

Lady Bulldogs:
Another National Title

UNIONITE

THE UNION UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Spring 2010 www.uu.edu

mission to haiti

EARTHQUAKE MOBILIZES UNION NURSING TEAMS

Thinking Globally

| Faculty Honors

| Church Planting



The Next Step: A Global Future

In this issue of the *Unionite*, you will read about many of the exciting things taking place on the Union campus, but you will notice the focus on expanding global opportunities. Union University is an institution not only with an emerging national profile, but also with an emerging international profile. We find ourselves living in an unprecedented age. Never before has the world seemingly been so accessible to us.

As educators at Union University we live in the academic world, but our questions and involvements have implications far beyond the academic world and far beyond our campus. Also, we recognize the distinctive aspect of the Union University mission. We are not only educators, but Christ-followers. We have eternity alive in our hearts, and we have been given the awesome privilege and responsibility of being involved in the kingdom work of our Lord Jesus Christ. Around the world we see new opportunities in so many different directions, some of which are reported in this issue of the *Unionite*. We also see poverty, health problems, terrorism, war, revolution, despair, destruction, as well as economic and environmental challenges. Our work involves us both in the pain and challenges that people face, but also in the promise of an eschatological hope.

Distance does not affect things the way it once did. Communication in the 18th Century depended on limited transportation, primarily by

boat. But in the 19th Century, the first transatlantic telecommunication cable was successfully laid along the ocean floor. That step in the communication revolution set our globe on a course that will eventually seem to erase all distance. We can now send voice memos to hundreds of people simultaneously. Television networks compete for a two-to five-second lead on breaking international stories.

We talk long distance to friends on the other side of the ocean to make sure they are doing well. Thousands of phone calls and e-mails, as well as Skype calls, cross borders and oceans each hour filled with conversations of personal and global importance. Christian educators at Union University are more aware than ever that the world is a global place. Learning to adapt and serve in this changing world is more than a good idea, it is mandatory. We now live in a multiracial, multicolored, multiethnic context. We have the pleasure of seeing God's creation in all of its variety, which is a great gift from God.

We believe that our responsibility at Union University in our educational and missional task is to develop global Christians on our campus. We can take the leadership in our own situations, and we can join with others to enhance partnerships and forge relevant ties for our global work in this 21st Century world. We must not shy away from the task. Like William Carey, the great missionary pioneer, we must both



expect great things from God and attempt great things for God. We need to ask for fresh eyes to see the potential role that Christian higher education can offer as the means for bringing a Christian presence to the world.

We ask you to pray for the various aspects of the work of Union University as you turn the pages, view the photos and read the stories in this issue of the *Unionite*. We are deeply thankful for your friendship and ongoing support of this great institution. May God's blessings be yours.

Soli Deo Gloria,

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About the Cover

Associate Professor of Nursing Patsy Carihfield shot this picture shortly after her arrival at a makeshift clinic where medical personnel were treating Haitian earthquake victims. Beginning on page 12, read how Union nursing students and faculty quickly and faithfully responded to the tragedy.

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Rankin receives M.E. Dodd Service Award

Jerry Rankin, the retiring president of the Southern Baptist Convention's International Mission Board, is the 2010 recipient of Union University's M.E. Dodd Denominational Service Award.

Rankin received the award during a visit to campus in early March. He will retire July 31 after serving as the IMB's leader for 17 years.

"Over the last 12 years, Union University has sent more graduates on to serve with the International Mission Board than any other Baptist college in the country," said Union President David S. Dockery. "We have a great desire to continue the relationship with the IMB, but at this time of transition, we wanted to pause and say a special word of thanks to the one who has enhanced that relationship for us in recent years."

Union trustees select the award's recipient each year, based on excellence and leadership in Southern Baptist life, as well as friendship and commitment to Union University. Past recipients include Jimmy Draper (2004), Adrian Rogers (2005), Morris Chapman (2006), Frank Page (2007), Thom Rainer (2008) and R. Albert Mohler Jr. (2009).

Rankin said after accepting the award that if a university does not prepare its students to relate to the world internationally, its program is not relevant to the future. He praised Union for its work in that area and for its strong partnership with the IMB. ☞

Union delegation earns top honor

Delegates from Union University to the 40th General Assembly of the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature earned the Best Delegation award for their role in the proceedings at the State Capitol in Nashville.

TISL is a statewide organization formed in 1966 to give college students a voice in state government. The nonpartisan organization convenes a General Assembly each year, held in the

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New Providence Hall under construction on the west side of campus will house the School of Pharmacy.

Trustees approve new budget, building names

Union University trustees approved a record \$80 million budget for 2010-2011 – a 12 percent increase from the previous year – as part of their April meeting.

Union President David S. Dockery described the budget as both hopeful and cautious. "It will help move the university forward in a significant way," he said.

The budget includes 20 new positions and a reduction in expected revenue from gifts and endowment earnings because of a stalled economy. It allows for various capital expenditures, such as improvements to the Penick Academic Complex.

Earlier in the spring, Union trustees named two new campus facilities with expressions of thanksgiving firmly in mind.

The new pharmacy building was named Providence Hall and the new residence facility under construction will be called Hope Quad.

Trustees say the names are an acknowledgment of the providence and hope God sustained during the recovery from a 2008 tornado that did more than \$40 million worth of damage to the campus.

Providence Hall, located immediately west of Jennings Hall, is a three-story, 54,000 square-foot facility that 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.

Construction began last year and will be complete this summer. The School of Pharmacy will occupy the building for the fall semester.

Hope Quad contains three residential buildings that will also be ready for the fall semester, with the fourth building to complete the quad scheduled for construction at a later date. ☞



Kay and Prothero headline Union Forum series

The 11th annual Union Forum featured a new format: one keynote speaker in each of the fall and spring semesters.

The spring speaker was Stephen Prothero, who addressed the topic “Religious Literacy.” Prothero is professor of religion at Boston University and the author of the bestselling book, *Religious Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know – And Doesn’t*. He has appeared on network television shows such as “Today,” “The O’Reilly Factor” and “The Daily Show.”

He said religious illiteracy was rampant among the U.S. population, and as evidence he cited statistics indicating that only half of Americans can name one of the four gospels.

Such illiteracy poses problems not only for religious communities, but for academic pursuits as well, as Prothero argued that it’s impossible to understand J.S. Bach, T.S. Eliot, El Greco or many other important historical figures without an adequate understanding of the Bible.

Prothero suggested that the United States mandate two public school courses for high school

students – one on the Bible and one on world religions – that would stick to teaching basic facts about religion. Such courses would pass constitutional muster, he argued, because the Supreme Court has not prohibited the study of religion, and has even promoted it as long as it’s not done in a sectarian way.

The fall speaker was Katty Kay, co-presenter of BBC World news bulletins and the Washington correspondent for BBC World News America.

Kay told a September Union audience that college students can contribute to the global prestige of the United States by getting passports and using them.

“Get out and see the world,” Kay said to the Union students in attendance. “Forget that well paying job in New York for six months or a year and hit the sidewalks in New Delhi instead. It will enrich your lives, and it will show other people the very best of this country.”

Sponsors for this year’s Union Forum included First South Bank, TLM Associates, West Tennessee Healthcare, The Jackson Sun and Trumbull Laboratories LLC. 📍

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Tennessee General Assembly’s chambers, for students to introduce debate and vote on legislation about state issues.



Sixteen Union University students participated in this event, including junior Micah Roeder, who served as the TISL governor after being elected

to the position last year.

“It went really well,” Roeder said. “It was somewhat interesting because I spent most of the year preparing for it and planning for it, and once I get there I can’t really do a whole lot.”

Roeder said once the General Assembly convened, he had to rely more on the work of other executive council members.

Union sophomore Kristin Tisdale served as speaker pro tem of the Senate, and junior Ryan Hoover was chief clerk of the House. Freshman Will McClure was elected as state treasurer for next year’s event.

Union’s delegates presented seven bills that passed both houses of the General Assembly. Roeder said that TISL alumni serving in the Tennessee legislature often draft bills based on TISL legislation. 📍

Benson creates Hermitage sculpture



Union University art professor Lee Benson sculpted a memorial to 60 slaves recently reinterred on the grounds of The Hermitage, Andrew

Jackson’s historic home in Nashville.

A dozen artists responded to the Hermitage’s open call for sculptors to submit their qualifications to produce such a work at the National Historic Landmark – a place that includes restored slave quarters.

“I really wanted this piece,” Benson said. “This one was really important to me, because I want to, in the end, stand up and say ‘thank you’ to my

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dad, who passed away five years ago."

Benson's father, Wayne Lee Benson, was a Southern Baptist pastor who "was a complete civil rights leader before there was any such thing as civil rights," Benson said.

Benson's sculpture, "Our Peace, Follow the Drinking Gourd," consists of seven oak trees in the shape of the Little Dipper constellation, laid out across a circle of 30 boulders. "Follow the Drinking Gourd" was a song slaves would use to teach them how to find and follow the North Star, one of the stars in the Little Dipper, to freedom. ☞

Two students awarded Rotary Scholarships

A Union senior and a recent graduate both have received prestigious Rotary Scholarships for study abroad in the coming year.

Brock Alan Starnes ('09) received a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship for study in New Zealand. Albert L. "Shep" Shepherd was awarded a \$25,000 scholarship through the Jackson Rotary Club for one year of graduate study in Scotland.

"It definitely has given me a direction in which to move in after graduation," said Shepherd, who will graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in biblical languages. "It seems like God has given me a great opportunity and is kind of directing my steps with it."

Shepherd plans to pursue either a one-year Master of Theology degree or a one-year master's degree in literature, which would focus on biblical literature.

Starnes graduated from Union's McAfee School of Business Administration with a bachelor's degree in management. He plans to start his course work in early 2011 at Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. He will pursue a master's degree in business development.

"A lot of my interest is in entrepreneurial work and allowing people who have ideas to cultivate them and get them to market," Starnes said. "New Zealand passed laws 30 years ago encouraging people to start small businesses." ☞

Metaxas discusses his new Bonhoeffer biography

New York Times bestselling author Eric Metaxas

made presentations on the Union campus about using humor to share the gospel and on his new biography of German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer.



ultimately executed by Hitler's regime in 1945.

"Eric Metaxas was one of the most popular speakers I have ever brought to Union University," said Greg Thornbury, dean of the school of Christian

studies. "If we don't show people that there is a joy at the core of what we're doing, something is wrong," Metaxas said during a presentation entitled "Witty Witnessing" in Harvey Auditorium.

Metaxas also drew attention from students and faculty for his chapel address about "Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy," which was released shortly after his Union visit in late March. Bonhoeffer stood in opposition to Nazi policies and was

studied. "His rapier wit, compelling content, and communication skills resonated widely across the campus with faculty, staff, and especially students. Weeks after his chapel address, people were still talking about Eric."

Metaxas is the author of such books as *Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery*, and the *Everything You Always Wanted to Know About God* series. ☞

Union enrollment tops 4,000 for first time



enrollment is also up 4.3 percent from this time one year ago.

Of the undergraduate students, a record-high 545 are traditional undergraduate freshmen. This year's enrollment includes more than 1,200 new students in all of Union's various programs.

The fall figure represents a 105 percent increase over the 1,972 students enrolled in the fall of 1996, when Union University President David S. Dockery began his tenure.

The non-duplicating headcount also hit a record-high of 4,675. That number includes the total number of students enrolled for any classes during a given year, and no student in any program is counted more than once. ☞

Enrollment at Union University continues to set records.

The fall semester enrollment of 4,050 students was a 7.4 percent jump from the previous year and the 12th straight year for an enrollment increase at the University. Spring



Union receives national attention for "an unusual commitment to undergraduate teaching."

Union rankings reflect national reputation

Union University has been named one of the nation's top universities committed to teaching undergraduate students in the annual rankings of colleges and universities by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Overall, Union was named one of the South's top tier universities for the 13th straight year, moving up four places to 16th in the South in the "Universities-Master's" category – the highest Union has ever been ranked. The category includes those institutions that provide a full range of undergraduate programs and master's programs and includes 572 universities ranked within four geographic areas – North, South, Midwest and West.

Union ranked second in the South in the "Universities-Master's" category for colleges and universities "where the faculty has an unusual commitment to undergraduate teaching." Only 80 schools in the nation were recognized for this honor.

For a second consecutive year, the magazine ranked Union as one of the top "Up-and-Coming Schools" in the

nation. The magazine ranked Union fourth in the South – up one spot from last year – in the "Universities-Master's" category among schools that

"have recently made the most promising and innovative changes in academics, faculty, students, campus, or facilities." Only 77 schools in the nation were designated as "Up-and-Coming Schools."

Union was also recently recognized by *Forbes* in its second annual "America's Best Colleges" rankings.

Of the 4,000 colleges and universities in the country, *Forbes* selected 600 undergraduate institutions based on the quality of the education they provide, and how much their students achieve. Union ranked 278th on the *Forbes* list -- up four places from last year -- and was one of only two institutions in Tennessee west of Nashville, along with Rhodes College, selected for inclusion.

The *U.S. News* and *Forbes* rankings follow Union's recent designation by *The Princeton Review* as one of the Best Southeastern Colleges. 🏠



Union community focuses on water concerns



Union dual-enrollment student Joshua Guthrie had a bold goal in mind.

In his first year organizing Dollar for a Drink, his charity raised about \$8,000 to dig a well in Sudan. Such a well can mean the difference between life and death in villages where fresh water is in short supply. As the name of the organization implies, his idea was for people to give up making one bottled water purchase in lieu of a donation.

In fall 2009, 17-year-old Guthrie decided to raise money for three new wells – which required about \$24,000.

In his second year promoting Dollar for a Drink, he announced receipts of \$28,000. Mission accomplished.

He says the money remaining after digging three wells this year will be rolled into next year's fund.

But Guthrie is not the only Unionite with a passion for providing clean water in developing countries.

Just a few days after leading the Lady Bulldogs to an NAIA national championship, Head Coach Mark Campbell was on his way to India with an organization called Neverthirst. The non-profit organization works on two continents, partnering with churches and volunteers to provide fresh drinking water.

Because wells in India are highly susceptible to contamination from livestock, Campbell says an effort is underway to dig deeper. But well digging in India still is relatively inexpensive. A well that might cost \$8,000 to dig in Sudan can cost as little as \$2,500 in India.

It's a bargain that Campbell speaks of with enthusiasm and hope.

"Entire villages – several hundred people – can have future access to clean water at that price." 🏠



Union dedicates new continuing studies center



Union has dedicated a new off-campus facility that affords the University additional classroom and office space.

The new Center for Continuing and Professional Studies was dedicated at a March ceremony. The 21,000 square-foot facility is located at 1938 Emporium Drive, about a mile from the Jackson campus.

"We are so excited about our new facility," said Beverly Absher, chair of Union's Continuing Studies Department. "We are excited about the way that God will use us and this new space as we continue our mission of educating and equipping adult students for service to church and society."

"We reached a point where there was just no more space on campus to renovate to create office space or classroom space," said Charles Fowler, Union's senior vice president for university relations. "So we began exploring properties around town that would allow some office on campus to move off campus and create additional space on our main campus."

The building was once a Circuit City outlet and had been vacant for almost four years. Union renovated the 21,000-square-foot building and is using all of the former retail space for its continuing studies department. The former warehouse space will be used for future growth, either for continuing studies or some other program. ☞

Keep up with the latest news from Union at www.uu.edu/news

LifeWay president Rainer speaks at commencement

Thom Rainer, president of LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville, Tenn., was chosen to speak at Union University's 185th annual spring commencement ceremony May 22.

