

# About Covington

## Greeting from the President

**Dr. Bret M. Sullivan**



We are excited that you would consider Covington to further your theological education. Our commitment is to provide a solid biblical training that is Christ-centered, Bible-centered, and Gospel-centered and to do it for the glory of God. We desire to meet you where you are in your calling and ministry motivations and to design a quality program of study to equip you for kingdom effectiveness and fruitful church ministry. To get you started, Covington will assess your ministry goals and educational status and then work with you to develop a course of study that will be affordable and will uniquely prepare you to serve our King.

We are committed to the local church and its ministry opportunities as the prime training venue for developing church leaders. We do not call our students to come away to be trained, but to remain faithful in their present assignment. Our goal, as much as is possible, is to bring Bible College and Seminary training to you. We partner with local churches both nationally and internationally and involve those pastors and leaders with extensive experience and training in our teaching methodology. We are not called to build great edifices to evidence our effectiveness, but to passionately build great lives that impact others through the living Christ. You are and will continue to be the focus of our prayers and our investment and never buildings and programs.

Our innovative and personalized study plans are designed for our Covington Extensions, Covington E-Course studies, and CTS On-Line Programs of study. We currently have multiple Covington Extension Programs in partner churches around the Southeast. You may complete your studies on-line, in your current ministry setting, or in the privacy of your home. Please contact us to consider how a personally designed plan of study could meet your needs.

May our blessed Lord encourage you and strengthen you as you serve Him and consider enrollment in theological studies. If we may answer any questions or help in any way, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Made worthy by His blood,

Dr. Bret Sullivan

## **Contact Information**

### **Mailing Address:**

Covington Schools  
P.O. Box 176  
Rossville, Georgia 30741

### **Location:**

1168 Cross Street  
Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742

### **E-Mail Address:**

[info@covingtonseminary.org](mailto:info@covingtonseminary.org)

### **Web Address:**

[www.covingtonseminary.org](http://www.covingtonseminary.org)

[www.ctsstudents.org](http://www.ctsstudents.org)

### **Office Hours:**

8:30am – 4:30pm EST

### **Phone:**

706-866-5626

### **Fax:**

706-861-3550

## Vision / Mission / Values

**Vision Statement:** To impact eternity and the church presently by equipping leaders to exposit the Scriptures in both national and international settings for the glory of God.

**Mission Statement:** To meet potential students where they are in their calling and unique ministries and to design a quality and affordable program of study that addresses their individual goals and needs.

### Values Statements:

- We are committed to the local church and its ministry settings as the prime training venue for developing church leaders.
- We are not called to build great edifices to evidence our effectiveness, but to build great lives that impact others by the living Christ.
- We do not call our students to come away to be trained, but to remain faithful in their present assignment.
- We commit ourselves to design innovative and personalized development plans that equip leaders to be dynamic and effective servants of God.
- Our extensions, whether in the U.S. or internationally, will be founded upon a partnership with a local church or group of churches and led by those currently involved in ministry and equipping the saints.
- The ultimate call of any leader is to “*equip the saints for the work of the ministry for the building up of the body of Christ*” (Eph. 4:12). Only those proven committed and effective in this assignment shall be Covington professors or leaders.
- Training and equipping are not optional for any spiritual leader, therefore we must do all within our ability to make training both accessible and affordable to any servant of God that is willing to make the commitment.
- Partnership, interdependence, and networking are kingdom principles upon which we can see our Lord do His mighty work.
- The exposition of the Scriptures is an essential skill for any leader in the body of Christ and for any minister in the Kingdom of Christ so we will give adequate attention to the development of this skill.

## Statement of Faith

1. We believe that the Scriptures of both the Old and New Testament are inerrant, infallible, and verbally inspired of God, and that they are the supreme and final authority for faith and practice.
2. We believe in the triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the deity of Christ, His virgin birth, His substitutionary and atoning death on the cross, His bodily resurrection, and His second coming.
4. We believe in salvation by “grace” plus nothing and minus nothing. The conditions for salvation are repentance and faith and the evidence is obedience.
5. We believe that men are justified by faith alone and are accounted righteous before God only through the merit of the Lord Jesus Christ.

