



**PRESBYTERIAN MEN OF THE CHURCH**  
FIRST, PROVIDENCE AND LOWCOUNTRY CHURCHES

# IRON WILL

**"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17**

November, 2008 Issue

Editor: Jaime Palatucci

**MEN OF THE CHURCH**  
Breakfast  
November 15th  
First Presbyterian Church  
7:45 am  
Cost \$8.00  
Contact Nancy Putnam  
at 681-3696.  
  
(See Page 4 for more details.)

Thereafter, the participants enjoyed a gourmet meal provided by Sandstone Catering. Immediately following dinner, Jim Willard addressed the group.



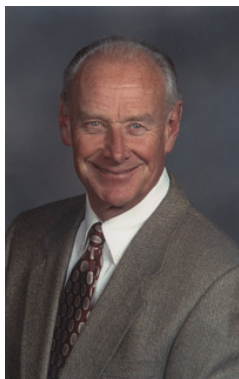
Mel Witmer introduces the case studies.

**THE 31ST ANNUAL ETHICS SYMPOSIUM  
ON ETHICAL ISSUES AND MORAL DECISION MAKING  
November 6-8, 2008**

The Men of the Church hosted the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Ethics Symposium on November 6, 7, and 8 at Providence Church. About 70 students and 18 faculty members from 17 colleges arrived on Thursday afternoon to participate in presentations, small group case studies, recreation and fellowship. This year, we had international students from Ethiopia, Viet Nam, Northern Ireland, and the United Kingdom who brought a cultural sensitivity and awareness to the ethical discussions.

**Student and faculty feedback stated that the conference was an overwhelming success.**

On Thursday, following a brief orientation, everyone gathered in the fellowship hall to officially open the symposium. Senior Pastor Doug Fletcher from First Presbyterian Church opened the session in Prayer.



During his professional career, Jim rose to the position of senior vice president in various companies in the food industry. Jim utilized moral and ethical standards in his decision making process. On November 1, 2008 the Island Packet ran an article Jim's experiences. A reprint of that article can be found in APPENDIX A of this newsletter.

The title of Jim's presentation was "That's the Way the Cookie Crumbles". He chose that title because he wanted to convey to the students that no matter how hard you try, you are never in complete control of your destiny. He urged the students to develop a strategy as to how they will navigate through life and what guidelines they will follow.

The key points Jim shared were (1) that there are many great companies to work for that have ethics as one of their core values, (2) you must understand your own personal values, and (3) in times of crisis consider what guidelines you will use. Jim shared that at an early age his father taught him to: "Make sure that you can look yourself in the mirror every day and like what you see. If you can't, then do something about it". It was this adage that Jim used to gauge his decision making.

Finally, Jim suggested seven points for students to follow based on his life experience.

1. Decide where you want to go professionally (the destination).
2. Never stop learning.
3. Out of change or crisis comes opportunity.
4. You may think you are in charge, but you are not.
5. Work to become more effective as a person. Identify your weakness and work on it.
6. Live life with courage and don't succumb to fear.
7. Constantly develop and polish your skills.

Following Jim's talk, the students returned to the Comfort Inn to rest for Friday's intense case studies. Students were divided into small groups. Each group was made up of both men and women. Likewise, students were mixed with students from other colleges. Each group prioritized the cases they wished to study. There were 14 cases from which to choose. Some of the case titles were: The Sole at



In the afternoon, the students took advantage of the fine Hilton Head Island weather and had some recreation time. The students had the choice of several activities. They could go horseback riding, kayaking, play 36 holes of miniature golf, take the Gullah tour, go bike riding, or go to the Coastal Discovery Museum at Honey Horn.

Friday evening saw the students and faculty member from each college gather together for dinner. Host



Work, The Case of the Mindful Miner, The Case of the Platonic Planner, The Case of the Restless Resume, The Case of the Plant Relocation, Wal-Mart and Corporate Values, and the Case of the Forbidden Clone. Likewise, the faculty also participated in a case study of their own. Since there are no right answers, the students learned to identify the ethical issue(s) and apply ethical criteria to reach a conclusion.

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families invited the college representatives into their homes. After dining on typical college food service grub, the students enjoyed home cooking.

After a good nights rest, the students reunited with their small groups and continued their case studies.