"Thom Rainer is one of the most respected leaders in Baptist life and the broader evangelical world," Union University President David S. Dockery said. "We are pleased to call him a friend of Union University. His recent work on the millennial generation has received national attention, and thus it is a wonderful and timely thing that Dr. Rainer can join us for such a significant occasion."



Prior to beginning his leadership role with LifeWay in 2006, Rainer served as dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth at Southern Baptist Theological

Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He is the author or co-author of 18 books, including such titles as *Simple Life*, *Essential Church*, *Raising Dad* and *Simple Church*.

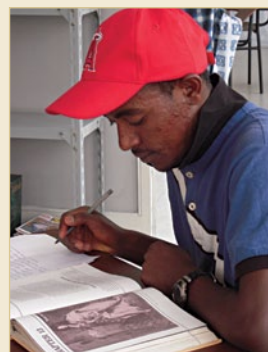
Union finished the 2009-10 academic year with 1,130 graduates, the most in university history. Approximately 530 graduated May 22, with another 600 receiving degrees in the August and December ceremonies. ☞

Ryan Center drive benefits Ethiopian library

More than 400 books line the shelves of a new library in Ethiopia as a result of a book drive led by the Ryan Center for Biblical Studies.

Donated by families and individuals from the Jackson community, the book topics range from Bible study and theology to elementary education and juvenile fiction.

Partners of Indigenous Outreach International, a local ministry, established the Tinsae Library in Addis



Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia, to serve as an English library for the public.

Brian Denker, assistant director of the Ryan Center for Biblical Studies, said Ethiopian children learn English in school and many adults speak English, but until now the capital did not

have an English library. He traveled to Ethiopia in January.

"The response over there has been great," Denker said. ☞



Tebow keynotes second Roy L. White Golf & Gala

Courage to stand alone, a willingness to serve others and the ability to finish strong are three components to a life of significance and purpose, according to Heisman Trophy Winner Tim Tebow.

"No one's ever really done anything significant when they've been with the pack," Tebow said during his keynote address at Union University's second annual Roy L. White Legacy Golf and Gala. "They've had to stand alone to do something significant."

"The second annual Roy L. White Legacy Golf and Gala was a tremendous event and I believe everyone left encouraged and inspired by Tim Tebow's remarks," said Charles Fowler, Union's senior vice president for university relations. "The entire Union family is grateful for the ongoing



support of Dr. Roy and Martha White to help advance our Christ-centered mission. This event would not have been possible without them."

In addition to the Whites, other sponsors of the event included Brasfield Construction, First Tennessee Bank, Farmers and Merchants Bank, The Dement Family and Carl and Alice Kirkland. 🏠

Pharmacy student honored in national competition



Union University pharmacy student Erica Rogers was first runner-up in the American Pharmacists Association's National

Patient Counseling Competition March 15 in Washington, D.C.

This marks the first year that Union has entered the competition, which is designed to encourage student pharmacists in their efforts toward becoming better patient educators, according to the American Pharmacists Association.

"Erica has definitely set a high bar and put Union University's School of

Pharmacy on the national academic map by illustrating our serious commitment to excellence in academics and patient care," said Sheila Mitchell, dean of Union's School of Pharmacy. "This is of great significance to us and is a reflection and confirmation of the hard work of this outstanding and tireless faculty and staff, who are dedicated to selecting and teaching quality students to become outstanding pharmacists."

Rogers, a second-year pharmacy student, outperformed many fourth-year students from other institutions. Of the 115 schools represented at the national competition, Union was the only Tennessee school in the top 10 and one of only four in the southeast region. 🏠

Memphis professor headlines Black History Month programs

Union University held its third annual Black History Month program Feb. 12, featuring Jeff Wilson from the University of Memphis as the keynote speaker.



The program's theme this year was "Black Collegians: Past, Present and Future." Wilson focused on the challenges and achievements of black collegians and the future of racial diversity in higher education.

The program also included a short presentation by MOSAIC, an organization at Union that reaches out to ethnic minority students, a gospel hymn sung by the MOSAIC Gospel Choir and a violin and piano suite composed by William Grant Still, one of the first black composers of classical music.

In another part of Union's Black History Month emphasis, K. Edward Copeland, senior pastor of New Zion Baptist Church in Rockford, Ill., spoke in chapel. 🏠

Hendersonville campus offers new programs

Union University's Hendersonville campus began offering a Doctor of Education degree program in February.

It is believed to be the first terminal degree program ever offered in Sumner County. Students will be required to complete 60 semester hours in one of two concentrations: school administration or higher education.

The new degree program joins existing Hendersonville programs leading to Master of Christian Studies, Master of Education and Education Specialist degrees.

The first five Hendersonville MCS students have completed degree requirements. As with Germantown graduates, Hendersonville graduates are recognized at Jackson graduation ceremonies.

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"I am so proud of this group of students and what they have accomplished," said Charles Lea, executive director of Union University Hendersonville. "I look forward to the continued success of our students and growth of our programs." ■

Debate team wins IPDA championship



Union University's debate team concluded its second season of competition by winning the International Public Debate Association tournament at the University of Central Arkansas.

Seventeen teams, mostly from the southeast, competed in the event. Union debate team coach Web Drake said the tournament's winner is considered to be the national champion for the IPDA, one of many debate organizations in which colleges and universities compete. Drake called the win the biggest since Union resumed debate competition two years ago.

"We have only freshmen and sophomores, and we're going up against squads that are primarily seniors," Drake said.

The win was the third tournament victory for Union's debate team this year. For the season, Kylie McDonald finished first and Amanda Bennett was second in Novice Season-Long Sweepstakes competition.

In the fall semester, Union hosted the inaugural Bulldog Classic Debate Tournament. Debate teams from schools in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas were invited to the two-day event. ■

www.uu.edu/news



David Thomas, professor of history, and Glenae Nora, freshman history major, cut a board to be used for a building project at Green Frog Village during Campus and Community: A Day of Remembrance and Service.

Union receives national honor for community service

For the fourth straight year, Union University has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to America's communities.

"Serving others is an important way for Union faculty, staff and students to extend the mission and core values of the university," Union President David S. Dockery said. "To once again be included on this honor roll speaks volumes about the entire Union community."

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Union has been named each year of the Honor Roll's existence.

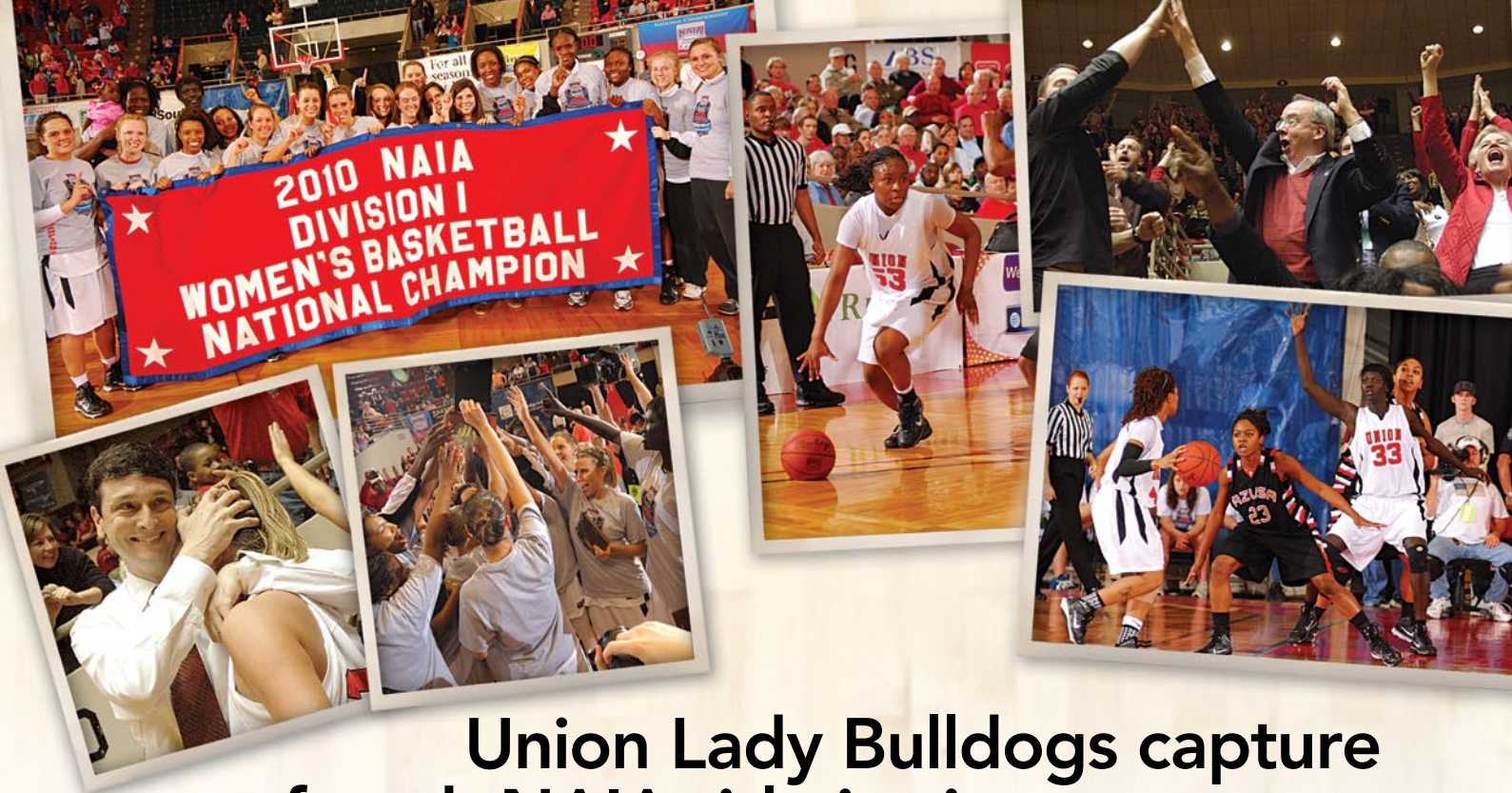
Honorees for the award were chosen based on a series of selection factors including scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities,

incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

Union University serves the community in many ways throughout the year. Its largest event is the annual "Campus and Community: A Day of Remembrance and Service," in which the university sends out more than 50 teams across Jackson and West Tennessee for various service projects.

The event began in 2002 as an opportunity for Union to show its appreciation to the community for its assistance after a tornado hit the campus that year and caused about \$2 million in damage. But it has taken on even greater significance following the 2008 tornado that caused more than \$40 million in damage to the campus, when the Jackson and West Tennessee communities rallied to Union's aid.

More than 900 students, faculty and staff participated in the event in 2009. ■



Union Lady Bulldogs capture fourth NAIA title in six years

For the second straight year and the fifth time in school history, the Union Lady Bulldogs have captured the NAIA national championship in women's basketball.

In March, Union defeated Azusa Pacific University 73-65 in the NAIA Division I Women's Basketball National Championship title game at Oman Arena in Jackson.

"As a group, they accomplished so much more than any individual could," Union Coach Mark Campbell said at a campus celebration the following day. "Everybody, whether they believe it or not, longs to be a part of something that's bigger than themselves. That's how I define this team."

The Lady Bulldogs overcame poor perimeter shooting in the first half, when they connected on only 3-of-15 from 3-point range. The shots started falling in the second half, with Kayla Hudson and Zeinab Chan leading Union down the stretch. Hudson sank three key 3-point shots and Chan scored 12 of her team-high 20 points in the second half.

The Lady Bulldogs also survived a strong challenge from Oklahoma City University in the semifinal round, winning 63-61. In that game, senior guard Kaitlin Dudley surpassed Sandra Fitzgerald (1975-79) as the team's all-time leading scorer. Dudley finishes her Union career with 2,385 points.

The 2010 tournament was an NAIA-record 19th straight for Union and the 21st overall. The Lady Bulldogs finish the season 36-2, a year that included a regular season conference championship and a memorable early-season exhibition game against at Vanderbilt.

Union led by as many as 13 points in the first half and went in at halftime with a 30-27 lead. Vanderbilt didn't take its first lead in the game until the 12:21 mark in the second half, but went on a late 20-1 run to win 69-48.

The Lady Bulldogs have scheduled two exhibition games against SEC teams for 2010-11: Tennessee in Knoxville and Vanderbilt in Nashville. 🏀

Championships for men's basketball, cross country and golf

David Niven led men's basketball to national honors in his first year as head coach. The team won conference titles in both regular season and tournament play.

Niven, who had been an assistant coach at Union since 1997, took his 26-7 team to the NAIA national tournament in Kansas City. The Bulldogs were upset 82-79 by Montana Western in the first round. Union ranked 10th in the final NAIA national poll.

Greg Truvillion, a senior forward from Lansing,

Mich., was named NAIA second team All-American. For the season, Truvillion averaged 18.3 points and 9.3 rebounds.

Men's and women's cross country both placed first in their respective TranSouth Conference meets. Union also claimed the top spots individually in each race with Hannah Clardy finishing first on the women's side and Alex Bett taking first in the men's race.

Men's golf captured the 2010 TranSouth conference championship. It's the third TranSouth golf title for Union in the past five years. 🏌️



MISSION to haiti

Nursing students serve in the aftermath of January's devastating earthquake

Within two weeks of the deadly earthquake in Haiti, two teams of Union University nursing students and faculty went to work helping victims. They served in a makeshift hospital at Fond Parisien, Haiti, and a few miles to the east at a similar facility just across the border in Jimani, Dominican Republic.

The teams worked long hours in separate one-week shifts, but they brought home similar stories of suffering, sacrifice and service.

Difficult conditions are not unknown to Union nursing students and faculty. They have ongoing relationships within the Dominican Republic and provide several teams each year to help with routine medical care in the villages near Santo Domingo.

But following the January earthquake, nursing faculty members investigated ways they could both help earthquake victims and maintain their annual commitment to people in the Dominican Republic.

Some served in the Dominican Republic, but many others chose to help victims of the earthquake which killed an estimated 200,000 people and injured another 300,000.

Tenderness is "not something you can teach"

"When we left the Dominican at one in the morning, we had had about a six to seven hour bus ride," said Molly Wright, assistant program director for nurse anesthesia. "We would ride all night and then report for work at 7 o'clock in the morning."

Wright says she was not prepared for the poverty she witnessed across the border in Haiti, and that the



initial rounds the nurses made revealed the deepest depths of human suffering.

"The people who were crying, the people who were in pain, waiting for someone to take care of them—nothing can prepare you for that," Wright said.

The teams brought supplies and anesthesia, but conditions were difficult and complete relief from pain for the patients wasn't always possible. Such was the case with one toddler who needed part of her foot amputated.

"For this little girl, what we were giving her wasn't enough," remembers William Janovich, a Union nurse anesthesia student from Cordova who went to Fond Parisien. "She needed more. To bridge that gap, I started singing to her."

Janovich says he held her head and softly sang "Jesus Loves Me" and "Jesus Loves the Little Children" repeatedly until the procedure was completed. Nurse Anesthesia Program Director Pamela Binns-Turner watched Janovich work.

"To watch the tenderness with which he cared for that baby was amazing," says Binns-Turner. "That's not something you can teach."

Reinforcements in Jimani

In Jimani, the need and desire to provide quality health care to the earthquake victims of nearby Haiti is great. Resources are strained.

The nurse-to-patient ratio was 30-to-1 prior to the arrival of the Union nursing team. Many who were providing surgical and post-operative care had no idea the reinforcements were headed their way. When the buses rolled in, hospital administrators at first were stunned—and then quietly wept tears of joy.

