child and second daughter, Miriam Joy, on April 26, 2006. She weighed 6 lbs., 13 oz., and was 19 1/4 inches long.

### Graduation in May

Thirty-five Rosedale Bible College students will graduate on May 19. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Rosedale chapel, and Dr. Roman Miller, professor of biology at Eastern Mennonite University, will deliver the commencement address, titled "As you go, walk humbly."

**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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# The Best of Both Worlds



President Dan Ziegler

Hybrids are all around us, making our lives better and helping us be more productive. Hybrid cars combine the strengths of electric and combustion power to achieve significantly lower emissions and better gas mileage (almost 60 miles per gallon). Farmers use hybrids to produce high-yield, disease-resistant crops. Cute little curly-haired dogs like the Peke-a-poo bring us joy, and cell phones merge the best of telephone and radio communication to keep us connected to those we love. At its best, a well-crafted hybrid unites the assets of two distinct entities and results in a synthesis that encapsulates the best of both worlds.

Rosedale Bible College is one such hybrid, combining its heritage as a Bible institute with its emergence as a college in the accredited higher education community.

RBC maintains many of the strengths of its Bible institute DNA:

- **A focus on Bible training** – Our 07-08 catalog lists over 35 courses in Bible/theology/ministry.
- **An intentional spiritual formation program** – The “Rosedale Experience” is alive and well.
- **High student conduct expectations** – Guidelines from music to modesty help ensure a campus atmosphere conducive to spiritual growth.
- **A small campus community** – Our student body enjoys a family atmosphere and the opportunity to develop deep friendships.

• **A six-week winter term** – We’re keeping this term as an option for students who can only join us for a limited time.

• **Lower costs** – Many Christian colleges cost twice as much as RBC.

• **Teachers committed to ministry** – Almost all RBC professors have pastoral or missions experience.

An RBC education also includes many of the benefits of a traditional higher education experience, including:

• **Transfer of credit** – Over the past five years, RBC students have successfully transferred credit into over 50 colleges and universities.

• **Broader course offerings** – In addition to our Bible/theology courses, RBC offers over 25 general education courses in a variety of disciplines.

• **Highly trained professors** – RBC resident faculty have earned a master’s degree or higher in their respective disciplines.

• **Increased Financial Aid** – RBC students receive over \$300,000 in financial assistance annually.

• **College-level support services** – Our 13,500-volume library, academic counseling, and computer labs and related technologies support the students’ learning experience.

• **Awarding of academic degrees** – We offer associate degrees and one-year certificates authorized by government and accrediting bodies.

• **Semester scheduling** – The move to two 12-week semesters allows for more in-depth study and a pace better suited to college-level study.

By blending the spiritual impact of a Bible institute with the academic advantages of a college education, Rosedale Bible College offers students a chance to truly experience the best of both worlds.

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  
REQUESTED

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