At noon, the symposium came to a close. Each student received a certificate indicating the successful completion of six hours of study on ethics

and morals. Students were encouraged to include the participation in the symposium on their resume.

The students completed evaluation forms which the committee will use to refine the program in a never ending quest for improvement.

The symposium could not have been such a success without countless hours of planning and the many hours of work were contributed by volunteers. It is estimated that nearly 1,000 man-hours went in to putting on the program. To all of those who helped by either contributing their time, talents, or financial support, the Men of the Church offer their gratitude.

Planning has already begun for the 2009, 32nd Annual Ethics Symposium. Looking forward, one area of great need is in the financing of the program. Today, thanks to endowments and donations, this opportunity costs the colleges nothing. If you would like to sponsor a student for the 3-day event, please send a check for \$125 payable to Men of the Church to your church office with Ethics Symposium on the memo line. The world needs better leaders. Help inspire a college student to see that it is possible to be ethical and successful while making morally strong decisions. For more details please contact Bob Wallhaus at Wallhaus@hargray.com.

## MOC – MONTHLY PROGRAMMING

### Best of the 2008 Group Life (small group) Conference

By: Walt Schymik, 10-21-08.

This Willow Creek conference via satellite and CCN on October, 17&18 was excellent with 13,000 in attendance at 125 North American sites. There were 7 sessions plus music and some good humor. The attendance at FPC could have been better, but a significant number of churches were represented. I thought there were two outstanding sessions that are most potential benefit to my small group.

### Practical Advice on Leading Small Groups - Russ Robinson

- † What is my job?
- † What Jesus did? Your presence, "be with".

- † What Jesus promised? Make disciples, "He is with us"
- † Jesus demonstrated need to "stay connected"
- † "Be with"
- † Prepare well for the head. What should the group know?
- † Ditto for the heart. What should the group feel?
- † Ditto for the hands. What should the group do?
- † Homework. What should the group plan (new, next week, etc.)?
- † Lord's prayer. "Thy Kingdom come" (Jesus' theme for His ministry)

Use the case study methodology. Like the 12 apostles who had dramatically different personalities. For example:

1. Peter's high energy and potential, but frustrating and confrontational.
2. James's task oriented and training.
3. John's contemplative and loving.

Leverage between meetings by using various methods of staying connected.

You are not a volunteer. You have a permanent assignment. People are the only thing that is eternal!

"Seemed like a good idea at the time"- Bill Donahue (conference organizer and Willow Creek Group Life Director)

Bill started by relating a humorous story about a Dodge Dart problem that he had many years ago where he made a stupid mistake that almost caused a major accident to make the point that even good creative ideas need discerning critique to avoid selfish decisions.

But still some ideas we develop for small groups don't work even though we think they will be good. Thus, we also must learn from failure by:

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Not being obsessed with vision while ignoring reality and feedback and having unrealistic expectations for people.

Implement w/o building an infrastructure and follow-on plan. Vision can ignore the pragmatics of working thru how change can really happen.

Empowering leaders w/o training them. Groups are led by process, values, Holy Spirit or curriculum more than person.

Launching groups w/o groups being open to community and relationship building. Retreat experiences or major disappointments in life can lead to opening.

How to recover when you fail?

- ✦ I'm sorry, admit mistake, and ask for forgiveness.
- ✦ Forgive yourself (which usually is harder). Love self correctly by being connected to God.
- ✦ Shared hope can help unify group. Hope helps confidence.
- ✦ Ministry of absence helps people to fall back to Christ (not sure I fully understood this).

Always be filled with hope, be purveyor of hope.

## [MOC – BIBLE MEMORY VERSE\(S\)](#)

This month's bible memory verse is directly related morals.

**James 1:21 NIV - <sup>21</sup>Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.**

## [MOC – COMING ATTRACTIONS](#)

**MOC Panel Discussion on the Economy and Personal Responsibility:**

By: Walt Schymik

SUBJECTS OF DISCUSSION:

The economy in the USA and the world has become a much more serious problem than economic experts expected a few months ago. Although the depth and

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length of the recession is still undetermined, most observers agree that the economic downturn/crisis is more critical than any since the 1930s depression.

At the same time, there is more concern that government, business and people have not shown the level of personal responsibility that we had in past generations. Excessive risk taking for financial gain is more obvious and apologies for past actions that were knowingly unwise is less numerous and more excuse ridden.

