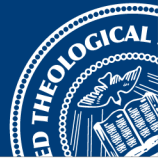




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April 13, 2020

Dear Students,

In John 16:33 Jesus says, "In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

We are all experiencing tribulation and suffering because of the COVID-19 pandemic which has taken the lives of thousands of people, infected thousands more and caused vast economic and personal suffering. But, as Christians, we put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ who has overcome the tribulations of this world through his suffering, death and resurrection.

Because of the health concerns about gathering in groups during this season of life, we have postponed our Commencement service originally planned for Saturday, May 30, 2020, to Saturday, September 26, 2020, at 10 a.m. September 26 was chosen because Commencement is usually planned the Saturday after the Board of Trustees meeting. The fall meeting of the Board of Trustees is September 24-25, 2020.

Commencement is the culmination of many years of seminary classes, study, research and dissertations and we would like to see as many of our graduates as possible on September 26 to congratulate you personally on this great achievement. However, we realize that it may not be possible for you and your family to attend the Commencement service; if you would like to receive your diploma in the mail, simply let us know and we will mail it to you when you have successfully completed the academic and financial requirements for your degree.

Please let us know if you want to receive your diploma in the mail, or if you will be able to join us for the Commencement celebration on September 26, 2020. If you do plan to attend the Commencement service, let us know by August 1, 2020 how many members of your family and friends will also be attending with you. Just as in the past, United will provide a complimentary reception with food for the Masters graduates on Friday afternoon, September 25, and for the Doctor of Ministry graduates on Friday evening, September 25.

We recognize the significant personal effort and financial investment you have made to achieve this milestone in your life, and we hope that you can join us in September to celebrate your accomplishment with those you love.

Grace and Peace,

Dr. Kent Millard
President
United Theological Seminary

Spirit Led, Renewing the Church!