Summer 1999

Fort Wayne Alumnus

Taylor University Fort Wayne

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To God Be The Glory!

This past year has been filled with many evidences of God’s goodness and faithfulness to Taylor University. We are excited about the opportunities before us, but also quite cognizant of the responsibilities that go along with these opportunities.

As the Fort Wayne campus continues to develop and expand its focus, the greater the expectations for success. Often success is considered to be synonymous with progress. In many ways, Taylor University Fort Wayne is experiencing success and progress.

As we reflect on these two words, we must not lose sight of our source of all truth and wisdom—God! To the degree to which we experience progress, we must also acknowledge that it happens only within the scope to which we honor His goodness; “To whom much is given, much is required.”

As we do experience and acknowledge His goodness and riches, we must also accept the responsibility of good stewardship.

As you read this issue of the Alumnus, it will be evident that God continues His blessings on Taylor University in Fort Wayne. You should also realize this doesn’t happen because of any one individual. This campus is blessed with excellent faculty, staff, administration and students. The community that exists on the campus is supportive and encouraging. The environment is very conducive to progress.

As I personally meet with various constituent groups, the most prevalent question is, “What are your greatest challenges?” There are three responses to this question: 1) spiritual vitality; 2) affordability; and 3) academic excellence.

Progress is not success or vice versa, if we lose sight of these concerns. So in the midst of much to celebrate, we must not lose sight of our mission—“to educate men and women to be agents for Jesus Christ in a world of need.”

We are filled with enthusiasm, but tempered with reality.

-Dr. Daryl Yost
Provost/Chief Operating Officer of the Fort Wayne Campus
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**BREAKING GROUND**

Balloons danced in the wind and purple and gold mums dotted the stage, providing an outward expression of the excitement felt on campus as board members, alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students gathered for the groundbreaking ceremony for the new $10,570,000 student commons ($7 million construction and equipment, $3,570,000 endowment), May 21, on the southeast end of the Lehman Library parking lot.

Completion of the two-floor facility is expected by August 1, 2001, in time for use during the fall semester. The student commons is the first scheduled building project for the Fort Wayne campus from the $75 million Taylor Tomorrow capital campaign. Campaign officials report that to date, over $54.3 million has been raised. Funding for the student commons is derived from a combination of capital campaign monies and a nearly $8.4 million gift ($4.88 million designated for the student commons) from Lilly Endowment, Inc., Indianapolis.

The student commons will be built behind Witmer Hall and connect to Lehman Memorial Library. The commons will include a cafeteria, general student lounge, post office and student mailboxes, book store, campus safety office, recreation area, commuter lounge, prayer chapel, student development offices, conference rooms, workroom and office space for student organizations.

The cafeteria will provide space for general seating, two private dining areas and a President’s dining room. A grill will remain open in the evenings. The commuter lounge is designed to give non-residential students a place to call their own. The lounge will include: lockers, a kitchenette, soft furniture, and tables and chairs. Additionally, it will provide access ports to the network connection for students with laptop computers. A prayer chapel will be located in the lower level for individual and group utilization for worship and prayer.

**$500,000 Gift**

Barbara Burt, president, Foellinger Foundation, Inc., announced that the Foellinger Foundation of Fort Wayne has approved a $500,000 gift for Taylor University Fort Wayne campus, to be given over a two-year period. The gift will assist in the area of capital improvement on the campus, specifically the construction of the student commons.

*At right: Barbara Burt announces the generous gift from the Foellinger Foundation at Taylor Fort Wayne’s Student Commons groundbreaking ceremony.*
A Time of Celebration!!
Groundbreaking, Graduation, Alumni Banquet

Left: Erica (Yoder) Siegel is all smiles upon graduating from TUFW.

Left center: The ground has been broken for the Student Commons.

Bottom left: Construction begins for the Student Commons.

Above (L to R): Steve Spallinger, Dean Stewart, Karen Tilkaran and Jana Wanner are conferred graduates.

Left: Chuck Belknap, TUFW director of financial aid, and wife, Sue, chat with Dr. Bill Pannell g51, board member.

Above: The Class of 1949 poses for a 50th class reunion photo outside of Founders Hall. Front row, l to r: Alice (Ervin) Sarver, Eleanor (Wann) Ferguson, Esther Perry, Naomi Mast, Esther (Diller) Parker, Mrs. Owen Wright, Owen Ken Wright, David Zimmerman, Imogene (Palmer) Zimmerman, Anna (Hilbert) Hall, DeWitte Hall. Second row, l to r: Floran Mast, Louis Klotzbach, Janet Klotzbach, Letha (Snyder) Steiner, Gertrude Slusser, Helen (Smith) Stilson, Carol (Sipp) Ponchat. Back row, l to r: Venita Wolfe, Neil Wolfe, Laverne Steiner, Wayne Caulkins, JoAnn Caulkins, Evelyn (Slusser) Colsten, Jim Stilson, Brian Colby.
Beginning the Next Chapter

Graduation . . . a time of reflection and projection. Reflection of experiences gone by and projection of opportunities yet to be. Taylor Fort Wayne’s seventh graduating class, individuals from different backgrounds and walks of life, all share one common ground, their Taylor experience. As they use this common ground as a launching pad for their futures, a few of our recent alums share their plans for the future.

In the Spring of 1996, we introduced you to Shani Gray. At that time she was a recent high school graduate in her first year at Taylor Fort Wayne. A lot has happened since then.

Shani graduated at the top of her Miami-Carol City High School class, Miami, Florida. In fact, she was valedictorian. She chose to attend Taylor University, Fort Wayne Campus because it combined the important elements of an authentic, “family,” Christian atmosphere with her proposed major, criminal justice, a major not readily offered at other Christian colleges at that time.

Shani’s academic excellence continued while at Taylor Fort Wayne. She was named to the Dean’s List all four years, and was nominated to Who’s Who Among American College and University Students. She received honors in her major, receiving the Justice and Mercy Award her junior year, and Criminal Justice Award her senior year. Her leadership skills extended beyond the classroom, as she served as president on the multi-cultural activities council and as a resident assistant. A member of the women’s basketball team, Shani received the Mental Attitude Award each of her three years on the team. She worked in the admissions office for three years and in campus security for one year. She volunteered her time and efforts with the Taylor (basketball) League as well as with Project Incentive and the Euell A. Wilson Community Center.

New Taylor Fort Wayne graduate, Shani, feels prepared to move into the future. Thanks to Taylor’s strong undergraduate programs and Shani’s hard work and academic determination, she has been awarded Indiana University’s prestigious Dean’s Minority Fellowship to pursue her doctorate in criminal justice. The fellowship consists of a five-year financial package, carrying an annual stipend of $15,000 plus tuition and health insurance. Shani intends to pursue a career in corrections.

The picture below appears to be quiet and serene, but add high school girls to this picture and you have changed it to anything but tranquil!

Being parents to these girls is the assignment that Jeff g99 and Mary Ann (Birkey) Grate g92 have accepted as their own for the next two years. The Grates have accepted an invitation to serve at Black Forest Academy in Kandern Germany as parents in the Storchenblick Dorm, one of seven dorms, and home to 23 girls.

In May, Taylor Fort Wayne awarded Jeff his second bachelor’s, in youth ministries. His first bachelor’s degree was completed in 1992 from Hope College in biology. Mary Ann graduated from Summit Christian College in 1992 with a degree in elementary education (in fact, she completed her student teaching at Black Forest Academy).

Black Forest Academy is a residential boarding school founded in 1956. It serves the children of missionary families, representing over 20 countries, who want a curriculum that is taught in English and incorporates a Christian world view. The Academy has an enrollment nearing 300 students and a residential program for grades 7 - 12, housing a little over half of the students.

