

# DIFFERENCE

## Union Auxiliary Newsletter



UNION UNIVERSITY  
**The Union Auxiliary**

Fall 2018 Vol.20 No.1



### 20th Anniversary Celebration

Former Union University First Lady Lanese Dockery will be the guest speaker at the Union Auxiliary's 20th anniversary luncheon Sept. 25.

Mrs. Dockery opened the first luncheon meeting of the Women's Auxiliary in prayer on April 16, 1998, in the President's Dining Room on the Union campus. She shared her vision for the organization to focus on scholarships for continuing and international

students. After researching similar organizations at other institutions, the Auxiliary was designed to best fit the needs of Union.

Today we are grateful for Mrs. Dockery's vision to begin what is now the Union Auxiliary. Over the past 20 years, the Union Auxiliary has held regular luncheon meetings, with speakers such as Denise George, Carolyn Tomlin, Maggie Nell Brewer, Louise Bentley, Karen Moy and others. For the past two years, the Union Auxiliary has held an annual banquet, featuring Olympic gold medalist David Boudia and bestselling author Bob Goff.

All told, over the past 20 years, the Union Auxiliary has given 195 scholarships totaling almost \$200,000 to Union students in need – including 19 scholarships this year.

We hope you'll join us Sept. 25 at 11:30 a.m. in the Carl Grant Events Center to hear from Mrs. Dockery at this year's luncheon. Make your reservations early at [www.uu.edu/auxiliary](http://www.uu.edu/auxiliary) or call (731) 661-5202.

### Upcoming Union Events

**McAfee Organ Concert**  
September 18

**Union Family Weekend**  
September 28-29

**Scholarship Banquet  
with MercyMe**  
October 18

**Carls-Schwerdfeger History  
Lecture: Melvyn Leffler**  
October 22

**Homecoming**  
November 1-3

For more information and  
other upcoming events, visit  
[uu.edu/events](http://uu.edu/events).

### Save the Date Spring Fundraiser

Tues., April 16, 2019  
Carl Grant Events Center

# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2018–2019



## Eleah Augustine

During Eleah's junior and senior years of high school, she visited many colleges, but after her visit to Union, she knew that she wanted to be a student here. She changed her major six times in her freshman year and finally settled on a double

major in Spanish and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). She has served at orphanages in Spanish-speaking countries, and has a God-given love and passion for Spanish and the people and culture of Latin American countries. She has been influenced by Dr. Karen Martin who models Christ-centered leadership in and out of the classroom.



## Cheyenne Beeman

Cheyenne believes that through God's divine providence, He gave her the opportunity to come to Union and that her education will change her life and future. She is an Elementary Education major who wants to teach the earlier grades,

to plant and cultivate in children a love for learning, and to provide a safe place for learning. Dr. Keith Bates has influenced her life by being an example of a lifelong learner and because he pushes her to do her best in class.

## Mason O'Brian Cagle

Mason chose Union because his father, aunt, and uncle are all graduates and because he wants to be part of the Union legacy. He chose to major in Accounting because he enjoys mathematics and working with people and hopes to own an accounting business one day. Mason says Dr. Thomas Proctor applies practical examples to the accounting concepts he teaches and truly cares about his students. His devotion has made a lasting impression on Mason's life and the lives of his classmates.



## Emily Christine Ebert

Emily chose Union because she was looking for a university with professors who would integrate faith into the curriculum. She chose to major in Psychology while at Union because she is interested in the field. After finishing her education

at Union, Emily wants to go to medical school and become a doctor of infectious disease and tropical medicine. Union's faculty members have been very helpful to Emily as she prepares for medical school. She especially enjoys how the entire Union campus feels like one community.

## Christopher Allen Hearn

Christopher's older sister attended Union while he was in high school, so he had many opportunities to visit before becoming a student. He has loved history from childhood and is a voracious reader of history books of all kinds. Christopher wants to teach history and make a difference in the lives of students by showing them how an understanding of history can make us wise and help us empathize with others. Dr. Justin Barnard has been one of the greatest teachers that he has had. He was in two classes that Dr. Barnard taught and has been impressed by his ability to teach in a way that helped Christopher relate the things he learned to his everyday life and Christian walk. One of his best experiences at Union was attending the Baylor Symposium for Faith and Learning during his first semester.

## Jamie Elizabeth Hodge

Jamie chose Union because of the love she saw between students, faculty, and staff during her first visit. She is an Art major who has always been creative. After she came to Union she saw the possibility of being an artist and plans to specialize in sculpture or ceramics. Professor Benson's class has been especially influential on Jamie's development as an artist. The art department is a wonderful community for Jamie.