Yet our nation has a proud heritage and a vast majority of our people accepts God, either as their Savior and creator, or at least as the basis of our morality and ethical behavior. We are known not only as the world's most powerful and dominantly Christian nation but also a people that are accepting of other religions and cultures.

The purpose of this panel discussion will be to explore these two subjects and their relationships to understand how we as people of God can better serve our God and our nation in these troubled times, and influence others in our community to do likewise.

Hopefully this panel discussion will encourage attendees to discuss further these two subjects in their churches, small groups and families to ensure that the personal responsibility of future generations will progress.

ORGANIZATION OF PANEL:

A moderator will introduce the subject above and provide some history of the economic problems and observations on changes that have occurred in personal responsibility in our society. The obvious relationship between the two and the worldwide movement towards globalization also will be noted. 5 minutes.

PANEL MEMBER #1---BIBLE: What does the Bible and God say about money, its usage and it's management? Even though our economy is more complex and far larger than the Biblical world 2,000 years ago, money is a major Biblical topic and many of the Bible's stories and advice on this topic are timeless. Other commandments and teachings also are applicable to money's usage and management. 10 minutes.

PANEL MEMBER #2---SECULAR: How should personally responsible individuals and businesses (both small and large) manage their money in our global environment to achieve their own goals and the expectations of others (their investors, suppliers and employees)? How can we ensure risks are balanced with prudence? Can executives retain their jobs with somewhat lower returns than were previously experienced (perhaps better as an audience question)? Can individuals accept lower returns and personal consumption? 10 minutes.

#### DISCUSSION PERIOD:

The moderator will provide rules for asking questions such as no question should be asked that exceeds 1 minute. No statements are allowed (i.e. your opinion should be stated as a question). Questions preferably should be addressed to one of the panel members who should also try to answer in 1-2 minutes. Some answers may suggest that the audience do their own additional research by reading or the internet since this topic could take far more time than we have. 20-30 minutes

#### ON A LIGHTER NOTE

The current scandals over how large companies have been cooking the books remind me of a basic accounting course I took years ago. The professor was explaining an accounting method called First In Last Out, which is useful for industries that accumulate large inventories. It explains why the oil industry, for example, reported huge profits during the 1970's when the oil shortage occurred. They stopped buying oil, so they had to use oil that, on paper, had been purchased in the 1930's at 20¢ a barrel. They of course sold it at current market prices, which accounted for their huge profits. One of the students put up his hand and said, "Excuse me, sir, but that doesn't sound very ethical to me." To which the professor replied, "You're in the wrong class, son, this is Accounting 101. Ethics 101 is two doors down the hall, on the left."

\* \* \*

After drafting a will for an elderly client, the lawyer announced a fee of \$100. The client gave the lawyer a \$100 bill. After the client left, the lawyer saw that the client had in fact paid \$200, as two of the

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client's \$100 bills had stuck together. Looking at the \$100 overpayment, an ethical question arose in the lawyer's mind: "Do I tell my partner?"

\* \* \*

"Johnny," said his teacher, "if coal is selling at \$6 a ton and you pay your dealer \$24 how many tons will he bring you?" "A little over three tons, ma'am," said Johnny promptly. "Why, Johnny, that isn't right," said the teacher. "No, ma'am, I know it ain't," said Johnny, "but they all do it."

A defendant in a lawsuit involving large sums of money was talking to his lawyer. "If I lose this case, I'll be ruined." "It's in the judge's hands now," said the lawyer. "Would it help if I sent the judge a box of cigars?" "Oh no! This judge is a stickler or ethical behavior. A stunt like that would prejudice him against you. He might even hold you in contempt of court. In fact, you shouldn't even smile at the judge." Within the course of time, the judge rendered a decision in favor of the defendant. As the defendant left the courthouse, he said to his lawyer, "Thanks for the tip about the cigars. It worked!" "I'm sure we would have lost the case if you'd sent them" said the lawyer. "But, I did send them" said the defendant. "What? You did?" said the lawyer, incredulously. "Yes. That's how we won the case." "I don't understand," said the lawyer. "It's easy. I sent the cigars to the judge, but enclosed the plaintiff's business card."

#### HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

This is a multi-part commentary series written by Martin Luther on the Preface to Romans. This commentary covers all chapters in the Book of Romans.

