



Dr. Brower addresses students and parents during New Student Orientation.

When the *Viewpoint's* editor, Christine Spicer, stopped by my office to discuss the magazine's focus for the coming year, I was immediately interested.

"This year," she said, "we want to focus on 'A Year of Hope' as we look at creative solutions and dedicated work being done by PLNU people to address some important challenges."

As I listened to the plans for the year, I could hear the connection to PLNU's mission: to teach – minds are engaged and challenged; to shape – character is modeled and formed; to send – service becomes an expression of faith. As I considered "A Year of Hope,"

I recognized that PLNU alumni, students, faculty, and staff are in fact living lives of hope in many places and through numerous efforts. Learning and character have taken deep roots in faithful commitments to make a difference in a world that is too often dark and without hope. Yes, "A Year of Hope" is perfectly aligned with lives of hope lived out through PLNU people!

In this edition of the *Viewpoint*, the global crisis of human trafficking, which enslaves more than 27 million people, will be explored, and the responses of churches, organizations, students, and faculty to this tragic reality will be highlighted. As you read, take hope in how God is using many people to work beyond themselves and be the hands and feet of Christ to those with little hope.

In future editions, we will look at advances in cancer research and how refugees are being assisted in starting over in America. As you read, be reminded that the message of hope is not limited to headline worthy stories and efforts. Hope through Christ is always our calling and our message, and it is to be lived out every day in every aspect of our lives. Through these stories, it is our hope that you will be challenged to do what you can where you are to make a difference in your world.

Positively,

Bob Brower, Ph.D.
President

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The Viewpoint

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