

*“These three generations of pastors evidence through their vocational witness the importance of understanding the church’s mission, and they embody the church’s history as lived testimony...”*

– Brian K. Blount, President,  
Union Presbyterian Seminary



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## CURRIE FAMILY PROFESSOR of the History and Mission of the Church Union Presbyterian Seminary Charlotte



There are few families in Presbyterianism whose name is more synonymous with church history and mission—particularly those whose contributions to ministry and education have spanned nearly 100 years—than the Currie family.

It is with this family’s devotion to the church and to theological education in mind that Union Presbyterian Seminary announces the establishment of the Currie Family Professor of the History and Mission of the Church at Union Presbyterian Seminary Charlotte.



# The Currie Family Professor of the History and Mission of the Church at Union Presbyterian Seminary Charlotte

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"This is a campaign to raise \$2.75 million for creation of this professorship," says Union President Brian K. Blount, "and I am delighted to report that we have already raised \$1 million of that total. I can't imagine a family story and a name more appropriate for this important chair."

Thomas W. Currie Sr. (1879-1943) was ordained to the ministry in 1911, taught at Austin Seminary, and served as its president. All three of his sons became Presbyterian ministers, and his daughter a Christian educator.



It is with the second Tom Currie that the Currie family's history merges directly with Union Presbyterian Seminary's. In 1958, Thomas W. Currie Jr. graduated from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia (one of the predecessor schools to our Union Presbyterian Seminary). He served many churches in Texas, developing a particular passion for the mission of the church in its past and present.

Most significantly for Union's story, Thomas W. Currie III (b. 1946) followed closely in his namesakes' footsteps. He served as pastor of congregations in Brenham, Texas, and Kerrville, Texas, before helping establish Union Presbyterian Seminary's Charlotte campus in 2001.

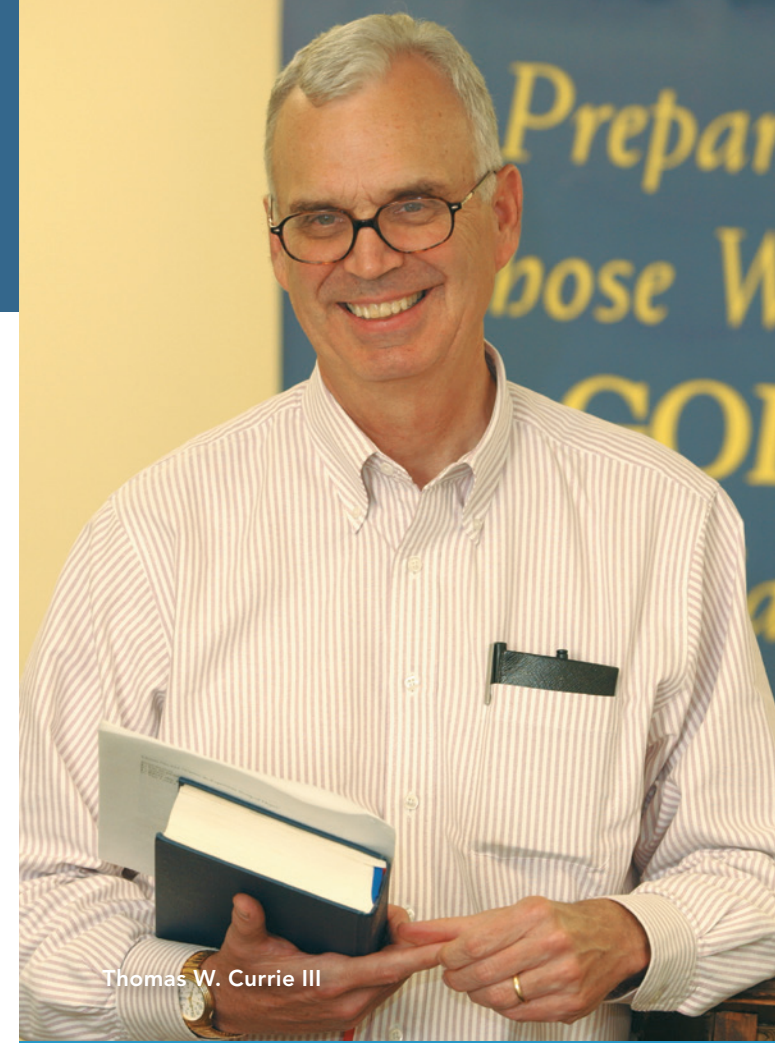
Tom was a professor of theology with a deep commitment to the local church as the essential context for the Seminary's work. Tom Currie III retired from the Seminary in 2015, having served as dean of the Charlotte campus since its inception.

"These three generations of pastors evidence through their vocational witness the importance of understanding the church's mission, and they embody the church's history as lived testimony," adds Blount. "This professorship recognizes their substantial and continuing contributions to the church and society, and will help enable the education, training, and preparation of future leaders of the church as they come to value and learn from the church's ongoing mission and resonant history."

Through financial support, trusteeship, administrative service, and service on Seminary faculty, the Currie family has been faithfully involved in theological education generally and in the ministry of Union Presbyterian Seminary specifically. As founding dean and professor of theology at the Union's Charlotte campus,, Tom Currie had an enormous impact on the lives of church leaders throughout the country and the world.

"Church history reminds us that the Holy Spirit desires a global, diverse, and always surprising movement into God's future," says Richard Boyce, Vice President and Academic Dean, Charlotte campus. "In naming this professorship after the Currie family, we honor their wonderful tradition and mark their enduring legacy of participation in and support for equipping faith leaders. We ask our faithful donors to support this much-needed professorship while honoring the Currie family's commitment."

"For generations, the Currie family has been committed to the mission of Christ's Church—locally, nationally, and globally," Boyce adds. "The Currie Family Professor of the History and Mission of the Church will make this commitment tangible for generations to come. Grounded in Reformed theology, flowing out of a particular historical tradition, located in a denominational seminary formed to meet the needs of area congregations, this chair will continue the work and witness of the Currie family in ways only the Holy Spirit can imagine and inspire."



Thomas W. Currie III

To make a contribution in support of the Currie professorship, please contact:

Rev. Dr. Timothy S. Moore  
Union Presbyterian Seminary  
5141 Sharon Road  
Charlotte, NC 28210

Phone: (980) 636-1660  
Email: [tmoore@upsem.edu](mailto:tmoore@upsem.edu)

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