

DBU REPORT

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Jeff Warren Receives Tom Landry Leadership Award

(From left to right) Ebby Halliday Acers, Honorary Co-Chair of the Tom Landry Leadership Award Dinner; Alicia Landry, Honorary Co-Chair of the Dinner; Dr. Jeff Warren, 2010 Award Honoree; and Texas State Rep. Ken Paxton, Honorary Co-Chair of the Dinner.



Dr. Jeff Warren along with his wife, Stacy

2010 TOM LANDRY AWARD DINNER

honorary co-chairs

Alicia Landry • Ebby Halliday Acers • Ken Paxton

chair

Jerry Carlisle

dinner committee

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Mike Arnold	David Porter
George Billingsley	Blair Robinson
Dan Brooks	Ross Robinson
Gary Cook	Sandy Simpson
John Ford	Ron Skaggs
Michael Griffin	Wayne Stevenson
Roy Lamkin	Larry Taylor
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4th Annual

TOM LANDRY LEADERSHIP AWARD DINNER HONORS JEFF WARREN

Dallas Baptist University hosted the fourth annual Tom Landry Leadership Award Dinner on Saturday evening, May 1. The gala event, with over 400 in attendance, recognized the lasting legacy of one of Dallas' most famous citizens, Tom Landry, as it named Jeff Warren, pastor of First Baptist Church of McKinney, the recipient of the Tom Landry Leadership Award.

This year, Alicia Landry, Ebby Halliday Acers, and Ken Paxton served as the honorary co-chairs of the event, and Dr. Jerry Carlisle, senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Plano, served as this year's chair. Pete Delkus, who is the Chief Meteorologist for WFAA-TV, was the emcee for the evening's dinner.

In previous years the dinner has been



Pete Delkus, Chief Meteorologist for WFAA-TV and DBU trustee, served as the emcee for the award ceremony.

held in Collin County. This year, the event took place on the DBU campus. Attendees enjoyed dinner in the Hillcrest Great Hall of the John G. Mahler Student Center and afterward gathered in the sanctuary of the new Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel for the ceremony itself. Dr. Stephen Holcomb, DBU director of choral studies, directed the DBU Grand Chorus as they provided music for the evening. In addition, Dr. Gary Cook, DBU president, welcomed those gathered and thanked them for their support of the dinner and of DBU's work in Collin County.

Mamo Ishida, assistant professor of East Asian studies at DBU, shared his Christian testimony. Professor Ishida was raised in Japan and came to DBU as an undergraduate student in 1995. It was

at DBU that he first heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ and became a Christian. Since that time, he has served at DBU in the International Office and also as the acting director of the Master of Education in Higher Education program.

The Tom Landry Leadership Award Dinner was inaugurated in 2007 to ensure that Landry's legacy would live on and serve as an example to DBU students and to others in Collin County. The Landry Leadership Award is given to those individuals who use their God-given talents and abilities to excel in their chosen field of work, who provide and exhibit exceptional leadership, who are committed to serving others in their community, and who demonstrate integrity in their personal lives. In addition, the proceeds raised from the dinner go to provide scholarships for Dallas Baptist University students in Collin County.

As the coach of the acclaimed Dallas Cowboys for 29 years, Tom Landry and "America's Team" became the stuff of which legends are made. Their success came because of character and a commitment to excellence. In Landry's mind, the credit for all this success came from his faith, management strategies, and leadership style.

Tom Landry's life epitomized the most exceptional leadership and character qualities DBU strives to instill in its students every day. His faith in God, devotion to family, and dedication to integrity and service to others make Landry a lasting role model even to this day.

The 2010 Landry Leadership Award recipient Dr. Jeff Warren has served as lead pastor of First Baptist Church of McKinney since 1999. Dr. Jeff Warren was born in Charlotte, North Carolina. The trajectory of his life was forever changed when he accepted Christ at his grandfather's house at the age of nine. Jeff is grateful for a rich Christian heritage. His grandfather, Dr. C. C. Warren, was the former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and he was blessed with two godly parents. He credits the influence of the First Baptist Church of Charlotte, North Carolina, in his early years for laying a solid foundation for his life. His heart for those far from Christ grew as he became active in Young Life and became a leader in Campus Crusade in his college years.

Jeff graduated from East Carolina University where he majored in Commercial Art with concentrations in graphic design and illustration. Jeff received a Master of Theology and a Doctor of Ministry from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary where his doctoral work focused on Christian apologetics. He was named one of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's best preachers and was recognized for his doctoral project in his graduating class. He uses his love for apologetics and his theological training to talk to others who struggle with barriers to faith and those who are seeking answers to tough questions of faith.