“Black Forest Academy is a perfect blend of our interests and passions for youth, missions and education. Most importantly, it is where the Lord is leading us. We are excited,” shares Jeff. He adds, “Our desire is to display Jesus’ love in the midst of the hustle and bustle of everyday life.”

The couple left early August, for orientation and language class.

Above right: Storchenblick Dorm, Black Forest Academy, where the Grates will reside for the next two years.

Above left: Jeff and Mary Ann at graduation, 1999.
When Steve Spallinger came to the Fort Wayne campus in the fall of 1995, he intended to earn his associate’s degree and get directly into the criminal justice field. But because of the one-on-one care in the classroom, the interaction with other students on campus and the interesting classes that were offered, he decided to aim for a bachelor’s degree, which he was able to complete in 3½ years. In May of 1999, Steve walked across the stage to receive his diploma.

Through both the classroom teaching and the hands-on experience he gained while studying at Taylor, Steve feels prepared for his career in law enforcement. The classes had direct impact for him as a police officer, as the students were taught case studies and how they affect today’s laws.

The training he received in the classroom was matched by the training he received in his internships. While a campus safety intern, he studied the Upland and Fort Wayne campus safety team policies that were already in place, then provided suggestions of how those programs might be improved. A seminar, offered to all female students, training them in various forms of self-defense, was one of his suggestions, which has already been implemented on the Fort Wayne campus.

Steve’s internship with the Allen County Superior Court also provided him with invaluable hands-on experience as well. He worked in the Family Relations Division with first and second time offenders (minors), assisting them in their community service efforts. The program, called “Work-reation,” combined both work and recreation. Many of the tasks were group-oriented. In order to complete them satisfactorily many tasks had to be completed as a team, a unique challenge for some participants.

Steve has been accepted into the State Police Academy at Plainfield, IN. He will study there from July 12-December 10, and then will be assigned a position in Indiana. Serving as a police officer has been a life-long dream for Steve. He feels the training he received at Taylor Fort Wayne is enabling him to move forward into his desired field.

It had been over 20 years since they set foot in a school. Imagine the fear Beverly Harding and her sister Sherill Tyler-Johnson felt when they sensed the Lord calling them to go to college.

“I was skeptical,” Sherill says when she recalls her sister Bev telling her she thought God was calling them to attend college. “I kept asking, ‘how can I do this?’ but also said, ‘okay, if it’s You, God, Taylor Fort Wayne will accept my application.’ When Bev called me and said, ‘we’re going!’ I decided not to fight it anymore. We know God is faithful and that He will provide.”

The past four years have shown many obstacles for them as they’ve balanced failing health of their parents, families of their own and a full load of college-level courses. The greatest asset Beverly Harding and her sister Sherill had was each other. “Our joys were doubled and our sorrows divided. When one of us would lose sight of the vision God had for us, we had someone to guide us back,” they share.

They both graduated from TUFW in May with degrees in psychology. Most of all, their Taylor education taught them to trust in the power of prayer, an invaluable lesson, one that cannot be bought with money.

Right: Beverly (l) and Sherill (r) display a range of emotions when talking about their Taylor experience and graduation.
Joe Updegrove Retires After 24 Years of Tending to the Field

Thousands of alumni, friends, parents and students give both financially and prayerfully to Taylor Fort Wayne, yet a handful or fewer people serve as liaisons between them and the University. Who are these representatives and what do they look like? They each have unique personalities, but the same goal: to serve the Lord and His people. Joe Updegrove has been one such liaison.

Joe began his service to the University over 24 years ago after returning to the States from a four-year mission term in Sierra Leone. It was there that Joe and his family first discovered what it was like to “be sent” by God and how to serve as a liaison between an organization and a body of people.

Joe served as business manager with the mission agency and was the first layman to serve on the mission field. As a business man, not a pastor, Joe’s position confused many of the nationals who were used to the traditional missionary/pastoral role. But before he could convince the nationals of his missionary status, he first had to be convinced himself!

Joe had been a very successful real estate agent in the late 60’s, but he realized his success was merely material and his heart was sold to wealth, not God. When he gave his riches to the Lord, He took them literally. Joe’s real estate endeavors began to fail and soon he and his family were backed into a corner. The Updegroves took the opportunity to seek out guidance from their pastor. A comment spoken, perhaps in jest, began the whirlwind that changed their lives. The pastor said, “you could always go to Africa.” Remarkably, that was not the only sign the family received that Africa was the direction they would soon be heading. Kimm and Joe Jr., two of the Updegrove’s children, brought home assignments from school which focused on Africa. They even received mail in their mailbox in regard to the country! Lest anyone thinks it was an easy decision for the Updegrove’s to make, it was only after six-to-eight months of tireless days and sleepless nights that Joe yielded to God’s call to serve as a missionary. After he did, the details fell into place quickly.

The day after they put their house up for sale, it sold. His real estate career began to thrive, once again, but this time income went to pay off debts, not to attain new possessions. In March, the mission board called to let them know they were approved to serve as missionaries. Their belongings were sold, bills were paid, and shortly thereafter, they left for Africa.

The years spent there were the most content of the Updegrove’s lives; but as surely as God called them there, He called them home. And, that is where the story of Joe Updegrove, development officer, begins.

He began his 24-year term at the Fort Wayne campus as a field representative for alumni fundraising. Although the “field” did not consist of unbelievers from a different tribe and language, the opportunities were similar for Joe, opportunities to serve others.

“As a development officer, I found myself developing life-long friendships, not just financial partners for the University,” Joe reflects. “It is the loss of those opportunities to meet with and care for friends of the University and friends of mine that will be the most difficult in my retirement. I have had the opportunity to know people throughout the country, and we have become like family.”

Joe has seen many people, in many different circumstances. “I have cleaned gutters, helped deliver calves, spent hours in hospital rooms, listened to widows and widowers mourn over lost spouses.” The most unique of experiences is when Joe helped save a man from an angered bull.

But there is more to raising funds than meeting with people and asking for financial assistance. The most gratifying part of his role was to meet weekly to pray for the University’s donors. “It is a team effort. Faculty, staff, students and donors are all part of one team. With any team, without one member, we could not go at this endeavor (to train young men and women to serve the Lord) successfully.”

“Over the nearly quarter of a century that Joe was employed at Taylor, Summit Christian College and Fort Wayne Bible College, he developed very strong friendships with alumni and friends,” says Ken Smith, executive director of the William Taylor Foundation. “He will be missed.”
Hoosier College Preparatory Program

With the express goal of helping more Indiana youth prepare for college, a new program at TUFW is embarking on a project to serve kindergarten through twelfth grade students and their families. Funding of almost one million dollars from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., was secured through a grant written by Dr. Joseph Jones, associate professor of criminal justice, and Dr. Randall Dodge, associate vice president for administration. Collaborating together and with other members of the community, they proposed that three initiatives be established to prepare students for the college experience.

The first initiative partners TUFW students with community children for mentoring and tutoring. The program calls for 75 Taylor students and other academic mentors to commit to working with these children. “In addition to benefiting the school children, this program will allow Taylor students to grow and do ministry with at-risk kids,” says Jones.

A second initiative will bring community middle school students to the Fort Wayne campus for the Kids to College summer program. Students attending the program will participate in integrated classes in a collegiate format. “We want to help them understand what college is like, and help them envision themselves as college students,” Dodge says.

A Village Scholarship Program, the third initiative, is also being established. Taylor representatives will work with Fort Wayne area churches to identify students who have college capability but lack the resources to attend. A partnership with the identifying church will provide scholarship money and academic preparation for these students, making a college education at either Taylor campus possible. Dodge anticipates partnering with 30 churches to provide 30 scholarships per year for the next three years.