## Taylor Katherine Lewelling

Taylor believes Union will prepare her both academically and spiritually for her work as a Christian physician. Her major is Cell and Molecular Biology which lets her pursue her passion for understanding science

and the intricate workings of the human body. Taylor especially enjoyed her Zoology class with Dr. Jeremy Blaschke during her freshman year.

## Austin Maddox

Austin transferred from a secular school to Union and finds it refreshing to be taught by professors who integrate faith and learning in the classroom. He is currently a Public Relations major so that he can learn to communicate the Gospel and to prepare for different types of ministries. Ashley Fitch Blair and Ted Kluck have been very supportive and influential professors for Austin.



### Mary Madelyn Melton

Mary chose Union after thinking for most of her life that she would attend Ole Miss. After visiting Union's campus, she knew it was God's place for her. Mary is majoring in Public Relations with a minor in Management because she loves to work

with people and solve problems. Mrs. Sherry Tignor has been an inspiring teacher and advisor to Mary. She has enjoyed serving on the SGA's Freshman Council and planning class events such as Flannels and Flapjacks.



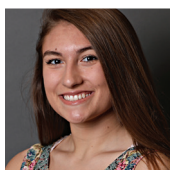
### Emma Joy Otto

Emma has wanted to teach music since she was eleven years old. She is a Music major who also teaches private violin lessons to seventeen students. After she graduates, in addition to teaching private students, she wants to start

a ministry to teach low-income students to play violin. Dr. Richardson has been one of the most influential professors in her college career. During his Written Composition class, she learned to determine motives beyond the basic storylines. Those discussions revolutionized her reading and thinking.

### Hannah Beth Ratliff

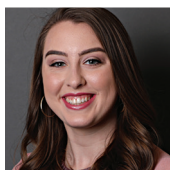
Hannah chose Union because she craved a learning environment that not only accepted her Christian faith, but encouraged it and emphasized its role in learning. She is a Business Administration major because she wants to use her skills in practical planning and organization in her career. Professor Emery has become a role model for Hannah and showed her that Christian values don't have to be compromised to pursue a business career.



### Mandy Richardson

Mandy took a class called Leadership Principles for Women in Ministry that helped her discover her gifts. Mrs. Sherry Tignor greatly influenced Mandy's life by helping her find the field where her gifts could be best applied. Mandy chose Nursing as her

major to be able to use her passion for caring for others. After completing her nursing degree program, she wants to work in a hospital as a neonatal nurse and perhaps at a pediatric clinic or an outreach ministry for women with crisis pregnancies.



### Mary Noelle Swisher

When Mary was researching small Christian universities that offer a French major, Union appeared over and over again as one of the best in the nation. After visiting and meeting with professors, faculty, and students, she knew Union

would be the best place to foster her dreams and live out her calling. Mary has a double major in French and in Christian Ministry and Missions. She would like to work for Young Life someday in an international location. One of her favorite memories while at Union was the Campus and Community Day her freshman year. She went with a group from her sorority to do yard work for a hospice patient. The group became closer and had meaningful conversations as they helped a wonderful lady with tasks she could not have accomplished without assistance.

### Sydney Vorhis

Sydney chose Union because of the overwhelmingly positive, uplifting and truth-based atmosphere that she experienced during her first visit to the campus. She has heard many people state, "There's something special about this place," and she couldn't agree more. Being a Marketing major allows her to combine her English skills with her abilities in other areas such as math, innovation, leadership, and problem solving.



### Stephen Brent Walker

Stephen chose Union because of its strong journalism program. He chose Journalism as his major because he wants to show that every person is valuable, that every person has a story to tell, and that there is

beauty in every story. Ted Kluck is his journalism professor and faculty advisor who has mentored Stephen in his writing and his life. Some of his favorite memories from his years at Union are traveling with Professor Kluck and the Cardinal & Cream's editorial staff to the Southeast Journalism Conferences. Stephen feels that these trips are rewarding because the writers are recognized for their hard work and it is a bonding time for the staff.

### Amanda Leigh Wilson

Amanda always wanted to attend Union because of the changes it made in the lives of the students she knew growing up. She chose to major in Psychology and minor in Christian Ministry and Missions because she wants to work with and counsel middle school and high school students in churches. Dr. Chen's classes have been a strong influence on Amanda's life because in them she learned the significance of every single word in Scripture and how to accurately study the Bible. From Dr. Chen, she learned lessons that will help her in her career and that have helped in her personal walk with the Lord. Amanda has enjoyed being a Welcome Week leader and showing new students how great Union and Jackson are.



### Callie Dana Wright

Callie chose Union after hearing President Oliver speak about the school's model of integrating faith and learning during her campus visit. Her major is Social Work because she feels a deep call to work with

"the least of these." Callie wants to learn the best practices and research-based methods to go beyond just "loving kids," and to effectively help them grow. Dr. David Thomas, her seminar professor for Honors Wisdom, challenged her not just to write longer papers or do more work, but to truly think about what she was doing in her everyday life and why she was doing it.