6. We believe in an everlasting Heaven that is prepared for those who trust Jesus as Savior and an everlasting Hell for those who reject His gift of salvation.

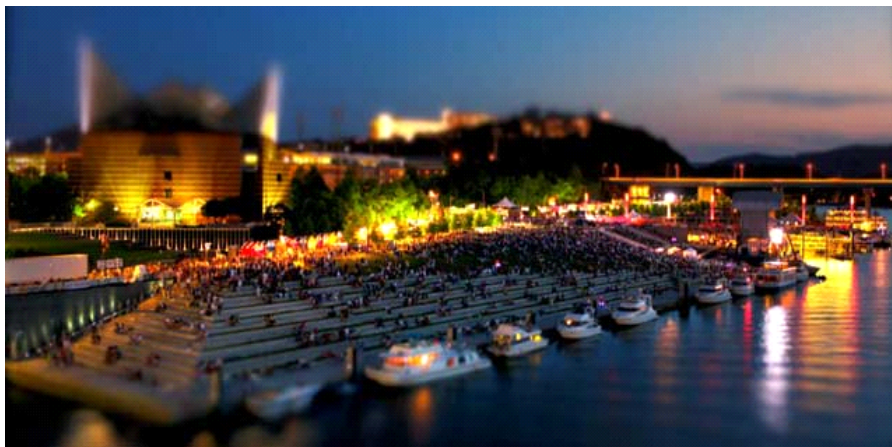
## **Purpose Statement**

The student body of Covington is open to all denominations. We are not in competition with any other channel or institution of education. We offer the Covington Theological Seminary program to all who desire and feel the need to further their education.

