

## How'd you do it, Truett?\*



Founder, chairman and CEO of Chick-fil-A, Inc., S. Truett Cathy, will speak April 22 at 7 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Hendersonville. He is the third and final presenter scheduled this season in the church's Education & Arts (E&A) ecumenical faith series offered free to the public.

His inspirational talk will reveal lessons from his life that combine pursuing business based on biblical principles with passions for helping young people and giving back to the community. Some of his books and details about charitable resources will be available following his presentation, as well as a reception sponsored by the church men.

\* Title of his latest book published by Looking Glass Press, 2007.

**About Mr. Cathy**—Growing up in Atlanta, Mr. Cathy started his entrepreneurial life at age 8 with a Coca-Cola stand in his front yard, followed by a paper route to assist his family's Depression-depressed finances. He entered the restaurant business in 1946, when he and his brother Ben opened an area diner called The Dwarf Grill (later renamed The Dwarf House). Its first day sales totaled \$58.20.

But eventually it prospered, and he opened the first Chick-fil-A Restaurant in Atlanta's Greenbriar Shopping Center in 1967. Not only is he credited with inventing the boneless breast of chicken sandwich, he pioneered the establishment of restaurants in shopping malls. Today, Chick-fil-A is the second largest quick-serve restaurant chain in the U.S., with more than 1480 locations in 38 states and Washington, D.C. Still privately held and family owned, the chain has enjoyed 41 consecutive years of positive sales growth.



A large part of Mr. Cathy's approach has involved a sense of obligation to the community and its young people. He and his wife Jeannette founded *WinShape Foundation* in 1984 to help young people succeed in life through scholarships and other programs. The foundation annually awards 20–30 scholarships up to \$32,000 each jointly with Berry College in Rome, Ga. More than \$25 million has also been given to help further the education of almost 20,000 restaurant employees since 1973.

Other WinShape programs include *WinShape Homes*, currently 10 homes that supply long-term family care for foster children aged 6–16; *Camp WinShape*, a series of two-week summer camps attended each year by more than 1,900 boys and girls from across the country to enhance their Christian faith and character; and *WinShape RetreatSM*, a year-round high-end facility that hosts marriage-enrichment retreats and



business and church-related conferences.

A devoutly religious man, Mr. Cathy has built his life and business on hard work, humanity and biblical principles. All Chick-fil-A Restaurants are closed on Sunday without exception. When not managing his company, he donates his time to community efforts and has taught a Sunday school class for 13-year-old boys for more than 50 years. He has received numerous business and humanitarian awards over the years, including the Presidential Volunteer Service Award presented by President George W. Bush in 2008 for giving more than 4,000 hours of lifetime volunteer service. He has also authored four books and co-authored another

since 1989.

Mr. Cathy is also a dedicated family man, whose family now extends to three more generations and a wider “foster family.” His two sons, Dan and Don (“Bubba”), who learned the restaurant business from the ground up, now serve in Chick-fil-A’s senior management and assist with the Foundation. His daughter Trudy and her husband John direct Camp WinShape. At last count he and his wife have 12 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and more than 150 “foster grandchildren.”



Also see [www.truettcathy.com](http://www.truettcathy.com) and [www.winshape.org](http://www.winshape.org).

**About E&A**—As part of its mission of service and outreach to the community, St. Timothy started the E&A series last year to offer new opportunities to explore and enrich personal faith through education and the arts. The ecumenical series has also received a grant this year from the North Central Tennessee Chapter of *Thrivent Financial for Lutherans*.

All E&A programs are free and open to the public. A nursery for babies and toddlers is available (please call ahead to the church office, 824-6244, to indicate nursery needs, if possible). A simple reception follows each presentation. Handicap parking is available in the front of the church sanctuary at 650 E. Main St.; additional parking is in the rear. Also see [www.sttimothyonline.org](http://www.sttimothyonline.org)

Please invite your friends, neighbors and co-workers to enjoy this wonderfully inspiring speaker with you!