

Union University

2008-2009 Annual Report



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from the president

Union University is a special place with marvelous students, gifted scholars, and a talented staff who share a distinctive mission. The 2008-09 academic year was one of the finest in Union's long history.



To tell the full story of this past year would have required a lengthy volume. In your hands, you hold this year's annual report, which introduces you to a small selection of highlights. We are thankful for the amazing accomplishments of faculty, staff, and students.

For the 12th straight year, Union experienced an enrollment increase. *U.S. News & World Report* recognized Union as one of the top universities to watch in the entire country, one of the 77 up and coming institutions. In addition, this publication affirmed the high quality of the Union faculty by listing them as one of the top institutions in the country

committed to effective undergraduate teaching. Numerous other affirmations and recognitions, such as being listed on the President's Honor Roll for Community Service for the third consecutive year, could be identified. We are grateful for these recognitions.

The past year has been an exhausting one for many members of the Union community who have labored to complete the restoration of the campus following the tornado of Feb. 5, 2008. Many others have continued to pray, to encourage, and to offer support for these efforts. For all who have been used of God to complete the work, we want to express our deep and heartfelt appreciation.

For alumni and donors who have shared their lives and resources with Union University over the past year, we are immensely grateful. We are to offer thankful hearts for a group of capable and dedicated trustees who have provided wise leadership throughout the year, in addition to many helpful advisors, parents, and friends. All of these and many others have been God's instruments and agents for Union throughout this past year.

Even as we offer gratitude for the blessings of this past year, a few of which can be found in this report, we look forward with anticipation and expectation to good days ahead for Union University.

Faithfully,

David S. Dockery





Union welcomed the class of 2013 to campus, a group that includes 78 Scholars of Excellence (students who scored at least 31 on the ACT) and 10 National Merit finalists.

fall enrollment at an all-time high

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In an era when recruiting and retaining students can be a struggle, Union University has posted 12 consecutive enrollment increases. The work of recruiting in 2008-09 ended with a fall enrollment of 4,050, an all-time record and a 7.4 percent increase over last year's record class. Among 1,200 new students were a record 670 traditional undergraduates. "We are thankful to God for a record enrollment and for each student represented by these numbers," said President David S. Dockery. "We will pray that their influence for the good of church and society, in accordance with the university's mission, will be multiplied for years to come." Since 1996, Union's enrollment is up 105 percent. ❖



Will Trautman steps up to receive the Elizabeth Tigrett Medal, which has been awarded to an outstanding graduate at Union every year since 1912.

tigrett winner will trautman

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Will Trautman graduated from Union in 2004 with a degree in philosophy. But shortly after completing that program, he decided to pursue a new academic direction. So he did something daring and re-enrolled at Union to pursue an engineering degree (which wasn't yet available when he first came to Union). And he did more than earn his degree in that field – he excelled. Will won the 2009 Elizabeth Tigrett Medal, given by vote of the entire Union faculty to an outstanding member of the senior class. He now works as a systems engineer for Lockheed Martin in Syracuse, N.Y. ❖



Dean Gregory A. Thornbury and other faculty members in the School of Christian Studies have played key leadership roles in bringing important discussions to the Union campus.

important discussions start at union

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On the 15th anniversary of Robert George's book "Making Men Moral," leading thinkers convened to honor and re-examine the original work. In the 400th year of the Baptist movement, leading denominational leaders and other Christian scholars met to consider their shared future. Both of these important conversations occurred at Union University. Building on the successes of previous Baptist Identity Conferences, Union's Christian Studies faculty joined evangelical leaders and students to consider a wide array of issues. Sadly, Father Richard John Neuhaus passed away just weeks prior to the Making Men Moral conference, at which he had been scheduled to give the closing address. Those in attendance honored his legacy of engaging the culture for the sake of "first things." ❖



Small class sizes enable business students to interact closely with professors such as Walton Padelford (left) and Roland Porter (above).

test results place business students among the best

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McAfee School of Business Dean Keith Absher says his faculty stays abreast of the very latest national and global trends. “They’re getting across the essentials that students need to be competitive,” says Absher. Such statements might be expected, but Absher has hard data to back his claim. Union business students scored in the 85th percentile nationally in the annual Education Testing Service Major Field Examination in Business. Students at 564 U.S. colleges and universities take the test. They were in the 90th percentile for economics, management, information systems and international issues components; the 95th percentile in marketing. Union business students have posted improving scores in each of the past five years. ❖



Simulation opportunities on the Jackson campus expanded with the addition of iStan simulator from METI. The iStan is the most advanced simulator presently used in educational programs.

simulators build skill and confidence

In the not-so-distant past, nursing students learned about patient care only through the treatment of real patients suffering from real health problems. There's not much room for error in such situations. Fast forward to 2009, when students at Union University prepare for their clinical instruction by working first with patient simulators. These mannequin-like tools are attached to sophisticated hardware and software designed to exhibit symptoms from ailments as diverse as heart attacks, diabetes, respiratory illnesses, blood clots, among many others. This cutting-edge instructional tool encourages precisely the kind of skill and confidence that student must develop. It empowers them to feel more comfortable treating real patients when they leave the classroom setting. ❖



Rhonda E. Hudson, associate professor of social work: "Our program is rigorous, because we absolutely want our students to be excellently prepared."

msw program answers growing need

When Union began its undergraduate program in social work in the mid 1990s, the inquiries began almost immediately: When would Union start a graduate program in social work? Those requests increased over the years, prompting Union to launch its Master of Social Work degree in the fall of 2008. More than 70 enrolled in the first class. "Just because the need had been so great, we had all the students we could handle," says Mary Anne Poe, professor of social work and director of Union's Center for Just and Caring Communities. That momentum carried over to the second year as well with another full contingent of students. ❖



This year's incoming class of 47 students comes to Union from 19 states and 39 undergraduate institutions. Less than half (46 percent) are from Tennessee; 17 percent are minority students.

pharmacy pursues accreditation

The Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education does not award final accreditation to a school until its first class graduates. But a school can receive candidate status, which entitles graduates of a class so designated to the same rights and privileges as graduates of an accredited program. Union University's School of Pharmacy was awarded candidate status following a series of intensive site visits in which it demonstrated commitment to the highest standards of pharmacy practice and education. "The faculty and staff have worked diligently to reach this point," says Dean Sheila Mitchell, who adds the evaluations went so well that it's possible another site visit won't be needed for two years. ❖