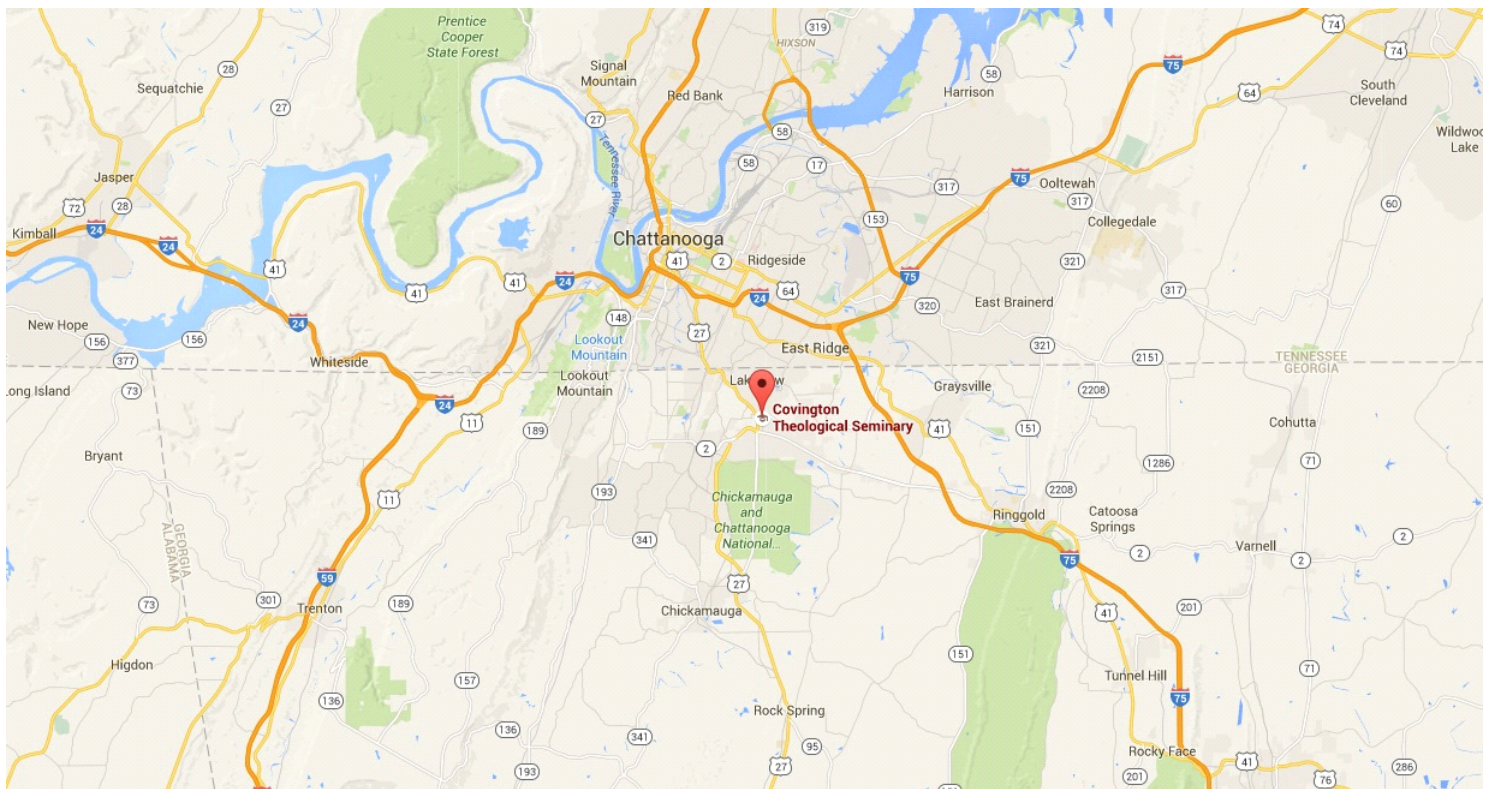
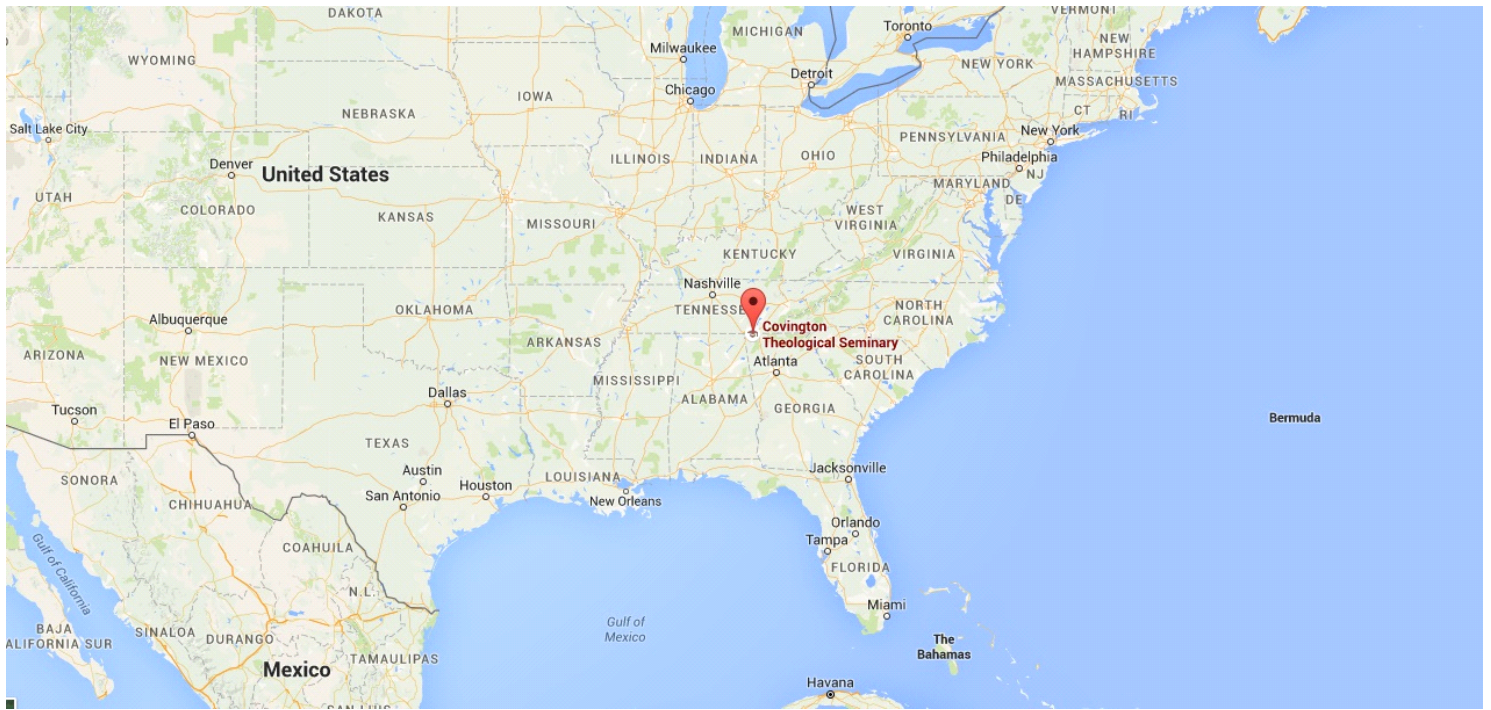
1. The work of the Seminary, Bible College, and Bible Institute is designed to offer professional training for Pastors, Evangelists, Full-time, Part-time or Volunteer Church Staff Members, and those engaged in the work of Christian ministry on any level and at any place.
2. Covington Theological Seminary seeks to equip leaders with skills which will make them effective in their service or ministries of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through their churches, communities and denominations.
3. Covington Theological Seminary serves all educational levels. The desire and ability to study and learn deserve degree recognition.
4. The Seminary, Bible College, and Bible Institute recognize other educational agencies. However, credit recognition is determined by our school registrar and president alone.