“We believe the program has value for the community,” Dodge says. In fact, a council of community advisors has already been established to provide guidance to this effort. Co-chaired by Dr. Daryl Yost, provost and CAO of the Fort Wayne campus, and Mr. Steve Bollier, community and educational leader in Fort Wayne, the council includes members from two area school corporations as well as leaders in local courts, businesses, and churches.

To direct the Hoosier College Preparatory Program, Dr. Marilyn Button, former associate professor of English and co-chair of the academic advising center at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, has recently agreed to come to TUFW. “We eagerly anticipate great things from this program!” says Dr. Dodge. “The community, the schools, the university, and most of all, the young people will all see benefits. Dr. Button’s expertise and strong leadership will definitely be a boost to help this program to reach and exceed all of its goals!”

The program began on July 1, 1999, with tutoring and academic mentoring services available to area children for the fall semester.

Dr. Marilyn Button
Summer Open House

The second annual Summer Open House was held June 25-26. The weekend’s theme, “Taking the First Step,” set the tone for the weekend as incoming freshman students and their parents were offered a glimpse of their upcoming college experience.

The Open House provides an opportunity for incoming students to register for classes, meet new friends, participate in social activities, receive answers to questions, as well as take language testing and other placement tests.

Prospective freshmen enjoyed their visit to campus as they were able to connect with faculty, staff and one another. Special events of the weekend included an orientation banquet, ice cream social, workshops, late-night bowling and a Sunday morning worship service.

Over 30 incoming students and 25 parents and siblings participated in the weekend sponsored by the student development and admissions offices.

Summer Vacation

Many of us recall the first writing assignment of a new academic year: “How I Spent My Summer Vacation.” For Bob and Marge Wicker, their essay would perhaps begin like this: “We returned to Fort Wayne, Indiana, where we were married 43 years ago, camped in our motor home and helped care for Taylor Fort Wayne’s grounds.”

Each January, Bob and Marge leave their Florida home to spend three months in southern Texas, working at a children’s home in Mexico. Their service vacation continues into the summer, where they again find a place to camp and volunteer. With their motor home parked at the campus, the Wickers have made TUFW the recipient of their benevolence.

The Wickers both have sisters who are graduates of Fort Wayne Bible College (FWBC), and Bob and Marge were married in Fort Wayne by a FWBC professor. Now they have returned to the city where their lives were joined in marriage to minister to the campus.

They each work 20 hours a week, which is the combined equivalent of one full-time position -- a service they offer to Taylor free of charge.

“Theyir labor is totally volunteered,” says Don Hamm, TUFW director of the physical plant. “They are a great asset to the University.”

Smart Camp

Keith Smart, Fort Wayne Fury Basketball coach, conducted a week-long basketball camp on campus.

Five, four, three, two, one, buzzer. This is a familiar sound to anyone who plays or watches basketball. And for anyone who is an Indiana University fan, the name Keith Smart brings a reminder of the game-winning shot in the championship game during the 1987 Final Four.

Taylor University Fort Wayne was pleased to host the Keith Smart Basketball School, June 28-July 2. Approximately 40 boys and girls, ages 8 to 18, participated in the week-long day camp. Each participant came to camp with a different skill level, but all left with a better understanding of basketball and the skills and techniques necessary to succeed. In addition, participants received a camp t-shirt, an Indiana Pacer basketball and daily meals.

After success on the IU team, Keith was drafted by the Golden State Warriors in the second round. He was then traded to the San Antonio Spurs where he played for part of the season. He left to play basketball with a team in Manilla, Philippines, where he came to know the Lord. After returning to the States, he played in the CBA. Keith now coaches the Fort Wayne Fury basketball team and begins his third season this fall.
Salt and Light

Scripture tells us we are to be in the world but not of it, to be salt and light to a world in need, and always be prepared to give an answer . . .

When senior, Amy Duplain, chose the Fort Wayne Women’s Bureau as the location of her social work internship, she knew she would need to rely on her Christian upbringing and training as she would face challenges with the opportunity. The Women’s Bureau is an organization designed to work with women in crisis situations – but not from a Christian perspective.

During her internship, most of her time was spent on the rape victim crisis hotline, giving the callers direction as to where they should turn for help. Official counselors at the Women’s Bureau would take over the difficult cases. Although she was not allowed to share her faith in these situations, she lived her faith in action. She is glad she chose this work environment while she had the vital support network of Christians to depend on at the Fort Wayne campus.

After her internship was completed, her supervisor stated that she had been anxious about hiring a Taylor student, because the organizations are so different in their beliefs. But in the end she was glad that Amy had come.

Although it was not a comfortable position for Amy, she values the experience. Her godly life shone as an example to those around her – and relationships with her co-workers continue even beyond the internship experience. Some may question her working in such a liberal atmosphere, but Amy believes it was good training for real-life situations she will encounter in the future.

Jamaica Computer Project

On July 31, Rev. Dick Baxter, associate dean for career services, along with Russ Pawloski, junior, Bill Davenport, junior and Nick Miller, freshman, departed for Jamaica for a six-day trip with the goal of equipping two mountain schools with computer labs. Russ spent the majority of his time ministering to the children whom he met in the village while on a mission trip to the same location this past January, while the others set up computers and trained the teachers. It was during the January mission trip when Dick discovered that only one of the eight computers provided from outside sources were actually functional. After returning to the states and discussing the matter with Dr. Bob Hodge, chief information officer, ten 486 computers and three dot matrix computers were secured and shipped to Jamaica.

Preschoolers attend TUFW

A college campus isn’t just a place for adults to learn, anymore. Taylor Fort Wayne’s doors have been open to preschoolers for nearly 7 years.

“It came about as we were discovering avenues for elementary education majors to fulfill their Christian service requirement,” begins Dick Baxter, then Christian services director. “I approached Professor Bruce Pratt, physical education instructor, about the possibility of students in the recreational leadership class being able to perform a practicum experience in conjunction with their classroom experience.” The idea was published in the Fort Wayne Area Homeschoolers’ Newsletter and the class was overwhelmed with applicants, only half of whom could be accommodated in the program the first year.

Today, students in the elementary school health and physical education class continue to implement what they are learning in the classroom by preparing lessons and putting them into practical experience as they teach kids ages 5-12 each week.

Taylor students appreciate the opportunity to gain real teaching experience, the children enjoy the activity and new friends and their parents are grateful for the program, as well. “It is a great opportunity for my kids to receive physical activity in a structured environment with activities I can’t do at home because the number of kids needed for an activity or team sports,” shares Denise Snyder, mother of Abigail (10) and Nathan (8). For Drusha Mussmann, the 40-minute one-way commute is well worth her effort. “I want to be involved in the program in the future; it met my expectations.”

Taylor offers the homeschoolers physical education class one semester a year for approximately 40 children.

Above: Veronica Copenhagen, junior, teaches children the importance of team work in jumping rope.

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Intercultural Studies

Taylor Fort Wayne announces a new intercultural studies major. The former urban ministries major has been blended with the cross-cultural ministries concentration to become a new intercultural studies major. The new program is among the programs offered under the Christian ministries department. The move actually strengthens the department and increases graduate marketability.

The new major “puts Taylor on the cutting edge of what is going on in missions and ministry,” says Dr. Rick Gray, professor of urban and youth ministries. Dr. Gray has resigned his position at TUFW and will be teaching at Asbury Theological Seminary in the fall. With Dr. Gray’s pending departure, the Christian ministries program was reevaluated, notes Dr. Ron Sloan, associate vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Roger Ringenberg, professor of cross cultural ministries, and Dr. Gray note that various colleges and seminaries are finding certain countries closed to graduates with the words “ministry” or “missions” in their degrees. “We need to look at how we . . . are going to position ourselves to reach other countries,” shares Dr. Gray. Dr. Ringenberg adds, “It is a valid semantic change for someone to broaden [his or her] avenue for ministry.”