## Join the Auxiliary today!

To become a member or renew your membership visit our website at [uu.edu/auxiliary](http://uu.edu/auxiliary) or contact Vickie Yancey at 731.661.5203.

## Gibson Memorial Scholarship

We are extremely grateful for the gift of The Catherine Anne Penn and E. H. (Gibby) Gibson Memorial Scholarship Fund given to The Union Auxiliary last spring.

Catherine was a founding member of The Auxiliary, and we are thankful for her years of faithful service. Her two daughters – Penny (who attended Union) and husband Ron Switzer (UU '76) of Dyersburg, Tennessee, and Beth and husband Andrew Dailey (both UU '83) of Huntersville, North Carolina – wanted to honor their parents with a scholarship. They chose their alma mater and The Auxiliary to provide needed dollars to

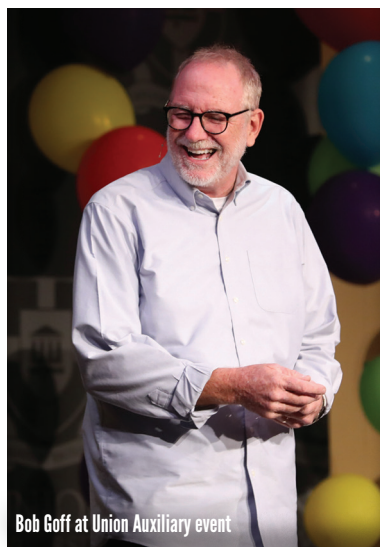
current students majoring in business or education.

Catherine and Gibby were members of First Baptist Church in Humboldt, Tennessee, where they served faithfully for a combined 147 years using their talents and spiritual gifts for God's kingdom. She was an elementary teacher in the Humboldt City Schools for 35 years. He earned his bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt and returned to his hometown to run the family business.

They both valued Christian higher education. One of the many meaningful Scriptures Catherine treasured was, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and

lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6) Gibby loved, "He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

Auxiliary scholarships are a beautiful way to honor a loved one while providing for the future of our current students. We would love to talk to you about how you can make an impact on the next generation of kingdom builders through your generosity.



### Special Thanks to our Premier and Lead Sponsors

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## Bestselling Author Goff Speaks at Union Auxiliary Event

Bob Goff, New York Times bestselling author of "Love Does," kept a sold-out crowd of more than 400 people laughing April 17 in the Carl Grant Events Center as part of the Union University Auxiliary's event, "An Evening with Bob Goff."

With his witty jokes and engaging personal stories, Goff kept the night lighthearted and entertaining while teaching how to live a life that is defined by love, connection and purpose.

He challenged the crowd to strive for meaningful conversations every day to act as a connection with the "creepy people" in their lives. Through meaningful conversations with those who are hardest to talk to, Goff said, Jesus Christ will be seen.

"The most orthodox faith a person can have is to love everybody, always," Goff said.

The event raised money for student scholarships. Susie Oliver, president of the Union Auxiliary, described the evening as "magical."

"If we all had meaningful conversations with people around us and love without

expectations, we could change the world," Oliver said. "I was overjoyed to see so many friends from the community, faculty, staff and students in the Grant Center supporting the mission of the Union Auxiliary."

Goff shared a conviction that led him to realize how faith in Christ is expressed through love. If a Christian's life is striving to look like Jesus, then it must be characterized by love for all people, at all times.

"I spent my whole life avoiding the people Jesus spent his whole life engaging," Goff said. "What if we take in people that we have been avoiding and give them our very best?"

It can sometimes be a difficult task to reach out a hand and to love others, but Goff stressed the significance of having faith in the uncomfortable moments. Those vulnerable moments, Goff said, are the moments that God can get through to people the most.

"Comfortable people don't need Jesus," Goff said. "Desperate people need Jesus."

Goff said God wants Christians to

get more desperate for him, and that is impossible to find in a comfortable place. Showing love can be daunting and seen as an insolvable math equation, but Goff shared that it can be as simple as having a conversation with a classmate, neighbor, co-worker or family member.

"Here's the deal. Jesus isn't dazzled when you go across an ocean," Goff said. "He's wowed when you go across the street."

He ended the night by sharing the story of a boy who painted a beautiful picture for Goff by simply using a spear and a bed sheet. Those two items were the only painting supplies the boy owned, yet he still created a masterpiece with it.

In the same way that the boy used what he already had to paint the gift, Goff said Christians should use what opportunities, jobs and situations they have right now to show Christ's love to others, and then see the ways God will use them.