This translation was made by Bro. Andrew Thornton, OSB, for the Saint Anselm College Humanities Program. ©1983 by Saint Anselm Abbey. This translation may be used freely with proper attribution.

*Translator's Note: The material between square brackets is explanatory in nature and is not part of Luther's preface. The terms "just, justice, justify" in this piece are synonymous with the terms "righteous, righteousness, make righteous." Both sets of English words are common translations of German "gerecht" and related words. A similar situation exists with the word "faith"; it is*

*synonymous with "belief." Both words can be used to translate German "Glaube." Thus, "We are justified by faith." translates the same original German sentence as does "We are made righteous by belief."*

#### **Part 4**

In chapters 9, 10 and 11, St. Paul teaches us about the eternal providence of God. It is the original source which determines who would believe and who wouldn't, who can be set free from sin and who cannot. Such matters have been taken out of our hands and are put into God's hands so that we might become virtuous. It is absolutely necessary that it be so, for we are so weak and unsure of ourselves that, if it depended on us, no human being would be saved. The devil would overpower all of us. But God is steadfast; his providence will not fail, and no one can prevent its realization. Therefore we have hope against sin.

But here we must shut the mouths of those sacrilegious and arrogant spirits who, mere beginners that they are, bring their reason to bear on this matter and commence, from their exalted position, to probe the abyss of divine providence and uselessly trouble themselves about whether they are predestined or not. These people must surely plunge to their ruin, since they will either despair or abandon themselves to a life of chance.

You, however, follow the reasoning of this letter in the order in which it is presented. Fix your attention first of all on Christ and the Gospel, so that you may recognize your sin and his grace. Then struggle against sin, as chapters 1-8 have taught you to. Finally, when you have come, in chapter 8, under the shadow of the cross and suffering, they will teach you, in chapters 9-11, about providence and what a comfort it is. [The context here and in St. Paul's letter makes it clear that this is the cross and passion, not only of Christ, but of each Christian.] Apart from suffering, the cross and the pangs of death, you cannot come to grips with providence without harm to yourself and secret anger against God. The old Adam must be quite dead before you can endure this matter and drink this strong wine. Therefore make sure you don't drink wine while you are still a babe at the breast. There is a proper

measure, time and age for understanding every doctrine.

In chapter 12, St. Paul teaches the true liturgy and makes all Christians priests, so that they may offer, not money or cattle, as priests do in the Law, but their own bodies, by putting their desires to death. Next he describes the outward conduct of Christians whose lives are governed by the Spirit; he tells how they teach, preach, rule, serve, give, suffer, love, live and act toward friend, foe and everyone. These are the works that a Christian does, for, as I have said, faith is not idle.

In chapter 13, St. Paul teaches that one should honor and obey the secular authorities. He includes this, not because it makes people virtuous in the sight of God, but because it does insure that the virtuous have outward peace and protection and that the wicked cannot do evil without fear and in undisturbed peace. Therefore it is the duty of virtuous people to honor secular authority, even though they do not, strictly speaking, need it. Finally, St. Paul sums up everything in love and gathers it all into the example of Christ: what he has done for us, we must also do and follow after him.

In chapter 14, St. Paul teaches that one should carefully guide those with weak conscience and spare them. One shouldn't use Christian freedom to harm but rather to help the weak. Where that isn't done, there follow dissention and despising of the Gospel, on which everything else depends. It is better to give way a little to the weak in faith until they become stronger than to have the teaching of the Gospel perish completely. This work is a particularly necessary work of love especially now when people, by eating meat and by other freedoms, are brashly, boldly and unnecessarily shaking weak consciences which have not yet come to know the truth.

In chapter 15, St. Paul cites Christ as an example to show that we must also have patience with the weak, even those who fail by sinning publicly or by their disgusting morals. We must not cast them aside but must bear with them until they become better. That is the way Christ treated us and still treats us every day; he puts up with our vices, our wicked morals and all our imperfection, and he helps us ceaselessly. Finally Paul prays for the Christians at Rome; he

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praises them and commends them to God. He points out his own office and the message that he preaches. He makes an unobtrusive plea for a contribution for the poor in Jerusalem. Unalloyed love is the basis of all he says and does.