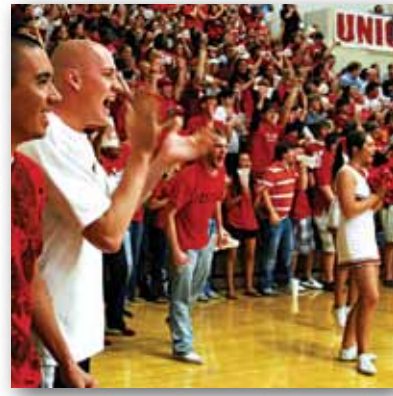
Union leadership monitored construction of Bowld Commons throughout the year, and scheduled a grand opening for Feb. 5, 2010 – the two-year anniversary of a devastating tornado strike on campus

bowld commons nears completion

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Following the EF-4 tornado that spread a \$45 million path of destruction across Union's campus, rebuilding priorities called for immediate attention to student housing and classroom buildings. Those facilities were rebuilt or repaired within six months. The final rebuilding project is a 30,000-square-foot facility nearly twice the combined size of two flattened commons buildings in the former Hurt and Watters complexes. The Kathryn S. Bowld Student Commons includes apartments for two residence directors, a large multi-purpose room, classrooms and kitchens, a game room and conference rooms, TV rooms and gathering areas. There are even outdoor built-in grills and outdoor patio space on both the first and second floors. ❖

campus life in 2009



The following pages contain some campus highlights for the 2008-09 fiscal year (August 1, 2008-July 31, 2009). Also included are some notable accomplishments by Union University faculty, students and staff. It is not an exhaustive list and is only intended as a brief summary. For more details about Union news, go to www.uu.edu/news.



{ Fig. 1 }

Forty-five students – members of Union’s inaugural class in the School of Pharmacy – received white coats and the university’s blessing during the **first white coat ceremony** held Aug. 27, 2008, in the G.M. Savage Memorial Chapel. “This is indeed a historic day for Union University, and a long awaited and anticipated day for the faculty and staff of the School of Pharmacy,” said Sheila Mitchell, dean of the School of Pharmacy, in her opening remarks during the ceremony. { Fig. 1 }

Less than seven months after massive tornado damage forced the demolition of multiple student housing buildings, **Union University dedicated 14 new residence life buildings** in a special ceremony Sept. 12, 2008. The four quads in the new complex have been named Ayers, Grace, Hurt and Watters. President Dockery noted the work of the contractors –Worsham Brothers Construction Co. of Corinth, Miss., and Brasfield Construction Co. of Jackson, Tenn. – who finished the complexes ahead of schedule. The two-story buildings in the residence life complexes house about 700 students. Total cost for the project was about \$30 million.

A Discovery Channel documentary called **“Tornado Rampage”** featured segments about Union University and interviews with students who survived the 2008 tornado that hit Union’s campus. The program was scheduled to air in August but was delayed. Union will be featured in the documentary’s first segment. Another documentary from producers working with National Geographic also features Union tornado experiences.

Culture and identity became the focus of a fall 2008 Town and Gown series designed to give students the opportunity to explore how their sense of identity influences the ways that they interact across local, regional

or international cultural boundaries. “Culture shapes our identity in many ways and within many contexts,” said Cynthia Jayne, associate provost for intercultural and international studies at Union. “Wherever we work, our relationships bring us into contact with people whose personal and cultural identity challenge, broaden or reinforce our own sense of identity.”

U.S. News & World Report classified Union as one of 80 schools in the nation “where the faculty has an unusual commitment to undergraduate teaching.” The publication’s annual August edition of “America’s Best Colleges” also ranked Union among 77 “schools to watch” nationally and 16th among master’s universities in the South. It was Union’s third consecutive top 20 ranking and the 13th straight year for a top-tier classification from the magazine.

C-SPAN’s 45-foot mobile production studio visited Union University Oct. 14, 2008, as part of its first **“Road to the White House”** tour. Prior to its Union visit, the bus had been to 43 state capitals and 195 schools, where 374 elected officials, 4,500 teachers and more than 40,000 students have been on board. Students at Union had the opportunity to tour the bus and learn about C-SPAN’s coverage of the presidential campaign. They got a first-hand look at the mobile production studio and media center. { Fig. 2 }

Desperation for God and his spirit must mark the lives of Christians and propel them to seek his glory above all things, David Platt told Union students Oct. 8-10, 2008. Platt, pastor of The Church at Brook Hills in Birmingham, Ala., was the keynote speaker for **Union’s annual Faith in Practice week**. “We have reduced (Jesus) to a poor, puny savior who is just begging for us to accept him,” Platt said in his first message. “Accept him. As if Jesus needed to be accepted by you or me. Jesus doesn’t need our acceptance. He is infinitely worthy of all the glory in the universe.” { Fig. 3 }



{ Fig. 2 }



{ Fig. 3 }



{ Fig. 4 }

At the **dedication ceremony for the new Carl Grant Events Center**, President Dockery told the group gathered that the university would now be able to more fully exercise biblical hospitality to both campus groups and those from the broader community. The Grant Center is a \$3.5 million, 16,000-square-foot conference center and banquet facility. The new center seats 600 people and includes a lobby area, public restrooms, a staging room, state-of-the-art audio-visuals and a new president’s dining room. It also houses the Heritage Center, an area that tells Union’s history from 1823-2007 through hundreds of photographs. { Fig. 4 }

Norah O’Donnell, the chief Washington correspondent for MSNBC, was the keynote speaker for Union’s 10th annual Union Forum. The **Union Forum** luncheon was the first event in the new Carl Grant Events Center on the Union campus. { Fig. 5 }

Union inducted six new members to its **Sports Hall of Fame** during Homecoming Week. Among the honorees: James A. “Jimmie” Bryant, (’63) track; Ronnie G. Giddens Jr., (’87) baseball; Joe Guyon, (posthumously) football; Lisa Hutchens, (’83, posthumously) women’s basketball; Keith Reynolds (’77), men’s basketball; and Jim Swope, men’s basketball. Special recognition was also presented to David Blackstock (’64), retiring athletic director. The new surface in Fred DeLay Gymnasium was officially renamed “David Blackstock Court.”