Current students enrolled in the urban ministry major will graduate with the degree, although no new urban ministry majors will be declared.

Scholarship Luncheon

The children of Miriam Welty honored her with the establishment of an endowed scholarship bearing her name at the annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon, April 22. Miriam, unaware of the gift, was surprised by the honor. Over 240 parents, students and scholarship donors attended the luncheon. Eighty-eight students received scholarships totaling over $181,000; several were offered scholarships awarded for the first time.

Above: sitting L to R: Lisa and Pat Welty; standing L to R: John, Karen, Miriam, Brad, Caitlin and Jim Welty.
In my role as chair of the Board of Trustees, it is my privilege to announce several significant activities that were acted upon during the recent Board of Trustees meeting May 19-21, 1999. First, after many years of praying, ground was broken for a new student commons at Fort Wayne. This new facility will greatly benefit the student life on this growing campus. Likewise, it was reported that ground was broken on May 12, 1999, for an expansion of the Hodson Dining Commons at Upland. This new addition will enhance the facilities for student dining as well as events such as Parents Weekend, Homecoming and other special dining activities.

The Board was pleased to accept a major gift from Coburn and Modelle Metcalf ’45 for the visual arts addition at Upland. A resolution to name the facility the “Modelle Metcalf Visual Arts Center” was approved by the Board.

Lastly, it is my privilege to report that the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a resolution to name the new student activities center on the Upland campus for our friend, alumnus and current president, Dr. Jay Kesler. This naming will commemorate the more than 40 years of servanthood that Jay and Janie have given to young people through their ministry at Youth for Christ and their tenure at Taylor University. Please continue to pray with me as we strive to keep Taylor “focused on the future.”

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Choice Award. The TUFW Parents’ Cabinet has established the Students’ Choice Award to recognize a full-time, non-teaching faculty or staff member
CURRENT AND UPCOMING PROJECTS

Progress

Groundbreaking begins on new facilities

May was a month of groundbreaking on both campuses. In Upland, construction began on the addition to the Hodson Dining Commons. On the Fort Wayne campus, a ceremony was held to christen the construction of the new Student Commons Center.

Hodson Dining Commons
Construction of the addition to the Hodson Dining Commons is in its early stages. The new rooms will more than double the current banquet space.

Student Commons Center
Groundbreaking began with a few shovels of dirt dug by Vice President for Development Gene Rupp, Campaign Director Jerry Cramer, Foellinger Foundation Representative Barbara Burt, Dr. Jay Kesler, Board Chair G. Roselyn Kerlin, Dr. Daryl Yost and Associate Vice President for Development Sherri Harter.

and scholarship donors attended the luncheon. Eighty-eight students received scholarships totaling over $181,000; several were offered scholarships awarded for the first time.

Profile

**Kesler leadership brings credibility to University**

Across the country, the Taylor name is nearly synonymous with that of its leader, Dr. Jay Kesler, and his wife, Janie. Dr. Kesler holds a prominent position among contemporary Christian authors and leaders and adds to the credibility of the University, helping Taylor make its mark as a forerunner in liberal arts education.

Dr. Kesler graduated from Taylor in 1958. He then served as president of Youth for Christ before returning to his alma mater as president in 1985. The author of nearly 20 books and the recipient of six honorary doctorates. Dr. Kesler continues to publish books and articles and speak to audiences frequently. In addition to his service at Taylor, Dr. Kesler is a founding board member with Prison Ministry Fellowship, led by Chuck Colson, and is actively involved with the National Prayer Breakfast and other civic opportunities.

Much loved by students, Dr. Kesler has an open-door policy and regularly mentors small groups of young men. His unique ability to be funny, relevant and authentic makes him a favorite speaker – at Taylor’s chapel services and across the country.

“Jay stands for everything the University promotes – the Bible, evangelism, young people, stability,” says Walt Campbell, associate dean of students.

Working alongside Dr. Kesler is his wife, Janie, whom Campbell considers an excellent role model for students. Mrs. Kesler x’59 has been devoted to her family since her marriage to Jay in 1957. She is an avid reader and enjoys playing the piano and painting. The first lady of the University, Mrs. Kesler assumes a presence at Taylor that cannot be missed. She and Jay have served as wing leaders, and Janie frequently opens her home to students and campus visitors.

The Keslers’ joint leadership of the University has prompted the Board of Trustees to announce plans for the Kesler Student Activities Center to be built on the Upland campus. Fundraising currently is underway for the center, a tribute to the Keslers’ decades of service and in honor of Dr. Kesler’s June 2000 retirement.
Praise

Ebenezer stones - reminders of faithfulness

Over the years, I’ve developed quite a reputation for my ties – I have around 60 or 70. Despite the number, I have my favorites that I wear frequently, and a few unique ones I save for special occasions.

Jerry Cramer, the director of our capital campaign, is the same way. He and I both have a money tie, printed with dollar bills all over. Just the other day, we wore our money ties to celebrate the recent blessings of the campaign.

Taylor has received some generous gifts lately, like the $1.5 million for the Modelle Metcalf Visual Arts Center, and the donation that made the Hodson Dining Commons expansion possible. In fact, we’ve exceeded $53 million – a tremendous cause for rejoicing.

I’m reminded of the story from 1 Samuel, where the people placed a stone, called Ebenezer, as a reminder of God’s faithfulness. As we broke ground in Fort Wayne for the student commons center, I couldn’t help but think of the Ebenezer stones God is allowing us to raise on our campuses. None of these stones could be raised without the smaller, faithful donations of $10 and $20 and $100. These gifts are the backbone of our campaign, each one a monument to the faithfulness of our Father and the spirit of our graduates and friends.

Jerry and I are both known for our ties, but we’re also known for a little phrase we say frequently – “To God be the glory.” May God have all the glory that comes from this University and from our lives.

Gene L. Rupp

Pray for the Taylor Tomorrow Campaign

‘Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4: 6, 7

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Jerry P. Cramer, Director of the Capital Campaign, at:
1 (800) 882-3456, ext. 5112 • 236 West Reade Avenue, Upland, IN 46989-1001

and scholarship donors attended the luncheon. Eighty-eight students received scholarships totaling over $181,000; several were offered scholarships awarded for the first time.

Facility, Staff and Student Honors and Accomplishments

Faculty

Rick Gray, assistant professor of Christian ministries, will serve as an associate professor of Christian ministries at Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky, with plans to move to their Orlando, Florida campus at a later date. Gray served Taylor University for five years.

Dennis Hensley, associate professor of English, was the keynote and banquet speaker at the Write-to-Publish Conference on June 2, at Wheaton College. Additionally, he wrote five book reviews, published in the Summer 1999 edition of Church Libraries.

Pam Jordan, assistant professor of English, had five book reviews published in the Summer 1999 issue of Church Libraries, also.

Joe Martin, associate professor of psychology, retired from the University after nine years of service. He will serve as director of family life ministries at The Chapel, Fort Wayne.

Michael Smith, associate professor of communication arts, moved to Virginia Beach, Virginia, to take a position at Regent University’s graduate school of communication.

Gretchen Wiegel, adjunct professor of modern languages, served as a Sterling Sentinel Judge in the Foreign Language category for the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel and a French Poetry Recitation Judge for Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne.

Staff

Aimee Betsui, switchboard operator, received the Students’ Choice Award. The TUFW Parents’ Cabinet has established the Students’ Choice Award to recognize a full-time, non-teaching faculty or staff member for his or her contribution to community life at Taylor University Fort Wayne. Students nominate individuals who have made an impact on their lives. Aimee was chosen to receive this award based on the criteria that shows she has become a friend, been a servant, shown love or in some other way has contributed to community life at TUFW.