"People were amazed that (Union) had that many people who would be willing to come," said School of Nursing Dean Timothy Smith, who led the first of two groups that helped earthquake victims. "We were able to go in and take care of large numbers of people, and that was a de-stressor for them."

Several times the administrators of the makeshift hospital would walk by Smith, tapping him on the shoulder whispering "you are blessed!"

The Union group had divided into teams, and most of the nursing students and faculty went right to work with primary patient care. Three in the party, including Smith, helped with anesthesia for the surgeries.

"We just did surgery after surgery, and many of the patients went to surgery every day," Smith said.

The makeshift hospital building had six tiny operating rooms. There was little ventilation, and only a few places in the building had air conditioning. Some 225 patients were spread out among a few rooms in the hospital, another small adjacent building, and scores of tents.

"I actually had mixed feelings about going to the border or through to Haiti," said Bethany Giacobozzi, a Union nurse anesthesia student from Boston who plans to graduate later this year.

There was little preparation for the pain and suffering the groups observed.

"Going to each individual tent was shocking, just to see the actual environments that they were living in," said Giacobozzi. "A lot of times, a single tent held four different families."

Showing the Love of Christ

Both Union teams found it difficult to leave the earthquake victims. In Fond Parisien, departure was delayed about 30 minutes because students insisted that the next shift needed a full report on the needs of their patients.

"They might not have done anything to change their lives, but for that moment in time, those people would see a smile or compassion," Wright said. "They would know that they had been shown the love of Christ."

Giacobozzi said the trip put other events in her life in a new perspective. Things that had been so important to her a few days before the trip—her classes and graduation plans—suddenly moved to the back of her mind. Leaving the camp was difficult.

"I just wanted to stay so that I could see people throughout those tents being able to walk and being able to be transported back home."

That might take six months or more.

"They accepted it and they did very well," Smith said of the students, "but getting them on the bus (to leave) the last day was tough." 📖



THINKING GLOBALLY

Union makes new connections around the world

President David S. Dockery's book *Renewing Minds* charts the course for much of Union University's recent journey as an academic institution. Among the chapter titles in the book are calls to love God with our minds, shape a Christian worldview, establish a grace-filled community and reclaim the Christian intellectual tradition.

The final chapter is "thinking globally about the future." It is a worthy goal, but something Union has yet to fully implement.

But Union faculty and staff in recent months have taken part in global opportunities on new levels of significance. The connections they have established show great promise as foundations are laid for thinking and acting globally.

David S. Dockery/Singapore

An April trip to lecture multiple times in Singapore left Dockery "physically exhausted, spiritually exhilarated" and hopeful about a future partnership between the university and

Singapore Baptists.

"If Union University is going to be involved – as I'm committed for us to be – in being a Great Commission university, to be a part of a Great Commission resurgence in Southern Baptist life, I pray Singapore is our partner to help make it happen," Dockery said.

Dockery lectured at the Baptist Theological Seminary, which is celebrating its 21st anniversary. A leader at the seminary who issued the invitation had heard Dockery's presentation at the 2007 Baptist Identity Conference and read his book, *Southern Baptist Consensus and Renewal*.

Dockery lectured four times at the seminary on such topics as Baptist history, identity and beliefs. He gave two



public presentations at International Baptist Church for the Singapore Baptist Convention on why Baptists are different from other Christians and what Baptists have in common with other Christians.

"The Lord blessed every session," Dockery said. "The receptivity to my talks was terrific. I think the opportunity to encourage missionaries, to visit with pastors, and to help strengthen the work of the convention were all things that were spiritually energizing for me."

Located on the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula in Southeast Asia, Singapore is an island city-state of 5.6 million people. Dockery said the city is expected to grow to 7 million inhabitants over the next 10 years.

"It's a very pluralistic, diverse population," Dockery said. "Within all that diversity, different than any other place in Asia, 95 percent of the people speak English. I didn't need a translator for anything."

The Baptist convention in Singapore consists of 36 fairly strong churches, with about 12,000 members. The convention has reached a state of health, and "they are thinking strategically how to be united, cooperative, Great Commission people," Dockery said.

Dockery envisions a partnership that could help equip the Baptists in Singapore to do their part in reaching the nations with the gospel. The city is strategically located, with Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing, Tokyo, Australia, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, India and the Philippines all within just a few hours of travel time.

"Singapore is the ideal place for us to think about," Dockery said. "I'm hopeful that we can find ways to be a strategic partner with Singapore Baptists and the Baptist Theological Seminary there for years to come."

Carla Sanderson/Iraq

University Provost Carla Sanderson spent four days in Iraq in January, sharing her expertise with academic leaders who want a more democratic form of higher education in their country.

The invitation to join this delegation of leaders in education came as part of a U.S. Agency for International Development grant with the U.S. Department of State. Sanderson has worked as a commissioner for the Southern Association of Colleges



and Schools, an entity of the U.S. Department of Education.

The four-day workshop was held at the Cultural and Social Center of Salahaddin University in the city of Erbil, the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world.

According to Sanderson, students in Iraqi universities have no choice in their courses of study. They take aptitude tests that determine which fields are best for them. For example, those who score highest on the tests must study medicine.

She said students therefore have little motivation to perform well academically. In addition, ongoing wars over the years have greatly disrupted the nation's educational growth.

But Sanderson says she left Iraq encouraged by the progress the group made and hopeful for the future of education there if war can be averted.

"I leave recognizing that they are at a very fine starting point for reform, and hopeful that education can be the vehicle they need to turn things around as a nation," Sanderson said.

Michael Penny/Nigeria

Professor of Music Michael Penny spent three weeks during winter term in the Nigerian city of Ogbomoso, where he taught at the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary.

Penny taught classes in worship, conducting, English diction and applied voice.

Penny sees opportunity in Nigeria, which has the fourth largest Baptist convention in the world. Much of that strength relates to work Southern Baptists have been doing in the country for many years.

Penny says this part of Africa could one day be the center of the Christian world.

"Our hope is that Union can develop a permanent relationship with the Nigerian Seminary," Penny said.

Justin Barnard/Iran

Associate Professor of Philosophy Justin Barnard spent a week in Iran as part of an academic exchange between Christian and Muslim philosophers on the topic of religious epistemology.

The trip involved scholars from Union and five other universities and was jointly sponsored by Christian philosophers from the United States and by several universities and institutes in Iran.

Barnard and an Iranian philosopher spearheaded the event. Much of the initial communication between the two was done via e-mail.

"The goal was to get Christian and Muslim professional academic philosophers together in a single setting where they could host a symposium and have dialogue with a goal of mutual understanding," Barnard said.

Religious epistemology considers ways of coming to know that God exists. It also involves an examination of the circumstances in which people are justified in holding their religious beliefs, and considerations of what constitutes religious knowledge.



"When we set up the conference, we recruited people on the basis of their expertise in this area," Barnard said. Each participant presented a paper relevant to the larger topic.

After returning from Iran, Barnard said he had a better sense of which schools of thought have the biggest influence in that region, and the types of discussions that are most popular.

"The biggest benefit for me was better understanding of what the reality of life is like there, not only for ordinary Iranian citizens, but for the academic culture more broadly," Barnard said. "Iran has an incredibly rich intellectual tradition. It's also very clear that they have a vibrant set of learning communities." 卐



RENEWING MINDS UNION 2012



When Union University trustees unanimously approved "Renewing Minds: Union 2012," they intensified the challenge of reclaiming and applying the Christian intellectual tradition in a grace-filled community.

"The 2012 plan is therefore a clarion call to re-emphasize our foundational commitments, including our identity, our Christ-centered mission and our liberal arts heritage," said President David S. Dockery. "The plan calls for all departments, schools and disciplines across campus to join together in seeking to reclaim the Christian intellectual tradition."

Dockery said this newest plan is an extension of the commitments found in the last three long-range plans – concluded in 2001, 2005 and 2010 – that have directed the university's work since his election as president in 1996. But he added that "Renewing Minds: Union 2012" has its own distinctive aims.

"The emphasis is less on the new and novel," Dockery said, "and more on qualitative commitments to enhance and strengthen the many, many good things taking place at Union University."

In addition to the current construction projects across the campus, the plan calls for Union to construct six new campus housing buildings on the west side of Walker Road. The buildings will be arranged in two quads which will be identical to the quads on the east side of the road that were built after the 2008 tornado destroyed the existing housing complexes. Three buildings, constituting three-fourths of one quad, are scheduled for completion in time for fall semester of 2010. There

The university's Honors Community, which builds upon the current honors program, is designed to provide highly academically qualified students with the social, intellectual and material resources to develop their gifts.

The new plan also includes:

- development of opportunities for Union students to study in international and intercultural contexts.
- strengthening of Union's commitment to racial reconciliation by providing support for the Intercultural Community Council Culture Fest initiative and continued development of the Center for Racial Reconciliation and the School of Education's urban studies program.
- completion of construction projects currently underway on the Union campus, including the new pharmacy building, and the Smith Soccer Complex. The pharmacy building has been named Providence Hall and is scheduled to open for fall semester classes. The soccer complex is expected to be ready for the 2010 season.
- construction of a road on the 55 acres of land that Union owns along Interstate 40 at exit 83, as the university continues to develop strategies for the future use of that property. In addition, the plan lays the groundwork for numerous other initiatives at the university to be developed after 2012.

Dockery said "Renewing Minds: Union 2012" recognizes "the challenges of the economic times in which we find ourselves and is therefore prudent

A Call to Foundational Commitments

will be about 150 new residential rooms for students.

Three additional buildings in a second quad will be complete by the end of 2012. The final two buildings that will complete each quad will be constructed sometime after 2012.

The plan also calls for a commitment to the further development of Union's honors and Gateway programs.

Gateway is a semester-long course for all incoming freshmen and transfers that provides an introduction to the intellectual life at Union. The class includes four plenary sessions that address such topics as the Christian faith, the university's liberal arts foundation, cultural engagement and the Christian worldview. Students then in smaller groups, led by various faculty members, spend multiple weeks discussing each of the topics from the plenary sessions and their application to the core curriculum.

and cautious, while at the same time providing bold and visionary steps for the future."

Gene Fant, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the strategic plan "is a bold step toward the continued enhancement of the university's overall excellence, which is rooted in our distinctive mission."

"It extends the kind of forward thinking that has led us to this point in the university's history by preparing for the challenges that will face us in the coming years," Fant said. "I am particularly excited at the prospect of exploring how our distinctive liberal arts foundation can merge with our graduate and professional programs to create innovative opportunities for our students and the rest of our community. I am hopeful that the plan will continue the outright transformation of the university into a national and, indeed, international leader in higher education." ■

Union faculty members achieve Highest Honors

Union faculty members have a long history of winning awards, publishing research and partnering with colleagues at other academic institutions in pursuit of knowledge. But in the past 12 months, several members of the Union faculty—representing a variety of disciplines—have captured some of the highest honors possible in their respective fields.

David Austill: Fulbright scholarship winner



A professor of accounting and business law, Austill will use the prestigious Fulbright scholarship to study European employment law in Bulgaria and lecture at Sofia University in the country's capital city.

"I hope to write a paper on the employment law, making the comparison of European employment law to American employment law," said Austill, who has never visited Bulgaria but plans a short summer visit to acclimate himself prior to his research leave from October-February.

Austill is believed to be the first Union faculty member to win a Fulbright scholarship while serving at the University. McAfee School of Business Administration Dean Keith Absher won a Fulbright while serving at the University of North Alabama.

Micah Watson: research fellow, James Madison Program, Princeton University



Watson, assistant professor of political science and director of Union's Center for Religion and Politics, says the Madison program is meant to provide access to Princeton's resources and enable original research related to American ideals and institutions.

He will research the writings of John Locke (1632–1704) and benefit from a collection of 900 books in the Princeton library

devoted to the British philosopher.

"My project is about trying to recapture how his Christian faith informed his political thinking," Watson said. "I find not only was he interesting in his own right, but a lot of his thoughts have continuing relevance for the debates that we're having today."

Hal Poe: Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America



Poe, the Charles Colson Professor of Faith and Culture, was on hand at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City to receive the award for his book, *Edgar Allan Poe: An Illustrated Companion to His Tell-Tale Stories*, published in 2009.

"I was truly surprised," said Poe, who is a descendant of Edgar Allan Poe. "It was a huge honor."

The Mystery Writers of America established the Edgar

Awards to recognize the best mysteries each year, and the best critical biographical books related to mysteries. The awards are named in honor of Edgar Allan Poe, who is recognized as the founder of the mystery genre.

Bobby Rogers: Agnes Lynch Starrett Poetry Prize

About 900 poets around the world enter the prestigious Agnes Lynch Starrett Poetry Prize Competition each year. It's an honor to finish in the top 20, but only the winning entry is published by the University of Pittsburgh Press.

Professor of English and Writer-in-Residence Bobby Rogers has had a number of top 20 finishes over the years, but in 2009, he took the top spot. His winning poetry collection, likely to be entitled *Paper Anniversary*, will be published later in 2010.

"It's one of the places you hope your book will land," says Rogers. "And Pitt University Press publishes people out of respect, so that's where you want to be."



Emily Lean: 2009 AME Best Paper Award

Union business professor Emily Lean ('03) received the 2009 Academy of Management Best Paper Award at the Academy of Management annual meeting in Chicago.

Lean says about 6,000 articles per year are submitted and the journal has an acceptance rate of less than 10 percent. After they are accepted, the papers go through the process of being reviewed multiple times until the editors choose the articles to be published in the journals.

"We never went in thinking we were going to win," Lean said. "It really caught us by surprise."

The paper, which Lean co-wrote, was about the effects of domestic violence in the workplace. ☛



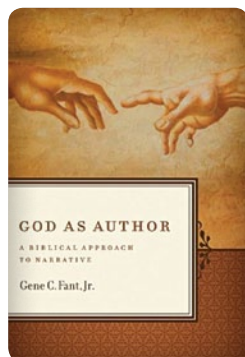


Prolific Authors

Union University faculty members have plenty of titles to contribute to your summer reading list.

A book released this spring by **Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Gene Fant** examines the way humans process a story. *God as Author: a Biblical Approach to Narrative* (Broadman and Holman, 224 pages) available in May.

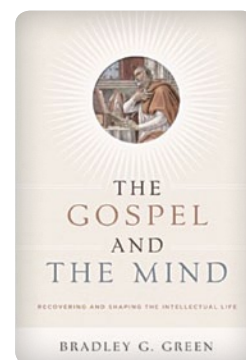
“God designed our reaction to story to be one that draws us to the realization that we need restoration—that things are messed up,” Fant said. “Story works the way story works because God designed story that way to reflect the gospel.”



“The book begins with a simple observation and a simple question: wherever the cross is planted the academy follows,” Green said. “Why is this the case? What is it about the gospel that encourages and generates intellectual deliberation and thought?”

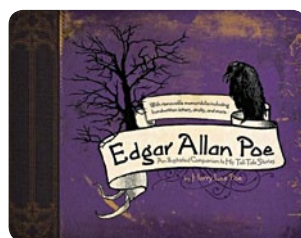
Ray Van Neste, associate professor of Christian studies and director of the R.C. Ryan Center for Biblical Studies, has been involved with several book publication projects in recent months.

Due out this spring, *Entrusted with the Gospel: Paul's Theology in the Pastoral Epistles* (Broadman and Holman, 2010) contains Van Neste's chapter “Cohesion and Structure in the Pastoral Epistles.”