Sixty Union teams fanned out over the Jackson community on Nov. 5, 2008, for the sixth annual **“Campus and Community: A Day of Remembrance and Service.”** More than 800 students, faculty and staff participated. Campus and Community day is an opportunity for Union to show its appreciation to the community for its assistance after tornadoes hit the campus Nov. 10, 2002, and Feb. 5, 2008. Union cancels most classes on

this day each year to allow the university community to participate in projects at such places as local schools, nursing homes and social organizations. { Fig. 6 }

Union broadcasting students launched a 30-minute daily news program airing on EPlusTV 6 in Jackson. Produced in the new high-definition broadcasting studio in Jennings Hall, **“Jackson 24/7”** began Oct. 27, 2008, and airs each day at noon on channel 6. It is replayed at 10 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. The content of the program is local news and events, and not strictly Union-related stories. { Fig. 7 }

A special fund at Union University will honor Union graduate and longtime Bolivar minister David Cooper. Cooper’s son Tom, a media ethics expert and professor of visual and media arts at Emerson College in Boston, established the **David Cooper Legacy Fund** to recognize his father. “He’s a man of God,” Tom Cooper said of his father. “He’s very humble, very modest and always gives the credit to others.” The fund was used to support a room in the new student commons building. David Cooper (’42) received the university’s education service award and an honorary doctorate.

Nurse practitioners play important roles as health care providers. About 40 nurse practitioner students and alumni were honored during the **School of Nursing’s inaugural Willow Ceremony** Nov. 13, 2008, on Union’s Germantown campus. Each student received a willow branch cutting and a gift bag to commemorate the event. “The willow tree is a metaphor for the nurse practitioner,” said Valerie Watters-Burke, chair of graduate nursing programs at Union. She said the tree’s flexible branches represent a network of cooperative nurses, while the strong roots signify the demanding academic preparation required for a master’s degree in nursing. { Fig. 8 }



{ Fig. 5 }



{ Fig. 6 }



{ Fig. 7 }



{ Fig. 8 }

Union trustees Dec. 5, 2008, approved **two new doctoral programs** – the Doctor of Nursing Practice and the Doctor of Ministry in Expository Preaching. The Doctor of Nursing Practice is a 40-hour program that can be completed in five semesters and provides a nurse practitioner track, a nurse anesthesia track and an executive leadership track. The Doctor of Ministry in Expository Preaching began at Union's Stephen Olford Center in Memphis in July 2009. President Dockery said 2007-2008 was the largest giving year in history, with more than 8,000 donors giving more than \$19 million.

good days since," Dockery said. The evening featured a dinner and a worship service with a 250-voice community choir, 30-piece orchestra, Scripture readings and a new video chronicling Union's progress over the past year. { Fig. 9 }

One hundred eighteen students were invited to Union's annual **Scholars of Excellence Weekend** Feb. 20-21. "We thank God for each student participating in Scholars of Excellence weekend," said Rich Grimm, Union's vice president for enrollment services. "This has shaped up to be the largest and most qualified groups of scholars ever to participate in the event. We look forward to hosting them and their families, and to seeing many of them enroll at Union this coming fall."

A long-term asset gift of about 55 acres of commercial land to Union by two local companies is the **largest gift in the university's history**. Donated by RMR Investment Co., LLC and Campbell Street Development Co., LLC, the land is located along Interstate 40 with frontage on I-40 and Ridgecrest Road at exit 83. President Dockery said over the next year Union administrators and trustees hope to develop a long-term plan for the land. Any future development by Union on this property would be known as Union University's Moss Creek Campus.

Studying the past is important so black Americans can know who they are in the present, Harrell Carter said Feb. 20 at Union's second annual **Black History Month program**. Carter, president of the Jackson-Madison County branch of the NAACP, addressed the program's theme, "Why We Celebrate," by examining the life of Carter G. Woodson, the founder of Black History Month. There were musical performances by Union's Mosaic Gospel Choir, Union alumnus Will Gray, pianist Patricia Porter and the Dugger Family Praise Team. Jacqueline Taylor, assistant dean of students and director of career services at Union, organized the event. { Fig. 10 }

Union began offering an **Education Specialist degree** at its Hendersonville campus Jan. 31. The 18-month, 39-hour program offers classes in a format for working teachers and administrators. Concentrations are available for licensure (administration and supervision) and non-licensure (curriculum and supervision). The first classes met at First Baptist Church in Hendersonville.

Representatives from Union University's Stephen Olford Center and Germantown campus joined with members of True Light Baptist Church in Memphis Jan. 19 to **honor the life of Martin Luther King Jr.** A worship service kicked off a day of partnership and service between the Union campuses and the church. It was the first time for Union's campuses in Memphis to celebrate the birthday of King in such a way. Following the service, Union nursing students provided health screenings at Parkview Apartments near the church, while education professors and Union staff members read to children.

President Dockery addressed about 1,700 people at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson as part of a special service to mark the **one-year anniversary of the tornado** that hammered Union's campus and caused \$40 million in damage. "It was one of the darkest nights in Union history, but there have been so many

Led by Josephine Owino's 27 points, the Union Lady Bulldogs defeated Lambuth University 73-63 Mar. 24 to win the **NAIA women's basketball national championship** in Jackson's Oman Arena. Union led cross-town Lambuth by 10 at half, but the Lady Eagles made a run late in the game that cut the lead to six before consecutive scores by Owino put the Union lead back to 10. Kaitlin Dudley added 18 points for Union, which won its third national championship in the past five years. { Fig. 11 }

Union broke ground April 17 on a **new building for the School of Pharmacy**. Located immediately west of Jennings Hall, the 54,000-square-foot facility will house the School of Pharmacy's classrooms, labs, faculty offices and dean's office. In addition to the 40,000 square feet for the pharmacy program, the building will also include additional space for healthcare simulation education. Completion is expected Summer 2010. { Fig. 12 }

Indianapolis Colts quarterback **Peyton Manning** offered lessons from football that can apply to life's challenges during his keynote address April 20 at Union University's first **Roy L. White Golf and Gala**. The banquet event drew about 1,300 people to the Carl Perkins Civic Center and completed a day that began with a golf tournament at the Jackson Country Club. **John Dancy ('59)**, former NBC senior correspondent, spoke at a breakfast that kicked off the golf tournament. President Dockery said the new event introduced Union to a constituency that might not have attended other events at the University in recent years. { Fig. 13 }

Union began a **Master of Education degree program in Hendersonville**, on June 9. Twenty-two teachers from Sumner, Robertson, Davidson and Williamson counties enrolled in the program. "I am honored that you have decided to be a part of our program at Union," said Charles Lea, executive director of Union University Hendersonville, when he

welcomed the students during the orientation. "The next 14 months will change your lives personally and professionally." Students pursuing the Master of Education degree will complete 30 hours of graduate-level coursework during that time frame.