## Location

Covington Theological Seminary is located in the Rossville - Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia area just minutes from downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee in the shadow of beautiful Lookout Mountain.



Administrative offices and classrooms are located in the Covington Theological Seminary Building located at 1168 Cross Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. This situates the school administrative facilities about two miles from the Chattanooga, Tennessee city limits -Tennessee state line.



## History

Covington Theological Seminary was founded and chartered as a Seminary in September, 1977, in the state of Florida. The school is a nonprofit corporation with the purpose of offering religious and theological education. In July of 1980, the Seminary moved to Rossville, Georgia. In the fall of 1981, the trustees of Covington established the Covington Bible Institute. In 1985, the school moved to its present location in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia which is only minutes from downtown Chattanooga. The school name was chosen in honor of General Leonard Covington, an army officer and hero in the War of 1812. His character and his bravery serve as an inspiration for those who gave their lives to serve in the ministry for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Covington's second President, Dr. R.H. Brown served the school for over 22 years, during which time the school saw remarkable growth and extended its outreach into many foreign countries. Dr. Brown's wife, Reba, served as Registrar and Bursar during those years and played a strong supportive role in the growth of the Seminary.

Dr. James S. (Steve) Sullivan, Jr. was elected as Interim President of Covington by the Board of Trustees on July 21, 2004. On September 15, 2004, the Board elected Dr. Sullivan to be the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the fourth President of Covington. Dr. Sullivan took this role on a full-time basis on January 1, 2005. Under the leadership of Dr. Sullivan Covington became operationally grounded and deepened the roots of its curriculum and training.

