Union University music professor and organist Ron Boud will retire in May after serving for 12 years on the Union faculty. He has studied in New York, Chicago, Baltimore, Athens and Vienna, Austria, and has enjoyed a long career as an educator, recitalist and composer. He recently served for six years as organist at Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tenn., and as interim organist at the 6,000-member Brentwood United Methodist Church.

In June, he and his wife Janice, vice president for communications and human resources at West Tennessee Healthcare, will celebrate 39 years of marriage.

An avid shopper, Boud claims a “black belt in shopping.” “Anybody can pay full price, but it takes an artist-shopper to find the best for huge reduction in price,” Boud says.

In the following interview, Boud answers a few questions about himself and his upcoming retirement.

1. How do you plan to spend your upcoming retirement? Any projects you’ve put off that you’re hoping to tackle?

In the immediate future, I’ll be working on “Celebrating Grace: A Hymnal for Baptist Worship.” I’m expecting that I’ll continue to perform recitals and substitute on the organ at churches throughout West Tennessee. I expect to accept the role as “interim organist” at my church as needed.

2. You’re going to be involved in compiling a new hymnal. Exactly what will your role be in that project? Can you describe what the new hymnal will be?

The new hymnal will represent the broad spectrum of Baptist preferences for congregational singing. It will include the best of many centuries and many countries. I shall be overseeing the offerings for organ which will complement the hymnal.

3. Who are some of your favorite composers?

My favorite composers are Rachmaninoff, Brahms, Vierne, Widor, Cochereau, Bach and in the “pop” arena - Marvin Hamlisch.

4. How can Union University as a community encourage more classical music in homes? For young couples who might not know much about classical music, where’s a good place for them to start?

It needs to start with a vision. Some of our faculty are quite intentional that their children hear great music and great hymns in the home. If our children are hearing only the fruits of the pop culture in the home, church and school, there is little likelihood that they’ll develop an appetite for the timeless literary and artistic expressions.
We Are Back…

From the President

It is so energizing to have our students back on campus after the tornado of February 5, 2008. We are so very thankful to all of you who are praying for us. Many of you served as volunteers to help clean up the campus aftermath. So many have made a special gift to the Disaster Relief Fund and others of you have hosted students in your homes. Our hearts are filled with gratitude and amazement at the grace of God being poured out on the students, faculty, staff, and administration over the past months.

The new dorms are under construction. With good weather we are hopeful that more than 50% will be completed by the Fall of this year. A wonderful new gathering place for students has opened called Barefoot’s Joe. This coffee house has great hospitality. As always, the sack lunches are a great energy boost! Sandra Fowler and Sue Smith did a great job putting those bags together.

The lunchroom is extra special this Spring with Dr. Ronald Boud performing a piano recital for us. We are so honored with his willingness to bless and encourage us through the “sounds of music.” Parking will be a bit limited. Please park in the spaces near the outdoor volleyball court area. I hope to see you there.

With gratitude and thanksgiving to a faithful, almighty God!

Thank You

The Union Auxiliary would like to express thanksgiving to the Dobbs family for the memorial gifts to the Auxiliary in memory of Leslie Dobbs. Leslie was a former trustee of Union University and was instrumental in helping to found the Union Auxiliary.

Union Auxiliary Scholarship Fund Exceeds $318,377.54

A special word of thanks goes to Sandra Fowler and the MK Committee along with Sandra Williams and the International Committee for hosting the Christmas dinners for our adopted students. The MK dinner at our home was a real highlight with one of the largest groups of MKs we’ve had to participate in recent years. Sandra Williams makes the International students feel so welcomed with her generous hospitality. As always, the sack lunches during finals were a great energy boost! Sandra Fowler and Sue Smith did a great job putting those bags together.

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Union Auxiliary Officers and Committees 2006-2008

Executive Committee Members
President
Sandra Fowler  427-2450
Vice President for Programs
Nelle Agee  660-3594
Vice President for Membership
Dot Leathers  668-5034
Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer
Zan Holmes  668-1240
Recording Secretary/Historian
Cindy Meredith  661-5202

International Students Committee
Sandi Lowery, Chair  664-7096

Scholarship Committee
Zan Holmes, Chair  668-1240

Annual Spring Luncheon
Noon, Thursday, April 17, 2008 • Coburn Dining Room
Piano Recital performed by Dr. Ron Boud • Teri R. Eagle $12 each and door prizes included.
Contact Cindy Meredith at 661-5202 for more information.

Scholarship Committee Meeting
10:00 am, Tuesday, May 6, 2008 • Craig Conference Room

Annual Fall Luncheon
Noon, Thursday, October 23, 2008 • Coburn Dining Room
Speaker to be announced • Lunch and door prizes will be provided.

Union Auxiliary Members Volunteer

1. (1 & 2) Study students, work and relax in Barefoot’s Joe. (3) Dr. Dockery greets Dr. Sue Rogers at the dormitory ground breaking ceremony.

2. Dormitory wreckage in front of the Miller Tower clock which stopped as the tornado ripped through campus at 7:02 PM on February 5.

3. Mary Anne Poe helps with bagging and tagging student belongings. (2) Dottie Myatt manages details of relocating displaced students to the Jett. (3) Cynthia Jayne coordinates student belonging retrieval efforts. (4) Linda Grimm and Melanie Rickman prepare to receive student belongings.

4. Lanese Dockery helps with bagging and tagging student belongings.

5. (1 & 2) Study students, work and relax in Barefoot’s Joe. (3) Dr. Dockery greets Dr. Sue Rogers at the dormitory ground breaking ceremony.

6. Sandra Fowler and Sue Smith pour out on the students, faculty, staff, and administration over the past months.

7. MKs we’ve had to participate in recent years. Sandra Williams makes the International students feel so welcomed with her generous hospitality. As always, the sack lunches during finals were a great energy boost! Sandra Fowler and Sue Smith did a great job putting those bags together.

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