Nearly 430 Union University graduates received degrees May 23 on the university's Great Lawn during the 184th annual **spring commencement ceremony**. That brought to 968 the number of Union graduates from the class of 2009 – the largest class in Union's history. The graduates represented 25 states and such countries as Kenya, Russia, South Africa, Brazil, Scotland and others. { Fig. 14 }

The Union women's NAIA national championship basketball team raised more than \$12,000 worth of food and donations as part of a **food drive to benefit the Children's Hunger Fund**. "In a day and time when athletics is so over-glorified, it is great to be able to use athletics to benefit others," Coach Mark Campbell said. Union's Christina Ray, a senior on the 2009-10 team, led the group of players in this project.

Union's School of Pharmacy was awarded **"candidate status" by the Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education**, a major milestone on the journey to achieving full accreditation upon graduation of the first class of students in 2012. Dean Sheila Mitchell said the ACPE representative told her that a plan for pharmacy education "doesn't get any better than this." Candidate status implies that ACPE expects the program will become accredited when the first class graduates. "If we continue on the plan exactly as we have mapped it out, we do not expect another accreditation visit for two years," Mitchell said. { Fig. 15 }

Union welcomed incoming freshmen to campus June 15 for **fall registration**, the largest freshman class in school history. The incoming freshman class includes about 78 Scholars of Excellence (students

{ Fig. 9 }



{ Fig. 10 }



{ Fig. 11 }



{ Fig. 12 }



{ Fig. 13 }



{ Fig. 14 }



{ Fig. 15 }



{ Fig. 16 }



{ Fig. 17 }



{ Fig. 18 }



{ Fig. 19 }



who scored at least 31 on the ACT), and 10 National Merit finalists. University officials projected a total fall 2009 enrollment of about 4,000 students, up from 3,770 last year. { Fig. 16 }

At a dinner July 21, **Union's first Hendersonville campus graduates** were recognized. Five students completed course requirements for the Master of Christian Studies degree and became eligible to participate in commencement exercises Aug. 1 at Union's main campus in Jackson. The Union University Master of Christian Studies degree is designed for laypersons and professionals ready to take their knowledge of the Bible and preparation for the ministry to the next level. The degree integrates theology and practice into the life of the church and world.

in memoriam

David Melvin ('64), heart transplant surgeon, died Nov. 8 at the University Hospital in Cincinnati after a three-week hospitalization. He was 66. Melvin was diagnosed on October 17, 2008 with bilateral pneumonia and acute myeloid leukemia. He was surrounded by his wife Sue and their four sons when he died. Melvin began the Adult Heart Transplant Program at the University of Cincinnati in 1985, and performed more than 100 heart transplants. In 1998, he began a research laboratory, Cardioenergetics, for developing devices to support the failing heart.

H. Franklin Paschall ('44), former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and longtime pastor of First Baptist Church in Nashville died April 10. He was 86. "Franklin Paschall was a most influential Baptist leader and faithful preacher for a previous generation of Baptists," Union President David S. Dockery said. "His faithfulness and generosity to this university were demonstrated over and over again." Paschall was pastor of First Baptist Church

in Nashville from 1956 until his retirement in 1983 and served as SBC president from 1966-68.

Tom Madden (honorary doctorate '79), retired executive director for the Tennessee Baptist Convention died July 19 at age 90. A native of Enid, Okla., Madden came to Tennessee in 1951 to serve as pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenbrier. After several years as pastor of First Baptist Church in Tullahoma, he became the executive director of the TBC in 1979, a position he held until his retirement in 1989.

faculty and staff

C. Richard Wells was named dean of the chapel and professor of Christian studies at Union. Wells previously served as senior pastor of South Canyon Baptist Church in Rapid City, S.D., since 2003. As dean of the chapel, Wells serves as pastor of the entire campus community – students, faculty and staff. He has oversight of the Union chapel, including all aspects of worship, service and mission. In addition to his responsibility for the work of campus ministries, Wells works closely with all campus leaders and administrators to help the university fulfill its Christ-centered mission. { Fig. 17 }

Tim Ellsworth, director of news and media relations at Union, reported on the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games for Baptist Press from China. His reports appeared at Baptist Press and on *The Jackson Sun's* Web site. Ellsworth assisted NBC with information about Union alumna Djenebou Sissoko, a former Union Lady Bulldog who played in a televised game for her native Mali against the U.S. women's team.

Union political science professor **Kevin Cooney** has co-edited a new textbook, "The Rise of China and International Security: America and Asia Respond." Published by Routledge, the book offers diverse

and comprehensive views of China's rise and its implications for the East Asian region and beyond. Cooney was also elected as president of Christians in Political Science, an organization that supports the integration of their faith in research and teaching.

Union's **total public relations effort** following the 2008 tornado earned "Best of Show" honors in the prestigious Admissions Marketing Report's annual awards competition. Colleges and universities of all sizes submitted about 2,000 entries for judging, from which only 16 "Best of Show" winners were selected. It was Union's second such winner in five years.

Social work professor **Mary Anne Poe** was honored by the Jackson community Feb. 17. The Altrusa International club named Poe the 2008 Woman of the Year. She was cited for tireless and inspirational work in the aftermath of the tornado that struck the Union campus. { Fig. 18 }

Following Christ may mean sacrificing material riches or prestige among peers, but God will provide the grace to meet his demands, **Robert P. George** told Union University students Feb. 27. George, the McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence at Princeton University, was the keynote speaker for the Making Men Moral conference held at Union Feb. 25-27. Among other conference speakers, **Gregory A. Thornbury**, dean of the School of Christian Studies at Union, traced the advance of secularism, both in Europe and in the United States, and observed that the world is no longer listening to evangelicals as it did in the past. { Fig. 19 }

David Niven, who has spent the past 12 years as an assistant coach for the Union men's basketball team, was named April 1 to the Bulldogs' head coaching position. Niven took over for Ralph Turner, who resigned after 15 years with the team. As assistant and associate coach with Union, Niven had been responsible for recruiting, academic advising,

scouting, practice planning and supervising summer camps, among other duties. { Fig. 20 }