## Extension Locations

- 1. Western South Carolina.** Classroom instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at the Millbrook Baptist Church, 223 South Aiken Boulevard. Aiken, South Carolina. Dr. Gary Fleetwood
- 2. Anderson, South Carolina.** Classroom instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at the Pope Drive Baptist Church, 2510 Pope Drive, Anderson, South Carolina. Dr. Matt Danuser
- 3. Northern South Carolina.** Classroom instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at the Putman Baptist Church, 3692 Buffalo-West Springs Highway, Buffalo, South Carolina. Dr. Tommy Mann
- 4. Northwest South Carolina.** Classroom instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at the Park Street Baptist Church, 114 Robinson Avenue, Easley, South Carolina. Dr. Kevin Dennis.
- 5. Northwest Georgia.** Classroom instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at the Covington Building, 1168 Cross Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. Pastor Craig Thomas, M.Div.
- 6. Knoxville, Tennessee.** Classroom instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 1807 Dandridge Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee. Dr. Leroy Franklin
- 7. Northeast South Carolina.** Classroom instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at The Academy of Young Scholars, 1446 Mt Gallant Road, Rock Hill, South Carolina. Dr. Tom Tucker
- 8. Southwest North Carolina.** Class instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at the Sandy Run Baptist Association, 186 Puzzle Creek Road, Bostic, North Carolina. Dr. Kevin Rohm.

9. **Southeast Georgia.** Classroom instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at the Crossroad Baptist Church, 8510 Middleground Rd., Savannah, Georgia. Dr. Johnny Bowen
10. **Central South Carolina.** Class instruction on selected courses is offered each semester, meeting at the Sumter First Baptist Church, 107 East Liberty Street, Sumter, South Carolina. Dr. Ron Taylor.

**For additional class and schedule information call (706) 866-5626.**





## Why Covington Seminary and Bible Institute?

Covington Theological Seminary, Bible College, and Bible Institute is endeavoring to offer the very best in Bible and Bible-related studies for those students preparing for full-time Christian service, regardless of whether it is in pastoral ministry, missions, evangelism, parachurch organizations, Christian schools, or church leadership. These studies are provided through the use of college and seminary textbooks, study guides, personal research, classroom lectures, the CTS Online portal and on-the-job training. The function of the Seminary, Bible College, and Bible Institute is to provide a quality education in the areas of Bible, Pastoral Ministry, Theology, Biblical Counseling, and Christian Education. The goal of Covington Theological Seminary is to train men and women in the Word of God and to send them forth to reach a lost and dying world with the good news that Jesus saves.

Now in our forty-third year, Covington Theological Seminary has honored the commitment to train men and women to serve God more effectively. The focus is to train leaders that will impact lives and impact eternity. We believe that godly and dynamic spiritual leaders will divinely impact churches, their communities and their nations. In every generation, the Lord has sought those that will “stand in the gap”, “stand up for truth”, and “stay the course.” In times of trouble and need leaders with spiritual substance are in constant demand. It is our desire to be an instrument of the Lord in growing and providing solid biblical training for those leaders.

While it is our desire to meet our students at the point of their need, we must face the realities of a culture with shifting concepts and values and we must take our stand on God’s Word. We are faced with a culture where popular opinion shifts constantly, where values are subject to the whim of pop idols and media hype, and where truth is considered to be relative. However, Covington Theological Seminary will continue to hold to the solid foundation of the Living Christ and the Living Word. No matter how society and public opinions change, Covington Theological Seminary upholds the fundamental doctrines espoused from its inception. These are those cardinal truths upon which our faith rests - the inerrancy and infallibility of the Word of God, the deity and virgin birth of Christ, His substitutionary and atoning death on the cross, His bodily resurrection, and His second coming. Every course offered, whether theological, pastoral, educational, or missional, is based upon and remains true to the Bible.

Thousands of students, not only in the United States, but also from distant parts of the world, participate in the meaningful training which is structured to meet their individual needs and goals. Brazil, Chile, Peru, Canada, Cambodia, England, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, India, Kenya, Burma, Myanmar, Peru, Hong Kong, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Serbia, Italy, South Africa, South Korea, West Indies, West Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe are some of the countries represented by Covington Theological Seminary students and graduates.

