WELCOME TO THE CITY

Opportunity and obligation

Fort Wayne, Indiana
Valparaiso, Ind., was to me the embodiment of the city during most of my growing-up years. Although it has never been nearly so large as its eponym in Chile, it was large enough when I started driving that I got lost every time I went there alone.

I wasn't the only one. From time to time, we'd hear of mail meant for the South American port being misdirected to Indiana. And once, a pilot bound for Chile was surprised when, following his flight instructions, he touched down in the northwest Indiana county seat.

Cities will do that to you. “[They] will...mess with your mind,” says Dr. William Pannell in this issue. His article “An Urban Manifesto” is adapted from a chapel address presented during grand opening celebrations for Taylor University-Fort Wayne (TUFW).

Pannell sounds a call for all Christians to consider the biblical basis for urban ministry, while Craig Scandrett- Leatherman elsewhere offers a few pointers for those who want to get started.

“God’s people must get used to being urban,” Pannell says. God puts his people in the city—and similarly, has put Taylor in Fort Wayne—for a purpose.

Just over a year ago, rioting in Los Angeles focused the nation's attention on the plight of cities at home and abroad. As the cover of the January 11, 1993, issue of Time magazine reads, “The world’s sprawling urban centers are rife with problems—and filled with promise.”

That comes as no news to the Rev. Wayne Coombs '67. He has learned it first-hand through ministry experience in Los Angeles, and recently established an effort aimed at rescuing endangered children in response to conditions he saw in Eastern European and Russian cities (pg. 12).

Against the backdrop of national and international attention being accorded cities, Taylor University has established an urban campus. Being in the city presents the University with an unusual opportunity to directly engage in ministry, writes President Jay Kesler in his contribution to this issue. Traditionally, the institution has taken an enabling role, preparing students in all disciplines for acts of service such as those contemplated by three soon-to-be graduates (pg. 14). In Fort Wayne, Taylor will be offering programs and planning strategies that give the school a more direct role in responding to felt ministry needs.

There is excitement in the air. And challenge, and risk. And opportunity, and obligation.

It is all part and parcel of ministry to the city, whether for an institution or an individual.

If you are not yet familiar with urban ministry, may the articles herein serve as an introduction to the same.

If you are not yet familiar with the intriguing implications of TUFW, may this issue give you reason to share in the excitement.

Better yet, if you are ever in Fort Wayne, drop by the campus and sense for yourself the opportunities. But call for directions first. Whenever I’ve tried to find the campus on my own, I’ve gotten lost.

—Doug Marlow '81, editor

(Left:) Fort Wayne, Ind.
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Taylor University
Dr. Jay Kesler '58, president
Dr. Daryl R. Yost, provost

Taylor is published quarterly for alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents of current students and friends of Taylor University by the University Relations Office, Dr. Charles R. Jaggers '69, senior vice president.

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Address letters and comments to: Editor, Taylor, 500 W. Reade Ave., Taylor University, Upland, IN 46989-1001. The staff reserves the right to publish a representative sample of letters and to edit letters for space. Unsolicited manuscripts are welcomed for possible inclusion in the magazine. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of material. Selection and publication are at the discretion of the editor and his advisory panel. Opinions expressed in Taylor are those of the authors, not necessarily Taylor University.

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Front cover montage: A.G.S. & R., Fort Wayne, Ind; back cover photograph: Jim Garringer; illustration, pg. 9: Albert Lorenz/The Image Bank

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Today, more than ever, the world's cities are ripe with promise and rife with despair. Yet, God is in the midst of it all, calling Christians to actively seek the welfare of cities.

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VISTA
COACH DOES SWIMMINGLY

Art Edstrom '55 received both the 1992 Illinois Swimming Hall of Fame Award and the 1992 National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association of America Outstanding Service Award last year. Edstrom, recognized for his 35 years' coaching experience, is current president of the Illinois Swimming Association and is permanent co-chair of the Illinois High School Advisory Board. He teaches and coaches at Deerfield High School in Deerfield, Illinois.