Mark Campbell, women's basketball coach at Union, was named the 2009 recipient of the NAIA Coach of Character Award, given annually to a coach who demonstrates methods of teaching character through sport and instills a tradition of athletic and community excellence. Campbell is quoted in the Lady Bulldog media guide saying, "I believe my responsibility to each of my players is to have a vision for who they can be in every area of life, and communicate it to them in a way that challenges them to pursue it." { Fig. 21 }

Leading biomedical ethicist **C. Ben Mitchell** agreed April 4 to join the Union faculty in the fall as the Graves Professor of Moral Philosophy. Mitchell came to Union from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill., where he was associate professor of bioethics and contemporary culture and served as director of Trinity's Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity from 2006-2008. In addition to his academic work, Mitchell also consults on matters of public policy and has given testimonies before such groups as the U.S. House of Representatives, the Institutes of Medicine and the Illinois Senate. He is regularly enlisted as an expert resource on National Public Radio, FOX News, MSNBC and other media. { Fig. 22 }

The Hermitage in Nashville chose Union art professor **Lee Benson** to sculpt a memorial to 60 slaves recently reinterred on the grounds of Andrew Jackson's home. Benson's proposal was chosen from among a dozen submitted. "This sculpture was not conceived nor will it be built to make a civil, political, cultural or religious statement on slavery," Benson said. "It is proposed as a singular declaration of our greater hopes, of a renewing of our faith in one another – a simple but eternal reminder that we are one people and one race: the human race." { Fig. 23 }



{ Fig. 20 }



{ Fig. 21 }



{ Fig. 22 }



{ Fig. 23 }

{ Fig. 24 }



Tommy Sadler ('76) was named director of athletic operations at Union April 16. He had been serving as acting athletic director since the retirement of David Blackstock from that position in 2008. Blackstock served as Union's athletic director for 34 years. "I want our program to model the core values of our university in being excellence-driven, Christ-centered, people-focused and future-directed," Sadler said. "I look forward to working with our coaches and staff in impacting the lives of our student athletes." { Fig. 24 }

{ Fig. 25 }



Union University announced May 1 the additions of **Jennifer Gruenke** { Fig. 25 }, **Steve Halla** { Fig. 26 }, and **Scott Huelin** { Fig. 27 }, to its faculty beginning in the fall semester. Gruenke is an associate professor of biology and earned her doctorate in cell biology from the University of Virginia. Halla, who is assistant to the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and assistant professor of art, came to Union from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Huelin serves as director of Union's honors program and associate professor of English. He came to Union from Valparaiso University and has a doctorate in religion and literature from the University of Chicago.

{ Fig. 26 }



books and other publications

Union University students moving back to campus for the fall 2008 semester received a free copy of the book "God in the Whirlwind," by **Tim Ellsworth**, with photography by **Morris Abernathy**. Published by B&H Publishing Group of Nashville, "God in the Whirlwind" tells the story of the Feb. 5 tornado that slammed the Union University campus and includes the stories of students and others who point to God's care and protection for them that night. { Fig. 28 }

{ Fig. 27 }



The life and legacy of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's second president shows Southern Baptists an example of biblical faithfulness and careful thinking, according to a new book edited by **David S. Dockery** and Roger D. Duke. "John A. Broadus: A Living Legacy" (B&H Academic) features chapters by 10 Southern Baptist scholars examining various aspects of Broadus' life and work. A founding professor at Southern, Broadus served as the seminary's president from 1889-1895.

Math professor **Bryan Dawson** wrote two math textbooks, "Number Theory" and "Number Systems," published by Royal Fireworks Press. The books are supplemental textbooks for the high school market and are designed for gifted and self-taught students. They are part of the "Supplemental Mathematics for the Curious" series.

Social work professor **Mary Anne Poe**, who also serves as director of Union's social work program, wrote a book of instructor's resources for the textbook "Christianity and Social Work," to which she also contributed two chapters. Published by the North American Association of Christians in Social Work, Poe says the textbook is typically used by faculty members in social work programs at both secular and Christian universities who want to explore the intersections of religious faith and practice with social work.

An article co-written by **Brian Taylor ('05)** was published in the March edition of the journal "Medical Physics." Taylor, a graduate research assistant in the Department of Imaging Physics at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, co-wrote the article with Ken-Pin Hwang, John D. Hazle and R. Jason Stafford. The article is a summary of research in which the authors evaluated an algorithm that can be used in magnetic resonance imaging to monitor some minimally-invasive surgical procedures.

Union University President **David S. Dockery** was featured prominently in "Baptist Theology: A Four-Century Study," the monumental 700-page work on Baptists by James Leo Garrett Jr. "He gets as much coverage as E.Y. Mullins," Christian Studies Dean Gregory A. Thornbury said. "David Dockery has been more productive and prolific than any other Baptist theologian in recent history. He's been involved in building movements and shaping coalitions that have impact and effect."

The Torch received a **Silver Crown Award** from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association in the 2009 awards competition. The Union student literary and art magazine joined 17 other college publications in receiving CSPA's second-highest award, presented annually since 1982.

Union professor **Harry L. Poe** received an Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America April 30 for his new biography of Edgar Allan Poe. The Charles Colson Professor of Faith and Culture, a direct descendant of the famous writer, was on hand at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City to receive the award for "Edgar Allan Poe: An Illustrated Companion to His Tell-Tale Stories." Says Poe of his famous ancestor: "He was a rather cheerful, witty, friendly person who enjoyed music and singing with his friends around the piano." { Fig. 29 }

A second volume of commentary on Isaiah by Christian studies professor **Gary V. Smith** was published by B&H Academic. The 784-page commentary on chapters 40-66 is part of "The New American Commentary" series. Paul House, associate dean and professor of divinity at Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Ala., called Smith's commentaries the first extensive evangelical treatments of Isaiah to appear in more than a decade. { Fig. 30 }

Harry L. Poe wrote "The Inklings of Oxford: C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien and Their Friends" which was released

July 2009. According to the book's Web site, "The Inklings Fellowship is a community of Christians from all walks of life dedicated to the transformation of higher education through teaching and writing, and by encouraging young Christian scholars to bring a Christian perspective to their disciplines." Several current and former Union students contributed photography to the book, along with Assistant Professor of Communication Arts and Director of Visual Communications Jim Veneman. { Fig. 31 }

The Rise of China and International Security: America and Asia Respond (Aug 2008): Edited by Kevin J Cooney & Yoichiro Sato

students

Two Union University organizations won national awards early in fall 2008: The Beta Tau chapter of the **Alpha Tau Omega fraternity** received the True Merit Award at the fraternity's bi-annual congress in Louisville, Ky. The winning chapters must excel in community service, campus service, campus leadership, brotherhood, recruitment, communications and scholarship. Union's Delta-Psi chapter of **Phi Alpha Theta history honor society** won the Best Chapter Award for the sixth straight year from the national organization.