Arlene Schlatter, library secretary, retired after nearly 25 years of service.

Students

Natalie Grillo, junior, of Dingmans Ferry, PA, was published in the July, 1999 edition of Purpose magazine. Her article, entitled, “A Woman’s Family/Career Decision: Full-time, Part-time or No time,” highlighted several female employees on the Fort Wayne campus.

Jeremy Reynolds, sophomore, of Syracuse, IN, was published in the June, 1999, edition of Purpose magazine. His article, “Issues of an Urban Environment, A Profile of Dr. Richard L. Gray,” featured TUFW faculty member, Dr. Richard Gray.

The following students had book reviews published in Church Libraries magazine: Jason Burnett, junior, Fort Wayne, IN, Brandy Ford, freshman, Fort Wayne, IN, Natalie Grillo, sophomore, Dingmans Ferry, PA, Jeanette Hensley, sophomore, Fort Wayne, IN, Mylissa Jensen, sophomore, La Grande, OR, Greg Mengelt, junior, Fort Wayne, IN, Sarah Joy Phenie, freshman, Fort Wayne, IN, James Rediger, sophomore, Upland, IN, Elizabeth Rhine, senior, Burlington, IN, Sarah J. Spinney, freshman, Dudlet, MA, and Evie Tubbs, sophomore, Fort Wayne, IN.
Kesler Student Activities Center

In what Board member Ken Flanigan called an “emotional process,” the Board approved a proposal to name a new facility on the Upland campus for Dr. Jay Kesler and his wife, Janie. Fundraising currently is in process for the Kesler Student Activities Center, which will expand the recreational facilities at TUU. The proposed center will feature four additional multi-purpose playing surfaces, four racquetball courts, expanded training facilities and fitness center, a rehabilitation room and an indoor track. An anticipated $14 million is needed for the building and the endowment. “The naming resolution is simply a validation of the wonderful contributions [the Keslers] have made to Taylor,” says Dr. Daryl Yost. “It expresses where their greatest strength is – with the students.”

Teaching and Learning

Dr. Andrew Whipple, professor of biology at TUU, walked with the graduates rather than his colleagues during the 1999 graduation commencement ceremony; he received a bachelor of arts degree in biblical literature.

The process leading to Whipple’s graduation began in the fall of 1989 when he decided he truly wanted to integrate faith and learning in his classroom. “Even though that’s a bit cliché here, it’s really what Taylor is all about,” Whipple says. “I have a good background in the science side of things, but I never really had any formal training in the Bible or theology. So I decided to do something about it.”

Whipple saw the general education program as a key to the Taylor experience as well, so when he started taking classes in Fall of 1989, his first two courses were Biblical Literature I and Fitness for Life. “I knew when I first started this business, to just sit in on a class or audit a class wasn’t going to cut it. I needed accountability, so I decided to take these classes for credit; otherwise, it wasn’t going to be that legitimate.”

Whipple’s first pursuit didn’t end with these courses. “I kept taking biblical literature courses because I appreciated the opportunity of Taylor’s fantastic professors in the Bible department, and I figured I needed to have the same training in this area as the students have.” Soon Whipple had too many credit hours to be a “guest student” anymore, so he had to declare a major, and the obvious choice was biblical literature.

This 10-year experience has deepened Whipple’s understanding of Taylor students. “It has often been the case that in the same day I’ll teach a class to a group of students, and then I’ll have several of them as fellow students. Along the way, I’ve had the reminder of what it’s like to sit down and take a test or write a paper. It has really helped me appreciate and identify with my students.”

A Time of Need

Each semester, Bob Lay, professor of Christian education, asks his Personal Foundations of Ministry class to plan a road trip. His goal is for them to “explore new ways to build community.” The group may choose any destination, so long as the distance can be driven in a weekend.

This year, trip plans took a tremendous last-minute turn. Originally, the class planned to travel to Tennessee to hike, canoe and relax. On departure day, a suggestion was made that they instead drive to Oklahoma and join the relief efforts following the devastating May 3 tornadoes. Though it required some swift re-organization, the class approved the change.

Over the next several hours, the class found a website explaining that several Methodist churches, though located in the tornado’s path, had escaped damage and would be used as relief centers. “The Methodist churches were well organized to meet the disaster,” Lay said. St. Matthew’s United Methodist of Del City, Oklahoma, provided meals and overnight lodging, and church members allowed the class to shower in their homes.

Students spent one and a half days clearing debris from home sites and helping victims search for valuables. Lay said the biggest benefits of the unexpected trip were that, “people’s openness to take risks and stretch themselves increased. Their perspective on human tragedy was amazingly expanded.”

Colloquium

The Second Frances White Ewbank Colloquium on C. S. Lewis and Friends will be held on Nov. 12-14 at Taylor, Upland. The main speakers are Dr. Peter Kreeft, professor of philosophy at Boston University and Dr. Christopher W. Mitchell, director of the Wade Center at Wheaton College. Papers are invited on Lewis or related authors. For more information about registration or submission of papers, contact: Dr. Richard Hill, program coordinator, (765) 998-4971, e-mail: rchill@tayloru.edu, or check Taylor’s website at http://www.tayloru.edu/cslewis
Board Chair and Husband Create Unitrust for Taylor

When Joe Kerlin met his youth conference publicity co-chairman 47 years ago, he could not have known he had also met his partner for life. Rosie Baugh was bright-eyed and enthusiastic, and amusedly aware that a friend had conspired for Joe to serve with her on the Youth Conference Cabinet, certain they would be a good match; and, indeed they are, having nearly 44 years together in marriage.

The overriding principle of the Kerlin marriage has been service -- to each other, to their family members, the community and the Kingdom. Joe g56TUU is a medical doctor, the senior partner in a family practice group in Danville, Indiana. Rosie g55TUU is an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee of Taylor University’s Board, former chairman of the Board of Trustees and an active volunteer for her local school district, several para-church ministries, community advisory committees and her church.

The Kerlins’ commitment to service is demonstrated in their recent creation of a unitrust to benefit Taylor. A unitrust is a vehicle which allows donors to relinquish ownership of assets, such as stocks or real estate, to a charitable organization like Taylor. The donors receive an income from the donation for the rest of their lives, or for a determined amount of time, and can also take a charitable deduction on their income tax. Additionally, the donor is not subject to capital gains taxes for the assets. "The unitrust fits our financial goals and the goals of the University," Joe says.

The Kerlins’ unitrust, along with a trust established by Joe’s brother Tracey, will allow for the endowment of a chair for the Biblical Studies Department. This decision is a significant financial commitment for the Kerlins. Convinced that Taylor is training students for service for the Kingdom of God, the Kerlins were happy to support the endowment of a chair.

They funded their unitrust with farmland inherited from Joe’s parents. “Disposing of the land in giving this gift to Taylor is something about which they would be very pleased,” Joe shares. Rev. Clarence Kerlin, Joe’s father, was an expository preacher who was committed to making the Bible relevant to lay people. “Our parents are very hands-on Christians,” Rosie says. “For them, and now for us, Christianity has to be translated in ‘visiting the orphans and widows in their distress [helping those in need], and keeping ourselves from being polluted by the world (James 1:27)’. Dad Kerlin would feel that this is a tangible way to do that.”

“The unitrust is one of the few ways left to maximize tax benefits,” explains Joe. “Too often Christians don’t know how to take advantage of the financial ins-and-outs which the present-day economy and tax structure allow. Therefore we lose opportunities that are there for us,” he concludes. The representatives of the William Taylor Foundation helped the Kerlins understand the tax benefits. “They made it very easy for us,” explains Rosie.