4.4 MILLION BOOKS AT ONE'S FINGERTIPS

One of the first colleges in the state to switch from the card catalog system to the interactive online computer system, Taylor will over the next three years move to the next generation system. Thanks to a $4.8 million grant from the Indianapolis-based Lilly Endowment, the libraries of 24 private Indiana colleges and seminaries will develop a centralized, computer-accessed database that will allow institutions to access data about each other's holdings.

Students using both the Zondervan Library and TUFW's Lehman Library will benefit from the statewide technological linkup, says David Dickey, library director.

A DIFFERENT SORT OF FLORIDA VACATION

Months after Hurricane Andrew's passing, Florida residents are still recovering from the destruction it wrought. This year, a group of Taylor students will shun the beaches and, instead, use their spring break to aid in relief efforts. The planned trip is the second Florida hurricane relief effort to be sponsored by World Christian Fellowship, an arm of Taylor World Outreach. A group of 13 students and two sponsors participated in a similar trip during Thanksgiving break last November.

Tan Yeow Beng, a freshman from Singapore, was among those who made the trip, "It was my first Thanksgiving (in this country), and a very memorable one," he says. Although team members cleared debris and roofed a house, Tan says that is only part of the story. "We hope we left a piece of Christ with those we helped."

In a separate effort, the Student Education Association on campus is sponsoring a Florida elementary school, hard hit in the wake of the hurricane. Donations of money and school supplies have been sent to Campbell Elementary School in Leisure City.

Week-Long Emphasis Focuses on Missions

Members of the campus community celebrated the annual World Opportunities Week last November. Sponsored by Taylor World Outreach, the week-long event brought to campus missionaries and guest speakers Dr. Tom Kyle and Peter Pereira, workshop leaders, a special showing of the movie The Wait of the World and representatives of dozens of missions organizations. Daily activities were centered around the theme, "For the Sake of the Call."

WOW informs and challenges the Taylor community with missions opportunities around the world, according to Marian Giles, missionary in residence and special projects coordinator.

For the first time, seminars were included in the schedule of events this year in hopes of helping students find their roles in missions. Seminars focused on specific aspects of cross-cultural ministry such as family issues and women's roles in missions.

GREAT OMISSION: Believers cannot ignore Christ's call to actively participate in carrying out the Great Commission, students were told during the annual World Opportunities Week.

Ministry Trips Offer Much

Taylor World Outreach sponsored four Lighthouse ministry trips during Interterm 1993. Seven sponsors and 36 students participated in teams traveling to the Bahamas, Haiti—and this year for the first time—India, and Venezuela.

"We did a little of everything," says Kathy Cutforth, a junior and Venezuela team member. "We went to universities, performed skits, passed out surveys and bilingual tracts, and worked with missionaries there."
Teacher of the Year Addresses Students

In one of his lighter moments, National Teacher of the Year Thomas Fleming, 59, calls himself the “Michael Jordan of educators.” That he says this out of a sense of privilege and not from a sense of pride was soon evident to members of the Taylor student body, whom Fleming addressed in a recent chapel, as well as in select classroom settings.

“I want to be a voice—a servant,” Fleming says. And he is. To the thousands of American teens who are illiterate, high school dropouts trapped in dead-end situations, Fleming is a symbol of hope and help. Perhaps he can relate to troubled youth because he sees a little of himself in them.

In 1950, at age 17, Fleming faced an uncertain future: He could neither read nor write, he had quit high school, and he was under the impression that further education was unlikely if not impossible. However, Fleming beat the odds and learned to read when he was in his mid-20s. After an overseas tour of duty with the Army, he attended Detroit Bible College (now William Tyndale College) where he earned a bachelor’s in religious education. Today, with a master’s in special education, Fleming teaches at the Washtenaw County juvenile detention facility in Bar Harbor, Mich.

Voted 1992 National Teacher of the Year for his efforts there, he is on a year-long national speaking tour.

Fleming stresses to his students the importance of wanting to learn. He fills his blackboard with inspirational phrases about having a hunger for learning and then turns to his class with a jaunty, “You dig?”

