

Leaving a Legacy

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. (Hebrews 11:1-2 ESV)

At some point, we all contemplate what our legacy will be. What will I be remembered for? Have I accomplished the purpose for which I was created? The beginning verses of Hebrews 11 define for us what is required of a life well lived: faith--faith that God is who He says He is as revealed to us in the Bible; faith that He directs our steps, guides our paths, and uses flawed people for His higher purpose.

That is the common theme in the accounts that follow in the chapter that is often referred to as the "Hall of Faith." As I study the entirety of the eleventh chapter of Hebrews, I am impressed with the unique callings of each of these giants of the faith, many who "died in faith, not having received the things promised" (v. 13).

God uses each of us differently, gifting us for His purposes and requiring of us our obedience. Many of us will leave our mark in the lives of those we are closest to, our family and friends. Some will be remembered for the contributions they have made in the churches or in the libraries where they work with dedication to and enthusiasm for the Lord. More likely, you will be remembered for your contributions in a combination of all of these areas. Faithful living leaves a legacy.

As ACL celebrates its sixtieth year, we can look back over our history and give thanks for those who have sacrificed their time, energy, talents, and resources to sustain this association for these many years. They have been faithful to the mission to strengthen and encourage Christian librarians seeking to honor the Lord through their profession. My hope is that this Association has provided support for the journey of life and work for its members.

All of us want to spend the time we have on this earth well, honoring the Lord, striving to hear the final commendation, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21). Live well, faithful to the purpose to which He has uniquely called you.



—Janelle Mazelin

Janelle serves as the Executive Director of ACL (Cedarville, OH) and has been employed by the Association for over fifteen years with a commitment to excellence and a heart for service. She has great respect for the past and a vision for the future of ACL.