Union's **American Chemical Society Student Affiliates chapter** was selected by the ACS to receive an Outstanding Award for its activities conducted during the 2007-08 academic year. Only 40 of 330 student ACS chapters nationally received such recognition. Chemistry professors **Charles Baldwin** and **Randy Johnston** are the faculty advisers for the chapter.

Micah Roeder, a sophomore at Union University from Earle, Ark., was elected governor of the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature. Roeder was elected to the position during TISL's annual meeting of the



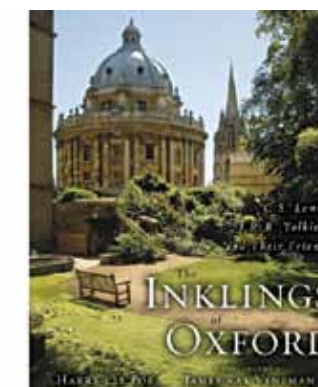
{ Fig. 28 }



{ Fig. 29 }



{ Fig. 30 }



{ Fig. 31 }

{ Fig. 32 }



General Assembly Nov. 13-16, 2008, in Nashville, Tenn. **Kristin Tisdale**, a freshman from Hendersonville, Tenn., was elected by the group as speaker pro tem of the Senate. Fourteen students from Union participated in the event. { Fig. 32 }

Union's debate team, in its first year of competition, placed first in the Novice Team Sweepstakes for the entire season, an accomplishment far beyond the expectations of **coach Web Drake**. "We went to seven tournaments and had a 70 percent winning percentage as a team, which is unheard of," Drake said. "It's incredible."

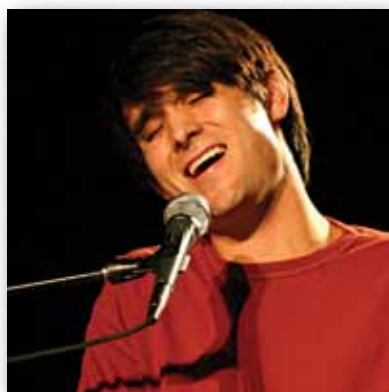
{ Fig. 33 }



Union student **Ellen Carrington**, the reigning Miss Tennessee, finished in the top seven in the 2009 Miss America pageant Jan. 24 in Las Vegas. Carrington, 22, was on stage for the final results, but was not one of the top five. A senior music major and Jackson native, Carrington won the Miss Tennessee crown June 21, 2008 in Jackson. { Fig. 33 }

Two Union journalism students won first place in competitions at the Southeastern Journalism Conference Feb. 12-14 in Nashville. **Jonathan Huskey ('08)** won first place in the "best sports writer" category in the "Best of the South" competition. In the on-site competitions, freshman **Katherine Pullen** took first place in the feature writing category. The Southeastern Journalism Conference consists of 68 member schools, including all the major journalism programs in seven states.

{ Fig. 34 }



Union senior **Cody Curtis** received the Most Outstanding Student Composition Award Feb. 27 at the Southern Chapter of the College Music Society's regional conference in Orlando, Fla. Curtis' composition, a solo piano piece named "Cosmusicos" and performed by Union University music professor Terry McRoberts, president-elect of the Southern Chapter, was one of 15 compositions within the chapter's program. { Fig. 34 }

{ Fig. 35 }



Union senior history major **Kathleen Cooper** won second place in the Jo Helen Imani Beard Civil Rights History Paper Competition at the Ninth Annual Civil Rights Conference Feb. 20-27 at the University of Tennessee-Martin. Cooper's paper dealt with a Negro League baseball team in Memphis and was entitled, "The Memphis Red Sox: Barely Hanging On, 1947-1960." { Fig. 35 }