For information on creating a unitrust or other charitable donations, please call Ken Smith at the William Taylor Foundation, (800) 882-3456, ext. 5239

Passion Play 2000
Oberammergau, Germany
June 2000

The William Taylor Foundation is sponsoring a 16-day tour of Europe, including the world-famous Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany, and other scenic and historic spots. Join Ken and Beth Smith for this wonderful opportunity.

The Passion Play has a history dating back to 1634. Performed just once every ten years, the trip is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for most travelers. Advance deposit of $300 is required by October 1, 1999.

Contact the William Taylor Foundation for information. 1 800 882 3456, ext. 3144
www.tayloru.edu/~wtf or email kasmith@tayloru.edu

Hold June 1-16, 2000 open on your calendar
The Legion of Honor is the highest alumni award given by Taylor University. Recipients of the award are alumni who exemplify the highest principles of our heritage and whose life accomplishments demonstrate unique and superlative cohesion to the mission of Taylor University—namely to educate men and women for lifelong learning and for ministering the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need. In its 152 year history, Taylor has presented this award only 13 times.

This year’s recipient is a 1929 graduate of the Fort Wayne campus who also earned undergraduate degrees from Malone College and Cleveland State University. Completion of his master’s degree in education from Arizona State University was followed by additional graduate studies at U.C.L.A. Wheaton College conferred on him the degree doctor of divinity in 1958. Summit Christian College conferred its final doctor of divinity degree upon him in 1992.

The ministry of this year’s Legion recipient has been significant both nationally and abroad. He served pastorates in Auburn, Indiana; Cleveland, Ohio; Phoenix, Arizona; Pomona and Van Nuys, California; and Sun City, Arizona. He also served as president of the Missionary Church Association, dean of Azusa Pacific University, president of the American Association of Bible Colleges, president of the National Association of Evangelicals and professor at the American Institute of Holy Land Studies.

He is perhaps most often associated with the history of Fort Wayne Bible College. He served the institution as dean for five years, governing board member for nine years, president for 13 years and chancellor for 20 years. On the occasion of its 75th anniversary, he wrote a history of the school entitled *A Vine of God’s Own Planting*.

While president, the enrollment of the Fort Wayne campus grew to over 600; library holdings more than doubled, community outreach was greatly expanded; the correspondence studies program was significantly enlarged; and three major buildings were added.

Most importantly, this year’s recipient has modeled a spirit of service and ministry which embodies the highest ideals of this campus, its heritage and the tradition of Taylor University. This was best demonstrated when, well past the time of retirement for others, he began pastoring a small group of people in Sun City, Arizona and, during a ten-year pastorate, helped build that church into a large, influential congregation. During that time, he authored a second book, *The Conflict—From Eden to Eternity*.

Taylor Fort Wayne awarded the Legion of Honor to alumnus and friend, former president and chancellor, Dr. Jared F. Gerig, at the Alumni Banquet.

**Alumni Awards**

Also receiving awards at the Alumni Banquet, May 21, were: Mrs. Fran Mortensen, honorary alumnus; Rev. Phil Mortensen g74 and Fran Mortensen h99, distinguished alumnus for urban ministry; Dr. Quinton J. Everest g28, distinguished alumnus for lifetime achievement; and Mrs. Maggie Troyer g92, alumnus of the year.
We Gather Together

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming alumni gatherings and events:

Tuesday, August 10, 8:30 pm, Southeastern Michigan Alumni and Friends Gathering, Brown City Camp, Brown City, Michigan

Monday, August 23, 7:00 am, Pastors’ Golf Day/Brunch, Foster Park and Taylor University, Fort Wayne

Saturday, September 25, 10:00 am, Fall Alumni Council Meeting

Saturday, October 2 or 30, Soccer Reunion (Pending athletic schedule)

Friday, November 12, 10:00 am, Fall Alumni Chapel

Saturday, January 29, 2000, 10 am, Winter Alumni Council Meeting

Saturday, February 26, 2000, Basketball Reunion

Friday, April 28, 2000, 10:00 am, Spring Alumni Chapel

Saturday, April 29, 2000, 10:00 am, Spring Alumni Council Meeting

Friday, May 26, 2000, 6:00 pm, Alumni Banquet, Class Reunions

Alumni Gatherings -- Coming to an Area Near You!

Alumni Gatherings bring you together with friends and former classmates for a time of fellowship, refreshments, sharing of memories, University update and presentation of the new University video, along with a time for Q & A. Gatherings are planned for the following areas: Iowa; Lima, Akron and Toledo, OH; Fort Wayne, Grabill, South Bend, Merrillville, Berne, Indianapolis and Mooresville, IN; Pennsylvania; Phoenix, AZ; Southfield, MI and Groveland/Peoria, IL. We do need hosts and hostesses in each of these areas to help us with phone calls, planning and identification of gathering locations. If you can help, please contact Brian Colby at 219-456-2111, ext. 32297.

Thanks to You for a Successful Phonathon

Alumni, give yourselves a huge pat on the back! With your generosity and the help of more than 100 volunteers, Phonathon 1999 was a tremendous success-- garnering more than $48,000 in gifts and pledges, surpassing the $47,000 goal! With more than 3000 calls attempted, 1200 pledges were made.

Taylor expresses gratitude to all who gave so generously of their time, talent and treasures. Each one of you-- whether a volunteer, staff member or donor-- is appreciated. Your generosity makes a big difference in the lives of TUFW students.

Fort Wayne Campus Alumni Directory

With the turn of the century also comes an added benefit for alumni of FWBC, SCC and TUFW. The office of alumni relations has begun work on the next edition of the Taylor Fort Wayne Alumni Directory. Extensive surveys and data will be processed in the coming months. The goal is to be ready for shipping by mid-Spring, 2000.

We do need your help, however. Our directory will only be as accurate as the information you send to us. Here is where you come in. If your address or name has changed or will change during the next year, please give us an update as soon as possible. Also, when directory surveys arrive in your mail, please take a moment to complete them and return by mail promptly. This is the best way to ensure that you and your friends can find one another, and the best way to stay connected with fellow alums.

Missing: Fort Wayne Campus Alumni

Last seen wearing graduation cap and gown.

As you visit our website at www.taylor.edu/alumni, please observe the list of alumni whose current status is "lost" - meaning we do not have current addresses. If you have information on the whereabouts of any FWBC, SCC or TUFW "lost alumni," contact us via mail:

1025 West Rudisill Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46807 or email us at: alumni@taylor.edu. Your assistance is greatly needed and appreciated.
Sharing God's Unconditional Love

A college experience is usually instrumental in the lives of students who attend there. But by the age of eight, Fort Wayne Bible College had already made its mark on Char (Miller) Binkley g65, and she knew that FWBC was where she would attend college. "Gospel teams from the college came to my church; Bill Pannell g51, current Board member, then FWBC student speaker, spoke in my church. The influence of the Bible College on me was profound," she reflects. "I knew then that I would attend FWBC, even though I didn't even see the campus until my junior year in high school."

The faculty made their largest impact on Char through the imparting of their values and commitment to Christ. "Their passion for Christ was contagious, putting in me a desire to serve the Lord in everything I did." They did this in a variety of ways, whether it was through class instruction, chapel speakers, or residence life. "It was in moments with my dorm mom, Joy Gergig g66, that I really discovered freedom in Christ. She demonstrated God's love as she provided a listening ear, wise reflection and an ability to help me think through life issues, big or small. Above all, the faculty conveyed that for a Christian, you must live for Christ. There was no other option," Char states.

The most freeing discovery came during this time. Char reflects, "When I realized, in my early 20's, that God desired a love relationship with me and that He loved me unconditionally, not judgmentally, all I wanted to do was share that revelation. I wanted to show others how to break through the rules [of religion] into a relationship with a loving God."

Char graduated from the college with an education degree and took a teaching position, one she held for six years. In her sixth year of teaching, Char was nominated outstanding young educator of Fort Wayne.