The last chapter [16] consists of greetings. But Paul also includes a salutary warning against human doctrines which are preached alongside the Gospel and which do a great deal of harm. It's as though he had clearly seen that out of Rome and through the Romans would come the deceitful, harmful Canons and Decretals along with the entire brood and swarm of human laws and commands that is now drowning the whole world and has blotted out this letter and the whole of the Scriptures, along with the Spirit and faith. Nothing remains but the idol Belly, and St. Paul depicts those people here as its servants. God deliver us from them. Amen.

We find in this letter, then, the richest possible teaching about what a Christian should know: the meaning of law, Gospel, sin, punishment, grace, faith, justice, Christ, God, good works, love, hope and the cross. We learn how we are to act toward everyone, toward the virtuous and sinful, toward the strong and the weak, friend and foe, and toward ourselves. Paul bases everything firmly on Scripture and proves his points with examples from his own experience and from the Prophets, so that nothing more could be desired. Therefore it seems that St. Paul, in writing this letter, wanted to compose a summary of the whole of Christian and evangelical teaching which would also be an introduction to the whole Old Testament. Without doubt, whoever takes this letter to heart possesses the light and power of the Old Testament. Therefore each and every Christian should make this letter the habitual and constant object of his study. God grant us his grace to do so. Amen.

### End of Martin Luther Commentary

## CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

There will be no article here this month due to space limitations.

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## COMING ATTRACTIONS

The next Men of the Church breakfast will be held on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 in the fellowship hall at First Presbyterian Church. The guest speaker will be Dr. Sorenson. He is the former President of the University of South Carolina serving from 2002 until his retirement in July, 2008.



## MISSION FIELD

Lavon Stevens, is a good friend of the Men of the Church and a member of Providence. He has made an appeal for help in the cause of Cotdney Ulmer.

### HAVE A HEART, HELP A FRIEND

WHAT: MUSIC FESTIVAL BENEFIT for "MR. C" (COTDNEY ULMER)

WHEN: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1 P.M.-UNTIL

WHERE: THE SHORELINE BALLROOM  
HILTON HEAD BEACH & TENNIS RESORT  
(FOLLY FIELD ROAD)

WHY: COTDNEY ULMER, one of the Island's most beloved musicians and friends has a debilitating heart condition. For more than 30 years, this popular and versatile bassist/vocalist has performed with various music groups in the area, from jazz, gospel, reggae, R&B, rock, blues and soul. Unable to work, medical bills and household finances are causing a hardship on him and his family.

The community of Hilton Head Island, S.C., is coming together to help one of our own who has given so much of himself to this community. This will prove to be one of the biggest and greatest outpourings of love from friends in the hospitality and entertainment business.

WHO: So far, over 20 of the area's most popular bands and entertainers have agreed to appear at this family-friendly event organized by Lavon Stevens. Additionally, more than 10 local restaurants have agreed to participate with food and donations.

HOW: A minimum donation of \$20 is requested. Ticket price includes non-stop entertainment and a buffet provided by participating restaurants at The Shoreline Ballroom, the Island's largest concert venue. Advance tickets are available daily at Captain Goodies and nightly in The Zone Sports Bar at Hilton Head Beach & Tennis Resort.

Volunteers are needed, as well as donations for the auction. Please consider supporting this worthwhile event.

CONTACT: Lavon Stevens 843 298 3321

[loveon@hargray.com](mailto:loveon@hargray.com)

## SPECIAL THANKS

The MOC would like to extend a special thank you to the Hilton Head Island Computer Club. (HHICC) They have volunteered to do all the hard work necessary to distribute this newsletter electronically to 1200 e-mail addresses. We are blessed to have them. You can learn more about their organization at <http://hhicc.org/>

I would also like to thank my editor who finds all my spelling and grammatical errors.

## FEEDBACK

This is your newsletter. If you would like to suggest a change, please send an email to [newsletter@presbyterianmoc.org](mailto:newsletter@presbyterianmoc.org). Likewise, if you would like to be a contributor, please submit your input to [newsletter@presbyterianmoc.org](mailto:newsletter@presbyterianmoc.org) for consideration.