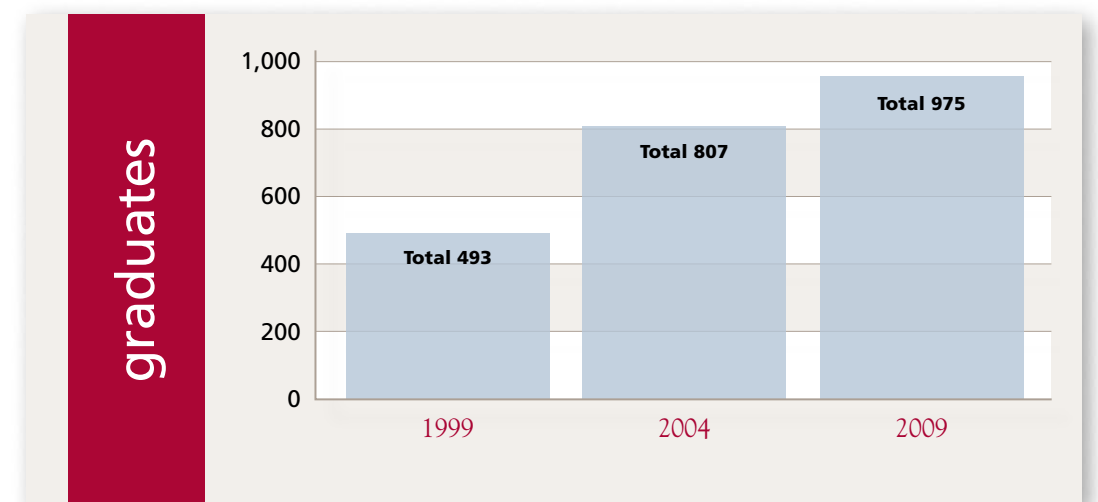
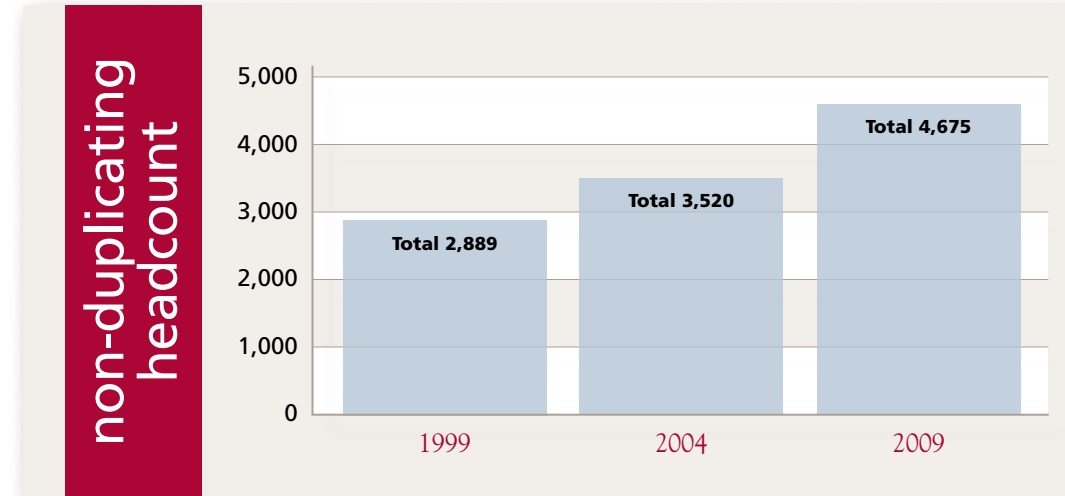
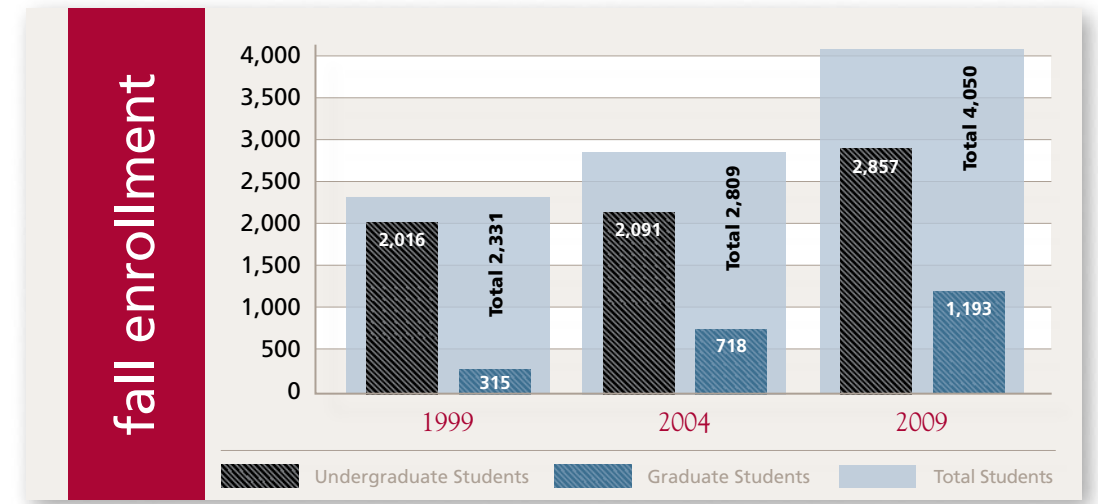
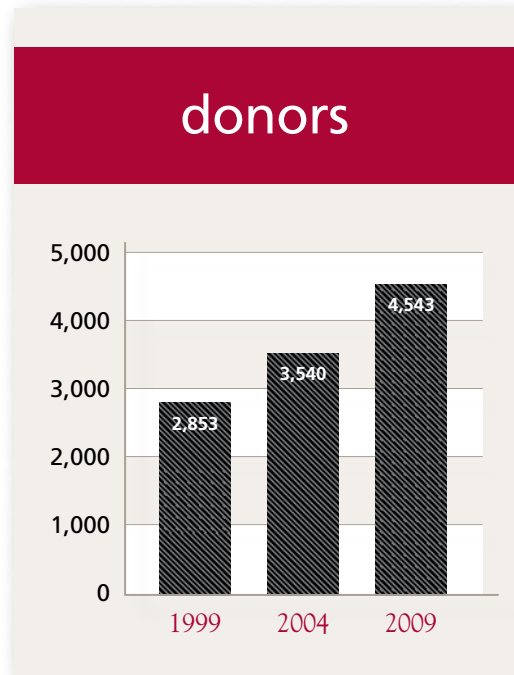
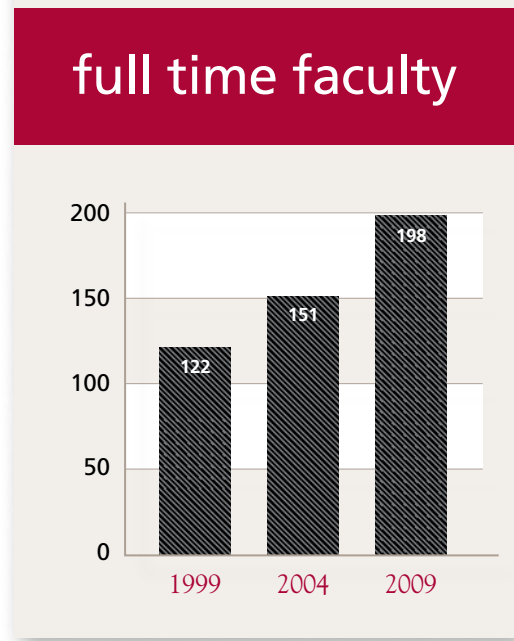
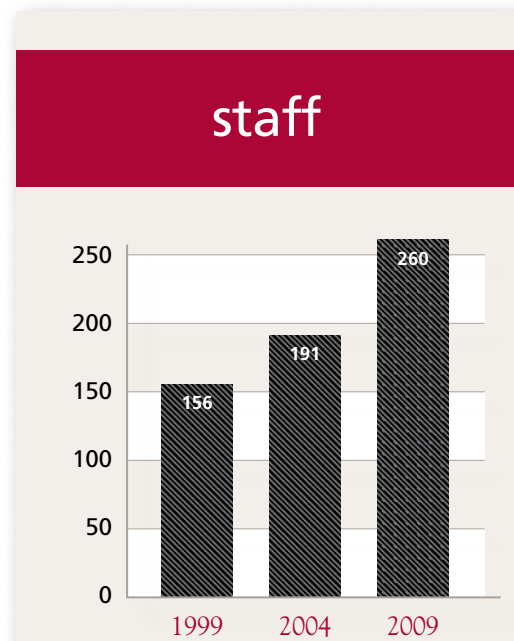
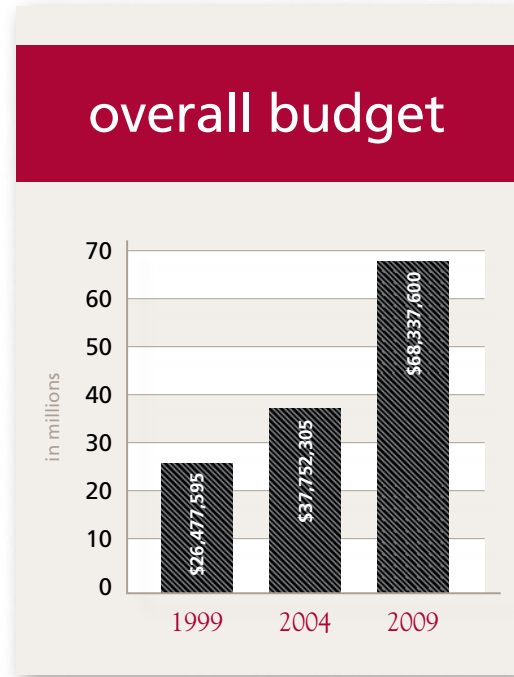
Joshua Guthrie, a high school sophomore who's also dually enrolled at Union, launched a campaign in late 2008 called "Dollar for a Drink" to raise \$8,000 for a freshwater well in Sudan. Guthrie and the campaign raised more than \$11,000 for the project, and the well was installed by Baptist Global Response, the group with whom Guthrie worked.