Union faculty members release new books

Among the most prolific authors at Union is **Hal Poe, the Charles Colson Professor of Faith & Culture**. His biography of famous relative Edgar Allan Poe brought critical acclaim and a top literary prize from the Mystery Writers of America. *Edgar Allan Poe: An Illustrated Companion to His Tell-Tale Stories* reveals for the first time that Edgar Allan Poe became a Christian about six weeks prior to his death.

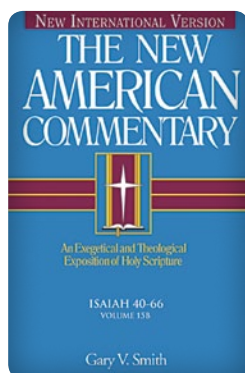


Gary Smith, professor of Christian studies, has published a highly acclaimed new commentary on chapters 40-66 of Isaiah. It is part of “The New American Commentary” series, and follows the first commentary Smith wrote on Isaiah chapters 1-39 that was released in 2007.

George Guthrie, the Benjamin W. Perry Professor of Bible, is involved in a book project entitled “Read the Bible for Life” that will be

published by Broadman and Holman. Guthrie said it is part of a biblical literacy initiative he is joining with LifeWay and B&H. The release will include a one-year chronological Bible, a Reader's Guide to the Bible and a video curriculum designed as a companion to the main book.

Brad Green, associate professor of Christian studies, has a new book out titled *The Gospel and the Mind: Recovering and Shaping the Intellectual Life* (Crossway, 2010).



In The Holman Christian Standard Study Bible (2010), Van Neste contributed the study notes on the pastoral epistles.

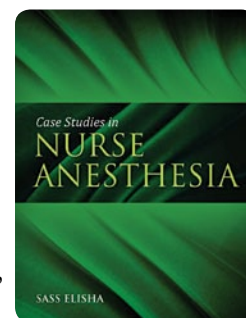
Two Union nursing professors have contributed to a highly respected textbook. **Pamela Binns-Turner, assistant director, MSN-Nurse Anesthesia program**, and **Molly Wright, assistant professor of Nursing**,

both were chosen to write chapters for the highly respected textbook *Case Studies in Nurse Anesthesia*, edited by Sass Elisha (Jones & Bartlett, 2009). As the title implies, the book focuses on a case study approach to learning anesthesia techniques.

Binns-Turner wrote Chapter 42, “Extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy” and Wright contributed Chapter 48, “Arthroscopic Shoulder Surgery.”

The forthcoming book by **Dr. Thomas R. Rosebrough, university professor of education and dean of the College of Education and Human Studies**, and **Ralph Leverett, university professor of special education and director of the Master of Education program**, is titled *Transformational Teaching in an Informational Age*.

The book, due out in fall 2010, is being published by the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. 📖





1. Gregory A. Thornbury
Dean, School of Christian Studies
Co-author, *Shaping a Christian Worldview*, Senior Editor, *Kairos Journal*

2. Randall Bush
Professor of Philosophy
D.Phil., Oxford University

3. John Netland
Professor of English
Chair, Department of English
Ph.D., UCLA

4. Jeannette Russ
Associate Professor of Engineering
Ph.D., Vanderbilt University

5. Justin Barnard
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Director, Carl F.H. Henry Center
for Intellectual Discipleship

6. Hal Poe
Charles Colson Professor
of Faith and Culture, Author of
more than a dozen books, including
The Gospel and Its Meaning

7. C. Ben Mitchell
Graves Professor of Moral
Philosophy, Editor, *Ethics and
Medicine: An International
Journal of Bioethics*, Co-author,
*Biotechnology and the Human
Good*, Co-author of Zondervan's
forthcoming *International
Dictionary of Christian Bioethics*

8. Roland Porter
Director, Center for Racial
Reconciliation
J.D., University of California
at Berkeley

9. Micah Watson
Director, Center for Religion
and Politics
Ph.D., Princeton University

10. George Guthrie
Benjamin W. Perry Professor
of Biblical Interpretation and
author of numerous publications,
including commentaries on
Hebrew and James

11. Ray Van Neste
Director, Ryan Center
for Biblical Studies
Ph.D., University of Aberdeen
Faculty Member of the Year

12. Cindy Jayne
Director, Institute for International
and Intercultural Studies, University
Professor of Languages

13. Jennifer Gruenke
Biology, Immunology,
Science and Faith
Ph.D., University of Virginia

14. Chris Mathews
Chair, Music Department
Ph.D., University of Kentucky

15. Steve Halla
Culture and the Arts
Ph.D., University of Texas

16. Scott Huelin
Director, Honors Program
Ph.D., University of Chicago



LEADING the WAY, **Renewing MINDS**

RECLAIMING the Christian Intellectual Tradition
and ENGAGING the Culture



Excellence-Driven Higher Education Starts with an Investment in Top Faculty

This group of stellar faculty represents more than 200 full time faculty members at Union who are committed to academic excellence.

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IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF BAPTISTS

Among the historical milestones the world marked in 2009 was the 400th anniversary of the Baptist movement. At such a time, it is natural to take stock of the work Baptists have done for generations and how well they are poised to face tomorrow's challenges.

With those weighty issues in mind, Union University's Office of Church Relations and R. C. Ryan Center for Biblical Studies hosted an October conference that captured the attention of Christian leaders and thinkers across the country: "Southern Baptists, Evangelicals and the Future of Denominationalism."

So lingering was the impact of the conference that the Biblical Recorder,

North Carolina's Baptist newspaper, devoted much of its final issue in 2009 to discussions and news accounts of the conference. The issue came out more than two months after the conclusion of the conference.

The Web site Baptist21.com ranked the conference fifth in its year-end "Top 10 SBC Stories and Events."

"(President) David Dockery has, amongst other things, turned Union University into one of the leading think tanks for Baptist life," wrote Jed Coppenger in describing the event for his ranking list. "Like in his past conferences, Dockery put together a line-up that included the most significant and helpful voices in Baptist life. And they didn't disappoint."

The opening session with Ed Stetzer of LifeWay Christian Resources and later President David Dockery's presentation, both were broadcast live on the conference's Web page and included what is known as a "Twitter-fountain." Viewers were able to post real-time comments and questions on Twitter.com, and those comments were displayed on screens in the conference facility at the Carl Grant Events Center.

Podcasts of every presentation were made available on the conference Web page, along with summaries of the discussions on Union's news Web page.

In addition to Stetzer and Dockery, other speakers included Timothy George, Robert Smith and Mark DeVine of Beeson Divinity School

in Birmingham, Ala.; President Danny Akin and Nathan Finn of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; President R. Albert Mohler of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; President Duane Litfin of Wheaton College; Michael Lindsay, a sociologist at Rice University in Houston; and Union University faculty members James Patterson, Hal Poe, Jerry Tidwell and Ray Van Neste.

Ed Stetzer: Denominationalism — Is There a Future?

The president of LifeWay Research opened the conference by asserting that denominations do have a future, but only within the context assisting the local church in ministry.

Stetzer said that in Baptist circles, the authority of each local church should make it plain that the future of effective denominational work

rests in maintaining a proper working relationship: “Denominational leaders are not the boss. They are the servants of Southern Baptist churches,” Stetzer said. “If the local churches believe we can be more efficient or more effective, then ultimately, the denominational structures must bow to the wishes of the churches.”

James Patterson: Reflections on 400 Years of the Baptist Movement: Who We Are. What We Believe

“History is messy,” Patterson said. “And in particular, Baptist history is messy.”

Patterson focused his lecture on the people and groups who made it possible for the Southern Baptist Convention to exist today — people like Thomas Helwys, whom Patterson referenced as an important part to the beginning of the “General Baptist tradition,” and Andrew Fuller, whom Patterson described as “an evangelical Calvinist.”

Patterson said that “even though our past is messy, Baptists have maintained a clear distinct denominational identity for 400 years. One of my concerns with the current generation... is forgetting some of these things.”

Timothy George: Baptists and Their Relations with Other Christians

Pointing to the text of Jude 3, George described faith in three senses:

“the faith,” “my faith” and “the church’s faith.”

George recognized the value of creeds in holding to “the faith.” He said creeds should be open to revision and should not be imposed by civil sanction.

“We don’t want to elevate any human-constructed statement, however venerable or wonderful it may be, on an equal level — much less above — the written word of God in Holy Scripture,” George said.

David S. Dockery: So Many Denominations: The Rise and Decline of Denominationalism and the Shaping of a Global Evangelicalism

In recent years, Dockery said denominational identity has been in a rapid decline. For example, he cited statistics indicating that in 1990, about 200,000 people in the United States classified themselves as “non-denominational.” By 2009, that number skyrocketed to more than 8 million.

“No longer do people identify with kindred spirits in vertical alignments, as Lutherans, as Anglicans, as Presbyterians, as Methodists or Baptists,” he said. “Instead, people identify more around other connections and identifying markers such as fundamentalists, conservatives, evangelicals, moderates and liberals. Thus liberal Anglicans and liberal Methodists have much more in common than liberal Anglicans and conservative Anglicans.”

He said that denominations will continue to have a place in evangelicalism in the future, and “denominations that thrive will remain convictionally connected to their tradition, while working and exploring ways to partner with affinity groups and networks, and seeking to understand better the changing global context around us.”

Danny Akin: The Future of the Southern Baptist Convention

Akin acknowledged certain “essential, non-negotiable” beliefs of the SBC, but he discussed the importance of diversity within the denomination.

“Some things are worth fighting over and dying over,” Akin said. “Some things are not. Some things are worth dividing over; some things are not.”

Southern Baptists have a history of racism, Akin said, and the denomination remains mainly white and Southern. Akin encouraged Southern Baptists to have “a new vision” for planting churches in demographically diverse areas. He cited locations such as New York City, where there are far fewer SBC churches per capita than in the South.

Robert Smith: An Unchanging Gospel

Smith said Christians have limited Christ in their preaching today and must return to the proclamation of Christ alone in their lives.

“We preach an unalterable and immutable gospel in a changing world,” Smith said, calling Christians to return to the Bible as the basis for their confession of faith.

“Too much preaching has become christologically bankrupt and deficient,” he said. “You can hear many sermons and Jesus is never mentioned, even though he’s the one who is doing the speaking. Brothers and sisters, many people have not heard about him, and those who’ve heard about him don’t really know who he is.”

Duane Litfin: The Future of American Evangelicalism

Litfin believes the Southern Baptist Convention is wrestling with its identity, its calling and its future and said this is not the first time this question of destination has surfaced.

“The problem is those sorts of questions don’t stay answered,” Litfin said. “[The environment] is constantly throwing a new question to us, questions we can’t avoid... It does not pose the same questions but new ones of what it means to live out that previous answer in the kaleidoscopic environment of the 21st century.”

Denominations may come and go, Litfin said, but Baptists are in a good place because of their emphasis on the local church instead of hierarchical institutions.

continued on page 26 >



Michael Lindsay: Denominationalism and the Changing Religious Landscape in North America

Lindsay is adamant that churches must use the institution of a denomination.

"The issues that our church is going to face in the coming years and frankly, the demographic shifts that are already underway, are too significant for us to fall back into a simplistic individualism," he said. "We will not survive unless we think institutionally."

Lindsay concluded: "We have to figure out how to pool our resources and talents we have at our disposal to advance not just the aim of our individual organization but instead to advance the Lord's work in redeeming the very structures of our society by creating contexts in which human flourishings can occur and in which we can work together for the common good."

Hal Poe: The Gospel and Its Meaning: Implications for Southern Baptists and Evangelicals

Poe emphasized that although the gospel message does not change, it is important to answer questions relevant to

the current culture rather than relying on established presentations of the past.

"The essential Christian faith embodied in the gospel never changes, but the questions that people and cultures ask change with each generation and each age," Poe said. "Jesus is the answer, but Christians do not always attend to the question, so they can explain how Jesus is the answer."

D. Mark DeVine: Emergent or Emerging: Questions for Southern Baptists and North American Evangelicals

DeVine has spent most of this decade studying the emerging church. He said the movement got his attention after an emerging church congregation helped revitalize a declining congregation where he served as pastor in Kansas City, Mo. DeVine said



many churches, including Southern Baptist churches, have failed to account for the changing culture. They continue to practice evangelism and ministry as they have for generations.

"We didn't think missionally to do it because we didn't have to, said DeVine. "Now with the changing cultural landscape, we have to treat our own land as a mission field."

DeVine said emerging church leaders sometimes fail to recognize the benefits of a larger denomination and the historical success of the SBC.

R. Albert Mohler: Faithfulness to God's Word

Mohler urged young Southern Baptists to focus on faithfulness to God's word rather than numbers or statistics. He said that faithfulness should be followed by taking the gospel to the nations.

"Those (numbers) are not unimportant, but it is the heart of the denomination that is the bigger issue — the clarity of our vision, the essential importance of our mission," he said. "It is going to be yours and you are going to decide what to do with it."

Mohler talked about how the so-called "Bible Belt" has changed and no longer exists in the form familiar two generations ago.

"Any denomination that bases its future on the confidence of cultural Christianity deserves to die with that culture when it dies."

Ray Van Neste: The Oversight of Souls: Pastoral Ministry in Southern Baptist and Evangelical Life

Van Neste reminded pastors, professors and leading intellectuals in the evangelical community of the greatest responsibility of a pastor: "Our central task is not managing good programs, drawing large crowds or even delivering powerful messages,"

Van Neste said. "Our central task is shepherding souls as they depart the city of destruction and hazard their way toward the celestial city."

Van Neste argued that ministry to the individual, such as in-home visits and personal knowledge of members in the congregation, is just as vital as ministry to the masses.

Jerry Tidwell: Missions and Evangelism: Awakenings and Their Influence on Southern Baptists and Evangelicals

After reviewing the Baptist heritage in relation to the Great Awakenings that took place across the world, Tidwell concluded with a look at what sparked those revivals and what is necessary for another revival in this day and age.

"In the Awakening, people had a fresh vision of God's sovereignty and God's holiness just like Isaiah [in Isaiah 6] and it became a 'woe is me' moment, and God visited his people," Tidwell said. "It is my heart's desire that the next cry that we hear from the Baptist family will be 'Woe is me, for we have seen the king, the Lord of hosts.'"

Nathan Finn: Southern Baptists and Evangelicals: Passing on the Faith to the Next Generation

Finn's address focused on the relationship between Southern Baptists and evangelicals and "what it means to pass on the Southern Baptist and/or evangelical faith to the next generation." He drew a distinction between evangelicals, who have a high view of Scripture, and evangelicalism, which is a religious movement.

Finn said Southern Baptists should embrace some of the ideas inside evangelicalism, such as the authority of Scripture, and should partner with other evangelicals in working toward the common goals of Christianity. ☞

Note: Union students Kimberlee Hauss ('11), Nick McFerron ('10), Katie Shatzer ('10) and Elizabeth Waibel ('11) contributed to this story.



Looking back at the conference

Links to speaker biographies
www.uu.edu/events/baptistfuture

Link to Audio of each presentation
www.uu.edu/audio

Summaries of each presentation
(under October 2009)
www.uu.edu/news/releases.cfm

A BROKEN VESSEL RESTORED:

Despite turbulent childhood, **Amy Brown finds healing in the arms of Christ**

by Tim Ellsworth

The alarm blares, and 10-year-old Amy Brown rouses herself from sleep and prepares to face yet another haunting day. It's her responsibility to wake her brother, one year older than she is, and get both of them off to school. Because if Amy doesn't do it, nobody will.

She walks by her parents on her way out the door. Both of them are passed out from the previous night's drinking binge. When she returns home later in the day, they'll be awake and already hard at work on another night's worth of drinking and drugs that will result in the same routine the next day. At school, Amy encounters a fresh day of teasing and ridicule from her classmates: "Oh, you're the one with the retarded daddy."