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## RESOURCES

<http://www.ibs.org> International Bible Society  
<http://unbound.biola.edu> The Unbound Bible  
<http://www.upperroom.org> The Upper Room  
<http://www.bible.com> Bible.com  
<http://www.bible.org> Bible.org  
<http://www.audio-bible.com> Audio-Bible  
<http://bible.gospelcom.net> Bible Gateway  
<http://bible.crosswalk.com> Crosswalk  
<http://www.biblesearch.com> Bible search  
<http://www.blueletterbible.org> Blue Letter Bible  
<http://www.christnotes.org> Christ Notes  
<http://www.searchgodsword.org> Search Gods Word  
<http://www.e-sword.net> E-Sword  
<http://www.crosswire.org> The Sword Project  
<http://www.tniv.info> Today' New International Version  
<http://www.christianitytoday.com> Christianity Today  
<http://www.christianity.com> Christianity.Com  
<http://www.beliefnet.com> Belief Network  
<http://www.religionfacts.com> Just Religion Facts  
<http://www.billygraham.org> Billy Graham Evangelism  
<http://www.nae.net> National Association of Evangelicals  
<http://www.causegodjoy.com> Providence Presbyterian  
<http://www.fpchhi.org> First Presbyterian Church  
<http://www.lowcountrypres.org> Low Country

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## WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

The following list is "open" gatherings of Christian men.

Bible Study	8:00am - Wednesday	Providence- Hilton Head	<a href="mailto:hhipal@gmail.com">hhipal@gmail.com</a>
Faith Lessons -Video	6:30pm - Monday	Providence - Hilton Head	<a href="mailto:hhipal@gmail.com">hhipal@gmail.com</a>
Bible Study - Acts	6:30pm - Monday	Providence - Hilton Head	<a href="mailto:hhipal@gmail.com">hhipal@gmail.com</a>
Lunch & Program	12:00-4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	First Presbyterian	Office: 681-3696
Lunch	Wednesday	Church of the Cross - Bluffton	<a href="mailto:Jason.carnes@htc.hargray.com">Jason.carnes@htc.hargray.com</a>
Lunch	Tuesday	Truffles - Bluffton	Rick Turner
Lunch	Thursday	St. Helena - Beaufort	Keith.watsonconstruction.com
Life Lessons over Lunch	12:15 Wednesday	Christ Lutheran Church	tgaffer@roadrunner.com
Bible Study / Outreach	7:30 -8:30 am	Every other Tuesday	Starbucks in Pineland Mall James Y. "Jim" Robinson 368-5641 or 671-4662

We are trying to compile an exhaustive list of all Men's Ministries discipleship opportunities. If you participate in one or know of one, please let me know at [newsletter@presbyterianmoc.org](mailto:newsletter@presbyterianmoc.org).

We welcome your passion, creative ideas, and participation. We need you, but more importantly, you need God and God wants you!

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Appendix A. *Reprinted by Permission – Island Packet*

By MAUREEN SIMPSON

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843-706-8141

Published Saturday, November 1, 2008

Jim Willard knows what happens when the cookie crumbles.

After a 40-year career serving as vice president and senior vice president for six major food companies -- including Nestle, Nabisco and Keebler -- the Hilton Head Island resident has dealt with his fair share of corporate crises.

So in an effort to spare the next generation from another Enron, Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac disaster, Willard will offer his advice on ethical issues and decision-making to more than 80 students from 20 colleges at the 31st annual Ethics/Business Symposium on Hilton Head.

The conference will be held Thursday through Nov. 8 at Providence Presbyterian Church and is sponsored by Presbyterian Men of the Church, a group of more than 1,000 men who belong to various Presbyterian churches in the Lowcountry.

In addition to hearing Willard speak, the students will be asked to identify, discuss and solve the ethical issues and management problems presented to them in several case studies.

"Somehow, we've got to get ethics and social responsibility back into our businesses and into our government, but it starts with individuals," said Willard, who retired to the area in 2003 and serves as board chairman for the Coastal Discovery Museum. "The fact that these young people are going to take three days of their time to sit down and look at ethics tells me something about them as people. It gives me hope. This is a very crucial topic."

Unlike many of his counterparts, Willard got his start in business wearing a lab coat instead of a three-piece. His first job was with Nestle, working as a food microbiologist and chemist in their chocolate factories. He said his transition into management was the result of a conversation with a vice president at the company and a willingness to work on his weaknesses.