“I’m not the enemy. The enemy is ignorance,” Fleming declares, adding with a chuckle, “I’m still splitting my infinitives and misplacing my verbs.”

Now, over 40 years after being a high school dropout, Fleming is a husband, father of three, and a renowned educator. In spite of his notoriety, his gentle, humble spirit makes itself obvious. Fleming readily credits those who have gone before him for setting an example, especially Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It was once said of King: “You led the people with quiet grace and Christian dignity, and because you didn’t seek fame, it came to you.” Perhaps the same can be said of Thomas Fleming.—AC

Oxford, Israel, London, Europe on Interterm Itinerary

Over 100 students participated in University-sponsored study tours during this January’s interterm; hundreds more participated in shorter study trips that were part of their Senior Seminar experience, while still others studied at urban ministry centers in Chicago and Newark, N.J.

Students traveling to England studied British literature and visited sites of interest there; the Introduction to the Holy Land study tour took students to Israel for 22 days; and 26 students toured Western Europe as part of the European Business tour.

Travel study offerings introduced for the first time this year included the Oxford Study Program and the Civil Rights Study Tour. Ten students were selected to participate in the former, which gave students access to and experience in the Oxford University educational system in Oxford, England. The 15 students involved in the latter tour retraced the American Freedom Trail of the 1950s and 1960s, visiting major landmarks of the civil rights movement and interviewing eyewitnesses to those momentous events.
FOUNDATION DIRECTOR POSITION AVAILABLE

The William Taylor Foundation of Taylor University is seeking an executive director for the organization. The executive director is responsible for the administration of the William Taylor Foundation, the planned giving program of Taylor University, and fund raising activity assistance. Completed applications for this position will be accepted until April 1, 1993. Inquiries and information can be directed to and received from: Gene L. Rupp, Vice President for Development, Taylor University, 500 West Reade Avenue, Upland, IN 46989-1001; 1-800-882-3456, ext. 5389.

FREE SUMMER SESSION TUITION

Two tuition-free summer programs will be offered at Taylor from June 21 through July 23, 1993. One option is designed exclusively for children of alumni, while the other is for students who meet designated honors requirements. Both programs offer students who have just completed their junior or senior year in high school the chance to experience college life and the opportunity to earn up to six hours of college credit. Expenses of the program are covered in part by a tuition scholarship from Taylor of approximately $1,300. Room, board, and other fees (totaling approximately $390) are the responsibility of the student. For additional information, contact the alumni office at 1-800-882-3456, ext. 5113.

EDUCATION PROFESSOR SEES SILVER LINING

Associate Professor of Education David Hess ’59 returned to work at the start of the spring semester after a three-month absence. Hess, 60, suffered an aneurism resulting from a ruptured aorta on October 23, at the start of Parents’ Weekend. He was rushed to nearby Marion General Hospital, where his surgeon for the three-hour emergency surgery was Robert Jackson, Sr., M.D. ’61.

Hess carries a three-quarter teaching load this spring while he continues the recovery process. He says he has learned to appreciate life and relationships like never before.

"Some of the simplest things I took for granted I now celebrate," he says. "Like sunrise. And Christian music—I now hear some verses for what seems like the first time. I also have a greater appreciation of people and my relationship with God.”

William Taylor Foundation Marks 60th Birthday

This year, the William Taylor Foundation marks the 60th anniversary of its founding. Legally a separate entity from the University, the Foundation works through and for the primary benefit of Taylor University in the areas of planned giving and estate management, including establishing and maintaining estates, trusts, wills, and annuity investments.

Pursuit of those ends allows staff members ample opportunity to serve the needs of Taylor constituents in making taxwise financial plans for their future, according to Charles Newman, executive director.

Frequently, the tax benefits derived from gifts of appreciated assets, such as real estate, stocks, or businesses, are of such consequence that it becomes beneficial to the donor to make the gift. Future gifts through wills, trusts, annuities, and real estate can provide many benefits also, while maintaining a life estate for the donor, says Newman.

In 1992, the University’s entire planned giving effort was brought under the umbrella of the Foundation.