She finishes school and heads home, knowing full well the horrors she's likely to encounter that evening. Her mother is a bipolar, alcoholic junkie who's loud and vulgar and mean. Her father is a drunk, too, with the mental capacity of a 12-year-old. Think Lenny in "Of Mice and Men," and you get the picture. Because he doesn't know any better, he's also a sponge for his wife's constant spewing of filth-ridden insults and harangues that Amy can't help but overhear.

Amy fixes supper for her brother – cold hot dogs and cold canned green beans, again – and takes it to him where he's hiding between his bed and the wall, scared to death of what his parents might do to him if they find him. Physical abuse isn't uncommon in the Brown home. Amy bears a scar underneath her lip from where a book hurled by her father found its mark.

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Amy doesn't hide, but she doesn't stick around, either. She spends the evening playing somewhere down the street, or sitting in silence in the shed behind the house – just waiting for the day to end so she can go to sleep and repeat her hellish cycle of life the next day. She thinks it can't get much worse, but she is wrong.

To look at her now, you'd never guess the backstory that clings to Amy like a stubborn headache. At 21, she is outgoing and confident, with a bright countenance and smiling blue eyes that successfully conceal the hardships she's endured. That's because she found healing, redemption and grace in the arms of the Lord. She found a family in her "second parents." And she found reconciliation with the father who once abused her and neglected to care for her the way a father should.

"About the age of 10, I realized that I was smarter than anybody else in my family," Amy says. "That was a pretty difficult place to be. About the age of 11 I started helping with financial things. I started taking care of my brother in school and took on more of an authority position in the family."

Amy grew up watching her mother slowly killing herself with drugs. She remembers one night when her mom passed out into a coma in her front yard. She'd watch her dad get drunk, and witness strangers coming into the house on a regular basis. Her mom left her dad so many times that Amy lost count.

"I became really fearful of a lot of things," Amy recalls. "I never wanted anybody to know that I feared as much as I did. That's probably why I assumed such an authoritative position in everything I did. I had to be in charge of everything."

Her parents set no boundaries, offered no nurturing and provided no affection. The only person who invested in young Amy's life was her grandmother – her father's mother – who, though she had grown up in a dysfunctional family herself, had become a Christian.

"Every Friday my grandmother would come pick me up," Amy says. "She's the only one I have any memory of giving me a bath, or brushing my hair, or changing my clothes for the week. It was very evident to me that there was a difference in the peace that my grandmother had in her home versus all of the destructive, verbal and physical things that went on in my home."

Her grandmother sent her to a Christian Crosspoint camp when Amy was 12, and she remembers the Lord speaking to her heart during one night's invitation time. She knew she needed to respond, so she went forward, prayed and acknowledged her need for a God who was greater than she was.

But following the camp, Amy had nobody to teach her what a relationship with God meant. Little changed in her life – until tragedy struck about a year later when she found out her grandmother had colon cancer. For about eight months, her grandmother wasn't around. Then as a freshman in high school, Amy remembers being called to the office of Bolton High School by teacher Douglas Van Neste, the late brother of Union's Christian studies professor Ray Van Neste.

Mr. Van Neste was the one who broke the news to her that her grandmother had died.

"I remember him being the first person, besides my grandparents, to tangibly and physically grab ahold of me and let me weep," Amy says. "I wasn't much of an emotional person at all, and it was the hardest thing ever."

That's when Amy's life, though always difficult, spiraled out of control.

She grew angry with God for taking away the one person who loved her.

We're all going to die one day, Amy reasoned with herself, so why not live it up? And that's exactly what she did.

Her mom had occasionally forced Amy to smoke pot and do other drugs, and at age 14, Amy became a full-fledged alcoholic and drug addict. She soon left home and found herself in a crack house in downtown Memphis, living on the

streets, with no place to go. One night the police found her, recognized her as a 14-year-old girl, and took her to the station for her to call her parents. A conversation with her grandfather initially brought Amy to a realization that she needed to be rescued.

"Amy," he said, "I'm so afraid that the next time I see you is going to be when I flip through the channels, and there you are, announced dead in a ditch."

He then told Amy that her grandmother went to her death convinced that if Amy could get out of her home, the Lord would use her.

"The fact that my grandmother, who never saw any fruit in her family whatsoever from a Christian standpoint, went to her deathbed believing that the God to whom she had surrendered, if I would surrender to him, that he would be faithful to work in my heart," she says. "I really believe that because my grandmother's faith was so strong, even upon death when all she had seen was destruction happen within her family, I was willing to take this chance."

Amy agreed with her grandfather that her life was out of control. She was ready to take drastic steps. So she signed herself into the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home in Bartlett a couple of months later. When she arrived to her new home and her new life, she found a Bible lying on her bed. She'd never read the Bible on her own before, and the first words she encountered – the first five words of James – changed her life: "James, a servant of God..."

"I realized that I had served myself for so long, and that I had tried for so long to do something to accomplish a good in my life, and that I wasn't able to do that,"

Amy says. "I finally realized that what I could surrender to was a God that could use such a filthy and such a broken vessel. I could find satisfaction in his mending and his grace, which were sufficient. God would still be able to use me, and it wouldn't be because I was controlling it."

Life at the children's home was different for Amy and a challenging adjustment. Whereas before, she had nobody to tell her to do anything, now she had to ask when she wanted to go to the bathroom. At times, she struggled to submit to the

authority over her. But she gradually grew to embrace the structure and discipline that the children's home provided her. She learned that discipline is a part of love, and the reason she felt so unloved as a child was because nobody set any boundaries for her.

"The children's home really transformed my perspective on what it looked like to have authority in your life, to respect that authority, to receive discipline as an aspect and avenue of one's love for you," Amy says.

Her commitment to the Lord strengthened, her attitude improved and her life changed under the care of the children's home. One day as she was sitting around a lunch table with some friends, the topic of college came up. One of her friends told Amy that she was thinking about attending a Christian college.

bitterness toward them and was reaping the consequences of their failures. Though she has no relationship with her mom, her dad attempted to visit Amy occasionally and remain a part of her life. She struggled with that initially.

"Slowly and surely, as I began to grow in the Lord, the Lord began to reveal through his word just how much it was my responsibility to forgive my dad and take responsibility for my own actions," Amy says. "I needed to let my dad be a father, even though his mental capacity only reached the age of a 12-year-old.

"I have to say, it's been one of the most beautiful things that I've ever experienced," she continues. "Because now I talk to my dad every day. We pray every night. I'm so humbled because I think about how my prayer used to be that God would take my dad out

Her father is now one of the most consistent parts of Amy's life. They have reconciled. And Amy is forever grateful.

"In the midst of me giving up the control, I've actually watched my dad become more godly and actually respond to the gospel," she says. "My dad is so much more joyful than he used to be, and

I couldn't be more full of praise towards the Lord for the way that **he was gracious in hearing my prayers**, but doing what he knew was best." 🙏

"A Christian school?" Amy asked. "You mean there's such a thing as a Christian school?"

Yes, her friend replied, there's one in Jackson just an hour up the road called Union University. The minute she heard about it, Amy knew that Union was where she would go to college. She can't explain the feeling that came over her, but she knew it was unmistakable: "It was as clear as the day for me," she says.

Her junior year of high school, Amy applied to Union, and then began applying for various scholarships. By the end of her senior year, she had enough scholarship money to cover her costs for all four years of her college education.

Amy was a biblical studies major who graduated in May as part of the class of 2010. She plans to pursue a master's degree in counseling. At Union, she found a family atmosphere that she treasured during her four years of college.

"Being an ambassador for the school and telling people we are Christ-centered, I truly believe that," Amy says.

During her time at Union, when school wasn't in session, Amy found another family as well – Jimmy and Mary Turner. Mary was a former employee of the children's home who became a second mother to Amy. Amy lives with the Turners and calls them her "B-Mom and B-Dad."

As for her biological parents, when she entered the children's home, Amy prayed specifically that she would never have to see her parents again. She harbored great

of my life, because my life would be so much easier. And now I pray, 'Lord, please don't take my dad, because my life would be so much harder.'"



Union's new Doctor of Ministry

program focuses on
EXPOSITORY PREACHING



Craig L. Oliver

By any measure, Craig L. Oliver is a successful pastor.

He leads the Elizabeth Baptist Church in Atlanta, a largely African-American congregation with more than 6,000 members. The church has grown steadily in his 14 years as pastor.

But Oliver wants to develop new goals and objectives in his ministry. He chose to pursue a Doctor of Ministry degree from Union. He is among 12 members of the inaugural D.Min class.

Oliver says the factor that helped him choose Union over other options was the emphasis here on expository preaching – something he expects to draw on in the pulpit and beyond.

"I have the privilege of providing

leadership to a large group of ministers," says Oliver. "Some have just accepted the call to ministry, others have been in the ministry for quite some time but have not had the opportunity to engage in formal education.

"It is my desire to take what I learn and teach others to be expositors of God's word."

Expository preaching, which involves close examination of the meaning of a particular biblical text, has experienced a resurgence in recent years. Union's program is housed in the Stephen Olford Center, named in honor of one of the best-known expository preachers of the past century.

Olford's son David, the Stephen Olford Chair of Expository Preaching and a Union professor, is among the faculty members providing instruction and leadership in the D.Min. program.

"Our goal is to help people in their preaching ministry," Olford says. "Not just with how they think about preaching, but how they actually preach."

Academic rigor

"About a month and a half before the student comes for his seminar at the Olford Center, he will be given a syllabus where there will be reading assignments and reflection on the reading," says Ken Easley, professor and program director at the Stephen Olford Center.

Easley says applicants must have three full years of vocational ministry experience after completing a Master of Divinity and a ministry endorsement letter supporting the applicant's intent to pursue doctoral study. Enrollment in each class is limited, and preference is given applicants with preparation in biblical languages.

The program combines distance learning with important sessions at the Stephen Olford Center. But the structure also allows busy pastors to attend to church and family needs.

"We are required to spend only four weeks away from our ministry positions a year," says first-year student Phil Mitchell, pastor of First Baptist Church Adamsville, Tenn. "We have full-time jobs. We all have families."

Olford says the brief but intensive group meetings are an important component of the program.

"We've set up this program to be very practical for the busy pastor," says Olford. "There is face-to-face time because that's absolutely indispensable. We want to engage personally, and as deeply as we can."

The reading and writing requirements are designed to meet the strong academic expectations attached to all Union degree programs.

"If you're looking for an easy doctoral degree, this is not the program you're looking for," says first-year student Howard McNeill, pastor of Maple Springs Baptist Church in Seagrove, N.C. "This is going to stretch you. It will challenge you."

As with all Union programs, faculty members remain in close contact with students to be certain they are progressing and getting whatever assistance they need to succeed.

"It's not a program where they're trying to see if they can flunk you," says first-year student Warren Pellom, pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Southaven, Miss. "It's a program where they really want to see you succeed."

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE D.MIN PROGRAM

www.uu.edu/dmin

4000 Riverdale Rd.
Memphis, TN 38175-7800

Director: Dr. Ken Easley
Contact: Michelle Brown

Phone: 901-757-7977 | Fax: 901-757-1372
E-mail: dmin@uu.edu

Student-initiated covenant

The first class of students shares that desire to excel and decided to set a clear standard for other classes to follow. Without any prompting from faculty, they met privately and developed a written covenant that each member signed. It was evidence that the students wanted to be held to the highest standards of learning and preaching.

"These are men who say 'we're covenanting with our professors and those who are leading the program to say that we realize the seriousness of what it means to take up the word of God and preach,'" says Gregory A. Thornbury, dean of the School of Christian Studies, "and we want you to help us to do that in a more faithful way.' I found that extremely encouraging."

"We have failed if they do not integrate into their lives and ministries what they learn here," Olford says. "You're taking it back into your

ministry, and then we're able to watch that and discuss that, so it's practical in relation to how you're actually ministering the word of God."

"The desire is not to preach better, but the desire is to be a better preacher," says first-year student Bartholomew Orr, senior pastor of Brown Missionary Baptist Church in Southaven, Miss.

"It's exceeded my expectations, added Kevin Ferrell, pastor of Egypt Baptist Church in Memphis. "The things that I have learned and taken away have been immediately practical."

The 'signature element'

Oliver made his decision to apply to Union and waited to see if he'd be accepted. During that time, he had to be hospitalized for five days.

"To my surprise, the (Union) instructors called the hospital, spoke with me and prayed with me over the phone," says Oliver, "which really confirmed in my heart that Union University is certainly the type of school I would want to be a part of; I was just tremendously blessed that

instructors would take time out of their schedules to reach out."

He says the spirit of care, concern and love prior to his official acceptance "is one of the signature elements of Union University."

"It's really a combination of head and heart." ■



Union faculty pose with the first D.Min. class.



Rebuilding Complete



Two years to the day after an EF-4 tornado caused massive destruction to its campus, Union University celebrated the opening of the facility that completed its rebuilding process.

More than 500 students, faculty and staff gathered Feb. 5 in the Bowld Student Commons for an evening of praise, Scripture reading and prayer as they remembered God's protection the night when no students lost their lives despite the collapse of several buildings on campus.



Bowld Student Commons Opens to Students

Echo, a student-led group, presented the music and Union President David S. Dockery provided a devotional address in which he outlined his vision for the facility.

Dockery said he desires the commons to be a place characterized by worship, and one that reminds the Union community how it needs to draw near to God. He also said the commons should be characterized by hope in a faithful God, and should be a place where members of the Union community can care for, serve and encourage one another.

Several days earlier, students celebrated the start of spring semester and the opening of the new building during the traditional "Holla Back Party." The 30,000-square-foot facility includes apartments for two residence directors,

a large multi-purpose room, three classrooms, two kitchens, game room, conference rooms, piano room, band practice room, TV rooms and gathering areas, outdoor built-in grills and outdoor patio space on both the first and second floors.

Bowld Student Commons is named in honor of Kathryn S. Bowld, who was graduated from Union in 1930 with a major in piano. She was a generous supporter of the arts and education. Prior to her death in 2000, she established a trust fund to benefit Union. Members of her family attended a building dedication service in mid-December.

"The Bowld Student Commons will be a magnificent addition to Union's campus and campus life," said Ken Litscher, Union's director of residence life. "We are excited about the way God is going to use this resource in the life of this university and the lives of each student."

Students say newly constructed facilities such as Bowld Student Commons and the residence life buildings already make a huge difference in their daily routines.

"It really is unbelievable how many different opportunities we are given through these new buildings," said Karl Magnuson, a sophomore engineering major from Louisville, Ky. "You have to live here on campus in these buildings and use them to know how great they are." ■





Nursing Simulation ENVIRONMENTS

High-Tech Meets Hands-On *By Mary D. Watson*

On the second floor of White Hall, technologically sophisticated patients – ranging from newborn to adult—rest in authentic, hospital-like rooms. Imagine an electronic baby that cries or screams or an eight-year-old that blinks, breathes, talks and has a pulse.

Picture an electronic adult patient with all of those capabilities plus pupils that can dilate and vital signs that respond to anesthesia.

Another room houses a female patient that can labor and give birth in one minute or up to 15 hours.

While it may be the stuff of science fiction,

in reality a total of seven such units await care in the three patient rooms and one surgery room of the simulation environment in Union University's School of Nursing.

Housed under the Baptist Memorial Health Care Center for Excellence in Health Care Practice, the state-of-the-art simulation capabilities are an integral part of the undergraduate nursing and graduate nursing anesthetist programs. Thanks to computers, cameras, phone lines, hospital supplies and highly skilled nursing faculty, student nurses at Union encounter a range of patient care experiences ranging from routine to crisis.