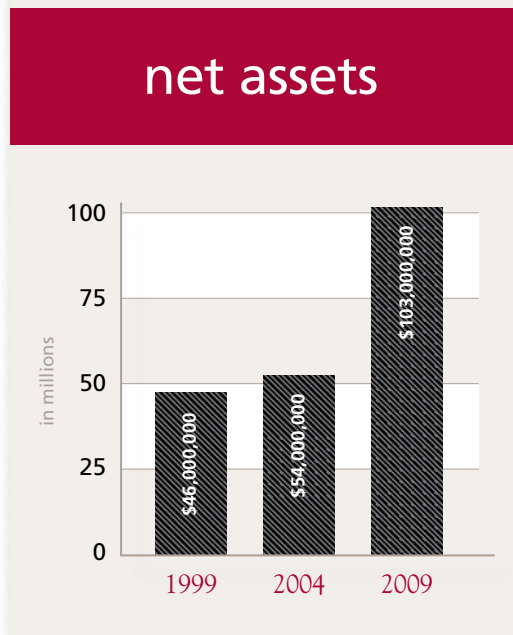
Union's **Students In Free Enterprise** team qualified for national SIFE competition in Philadelphia after winning its 16th straight regional competition April 2 in Chicago. Seven Union students competed among 40 other teams for the title. The students presented their top projects, such as the Global Outreach mission trip to Eastern Europe and Junior SIFE, in which sixth graders from Madison County come to Union's campus for a trade show and marketing competition. Students competing were seniors **Trey Peters**, **Kendra Middleton**, **Stephen Lynch**, **Mallory Keeton** and **Jonathan Moore**. Junior **Mallory Carter** compiled and ran the PowerPoint presentation, while senior **Sarah Eastin** compiled the annual report.

Union's chapter of the **Student Tennessee Education Association** was recently named the Most Outstanding Chapter for the sixth straight year. The award is based on the accumulation of points throughout the year for service projects, professional development activities and participation in statewide events. ❖

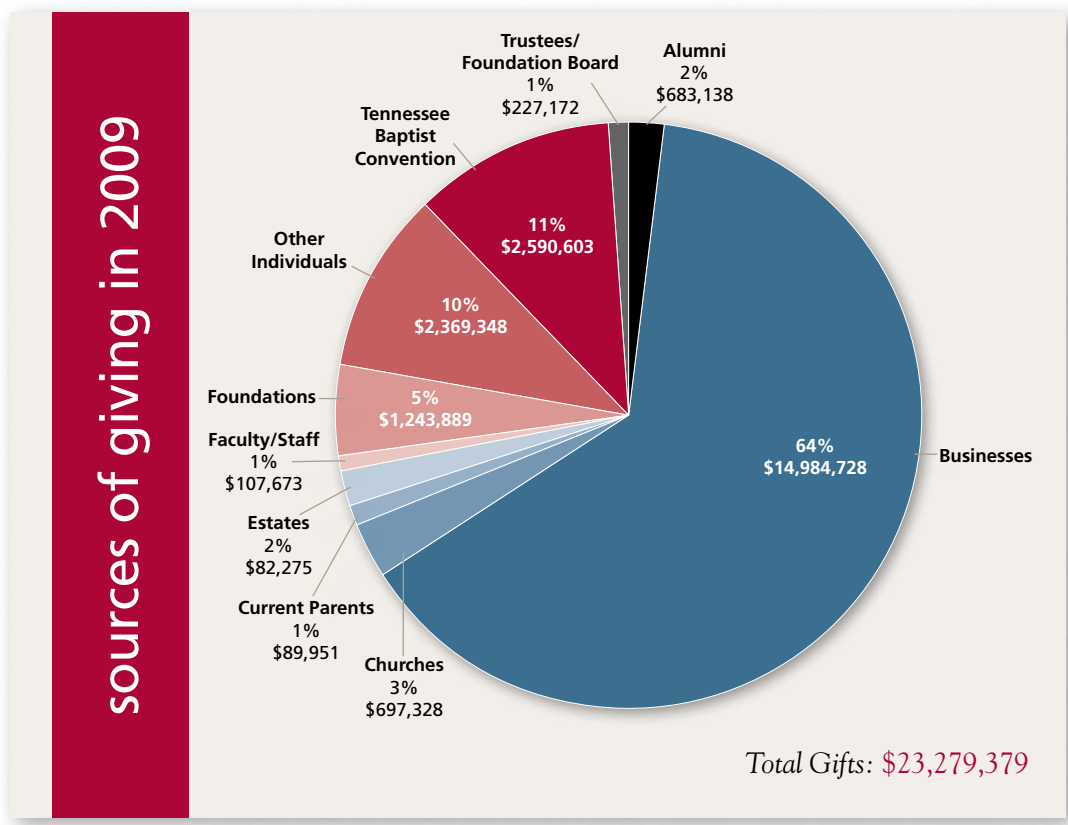


union 2009 by the numbers





- 1,530 new donors for 2008-2009
- \$45,539 from corporations was initiated by individuals who took advantage of their employer's matching gift program
- 7,324 contributions were received during 2008-2009 from 4,543 donors



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