Dr. Robert L. Stuart, president of Taylor 1931-45, originated the Foundation in 1933 as a means of preserving the University when it faced bankruptcy during the Great Depression. Following a long term of service, the Foundation lapsed into inactivity until it was revitalized in 1988 as a means of serving the University in specialized fund raising activities.

Newman, who has served at the helm of the Foundation since that time, and at Taylor University for 24 years, will retire from active service to the college on July 1.

Wengatz Memorial Scholarships Awarded for First Time

This school year, for the first time, funds from the John and Helen Wengatz Endowed Scholarship Fund were distributed. Twelve children of missionaries received monies.

John and Helen Wengatz, the noted missionary couple for whom Wengatz Hall is named, donated their estate to Taylor specifically to begin an endowed scholarship fund for missionary children, according to Nelson Rediger, associate director of the William Taylor Foundation.

The couple had a real love for the gospel and desired that it be furthered. In using their estate to fund scholarships for missionary children at Taylor, they felt they would be meeting this goal, says Rediger.

“The Wengatz scholarship is such a great one because of Helen and John’s dedication to Africa and their love for missions,” says Rediger. By establishing a scholarship, they actually created a ministry designed to assist missionary families, he says. Providing scholarship aid to students who demonstrate financial need helps the students’ families who are serving on the mission field. Endowed scholarships such as this one serve as a ministry to missionary families who have children at Taylor.

Persons interested in contributing to this established fund or in participating in a similar fashion may contact Nelson Rediger at 1-800-882-3456, ext. 5120.
Former Player Platt Plots New Course as Coach

A year ago at this time Ty Platt was concerned with blocking out, getting rebounds, scoring a few points, and helping the Trojans advance to the NAIA national basketball tournament. Twelve months later he finds himself on the other side of the bench as an assistant coach with the Taylor basketball program.

Platt completed his basketball career last season with 1,119 points and 572 rebounds to his credit. His .572 field goal percentage ranks fourth all-time at Taylor. He was selected to the 1991-92 NAIA All-District team after averaging 13.9 points and 5.9 rebounds.

Now Platt must try to take what he learned and pass it on to the current team members.

"As a player, I always had a chance to go out and change something during the game to make myself and the team better," says Platt. "Now I can't make the changes myself, but must explain to players what they need to do."

Platt was given his coaching opportunity when former Taylor assistant coach Scott Polsgrove '87 left last August to become head coach at King College in Bristol, Tenn. Platt quickly found himself in a coaching position over many of his former teammates.

"The players have responded well," comments Platt. "They know that I am trying to help them get better. My friendship with them has allowed me to be a kind of go-between from the players to Coach (Paul) Patterson."

Platt’s duties include coaching the junior varsity squad, scouting, and recruiting. His coaching career is off to a good start as the junior varsity team went 5-0 in early season games.

"At times I still wish I was on the floor playing," says Platt. "I didn’t realize how much I would miss the competition until it was all over.

"I really enjoy being around the game of basketball. It's a challenge to take what I have learned and try to pass it on to these players."—JR

Cross Country Teams Run to National Placements

The men's and women's cross country teams both ended their 1992 season in style with top-20 finishes at the NAIA national cross country championships. The men ran to a 17th-place finish, while the women placed a best-ever 20th.

Wet and soggy conditions at the meet in Kenosha, Wis., contributed to tough footing and slower times.

Stephen Stringfellow, a junior from Nenana, Ark., paced the men's squad with a 37th-place finish. The top 30 finishers were named All-Americans. Stringfellow ran a time of 27:28 on the 8,000-meter course. The Trojans return five of their top seven runners next season and will look to improve their national finish in 1993.

Naomi Moore, a junior from Kewanna, Ind., paced the Lady Trojans with a 90th-place finish. She ran a time of 21:03 on the 5,000-meter course. This year marked the first top-20 finish for the women's cross country program since its inception in 1984. All but one member of this year's squad is expected to return for the 1993 season.—JR
University-Affiliated Station Sets Standard for Christian Radio

Taylor University operates a top-flight Christian radio station from its Fort Wayne campus. While that may come as a surprise to some, it is no news to fans of WBCL-90.3 FM, Fort Wayne, Ind., and simulcast station WBCY-89.5, Archbold, Ohio.