More than 300 scenarios per academic year for the undergraduate pre-licensure program add up to more than a thousand hours of direct patient care. Part of the clinical rotation cycle which includes hospitals, the simulation experience makes up 25 percent of the clinical requirements for undergraduate nurses.

Two faculty members, Joy Thomason, assistant professor of nursing and director of undergraduate simulation, and Jessica Suiter, assistant professor of nursing, engage students in the simulation environment 8-10 hours a day, four days a

week. Each simulation session is four hours in length, which includes a pre-conference, the scenario and a debriefing process.

A control room houses a system for each simulator. Unseen by the student nurses, a faculty member sits at a system with headphones and a computer that controls changes in the simulator. Vital signs and patient history appear on a screen in the patient care area.

Also unseen is the simulator specialist who controls the simulator, supplying a voice that can be questioning, complaining or groaning in pain. "Come help me!" or "I'm hurting!" demand the students' attention.

If nurses need to call the hospital operator for any reason, they use the patient phone. The call goes to the control room and is answered and forwarded accordingly.

"We try to make it authentic for them and set up the props in order for the situations and conversations to be as realistic as possible," Thomason says.

In a recent scenario, nursing students cared for a young boy who was complaining of abdominal pain. They monitored his condition, conversed with his physician by phone and ordered prescribed meds from the hospital pharmacy.

The intense training-drama was realistic in every respect, including having release forms signed, maintaining a sterile environment for procedures and trying to explain everything in terms an upset eight-year-old could understand.

"There's always learning in every situation. They are going to be exposed to diseases they haven't seen, procedures they haven't been able to do or maybe not even covered in their curriculum at this point," Thomason says.

At the graduate level, the anesthesia students use the facilities, particularly the surgery unit. With the technology available in the simulation environment, students are able to start IVs, talk to the patient, put the patient to sleep and monitor vital signs. When a simulator is given a medication by injection, the vital signs and patient react realistically.

"Simulation is not a substitute for real life experience in the hospital setting, and it should never be that," Thomason says, "but it enhances it. The student gets to see the progression of patient care in a shorter amount of time and apply their knowledge in a more concise manner. It makes them problem-solve and prioritize at the bedside

as the condition of their patient changes."

Tim Smith, dean of the School of Nursing, cites three important reasons why the nursing program is structured using the simulations environments.

First, the simulations provide more intense learning at a 4/1 student to faculty ratio, much lower than the current hospital student/faculty ratio of 8/1.

Second, the simulation environment enhances the curriculum. "We can create any environment, any situation that we want," Smith says. "We can focus on the concept we want to teach."

Because the dynamics are programmed into the simulators, the faculty can alter the situation based on where the students go with a scenario.

"One of the things that has helped our program to grow and get more actively integrated into the curriculum is the foresight of our administrators to purchase

health is a less-intense scenario, where students deal with many issues that are on a personal level, such as spiritual, financial, family dynamics and death and dying.

"We are also in a position to offer continuing education units to nurses already at work in the hospitals," Thomason says.

Recently, Dr. Keith Williams, Jackson OB-GYN physician, participated in an emergency labor and delivery simulation. BSNA students assessed the situation, took necessary steps and moved the patient to surgery for a caesarean section.

Dr. Jeff McCartney, pulmonologist in Jackson, collaborated on a pulmonary disease teaching session which incorporated simulators, respiratory therapy and cadaver lab with Union professor of biology James Huggins.

Providence Hall, scheduled to open summer 2010, will have one of the largest



this programming," Thomason says. "It's such a blessing for the students in our school."

Third and most importantly, the simulation environment supports the philosophy of education of the School of Nursing.

"Students in health care programs – whether nursing, pharmacy or medical – tend to be visual learners," Smith says. "So our philosophy of education is to take them out of classrooms as soon as possible and give them hands-on experience. This allows them to develop critical thinking skills much sooner. We take them from class to basic skills to advanced skills – simulation – very quickly."

The simulation scenarios encompass medical surgical aspect, pediatrics, obstetrics and community health nursing. Community

nursing simulation laboratories anywhere in the country. The 19,000 square-foot third floor will house a 75-student classroom, 10 patient rooms, one operating room and more state-of-the-art, wireless simulators.

"The new facility will also allow us to bring in the most technologically advanced post-conference and debriefing capabilities," Smith says. Students will be videotaped and get to watch the video afterward to promote self-assessment in the debriefing process.

"It's an exciting time and it's so worthwhile," Thomason says. "We're thankful that God has provided these blessings that allow us to enhance the integration of nursing care with Christian values." ■

Reason and Faith are not at war



CONDOLEEZZA RICE PRAISES UNION, CHALLENGES STUDENTS

Former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice had never before visited Union University, but she quickly and succinctly summarized what many see as the institution's defining characteristic: the integration of academic strength with a Christian worldview.

During her keynote address at Union's 12th annual scholarship banquet, Rice said Union students have the privilege to study where reason and faith are not at war and "where the intellect and the soul inhabit the same body."

The event, which also featured a musical performance by Proclamation and the debut of Union's new university video, drew 2,000 guests. A record total of more than \$500,000 was raised for student scholarships.

"All of the problems that we have, all of the challenges that we face, are not going to be solved tomorrow," Rice said. "History has a long arc, not a short one. And so, likely, many of these challenges will not be solved by me, or by many of you.

"They will be solved by you," she continued, gesturing to the Union students in attendance. "And they'll be passed on to successive generations."

Drawing from her time as U.S. Secretary of State and national security adviser, Rice spoke candidly about terrorism,

the world's struggling democracies and economic recovery.

She said America's critics recognize the valuable role the United States plays in all of these discussions.

"While it may be fun these days in Berlin or Paris or London to talk about the failures of American capitalism, nobody really, actually, believes it," Rice said. "Because if American capitalism fails, there will be no global growth, and everyone will suffer.

"We're very, very fortunate in this world that the freest, the most compassionate and the most generous nation on the face of the earth is also the most powerful," she continued. "Therefore, the United States of America will lead, and it will lead from the right values, and if we are OK, everyone else will be OK too."

Rice is the Thomas and Barbara Stephenson Senior Fellow on Public Policy at the Hoover Institution and professor of political science at Stanford University. She served as the 66th U.S. secretary of state from 2005 to 2009.

She has authored and coauthored several books, including "Germany Unified and Europe Transformed: A Study in Statecraft" (1995), with Philip Zelikow; "The Gorbachev Era" (1986), with Alexander Dallin; and "Uncertain Allegiance: The Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak Army" (1984).

"Dr. Rice has distinguished herself as a brilliant leader in the fields of education, government and public policy," said Union President David S. Dockery. "She is a terrific speaker."

The annual Scholarship Banquet has become one of the premier events in West Tennessee each year, and is Union's primary fund raising event for its student scholarship fund. Previous speakers have included George H.W. Bush, Margaret Thatcher, Mikhail Gorbachev, Rudolph Giuliani and Colin Powell, among others.

All told, Union's Scholarship Banquets have generated about \$5 million for student scholarships.

This year's lead and premier sponsors include BancorpSouth, Keith and Beverly Absher, Roy and Martha White, Black and Decker, First Bank, Jack and Zan Holmes, The Jackson Sun, Jack and Faye Porter, West Tennessee Healthcare, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, James and Janet Ayers, Carl and Peggy Jo Grant, Impact 360, Nortek Inc., Lloyd and Martha Hansen, Schilling Enterprises and David and Lanese Dockery. ■





planting hope

Union Alumni
Begin a New Ministry
in Post-Katrina
New Orleans

By Tim Ellsworth

Poking through his New Orleans apartment 10 weeks after Hurricane Katrina had blasted through the place, Matt Tipton grabs a couple of dishes off the top shelf in the kitchen. He uncovers a couple of pieces of crusty jewelry.

That's all he's able to salvage. The entire apartment complex would be bulldozed in a couple of weeks.

"We lost all our wedding pictures," Tipton says. "I brought the pictures home, but they'd been under water and so they smelled so bad. We eventually had to throw them away."

The hurricane cost Matt and his wife Elaine all of their physical possessions. It cost them their student ministry at a local church. But it deepened their devotion to Christ and set them on a path that has brought them back to the city they once called home, where they are planting Hope Church and seeking to make disciples of Jesus. Joining them in the endeavor are 2006 Union alums Bill and Amber Dixon.

"I look back on that part of life, and to outsiders it might seem relatively horrific, and at that moment it definitely did," Tipton recalls. "But looking back on it, I wouldn't trade that season of my life for any amount of

money or any experience in the world.

"It was certainly a shaping experience," he continues. "It's one of those moments where you take a look at your life and ask yourself what really matters. You begin to lay the things that are temporal next to the things that are eternal, and you come to realize that the only things that matter are God's word, God's presence and people."

A 2003 Union graduate, Tipton began his ministry in New Orleans while a student at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He has always felt a special tug toward the city, as his grandparents lived in the Metairie/Jefferson Parish area for about 50 years. His original intention was to spend a few years there, get his degree and move along. But one day as he walked through the student center at the seminary, he noticed an advertisement for a physical education teacher at a local Christian school, run by Memorial Baptist Church.

He applied and got the job, and the church eventually asked him to be its youth pastor. Tipton began with a group of five or seven teenagers, who happened to be the only people younger than senior adults in the church. Tipton embraced those students and devoted himself to their spiritual development.

"As our ministry began to grow over those four years we were there, we saw the seven turn into 15, and then into 30 and 75," Matt recalls. "It was difficult ministry. We buried, I think, 13 of their parents while I was here."

Tipton was wrapping up his seminary degree by this time, and was being encouraged by people he respected to start sending out his resume. So he did that, and Clearview Baptist Church in Franklin, Tenn., was interested. Tipton interviewed there and the church offered him a position. But as he and Elaine discussed the matter, they concluded that God had not released them from their place of service at Memorial. Then everything changed two weeks later with Hurricane Katrina.

"Our lives were completely reset," Matt recalls.

The Tiptons spent some time in Germantown, Tenn., doing disaster relief, then landed in Atlanta for a few weeks when the seminary relocated there for a semester. All along, Clearview continued to call, asking Tipton to join them. Matt and Elaine determined that God was leading them there, so they went and focused their ministry specifically on memorizing Scripture with their students and probing the depths of God's word.

"I think the place where ultimately we fail the most in loving God's word is in the practical application side," Matt says. "We can study it and read it and memorize it and chew on it, but at the end of the day, if we don't do what it tells us to do, then we've failed at all points."

After nearly four years at Clearview, Matt resigned in June 2009, sensing that his time at the church had drawn to an end, but still unsure what he would do next. He began talking to mentors and friends asking for their input, and had an especially meaningful conversation with Allen Jackson, his youth ministry professor in seminary.

"I remember sitting across the table from Dr. Jackson," Matt says. "He looked at me, and he said, 'You're going to plant a church here.'"

Tipton thought to himself all the reasons why that wouldn't happen. For starters, he said New Orleans isn't the best place to raise a family. Furthermore, he had gotten no indication that the Lord was leading him to do that. And finally, Elaine would think he was crazy.

But that night, after his meeting with Jackson, he went over to a friend's house for what he thought to be a small reunion with some of his former students. More people showed up than he was expecting, including several people that he didn't know. Most of them were young adults, high school students or college students. More than once, someone he had never met told him, "You don't know me, but the Lord used you to impact my friend, and he used them to impact me, so you're part of my story."

Maybe there's something to this idea of planting a church here after all, Matt thought.

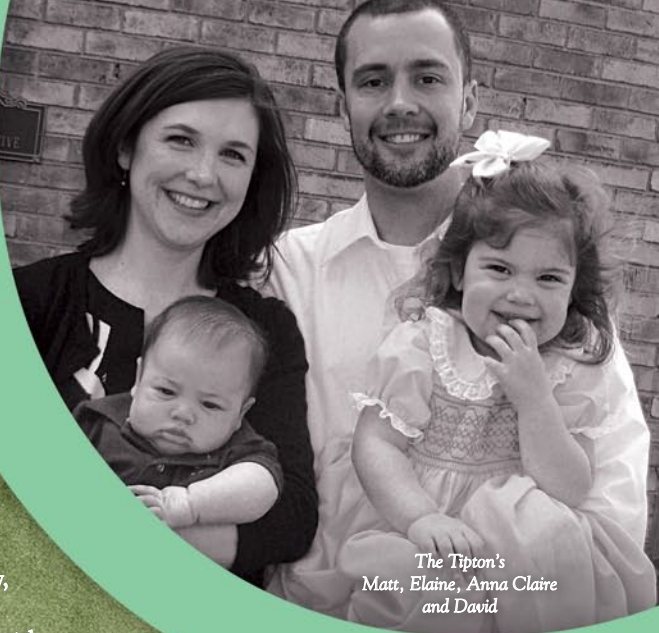
"I see that night as the Lord giving me permission to explore it," he says.

Now he had to pitch the idea to Elaine, and he wasn't expecting that to go well. Imagine his surprise when she told him that God had placed that very idea on her heart.

"We witnessed the gospel truly change lives (in New Orleans), and that is exciting,"

...Elaine says. "It is also exciting and humbling that God would choose to use me in a place where the need is so great."

So Matt and Elaine began making plans to move, along with their two children, to New Orleans – a move that was completed in January. Along the way they enlisted the Dixons to come with them and be their partners in planting Hope Church, a church that those involved hope will demonstrate the love of Christ to a city that desperately needs it.




*The Tipton's
Matt, Elaine, Anna Claire
and David*

"I think one of the best ways to do this is through our acts of service to the community," said Alicia Austin, a student at the University of New Orleans who is part of the church plant. "Acts of service can be anything from feeding the homeless, to just sitting and loving on someone that is hurting. My hope for this church is that it will be able to grasp that sense of community within the New Orleans area -- that all of its actions will be aimed to selflessly serve others and show them the love of Christ."

Tipton will spend the first several months in the city participating in a weekly Bible study, attended by several of his former students, as he starts to identify those people interested in joining the church plant.

"Here's a place where I really feel blessed," Tipton says. "A lot of times church planters come into a city and they don't know anyone. They're starting from ground zero. For me, I have a tremendous amount of relationships here. There are tons and tons of young adults in this city who are hungry for spiritual things. The Lord's gifted me, I believe, to be able to pour out into their lives."

What he wants to give them is the word of God, which Tipton has come to love more than anything else – and he credits Union with helping to develop that love.

"I was really challenged at Union," Tipton says. "Union gave me the opportunity to see some things about myself that needed to shift. To develop some of those skills in college that ultimately gave the tools and thoughts to love God's word responsibly is a big deal." 



*The Dixon's
Bill, Amber and Will*

Union students earn credits on tour of Italy

Walking the cobblestone streets of ancient Pompeii, attending Vespers with Benedictine monks and climbing the Leaning Tower of Pisa all sound like promised benefits in a travel brochure. But for 30 Union students, these were class activities in connection with a Jan-Term study tour of Italy.

The group spent 11 days in Italy studying art and literature with Lee Benson, professor of art, and Gavin Richardson, associate professor of English. The group visited Rome, Florence and Venice, with additional day trips to Pompeii, Pisa and Ravenna.

Richardson says literature students wrote on-site response papers connecting their travel experience to works they had read in the fall, such as Virgil's *Aeneid* and Dante's *Divine Comedy*. Art history students under Benson's direction made presentations on the sites of the Leaning Tower, the Sistine Chapel and the Duomo (Cathedral) in Florence. The class makes it possible for students to earn up to seven hours of credit in English, art and a "Walking for Fitness" physical education credit.

