



COLESVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

Wednesday, September 26, 2012

Emmanuel Christian Seminary
One Walker Drive
Johnson City, TN 27601

To Whom It May Concern:

As an alumnus of both Milligan College and Emmanuel Christian Seminary, where I was honored to be named a Campbell Scholar, I am deeply grateful for the fine education that I received at both of these respected institutions. My life was greatly enriched by the eight years that I spent in preparation for ministry within the context of these supportive communities. Even now, more than seven after graduating with my Master of Divinity degree, I find myself frequently reminded of the quality of the education that I received at Emmanuel.

As I have reflected on my education, there are many wonderful professors who come to mind. Among those I remember with greatest administration is Dr. Christopher Rollston, Toyozo W. Nakarai Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Studies. Chris proved to be a dedicated teacher who challenged me with his wisdom and inspired me with his faith. Understanding the diverse backgrounds from which the students at Emmanuel came, Chris approached teaching with a mature pastoral sensitivity that recognized the importance that each community and each person plays within the formation of a mature disciple of Jesus Christ. That kind of character is often lacking in professors, but Chris exemplified it in his interactions with students both inside and outside of the classroom.

As a lifelong member of and now an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), I was deeply grateful for Chris' connections to the larger Stone-Campbell community and the respect that he enjoyed in those circles. Chris' dedication to rigorous scholarship and unwavering commitment to the church are widely appreciated in the world outside of East Tennessee and he has always been willing to utilize his connections to aid students as they strive to live out their unique callings from God.

Chris is well-loved by students, alumni, the wider community, and those in leadership in the church and the academy. He remains one of Emmanuel's best resources. It is with tremendous gratitude that I write to encourage the board to recognize and appreciate the blessing that Chris Rollston has been and continues to be to Emmanuel Christian Seminary.

Grace and Peace,

The Rev. Wes Jamison, B.A., M.Div.,
Associate Pastor