Covington Theological Seminary is a network of caring and dedicated Christians that provide a source of strength and support to growing leaders in a period of great need, during the beginning, growing, or developing stages of their ministry. We are dedicated as much as possible to be here for them. It blesses our hearts when we hear Covington Theological Seminary referred to as “our school.” So many of our students remain close and in touch with us so that we truly are family.

Covington Theological Seminary has postured itself to be on the cutting edge in the theological training of the next generation. Students from Bible-believing churches of various denominations are attending because they love the balanced, Biblical approach provided by the school. Covington Theological Seminary maintains its theological integrity while reaching out to train men and women of all backgrounds.

A long history of affordable tuition, Bible-centered courses, personally constructed programs, quality teachers, and proven results - all of these factors make Covington Theological Seminary a school worthy of support and a credible seminary and Bible school for those called into God’s service and desiring to learn Scriptural principles for effective ministry.

## **Advantages of Studying at Covington**

- Study at your own pace when you enroll in E-Course Programs or CTS Online. Each student establishes his/her own study schedule.
- On-campus classes are held at convenient times allowing the student to hold a full-time job or ministry position while studying at Covington.
- On-Campus extension locations are offered throughout the Southeast.
- The cost of tuition is kept as low as possible to allow students at any economic level an opportunity to study and earn a degree.
- Tuition discounts are offered to spouses of students and to students who may be incarcerated.
- Enroll anytime. E-Course and CTS Online students can enroll and begin their course work at any time.
- On-site professors are usually serving in some type of Christian ministry, thereby, bringing to the classroom practical experience and knowledge that is beneficial to the students.
- Personalized, friendly attention is given to each student. For the E-Course student, a program of study is designed for each individual student unique to his/her goals.
- An ever-improving curriculum that offers classes in Bible, Theology, Pastoral Studies, Religious Education, and Biblical Counseling.

## **Accreditation - Affiliations**

### **The President's Statement on Accreditation**

Covington Theological Seminary was chartered in 1977 for the purpose of providing conservative biblical and theological training for students applying to this religious institution. The school's mission is to prepare Christian leaders for Christian service. Covington Theological Seminary has not nor will it seek governmental acceptance, accreditation, or funding for the effectiveness of the school's programs. The institution has maintained that posture throughout the past forty-three years and will continue to do so. The purpose is clear in that we do not seek to prepare our students for secular work or denominational service. Covington will seek to provide a sound theological standing from which students may build their life and an effective Christian ministry.

The institution's accreditation with Accreditation Commission International is a long-standing relationship predating my presidency of the past thirteen years. The relationship has been one of accountability to the standards of a conservative Bible College and Seminary. We have held ourselves to the high standards of our trustees, faculty, and staff. For the past fifteen years, the Academic Council has made both a commitment and progress toward affiliations with organizations and schools holding like values and commitments to ours. Covington Theological Seminary will continue in that endeavor.

For these forty-three years, Covington Theological Seminary has followed its commitment to train God's servants for service. Covington's students have been accepted to many prestigious programs. Members of our recent doctoral class noted that the training they received from Covington far exceeded the training they received in more traditional seminaries. Covington is grateful for the sound reputation that has been built and we will continue our commitment to train leaders for ministries of impact for the Body of Christ and for eternity.

## **Affiliations**

- Covington is a member of the Accreditation Commission International (ACI) of Beebe, AR



**Accrediting Commission International** <sup>INC.</sup>

"Quality Non-governmental Accreditation"

## Impact Eternity

Impact Eternity is the missions and evangelism vision of Covington Theological Seminary. We are committed to a strategy for developing church leaders, both nationally and internationally, who are equipped to serve, build, and lead Acts 1:8 churches.

Acts 1:8 churches and leaders will look beyond a narrow vision of local ministry and will be committed to a world vision for the gospel of our Lord Jesus the Christ. We have been saved to be world-impact Christians. Many segments of the church in this post-modern era has lost both the vision and the unction given to it by the Lord at the inauguration of His Church. We must not be satisfied with our little corner of ministry, but partner with a multitude of willing leaders and saints to boldly reclaim our commitment to impact the world through the message of Jesus the Redeemer.