Other highlights of the tour included a visit to St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, a tour of the Uffizi art gallery in Florence, and a tour of the Doge's Palace in Venice. Many students attended two worship services in Florence: at the Duomo and at San Miniato al Monte, a 1000-year-old Romanesque church where the Benedictine monks still perform the Vespers service in Gregorian Chant.

"In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, you weren't considered properly educated unless you had done the 'Grand Tour' of Europe and visited sites of important historical and culture value," says Richardson. "UU in Italy may be the closest thing we have to the Grand Tour today."

Richardson says more than 120 students have participated in the class since its inception in 2003. Benson will lead another tour in 2011.

Union's academic departments frequently offer study tours which integrate travel and course work. In addition to Italy, recent tour locations include England, Poland and Washington, DC. ■





When Stephen and Alice-Catherine Carls walked into the Nazi death camp at Birkenau in Poland, they fell silent before the immensity of the landscape scarred by countless chimney towers and barbed wire.

It seemed as though the camp victims' voices, though silenced by violence and the passing of time, were speaking to them.

"There is a need to participate, to try to identify with those who went before and failed to make it," Stephen Carls, university professor of history and department chair at Union University, said.

"My wife was gathering information at the camp for a possible Holocaust tour with some of her students. I told her, 'Let's do the trip together as a joint venture,'" Carls said. "Pooling our

considerable expertise of the guides.

"Some of our tour guides have Ph.D.'s," Stephens said, who credits his wife's well-established contacts in Europe for the high level of instruction. In addition, Alice-Catherine Carls, the Tom Elam distinguished professor of history at UT-Martin, is fluent in German, Polish, French and English.

At Auschwitz, a death camp where well over a million people were murdered, tour participants will have the opportunity to meet with the director of the Center for Dialogue and Prayer. A Catholic priest with an earned doctorate, he "has devoted his life to seeking reconciliation between Christians and Jews," Carls said. He has received recognition for his work, including special awards from the president of Germany and the president of Poland.

"He is a kind, understanding and highly-educated man," Carls said. "For years he has been dealing with groups that come in and raise the same question, 'Where was God in all of this?'"

This is the third advantage of the tour: Students have the opportunity to see Holocaust sites that have been and still are in the news and face the ethical questions that these sites pose.

The Many Faces of the Holocaust

efforts turned out to be a very important factor in making the trip work."

In May 2010, Carls and his wife will lead their second group on a 15-day study trip to Germany, the Czech Republic and Poland. The Many Faces of the Holocaust: Defiance, Judgment, Survival is a cooperative effort of Union University and The University of Tennessee at Martin. Participants include faculty, students and others representing those universities as well as Rhodes College, Georgetown University and Middle Tennessee State University.

In addition to Holocaust-related sites, participants on the trip have the opportunity to tour cathedrals, historical landmarks and art, literary and history museums.

This trip is unique because it goes as far as Lublin in eastern Poland, instead of stopping in Germany.

"There is a certain comfort zone that will take American groups as far as Berlin, but then there's a reluctance to continue eastward into the former Soviet bloc," Carls said. "Students who participate in our tour will have the benefit of seeing Eastern Europe, which most Americans don't get to do."

The group will visit the Nazi death camps at Majdanek and Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland; the Flossenbürg concentration camp in Germany, where the Nazis executed theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer in 1945; and the Theresienstadt ghetto and transit camp in the Czech Republic.

Another distinctive feature of the trip is the



"The Holocaust tour provides a faith-based environment and solid support system for our students to grapple with these questions," Carls said.

"Of course the Holocaust raises the question of 'man's inhumanity to man' and the issue of 'good versus evil' that we all cope with in various degrees during our lives," he said. "These places have a way of opening people's eyes to evil that man can inflict on his fellow man, to the genocides that occurred then and that continue in our own day."

"What is unique about the Holocaust is its scale. It was a massive enterprise, with evil at the center of it." ■



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Legacy Fund honors longtime Bolivar minister



Tom Cooper, right, with his parents, David and Margaret Cooper.

When Union brought media ethics expert Tom Cooper to campus from Boston as a scholar-in-residence, a deeply rooted family connection was refreshed – a connection that dates back more than 70 years.

Cooper's father David graduated from Union in 1942 and was a longtime minister in nearby Bolivar. He received an honorary doctorate in 1992. He also received the university's education service award.

So during his stay as scholar-in-residence, Tom Cooper established the David Cooper Legacy Fund. The money went to support the new Kathryn Bowld Student Commons Building. A room in the facility is named after Cooper and his wife Margaret.

"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. 'I wanted to do something that would honor Dad well past his passing,' Tom Cooper said about the fund. 'It will be great to have his spirit live on in a concrete way.'"

Tom Cooper is professor of visual and media arts at Emerson College in Boston. He was once a student assistant to Marshall McLuhan, a pioneering media theory scholar who coined the phrases "global village" and "the medium is the message."

Tom Cooper researches ethical questions in mass media and authored the book *Time Before Deception - Truth in Communications, Culture, and Ethics* in 1998 and is the co-publisher of *Media Ethics* magazine.

"David Cooper has been a loyal and long time friend of this university," Union President David S. Dockery said. "His son, Tom, has done a noble and generous thing to establish this wonderful fund in honor of his dad. All of us at Union University are pleased to join in the effort to honor David Cooper in this way." ■

Smith Soccer Complex donor: 'I came in through the back door'

When Nancy Smith New moved to Jackson six years ago, she soon found a church home with caring members who helped her adjust to a new life in the wake of her late husband Frank's long battle with cancer.

The close-knit congregation at Humboldt's Antioch Baptist Church became like a second family.

"They were just the nicest people I'd ever met, and so many had connections to Union," recalls New, who recently remarried and moved to Panama City, Fla. "I kept hearing about Union this and Union that. I heard a lot about their basketball teams."

But the discussions about Union – to which New had no prior connection – took on added significance following the February tornado that devastated the campus in 2008. New says she missed a service at Antioch in which a special offering was taken for Union's disaster relief fund, so she made it a point to send her own contribution and observe the recovery efforts, which she describes as impressive.

"There are so many places that do good things, but they don't have any business sense," New says. "When that tornado came through, (Union) took it as a positive that no one was killed, and (Union) decided to make it a positive."

Soon after she decided to move to Florida, New says she also chose to give her home to charity rather than selling it.

"I started realizing how many people in my church had attended Union," says New. "They want to send their children and grandchildren there, too. Even

though I have only been on the campus twice, I fell in love with it."

After consulting with her two grown sons, she donated the home to Union. The property was sold and the proceeds were used toward completion of the soccer complex.

New says her younger son played youth soccer for many years, and the family frequently attended professional soccer matches in Memphis. But New did not want a role in determining how the money would be spent. She insisted that her gift come with "no strings attached."

"You all know what you need," says New. "I felt better giving an unrestricted gift."

"It's kind of unusual to receive an undesignated gift in that amount," says Gary Williams, associate vice president for alumni services and the Union contact who worked with New. "I assured her we would use it wisely."

So when the men's and women's soccer teams take the field this fall, they will play home matches in a facility known as the Smith Memorial Soccer Complex.

Two competition fields, both covered with Blue Tag Certified T-10 Bermuda turf and lighted, have been in use since 2005. Bleachers to accommodate 1,000 spectators, a press box, concession stand and restroom facilities now complete the facility.

Union soccer fans can thank a woman who wanted to honor her late husband's memory and invest in a school that she could see making a difference in the lives of her friends.

"I came in through the back door," New concludes. "I read and I observed. And I just decided I couldn't find a better place to give my money." ■

CELEBRATION AND SUNSHINE homecoming 09



More than four years ago, it was decided that moving Union University's homecoming celebration from February to November each year would present better opportunities for friends and alumni. Indeed, the last of the February homecomings in 2006 was disrupted by threatening winter weather that curtailed many of the planned activities.

Fast-forward to November 2009. Clear skies and comfortable temperatures greeted the homecoming crowds as they celebrated at a series of indoor and outdoor events.

"Homecoming 2009 provided a wonderful occasion for special memories, and I don't think we've had a better homecoming in my 14 years here," Union University President David S. Dockery said. "The entire weekend was helped by the gorgeous days that the Lord provided for us. Overall, it was a remarkable time for the Union family."

Outdoors, an "Arts in the Park" exhibition featured book signings, pottery, sculpture, paintings, jewelry and more. A tailgate party on the Great Lawn featured food on sale by campus organizations and memorabilia for sale at the alumni tent.

There were also inflatables, pony rides and a petting zoo for children, along with a hotly contested Family Olympics.

Indoors, Union fans watched the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs roll to impressive victories.

The women's team defeated St. Francis (Ill.) 75-54. The defending NAIA national champions were led by senior guard Kaitlin Dudley's 29 points, including a 4-of-6 performance from three-point range.

The men's team routed William Woods (Mo.) 108-51 in the head coaching debut of David Niven. Six Bulldogs scored in double figures, led by senior guard Keith Tolliver's game-high 20 points.

In addition to the homecoming court (see box above right), seniors Scott McSwain and Courtney Bragg were named Mr. and Miss Union. McSwain is a Spanish language and culture major from Jackson, Tenn., and is the son of Mark and Dottie McSwain. Bragg, of Birmingham, Ala., is double majoring in teaching English as a second language and psychology. She is the daughter of Lev and Vicki Bragg.

Prior to action on the court, a new-look Buster the Bulldog made his grand entrance. The newest version of the traditional Union mascot will perform at basketball games and take part in some community events.



Homecoming Queen 2009 and Court

Katy Pope, a senior graphic design major from Sylacauga, Ala., was selected as the 2009 homecoming queen. She is the daughter of Doug and Amy Pope.

Other homecoming attendants were Nadja Barros, a freshman from Linden, Tenn., and the daughter of Greg and Denise Childress; Libby Parks, a sophomore from Louisville, Ky., and the daughter of Daniel and Sally Parks; Kari Beougher, a junior from Louisville, Ky., and the daughter of Tim and Sharon Beougher; Kelly Reed, a senior from Collierville, Tenn., and the daughter of Ed and Kathy Reed; Natalie West, a senior from Memphis, Tenn., and the daughter of Don and Jana West; and Kristen Voorhies, a senior from Pleasant View, Tenn., and the daughter of Barry and Lisa Voorhies.

The Student Activities Council won the annual Presidential Homecoming Cup competition.

Other events during homecoming week 2009 included induction of the new Union Sports Hall of Fame class (see box below), and a special chapel service in which Union recognized 21 members of the class of 1960 and celebrated their 50-year reunion. The class members attended a luncheon following the chapel service and then took part in what has become a Union tradition: a tour of the former campus near downtown Jackson.

The chapel service also featured the annual alumni awards. Retired Union math professor Don Richard, who taught at Union from 1983 until his retirement in May 2009, received the Distinguished Faculty/Staff Award. Andy Bailey ('76) received the Distinguished Service Award posthumously. Bailey served as a police officer with the Jackson Police Dept. and was killed in the line of duty in 2004. His daughter Brooke received the award on his behalf.

Justin Wainscott ('02), pastor for teaching ministries at First Baptist Church in Paducah, Ky., preached in the chapel service and encouraged students not to reject the ordinary as they seek God's direction for their lives.

"In our own lives he still uses very ordinary means, things as ordinary as people and places, to bring about his extraordinarily sovereign, providential purposes," Wainscott said. "So students, let us

learn to rest in the ordinary. But let us ever realize that the ordinary is actually part of the extraordinary grace of a providential God."

A Friday night concert by Reach Records performing artists Lecrae, After Edmund, Sho Baraka and Mike's Chair was staged in Savage Chapel. Lecrae, a Christian rap artist, headlines the "Altered Minds" tour.

Several academic departments planned reunion events for homecoming weekend, including chemistry, continuing studies, biology, sociology and family studies, psychology, Christian studies and communication arts.

The dates for Union's 2010 homecoming are already reserved for Nov. 5-6. 🏠

2009 Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

Bob Sullivan, ('45) – Union University football; Detroit Lions, posthumously.

Gill Gideon, Jr., ('49) – Union University football; Executive Director, Tennessee Secondary Schools Association.

Robin "Muggs" Coffman, ('58) – Union University baseball. Continued with the Giants as an outfielder.

Billy Murphy, ('59) – Union University track.

Denise McCarty, ('73) – Multi-sport athlete at Union University. Seven-time highschool basketball Coach of the Year in Florida.

Micky Wolfe, ('99) – Union University golf All-American.

Special Merit – Union University 1963 Baseball Team.





30's THIRTIES



Dorothy Graves Butler ('32) celebrated her 100th birthday on January 15, 2010. Butler married the late John Vernon Butler in 1943 and lived in

Humboldt until 2005. She was an active member of First Baptist Humboldt for 87 years. She taught in Humboldt City Schools for 34 years, mostly the third and fourth grades. She moved to Murfreesboro in 2005 to live with her son Steve Butler ('71). He said that while at Union one of Dorothy's favorite memories was playing bass drum in the University marching band. Her son added, "She is still going strong and would really enjoy hearing from anyone." He described her as "100, going on 80." Address: 1922 Rutherford Blvd., Murfreesboro, TN 37130 E-mail: butlerssc@aol.com

50's FIFTIES

Hilda Mount ('51) has taught first grade for 50 years in the Maury City Elementary School in Maury City, Tenn. She is involved in church work and also town business.

70's SEVENTIES

Donna Hensley Petrides ('71) retired in November 2004 as principal of Brianlake Elementary School, DeKalb County, Ga., after 32 years of teaching and administrative service. Donna retired with five children, 13 grandchildren and wonderful husband Jim. Donna is enjoying seven beautiful mountain acres and a new home.

Philip ('74) and Sandra ('77) Wilson are now International Mission board emeritus missionaries after serving 26 years in Nigeria and Kenya. They currently reside in Cordova, Tenn. They are employed by Crossroads Hospice where Philip serves as chaplain and Sandra as a registration representative. E-mail: psjlwilson@yahoo.com.

Donna Miller ('77) has written a children's book, *The Horseshoeing Hands*, to be published by Main Street Publishing in Jackson. If all goes as planned, the book is due out by September 2009. Photos are by Donna and her friend Tonya Smith King, both of Humboldt, Tenn. The story is about

a horseshoeing preacher, told mainly through animals such as an opossum, raccoon, cats, frogs, a pony and a monkey. The book is part make-believe and part fact. The book shares the love of Jesus, God's son. Donna works at *The Jackson Sun*. E-mail: dmiller@jacksonsun.com

80's EIGHTIES

David Head ('84) is a teacher and football coach at Hoover High School in Alabama. He is teaching U.S. History, AP European History and Law Academy I. He is also coaching junior varsity running backs. The Bucs won the 2009 6A Alabama football state championship. David, his wife Tonya and their children Abigail (15), Micah (13) and Noah (10) live in Helena. E-mail: dhead@hoover.k12.al.us

Judy Farabee Ware ('85) has retired from International Paper after 21 years in customer service, training and marketing. She is currently volunteering with Memphis non-profits and charitable organizations. E-mail: judyb1021@yahoo.com

Send us your news for Old School

We want to know what you've been doing, and so do your classmates and friends. Use this form to update us on births, adoptions, marriages, anniversaries, job changes, relocations and any other milestones you think would be of interest to the Union community.

Choose any of three easy ways to submit: you may fax this form to 731-661-5706; you may mail the form to our attention at the Office of University Communications, Union University, 1050 Union University Drive, Jackson, TN 38305; or you may email your submission to mdwatson@uu.edu.