"He asked me what I wanted to do with my career and I said, 'I'd love to have your job someday,'" Willard said. "He told me that it would never happen if I kept doing what I was doing. I learned to move on from working as a specialist and become more of a generalist."

To make up for not having a background in finance and business, Willard started taking special courses outside of work and joined Toastmasters in Fulton, N.Y., to polish his public speaking skills. On the job, he transferred shifts to work under the general foreman to learn the ins and outs of the factory.

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"He expected a lot, but one of the things he showed people was great respect, no matter what their education level was or who they were," Willard said. "I came out of there with a much better understanding of how to lead people."

Eventually Willard got assigned to Nestle's corporate office in White Plains, N.Y., to be a technical manager and adviser to the general manager of chocolate operations for the United States. Fittingly, the transition was bittersweet.

"Within two weeks, the general manager resigned, his operations manager died and his assistant went into the hospital with major heart problems," Willard said. "When the last shoe dropped, the senior vice president of operations came down to see me and said, 'I need you to try to step into this and run it the best you can until I figure out what I'm going to do.' I worked my tail off for the next six months and at the end, he gave me the job. I was shocked."

From there, Willard said his ride at the top tier of the food industry was a series of ups and downs with several job moves, successes and challenges -- personally, professionally and spiritually. As part of the symposium, he will share how his faith and a life-changing moment at a conference for work played a role in important business decisions.

In 1981, Willard was at a seminar on finance for non-financial managers at a hotel in Purchase, N.Y., when a fire started at the conference center where the group was meeting.

"Just after lunch we heard cracking and popping, and I could see there were flames coming down right outside the door," Willard recalled. "When I got to the (exit) and opened up the double doors, the smoke was so black and so thick that you couldn't breathe. It forced you down to the floor. We crawled on our stomachs as fast as we could go down this hallway, not knowing whether we were going towards (the fire) or away from it."

Though Willard managed to escape with minor burns, 40 people died in the fire. He described the near-death experience as a wake-up call for a businessman who once thought he was solely in charge of his life.

"Some people may not have a belief at all, but I believe God plays a role in your life, even if you may not be aware of it," Willard said. "After the fire, I just became much more sensitive and conscious of looking for God in my life. I ended up thinking to myself that there's a reason I got out of there. I wanted to work to become more effective as a person and leader."

In addition to the story of his spiritual awakening, Willard said he plans to share a simple test with the students that has sustained him through the years and served as the foundation of his ethical viewpoints. The lesson was one he learned outside the boardroom and from his father.

"My dad always told me, 'Make sure that you can look yourself in the mirror every day and like what you see. If you don't, then do something about it,'" Willard said. "I don't consider myself an expert in ethics, but I can talk to it. I've had some big discussions in front of the mirror throughout my life."

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## Appendix B

Dr. Andrew A. Sorensen  
President, The University of South Carolina

In May 2002, Andrew A. Sorensen was named the 27th president of the University of South Carolina (USC) after serving as president of the University of Alabama, provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Florida, executive director of the AIDS Institute at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, and dean of the School of Public Health at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He has also served as a visiting faculty member at the Harvard University School of Medicine and the University of Cambridge School of Medicine.

Author or editor of eight books and more than 100 articles, Dr. Sorensen is a professor of medicine in USC's School of Medicine. He holds a bachelor's degree in ethics and master's and doctoral degrees in medical sociology from Yale University. He also earned a bachelor of arts degree in history from the University of Illinois and a master of public health degree from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Sorensen's awards include the University of Florida Student Government Association's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Government, Yale University Divinity School's Alumni Association Award for Distinguished Community Service, the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce Ambassador of the Year Award, and honorary degrees from the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign and the Medical University of South Carolina.

He is president of the Southeastern Conference, past chair of the Southern Universities Research Association Council of Presidents, chair of the Health Sciences South Carolina board, and past president of the Preservation Institute of Nantucket board. He served on the Bush transition team Educational Advisory Committee (2000-01), DHHS Secretary's Council on Public Health Preparedness (2002-05), and now serves on the National Board of Public Health Examiners and the National Institutes of Health National Science Advisory Board on Biosecurity.

He is a native of Pittsburgh. He and his wife, Donna, have two sons, Aaron and Benjamin. Dr. Sorensen enjoys sailing, skiing, bicycling, and reading stories with his grandson, Art.

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