We believe there is both a hunger and a very real commitment on the part of our students, our alumni, our faculty and our leadership to partner in a ministry that will impact eternity. It is our vision to impact eternity and the church presently by training church leaders in both national and international settings. With a simple desire to start a School of Leadership in one country, Zimbabwe, has come the opening of multiple new international schools through 2015. Covington has international extensions in Zimbabwe, Ghana, Honduras, Romania, Pakistan, Brazil, Chili, Indonesia, Canada, West Indies, Haiti, and the Philippines. Covington currently has formal requests for training centers in many other nations. These opportunities have come so quickly that we are convinced that *“a great and effectual door has been opened to us.”*

To respond, Covington Theological Seminary will partner with Churches and Pastors to coordinate Faculty Teams and Mission Teams from the states for both short term and some longer term projects. Students may receive course credit for mission involvement through our missiology program. Faculty and church leaders are invited to teach and train in international settings where the impact of their teaching can be experienced immediately.

Anyone interested in mission opportunities can contact Covington Theological Seminary for details. There are also opportunities for becoming an Impact Sponsoring Church, an Impact Partner, or a Faculty Team Member to teach in Covington’s International Schools of Leadership, International Bible Colleges, and International Seminary extensions.

Covington Theological Seminary: 706-866-5626

## **Administration**

Bret Sullivan, D. Min., President

James S. (Steve) Sullivan, Jr., Th.D., President Emeritus

Craig Thomas, M.Div., Registrar, Dean of Students

Gary Fleetwood, Th.D., Chairman of the Board

Luther Price, Th.D., Faculty Dean/Director of Development

Tom Tucker, D.Div., Staff Evangelist

Marvin Cornelison, M.Min., Comptroller

Ashleigh Trivette, B.Min., Administrative Assistant

## **Board of Trustees**

Dr. Gary Fleetwood, Senior Pastor, Chime Bell Baptist Church, Aiken, South Carolina

### **Chairman of the Board**

Dr. Bret Sullivan, Covington Theological Seminary

### **President**

Dr. James S. Sullivan, Jr., Covington Theological Seminary

### **President Emeritus**

Marvin Cornelison, President, Reigns Brothers Inc., Chattanooga, TN

### **Executive Vice President**

Dr. Cheryl Brock, Owner CPA, Charis Business Resources Inc., Chattanooga, Tennessee

### **Secretary**

Dr. Eddie Rushing, Associational Missionary, Northwest Georgia Baptist Association,  
Flintstone, GA

Dr. Jay Trimble, Senior Pastor, Prospect Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dr. Robert Craven, Senior Pastor, Carter's Ford Baptist Church, Ehrhardt, SC

## **Domestic Extension Deans**

Gary Fleetwood, Th.D.; Western South Carolina (Aiken)

Matthew Danuser, D.Min.; Anderson South Carolina (Anderson)

Tommy Mann, Th.D.; Northern South Carolina (Buffalo)

Kevin Dennis, D.Min., Easley, South Carolina (Easley)

Craig Thomas, M.Div.; Northwest Georgia (Ft Oglethorpe)

Leroy Franklin, M.A., Knoxville, Tennessee (Knoxville)

Tom Tucker, D.Div.; Northeast South Carolina (Rock Hill)

Kevin Rohm, D.Min., Southwest North Carolina (Sandy Run)

Johnny Bowen, D.Min.; Southeast Georgia (Savannah)

Ron Taylor, D.Min., Coastal South Carolina (Sumter)

**Covington's faculty consists of over 100 Professors and Advisors.**

### **International Extension Deans**

Central America / Honduras / Pakistan / Zimbabwe / South America / Indonesia / Philippines

Dr. Gary Fleetwood, Dean, Europe / Romania

Rev. Ralph Holdbrook, Dean Ghana

Dr. Lamar Lyons, Dean Haiti

Rev. Solomon Owolabi, Dean Nigeria

Dr. Larry Wilson, West Indies