My news for Old School: _____

Last name (as it should appear) _____

Surname before marriage _____

First Name _____ Initial _____

Major _____ Years attended _____ Degree/year _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ New address?

☐ Check here if you wish to have your street address included in Old School

Do you want your contact information published? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Work phone _____ Home phone _____

Email _____ fax _____

Employer/location _____

Genealogists Welcome: Union's Shepard Center assists family research

Just within Door No. 43 of the Penick Academic Complex, there is a facility devoted to discovering the roots of family trees.

The Johnnie Tribble Shepard Archives and Genealogical Research Center not only equips those who want to find out more about Union's history, but also family historians who want to learn more about their ancestors.

The namesake for the center is a 1968 Union graduate and longtime family history enthusiast. Shepard has traveled to seven states to conduct genealogical research and has participated in a variety of regional and national conferences.

"To me there's nothing more important than family, and that's where all of this begins," says Shepard, who also has ties to the highly regarded Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research in Houston, near her home in Katy, Texas.

Shepard's husband, Norman E. (Gene) Shepard ('65) donated funding for the center as a surprise gift to his wife. During a visit to campus, she was taken to the center that bears her name.

It makes us feel emotionally secure to know who came before us," Shepard says of genealogical research. "It's a fun thing to do."




She wants to see Union's new facility establish strong connections with similar centers across the country. That would open access to national records not always available on the Internet. She sees Jackson's location between Memphis and Nashville as a logical geographical location for such a center.

Another goal: Shepard would like to see Union become a repository for family histories that might otherwise

be discarded. She says many younger family members will dispose of these materials after the passing of an elder without realizing the antiquated documents have value – not only to the individual families, but to other genealogical researchers as well.

"If you don't have any place to put it, Union would love to store it for you and others to see," says Shepard.

The center currently hosts books, journals and public records from 11 West Tennessee counties, and is one of very few such facilities in the Jackson region. It is open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays. Other hours are available by appointment only. 

Marilee Mears Jaggars ('86) returned to Saltillo, Miss., in July 2003 with family. **William Kevin Jaggars ('85)** is General Foreman with Jesco Maintenance Corp., Tupelo, Miss. Marilee is secretary at Baldwyn Elementary School, Baldwyn, Miss. The Jaggars are involved in children's soccer, cross-country and band. Their daughter, Dixilee, is a sophomore at Blue Mountain College; Katlin is a senior at Saltillo High School; Annalee is a freshman at Saltillo High School; Karoline is in sixth grade at Guntown Middle School. Email: mkjaggars@att.net

Tommy ('86) and Beverly Morgan ('78) Warner have moved to Covington, Tenn., where Tommy has accepted the position as pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church. They have two granddaughters, Camie (4) and Cadence (2). E-mail: brotw@hotmail.com

Leanne Robbins ('86) accepted an Assistant Risk Management Coordinator position with State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company in Brentwood, Tenn. E-mail: leannerobbins@msn.com

Lawrence A. Ragland ('87) is the pastor at Progressive Baptist Church in Paris, Tenn. In 2009 Lawrence served as the National Justice Sunday Commissioner as well as the Co-Chair of Meharry Medical College in Nashville. He was on the Clergy for Aids Research Committee. In 2009 he also received the National Presidential Service Award for over 4,300 volunteer hours. E-mail: pastorpbctn@aol.com

Mike Oliver ('88) has been promoted to Cardiovascular Institutional Specialist for the Southeast Area Business Unit of the Ischemic Heart Disease Division of the Foster City,

Calif., based biopharmaceutical company Gilead Sciences (formerly CV Therapeutics). Gilead Sciences is focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of advanced therapeutics against life-threatening cardiovascular, viral and respiratory diseases. Mike will be responsible for the top cardiologists, hospital and medical teaching institutions through the Little Rock region. His wife Kristi, a physical massage therapist, is a partner in South of New York Salon in Jackson. Mike and Kristi have one son, Jack Porter, seven, who attends Trinity Christian Academy in Jackson. E-mail: motleymojo@hotmail.com

Eric Lee Taylor ('89) is the new pastor of Cedar Hill Baptist Church, Cedar Hill, Tenn. Eric, Melissa, Seth, Andrew and Luke now reside at 6602 Hwy 41 N., Cedar Hill, TN. Email: erictaylor@att.net.



90's NINETIES

Andy Milam ('92) and **Michelle Sarratt Milam ('92)** are serving as urban church planters with the International Mission Board in Portugal. They have two sons, Micah, 12, and Ethan, 7. They can be reached at the4milams@gmail.com.

Troy Moore ('94) is journey director at Northgate Church in Haslet, Texas. Northgate currently meets in a local elementary school, but plans to build in the near future. E-mail: tdc629@sbcglobal.net; website: www.northgatechurch.net

Keith Beutler (M.Ed.'97) has been named the 2009 Missouri Baptist University Distinguished Professor. An associate professor of history, he has taught at MBU since 2005. He earned his Ph.D. in history from Washington University and has presented research at academic conferences worldwide and received numerous research fellowships from a host of historical organizations including The New York Historical Society and the Library Company of Philadelphia. Email: kbeutler@mobap.edu

Mark Hoesel ('96) married Gayle Sloan on July 22, 2000. They have a son named Sloan who will be three in March and a daughter Allison who turned one in December. Mark completed his M.Ed. from Vanderbilt University in visual disabilities and is now a teacher

of the blind and visually impaired for Nashville public schools. Gayle was an occupational therapist with Nashville public schools prior to having children. She is now at home raising the children. The Hoesels are members at Grace Community Church in Brentwood. E-mail: hoeselhouse@netzero.com

Steven Aldridge ('98) was selected 2008-2009 Sports Information Director of the Year by the TranSouth Athletic Conference. Steven has been Union University's sports information director since 2000. This is the third time in four years for him to receive the award. Steven and his wife, Stacy, have a daughter, Haley, and a son, Justin, and reside in Jackson. E-mail: saldrige@uu.edu

Stephen M. Eldridge, CPA ('99) is partners in the firm of Alexander, Thompson, Arnold (ATA) and is married to **Dr. Lolly Houston Eldridge ('98)**. Lolly attended UT College of Medicine in Memphis. She is now affiliated with the Jackson Clinic as an OB-GYN. Stephen and Lolly have one daughter named Madeline. Address: 125 Princeton Place, Jackson, TN 38305.

00's TWOTHOUSANDS

Michael J. Eldridge ('01) is currently employed by First State Insurance in Jackson, Tenn. Michael is married to Hailey (Johnson) Eldridge. They have two children, Garrett and Ella Hall.

Caleb J. Trent ('01) has completed medical school at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and is doing his residency at Washington University St. Louis' Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Trent is an emergency room physician. More than a year before the January earthquake, Trent co-founded Aid for Haiti, a faith-based non-profit organization that focuses on medical aid and research. More information about the group's work can be found at AidForHaiti.org.

Scott Marksberry ('02) was selected as the National Christian School Athletic Association's 2008-2009 National Soccer Coach of the Year. In his first year at Wheaton Academy, he coached the Wheaton Academy girls soccer team to the 2009 Illinois State Championship. In winning the state title, the Wheaton Academy girls outscored their state tournament opponents by an average of 4.2 goals per game. E-mail: sjmarksberry@gmail.com.

Nathan Robertson ('04) accepted the position as administrative assistant to Michael B. Knight, senior pastor of Covenant Community Church in Madisonville, Ky., in June 2009. He and his wife Kristin were married on December 8, 2007, in Campobello, S.C. Their son Ryan Israel McDowell Robertson was born on February 10, 2009, in Greenville, S.C. E-mail: nathanrobertson7@hotmail.com

Wondering what happened to E-nnouncements?

A change in the campus email system led to some interruption of delivery for subscribers to Union's popular E-nnouncements.

Although E-nnouncements are compiled by the Student Life Office to highlight campus life and remind students of important dates and deadlines, many Union parents had grown accustomed to seeing the information in their inboxes

each Monday as well.

We are now able to once again send E-nnouncements to you via e-mail. Simply visit our Parents' Place webpage at www.uu.edu/parentsplace and click on the e-nnouncements sign-up link. You should see Union University Community E-nnouncements appear in your inbox once a week beginning the following Monday. [uu](#)

Connect with Union University



Sending an RSVP for a campus event once meant dropping a formal reply in the mailbox. A few years ago, such responses often came via email. Now, it's increasingly likely you're letting the world know of your intentions on Facebook.com.

Sending out a news release has been an electronic process for years now. But linking back to your Web site via Twitter.com has just become popular in the past few months.

The so-called social media have become interwoven into the fabric of daily routines. It benefits friends and alumni of Union, who now may opt for brief but timely updates each day.

Twitter is an outlet where people post short (140-character or less) messages. Twitter users can "follow"

someone and receive updates (called "tweets") that sometimes contain imbedded links to other Web sites.

At Union, it's possible to follow the progress of your favorite athletic teams on a Twitter site dedicated to tweets about the Bulldogs or Lady Bulldogs. Examples of posts: an update on NAIA polls for men's and women's basketball; links to a news release announcing Union volleyball player Marcela Madeira had been named to the AVCA All-American team; the announcement of open tryouts for men's soccer.

There are eight Twitter sites directly related to Union entities, including @UnionDMS (Digital Media Studies), @CardandCream, @RyanCenter, @UUClinic, @UUDiningHall, @UUWellness, @UUAthletics and

@Unionvolleyball. Another popular follow for Union folks is @DavidSDockery.

The main Union University Twitter site is @UnionUniversity (no space between the two words), from which all news releases, campus event announcements and other items of interest are linked. [uu](#)



Lindsey J. Barnes, M.D. ('05) is among the 66 new physicians of the Class of 2009 who graduated from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield on Saturday, May 16. She entered a general surgery residency at the University of Kansas School of Medicine Medical Center in Wichita in July. Lindsey is the daughter of JoNell Barnes and Edward Barnes, both of Metropolis. She is a graduate of Massac County High School in Metropolis (2001) and Union University where she earned her bachelor's degree in biology.



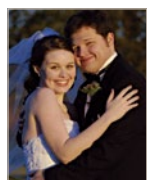
Robert G. Clifford, Esq. (M.B.A.'05) received the Juris Doctorate from New England Law | Boston in May 2009.

He was admitted to the Bar in the State of Massachusetts on November 11, 2009.

Amy Burton ('07) recently transferred back to Jackson and the newly opened office of Maxim Healthcare Services. She has been with Maxim Healthcare for a year and a half as a personnel

coordinator and was recently promoted to the role of healthcare recruiter. She is looking forward to relocating in Jackson and reconnecting with her fellow Unionites and Chi Omega sisters.

MARRIAGES



Tyson Cadenhead ('07) and **Heather Kapavik Cadenhead ('08)** were married on December 21, 2008, by Heather's dad, Rev. Monty

Kapavik, a Southern Baptist pastor. They now live in Murfreesboro, Tenn., where they are members of Third Baptist Church. Tyson plays guitar for the worship team of 3BC. E-mail: heathercadenhead@gmail.com

Stephen Lynch ('09) and **Mallory Keeton ('09)** became husband and wife on July 25, 2009. They met at Union in 2005. They are both currently employed at Morgan Keegan and Company in downtown Memphis. Stephen is a legal and compliance administrator and Mallory is the executive assistant for reporting and operations.

Email: malloryklynch@gmail.com
stephenblynch@gmail.com

Sarah Eastin Harvey ('09) married Nicholas Scott Harvey on October 3, 2009. They now reside in North Carolina.

BIRTHS



Terrie Powers Starling ('89) and her husband Les celebrated the birth of their son, Landon Eric on January 22, 2009.

Terrie is a VP of Human Resources, and Les is a Radio Frequency Engineer. E-mail: tLpstarling@yahoo.com



Jonathan ('96) and **Julie Green Davis ('96)**

adopted Jack in August 2008. Jonathon currently teaches Bible, Logic and Theology at the Upper School at Westminster Academy in Memphis. Julie is a stay at home mom to baby Jack Anderson Davis. E-mail: juliedavis@juno.com



Laura Latham Perryman ('96) with her husband, Michael, are pleased to announce the birth of Eliza Anne Perryman on April 17, 2008. She joins big brother Carter at their home outside of Chattanooga. E-mail: mlperryman@juno.com

Oliver ('97) and Sherry ('97) Schulz welcomed their third child Nathan Yong-En Schulz on January 23, 2010. He weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. They reside in Northridge, Calif.

James Duke ('98) and his wife, Samantha, celebrated the birth of Vaughn William Gregory Duke on October 12, 2009 in Pasadena, Calif. Vaughn weighed 9 lbs. 11.6 oz. E-mail: jimmy@awaken.org

Chrissy Allardin Cockrum ('01) and husband, Matt, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Dylan Pearce. Dylan was born on June 10, 2009, at 12:38 a.m. in Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Ill. He weighed 7 lbs.

11 oz. and measured 20 inches long. Dylan is the grandson of Deon and Leta Allardin of McLeansboro, Ill., and Harl and Karen Cockrum of Harrisburg, Ill. E-mail: mrscockrum@yahoo.com.



Cristy Thomas Tice ('02) and husband Brian welcomed baby girl, Miranda Pearl on August 18, 2009. She weighed 6 lbs 12 oz. and measured 21 inches long.



Kari Noblett Essenpreis ('04) and her husband, Spencer, were blessed with their first child, Naomi Grace, on August 22, 2009. Naomi weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20 ½ inches long. Kari works as a registered nurse at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville, Ind. Spencer is pursuing a Master of Arts in Missiology at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. E-mail: spencerandkari07@gmail.com



Landon Preston ('07') and Stacy Storey Preston ('05') celebrated the birth of their son, Elijah Payne, on January 20, 2010. He weighed 6 lbs. and 9 oz. and was 19.5 inches long.

MEMORIAM

Mary Simonton Best ('38)
July 28, 2009, Ruston, La.

Raymond Judy ('43)
June 6, 2009, Orlando, Fl.

Joseph M. Burks ('46)
Sept. 21, 2008, Silver Lake, Ohio

Raymond Hale Jr. ('50)
Sept. 24, 2009, Chattanooga, Tenn.

William McCord ('56)
June 2009, Adamsville, Tenn.

Misty Oakley Brogdon ('97)
March 25, 2010, Brownsville, Tenn.



Longtime Union friend and supporter Fesmire dies at 76

Benny Fesmire, a friend and supporter of Union University, died Dec. 14 at the age of 76.

Fesmire is survived by Norma, his wife of 56 years; daughter Terri; son Ben, Jr., who graduated from Union in 1984; and five grandchildren, three of whom are former or current Union students.

A former member of Union's Board of Trustees, he established the Fesmire Family Foundation in 2002 to support a variety of university programs.

The Fesmires were inducted into the first class of the Union Sports Hall of Fame in 2006 for their distinguished services to Union athletics. Because of generous donations that helped provide scholarships and fund facilities, the

Fesmire name can be seen in several areas of campus.

In 2000, the new baseball and softball fields were dedicated and named Fesmire Fields. Union also dedicated Fesmire Fieldhouse in 2006. The 18,000-square foot facility houses a 9,000-square foot turf room, locker rooms and offices for baseball, softball, men's soccer and women's soccer.

"Benny Fesmire was a true philanthropist," said Union Director of Athletic Operations Tommy Sadler. "He never sought recognition for his gifts that helped many worthy causes in the Jackson area. Our athletic program has been blessed beyond measure by Benny's and Norma's generosity." ☐

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FINALFRAME



Footsteps in the Snow

The sun sets on a snow covered campus
after a February 2, 2010 snowfall.