Jeff served as a youth minister for 12 years in North Carolina and in Texas and still loves hanging out with teenagers.

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The DBU Grand Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Stephen Holcomb, DBU director of choral studies and professor of music, performed various songs highlighting the spirit of America and honoring our nation's military.



John and Nita Ford (left) along with Dedi and Jerry Carlisle. Dr. Carlisle, pastor of First Baptist Church of Plano, served as the chair of the event and is a current DBU trustee. Nita Ford is a past member of the DBU board of trustees.



Congressman Sam Johnson (left), recipient of the inaugural Tom Landry Leadership Award, and Mike Simpson, former mayor of Frisco and last year's award recipient.



Brian Loughmiller (far left), mayor of McKinney, along with his wife, Donna; Dr. Jon Lineberger (center right), vice president for DBU Frisco, and his wife, Gina; and David Brooks (far right), McKinney City Council member, and his wife, Carolyn.



Mamo Ishida, DBU alumnus and current director of DBU's East Asian studies program, shares his testimony with those gathered for the event.

He was also the youth minister at Park Cities Baptist Church where he led ministries to young couples, married adults, men, and business leaders. While on staff at Park Cities, he began FastBreak, a ministry focused on bringing biblical truth and application to the business community. As the lead pastor of First Baptist Church, McKinney, a 5,500 member congregation, he is guiding the church to become a Christ-centered, externally-focused movement. Jeff is a lover of people and says his greatest desire is that all people would not only experience God's grace fully, but maximize their potential as grace-givers themselves.

Known for his energy, humor, passion, and creativity, Jeff has been a popular speaker on college campuses, at youth camps, conferences, men's retreats, couples' events, and leadership events. As the founder of Live Forgiven Ministries, thousands have read his blog and his book, *Live Forgiven*, throughout the U. S. and South Africa. He has also written *Be Ready*—a basic guide for youth in Christian apologetics—as well as various articles for youth ministry periodicals and numerous articles for newspapers and ministry publications.

Jeff has a passion for the church to remain faithful to the "core" of the Gospel while thriving in this transitioning, post-modern culture. Under his leadership, First Baptist Church,

McKinney has been named one of the fastest growing churches in America by Outreach Magazine and is known for its mission engagement both locally and internationally. Currently, First Baptist Church, McKinney is on the leading edge of local mission involvement through 3e McKinney, a non-profit, multi-church movement that is committed to feed the hungry, clothe the needy, shelter the homeless, free the addicted, educate the children, employ the jobless, care for all the sick, and restore the imprisoned. He has now adopted every Title 1 school in the McKinney Independent School District and is now adopting classes, mentoring students, and encouraging teachers and principals in those schools. First Baptist Church, McKinney has established an annual "GO and BE" Sunday in which thousands of members have "left the building" in order to worship God through serving the needs of the community.

Dr. Jeff Warren is a DBU trustee and has led conferences at DBU and has spoken in chapel at DBU on numerous occasions.

Jeff's greatest love on earth is his wife, Stacy, and his favorite thing to do is spend time with his twin daughters and his son. He loves all kinds of sports and is currently training for a half Ironman Triathlon. He is humbled by every opportunity he has to talk about his best friend, Jesus.



(from left-right) Wayne and Buena Stevenson along with Beverly and Roy Lamkin. Wayne and Roy both served on this year's Landry Dinner Committee, and Buena Stevenson currently serves on the DBU board of trustees and is a past president of the DBU Women's Auxiliary Board.



(from left-right) Dr. Blair Blackburn, DBU executive vice president, and his wife, Michelle; Mike Arnold, DBU trustee, and his wife, Mandy; and Candice Wright, executive director of the Women's Auxiliary Board, and her husband, Adam, DBU assistant to the president for advancement.



Over 400 people gathered for the annual Tom Landry Leadership Award Dinner, which was held on the DBU campus for the first time.

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Ron Skaggs, chairman emeritus of HKS, an international architectural firm, and his wife, Sondra, at a special dessert reception held following the dinner in Sadler Hall. Mr. Skaggs currently serves as a DBU trustee.



(from left-right) Joel and Diane Allison, Sheila and Gary Cook, and Janet and Jim Denison. Mr. Allison is the current president and CEO of Baylor Health Care System, Dr. Cook serves as DBU president, and Dr. Denison is the founder and CEO of the Center for Informed Faith.