Over those few years she married, had two children, completed her master's degree and filled the role of a pastor's wife. Her life was indeed full, but she found that it lacked passion.

Having a tremendous commitment to the College and a strong desire to be a dean of women, she called the campus to see if the position was available. It was not, but there was another opportunity. In 1973, she joined the staff of her alma mater as assistant to the president. She planned chapels, hosted luncheons, and various other duties, along with teaching a few classes.

We have all heard that a journey of a hundred miles begins with a single step. As Char walked down third floor of Witmer Hall, three years later, it is doubtful that she knew that she was taking giant steps into her future.

In January, 1976, WBCL was in the last stages of preparing to go on the air. A simple conversation on the east end of Witmer Hall's third floor changed the course of Char's life. "I saw Mike Heuberger, WBCL's general manager, and asked him what they were planning to do for women locally. He said they had not planned anything and asked, "Why?" She explained that at the time, the radio's listener audience was largely women. "He then asked if I was interested in a position."

"I was hired as director of women's programming. I went on the air with a 30-minute show entitled Spectrum for the Homemaker. We quickly discovered it had two shortcomings. First of all, it was not aptly named, as men called in and let us know they were a part of the listening audience, and secondly, the program was not long enough to adequately develop a topic. The show's length was expanded to 55 minutes and renamed to Mid-Morning. (The program remains a favorite among today's listeners and remains Char's most fulfilling responsibility at the station.) Two years later, she was promoted to assistant manager and today serves as executive director of Taylor University Broadcasting, Inc.

The discovery she made in her early 20's still guides her today. "My personal mission and the vision for WBCL is one in the same: to continue to give the hope and peace of Christ to others amidst a world that doesn't seem to care about either." She adds, "Our whole goal in Christian radio programming is to help Christians live healthy spiritual lives. Our concern is that many Christians never get to the place that it's personal with Christ." Char concludes with a statement by which she lives her life, "Jesus came to earth not just to get me out of hell and into heaven, but to get God out of heaven and into me that I might let Him [live] through me."
30's

The Class of 1939 celebrated its 60th class reunion on May 21, 1999. They were the oldest class to return for the Alumni Banquet and class reunions.

Pictured above are (back 1 to r): Ruth (Moser) Bennett, Gabrielle (Martig) White, Ruth (McClure) Rupp. Front 1 to r: Wesley and Rena (DeMitchell) Smith and Genevieve (Dilgart) Leightner. Not pictured: Howard White.

40's

Kent and Evelyn (Bostwick) Wray fs48 recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They have been missionaries with R.B.M. since 1958. Kent and Evelyn have 16 grandchildren.

50's

Pete and Donelda Peterson g53 continue their work in France. They have had a rough couple of months, but praise God that nine people accepted the Lord in the months of February and March.

Clarence and Joyce (Clevenger) Zimmerman g54 recently returned from a cruise to Alaska. Joyce retired from vocal teaching in August, 1997. She now teaches as a substitute. Clarence retired from B.P. Refinery, 10 years ago. They are active in their church serving on the board; Joyce is active in music ministry. They are parents of three children and three grandchildren.

60's

Dr. David Stout g60 has been appointed a superintendent in the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. David and Betty (Donaghue) g59 began the assignment to the Des Moines District in July 1998.

Glenda Hebblethwaite g64 has retired from teaching with Fort Wayne Community Schools. She just completed her last year at Harrison Hill Elementary School. Glenda was a dedicated teacher for thirty-five years.

Anita Laymon g64 enjoys working at Samaritan’s Purse and living in the Blue Ridge Mountains. She is excited to see the miracles of God through the outreach around the world of Samaritan’s Purse and Franklin Graham’s ministry.

Russell McCord fs65 is in his 34th year at General Electric in Ft. Wayne, IN. Russell, a Vietnam Veteran, attends Fellowship Missionary Church and has been on a short-term missions trip to Indonesia.

Arden and Helen (McIntosh) Steele g69 are currently ministering in Cochabamba, Bolivia. Arden continues his ministry as SIM Easter Andes Area director in Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay. Helen is teaching at Carachipampa Christian School, where she teaches pre-kindergarten in the afternoons.

70's

Martha Buss g72 is home on a year home assignment from missionary work with the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Cali, Columbia. She has spent 21 years as a missionary in Columbia, and will return in August to continue her church planting work. An article she wrote was recently published in Alliance Life, entitled A Day in the Missionary Life. She still plays her saxophone in the churches where she serves. Martha played in the Fort Wayne Bible College Band for 4 years.

Stan g74 and Anita (Warner) Diehl g69 are entering their 25th year of pastoring. Stan is currently a part-time pastor at the Beaver Dam Church of the Brethren, Union Bridge, MD. He has been an instructional assistant, a tutor for students with dyslexia, and has volunteered as a mentor in the elementary schools. Anita has been an instructional assistant in special education for many years.

Janet Nickel g74 is home from Nigeria on home assignment ministry. With her return to Sierra Leone in the near future not possible, she will be going to Guinea to work with refugees from Sierra Leone.

Gordon g78 and Ann Marie Nickel have three children, Rebecca (10), Christina (8) and Landon (3). Gordon is headmaster at Plymouth Christian Academy.

Bruce Rocke g79 had an article about Groveland Evangelical Mennonite Church published in EMC Today.

80's

Jean Baumbach fs81 is focusing on translation in Niger Republic. She, along with native Kejo, have completed a rough draft of 1 Thessalonians. In the next year she is hoping to be able to check the translations of John, James and 1 Thessalonians.
Kent Cadence, celebrated and the your Venezuela will bases. privilege served works as an office administrator at Reuters America in Dallas, TX. Her mailing address is 13237 Montfort Drive, PMB 307, Dallas, TX 75240-5114. She welcomes email at Shell.Lace@aol.com.

Dave g87 and Dorcas (Ringenberg) McDeavitt g76 continue to minister in the Middle East.

Rev. Kent g87 and Nancy (Watt) Ulman fs80 have five children, Sarah (16), Elizabeth (14), Timothy (13), Ruth (6) and Mary (1). Kent is the pastor of First Baptist Church in Rantool, IL.

Ocleva Williams g87 has been named director of the Fort Wayne YMCA’s Domestic Services. Ocleva will be supervising the women’s shelter, Outreach Education Services and the self-sufficiency program.

Graham g88 and Lori (Fazio) West fs86 continue their work with Missionary Athletes International (MAI). Graham has been ministering with the women’s team in the Czech Republic, France and England. He has planned an Australian missions tour for August. They have moved to 1450 Brittle Creek Dr., Matthews, NC 28105.

Bruce g89 and Dawn (Clark) Cluckie g89 praise God for what He is doing among the Yalunkas in Guinea, West Africa, where they are ministering. They ask for continued prayer for the salvation and spiritual growth of the Yalunka people.

90’s

Shawna (Wheeler) Laster fs86 married Kevin in November, 1991. They have daughter Jacqueline (Jaci) Renae on June 15, 1994. Shawna works as an office administrator at Reuters America in Dallas, TX. Her mailing address is 13237 Montfort Drive, PMB 307, Dallas, TX 75240-5114. She welcomes email at Shell.Lace@aol.com.

Nick g91 and Alane (Heindel) Johnson g89 continue to work with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. They are preparing for their summer Global Project in Russia. They pray that God will speak to the US students that participate and for financial support. They praise God for the relationships established and experiences eight Russian students had while visiting them.

Keith and Danielle (Hartford) Luidhardt fs92 have three children, Brandon (5), Cassandra (4) and Nathan (3). Keith is in the Air Force and has been stationed in California, Republic of Korea and currently in Germany. He is currently working with French and Canadian Commercial satellite companies for the USAF, and working on finishing his degree in government/politics.

