



MARCH



n a time of social change and cultural pressure, we need to know what is certain. What will guide us when other things seem unclear? The Scriptures are the sure Word of God, providing a light for our path and a rock on which we can stand. At the Ryan Center's seventh bi-annual Bible study conference Pastor Sandy Willson will speak to the importance of holding firm to the authority of Scripture.

We are blessed to have an amazing group of Bible teachers with us this year. It will be an excellent opportunity for training pastors, Sunday school teachers, Bible study leaders and anyone who wants to read the Bible well. Our desire is to provide tools that might enhance your reading and studying of the Bible. We pray that we might know more of its life-giving and renewing power.

Pay Van Pesto

Ray Van Neste, Ph.D.

Director, Ryan Center for Biblical Studies

Professor of Biblical Studies School of Theology and Missions

#### BUT AS FOR YOU,

continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

# Plenary Speaker

# **Sandy Willson**

We are pleased to welcome Sanders L. (Sandy) Willson back to our conference this year. Sandy was wellreceived when he spoke at our very first conference in 2003. He has been the senior minister of Second



Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee since 1995. During these years, Second Church has continued to grow and to expand its mission to urban Memphis and the world. Sandy is a co-founder of the Memphis Center for Urban Theological Studies. He has served on the Board of Reference for Union

University and is a member of the council of The Gospel Coalition. Sandy's Sunday morning messages are broadcast on WREG-TV; he also teaches 500 men at the Amen Bible Study every Thursday.

Internationally, Sandy ministers with partners in Africa, Asia, South America, and the Middle East and speaks regularly in North American churches on the topic of world missions. He serves on the Board of Directors for World Relief. Sandy will be just returning from speaking in India before coming to us.

Sandy and his wife, Allison, were married in 1972 and are grateful for five children, three daughters-in-law, a son-in-law, and eight grandchildren.

#### Additional Sessions

Faculty from the School of Theology and Missions at Union University will lead breakout sessions on interpreting and applying the Bible. These scholars have a heart for the church and many have served in pastoral roles. They have written numerous Bible commentaries and study helps. This group will include:



**Kevin Chen** "Formless and Void"? Genesis 1:2 as an Example of doing a Word Study



**Mark Dubis** Ancient Backgrounds in Bible

Study: Investigating Historical and Cultural Backgrounds to Enliven Your Understanding of the Bible



**George Guthrie** Seeing the Big Picture: The Story of Scripture as a Single Story



**Paul Jackson** What We Really Know: Parables about Jesus' Return



**Hal Poe** The Fulfillment of Scripture as the Basis for Confidence in the Bible as the Word of God



**Taylor Worley** For Our Sake Also: New Testament Confidence in the Old Testament

### SCHEDULE

6 p.m. Banquet Dinner

1:30 p.m. Plenary 2

#### LODGING

Union University is located in Jackson, Tennessee, approximately one hour from Memphis and two hours from Nashville. A block of rooms has been reserved at the nearby Double Tree Hotel, 1770 Hwy 45 By-pass, at a special conference rate of \$89/night for Friday & Saturday nights. Please call Double Tree at 1-800-222-TREE to make your reservations by March 6. Mention your participation in the Union University Ryan Center Conference to receive this special rate.

### REGISTRATION

\$70 Early Bird Registration (until March 9) \$90 Late Registration (after March 9) Registration includes sessions, two meals, and a continental breakfast

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Mike Garrett | 731-661-5610 | jmgarrett@uu.edu

Friday, March 20

5:30–6 p.m. Registration

7:30 p.m. Plenary 1

Saturday, March 21

8 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. First Breakout Sessions

9:45 a.m. Second Breakout Sessions

11 a.m. Third Breakout Sessions

12:15 p.m. Lunch

REGISTRATION FORM

To register please fill out the form and mail to the address below OR register online at uu.edu/centers/biblical

\$70 (until March 9)   \$90 Late Registration	hurch
, two meals, and a continental breakfast	
Registration includes all sessions,	Vame

Phone Number

n (after March 9)

MAIL REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT TO:	Mike Garrett   Box 2382	1050 Union University Dr.   Jackson, TN 38305	Make checks payable to Union University
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Special Needs?

Address

Email