Gary Martens g92 continues to work at New Horizons Ministries as an information services manager. He trains staff and oversees the computer and technological aspects of their programs in Marion, IN, Canada and the Dominican Republic.

Stephanie (Cox) Demorest g93 graduated with a masters degree in religion, with honors, from Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, May 17.

Nathan g93 and Tisha (Moect) Herman fs95 have a daughter, Becca (1). Nathan continues to head the Computer Science Department at Lower Brule Community College on the Lower Brule Sioux Reservation and administers their network. He very much enjoys his work and continues being challenged by the job and students. Nathan and Tisha also continue to run their audio production, video production and video post-production studio in the off-hours. They attend First Baptist Church of Chamberlain, SD, where Nathan teaches the High School Sunday School Class.
David and Nancy (Elenbaum) Leming g93 celebrated their 7th wedding anniversary on May 30. They have two children, Cody (5) and Jacob (2). David works at Ball-Foster Glass Company in Marion, IN. Nancy works for ARC of NE Indiana as a caseworker for developmentally disabled adults and foster children and their families.

Joe Boway g95 recently had an article published in the Lutheran Bible Translators' Messenger. He currently serves on this mission staff at the service center in Aurora, IL, where he is a missionary recruiter. He is very excited to serve in this position.

Eric g96 and Becky Flood have accepted the call as the first pastor of Celebrate Life Christian Fellowship of Bryan, OH. Eric, Becky and Hannah (1) arrived in Bryan at the beginning of 1999. Eric graduated from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in May, earning a master of divinity degree.

Ken and Christine (Matheu) Snyder fs96 have taken a position as house parents with Lifeline Youth and Family Services in Fort Wayne. They have a 21-month old son, Winston. Their new address is 860A-2A, Lakeside Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46816.

Richard Carpenter g98 has accepted the position of senior pastor at Zion Community Church, Millersburg, IN.

Connie Vollmar g68 moved from Ft. Worth, TX, where she worked for 15 years as the children’s center supervisor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, back to Fort Wayne, IN. She currently works with Lifeline Youth and Family Services, Inc. as a preschool coordinator. She is delighted in developing the new ministry of a preschool/day-care at a local government housing community.

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**A Tribute to Dr. Ira Gerig**

“*Oh how He loves you and me. Praise God!*”

Dr. Ira Gerig served Fort Wayne Bible College for 33 years as professor of music, teaching piano and voice. He attended Baldwin-Wallace College of Music Conservatory, Sherwood Conservatory of Music and Cleveland Bible College and received an honorary doctorate from Fort Wayne Bible College. After the death of his wife in 1969, he raised their three daughters, Rebecca Sprunger fs69, Deborah Gerig fs75 and Sarah Roberts.

After his retirement, he worked as a private piano instructor, played the organ at First Missionary Church, Fort Wayne, and demonstrated organs at Fred Myers. After a bout with cancer, Dr. Gerig went to be with the Lord on June 2, 1999.

While teaching at Fort Wayne Bible College he directed the Boys Chorus. Dr. Gerig was known for taking time out of lessons to help the students that were having spiritual problems. During his career at FWBC he displayed a transparent love for students which deepened with time, and his music studio became the scene of much spiritual fellowship and counseling.

A Leo, Indiana, native, Dr. Gerig was a member of First Missionary Church, Fort Wayne. He also served in the Army during WWII as a chaplain’s assistant. His hobbies were music, people and ministry.

Ira was the brother of Dr. Jared Gerig g29, former president and dean of Fort Wayne Bible College. He was also the uncle of Dr. Wes Gerig g51, professor of Bible at Taylor University Fort Wayne and Bill Gerig g61, former director of alumni/church relations.

“He was very people-oriented,” said Dr. Wes Gerig. “During his stay at the hospital, nurses would come to his room for encouragement.”

His love for God and people was evident in his everyday life.

The family asks that memorials be designated to the Ira Gerig Scholarship Fund - Taylor University Fort Wayne.

*cont. pg. 22*
Tad and Barb Wullman g98 continue their work at Faith Academy in the Philippines. They praise God for healthy Filipino relationships and the strong national church. They are also praising God for the funding of the classroom/auditorium complex that allows for on-going construction.

**Weddings**

Rev. Pritchard Amstutz g36 was married December 29, at First Methodist Church in Ashland, KY. The Rev. and Mrs. (Hazel) Amstutz reside at Wesleyan Methodist Village, Lexington Ave., Wilmore, KY 40390.

Melissa Stump g98 married Ted Pruitt, June 5, at Bellevue Christian Center in Bellevue, NE. Heather Gunderson g99 was a bridesmaid. The Pruitts' new address is: 5304 South 39th Street, Omaha, NE 68107.

**Births**

To Steve g80 and Chris (Thomas) Rupp g80 a son, Jerome, born February 15. He weighed 7 lbs., 10 oz. and was 21 in. long. He joins sisters Jessica and Janessa, and brother Justin.

To Jeff and Carolyn (Usher) Thompson g88 a son, Stephen Dexter, born June 11. He weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz and was 20 inches long. They are living at 3701 Navarre Ct., Lafayette, IN 47905.

To Capt. Robert and Deborah (Patterson) Weber g89TU a son, Thomas Michael, born June 25, 1998. He joins big brothers Andrew (6) and Matthew (4).

To Michael and Deborah (Gavrani) Kirk g94 a son, Benjamin Philip, born November 16. He weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz. He joins big brother David (2).

To Jeremy and Rhonda (Grossman) Heyerly g95 a son, Jeremy Alexander, born February 2. He weighed 6 lbs., 10 oz. and was 19½ inches long.

**Memorials**

Clayton g20 and Lilah Steiner both went to be with the Lord this spring. Clayton passed away March 25, his wife preceeded him in death, on March 20. They served 16 years as missionaries in Peru, South America. After returning from their ministry in Peru, Clayton pastored First Missionary Church in Fort Wayne. He also served as Central District Superintendent of the Missionary Church from 1952-1968. They were the parents of Mary Carolyn Gerig g52 and in-laws of Dr. Wes Gerig g51, current professor at Taylor Fort Wayne.

Rev. Karl Kerlin g46 went to be with the Lord on October 28. He pastored in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kansas and Colorado. Karl and his wife Maud (Brucher) g46 celebrated 69 years of marriage in August before his death in October.

**Correction:** An error regarding Mr. George Powers’ employment was made in the Spring 1999 issue of the Taylor Fort Wayne Alumni. Mr. Powers was employed at the Methodist church in Brooklyn until the Spring of 1951. He was organist-choirmaster from 1955 to 1972 at St. Mark’s Church In-the-Bouwerie, New York, NY. We regret any inconvenience this error may have caused.

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**New Council Members Ballot**

The bylaws of the Fort Wayne Campus Alumni Association provide for the election of three new council members each year. The following three people have been nominated for council membership (4-year term) and presented to the alumni association members for election/ratification.

If you are an alumnus of the Fort Wayne campus, you are eligible to respond to the ballot below. Two check marks may be used for alumni from the same household.

Mrs. Susi (Haymon) Jones g71
Mr. Jerry W. Noble g72
Mr. John A. Steiner g63

Do you approve the nominations?

Susie Jones
Jerry Noble
John Steiner

Write-in Candidates for Future Elections:

**BALLOT AUTHORIZATION**

Print voter name______________________ Class Year________

Signature__________________________________ Date________

Print 2nd voter name______________________ Class Year________

Signature__________________________________ Date________

Please detach entire ballot and mail to:
Alumni Association
Taylor University Fort Wayne
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Fort Wayne IN 46807-2197
Taylor Fort Wayne—where the city enhances learning, relationships, ministry...the experience.

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