The University acquired WBCL when Summit Christian College/Fort Wayne Bible College merged into Taylor last July. Summit/WBFC had held the radio station’s license since its inception on the campus 17 years ago. Following the merger, the Federal Communications Commission formally approved transfer of the 50,000-watt station to Taylor.

"WBCL is the most listened to non-commercial radio station in the Fort Wayne broadcast market," says Scott Tsuleff, program director. "We consistently rank in the top half of all stations whose signal can be picked up in the Fort Wayne area. In any given week, as many as 80,000 listeners tune in to WBCL."

WBCY, a 20,000-watt station in northwest Ohio, simulcasts WBCL’s programming in a 40-mile radius of Archbold. The station began broadcast operations on December 1, 1992.

WBCL’s music format is a blend of contemporary Christian music with traditional favorites. The station also offers Associated Press Network and local news, a daily talk show, a weekly children’s program, and such nationally syndicated programs as Key Life with Steve Brown, Focus on the Family with James Dobson, Upwards with Max Lucado, and Insight for Living with Chuck Swindoll.

"The station is one of the best of its type in the entire nation," says Dr. Charles Jaggers ’69, whose duties as senior vice president include responsibility for the radio station.

It seems the National Religious Broadcasters agree. In 1986, they named WBCL “Radio Station of the Year.” Two years later, Station Manager Char Binkley was named to the NRB board.

The station receives high marks from listeners as well. During WBCL’s annual two-day fund-raising drive in January, listeners pledged $705,000. That put the station well over its ambitious goal of $675,000, a figure that included an additional $120,000 to fund the WBCY’s operational costs for the first year.

According to Jaggers, WBCL and WBCY complement the stated mission of the University in “ministering the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need.” There is no doubt that the station does just that, says Binkley. "Every day we receive testimonials from listeners recounting ways in which the station has ministered to them."
Differences Between Taylor Clubs, Taylor Plan Dinners Explained

Taylor University reaches out to her constituents in a variety of ways, seeking to inform, motivate, and provide opportunities for involvement among other goals, says Chuck Stevens, director of alumni programs. Taylor Clubs/Alumni Gatherings and Taylor Plan Dinners are complementary though distinct instruments that serve these goals of the University.

"Taylor Clubs are informal organizations of alumni, parents of current and past students, and friends of the University," Stevens says. "Locally organized in about 60 geographical areas, the clubs host activities that help constituents groups stay in touch with the college. Activities vary with local interest, the season, and availability of guest speakers from campus.

"Taylor Plan Dinners are designed to acquaint people with the mission, vision, and current needs of Taylor University," says Joyce Helyer, director of the Taylor Fund. "Dinner guests are then asked to financially support the mission of the college by making a three-year pledge." The program is now completing the third year of a three-year rotation cycle during which "we try to contact as many alumni as possible," she says.

Taylor Club Meetings Held in Indiana, Chicago

Chicago Loop
17th annual loop luncheon, Nov. 6

John Clarkson ’72 with assistance from Charlie Hess ’71 and Skip Gianopulos ’87, have made this event a tradition for the Chicago metro area. George Glass provided the campus update.

Greater Indianapolis
Half-time break, January 16

Alumni, parents, and prospective students were invited to a half-time break when Taylor played IUPUI in Indianapolis. George Glass represented the Alumni Office, and Dennis Dawes ’68, the Indianapolis Taylor Club Council. This half-time break has become somewhat of a tradition to alumni, parents, and friends in the Indianapolis area. It serves as a good occasion for local people associated with Taylor to meet informally.

West Suburban Chicago
Business, accounting, and economics (BAE) majors pizza night, January 18

John (JJ) Jaderholm ’80 coordinated the annual Pizza Night in Elmhurst for BAE majors. The 74 seniors were accompanied by four business professors. The intent of the evening is to provide opportunity for current seniors to mingle with alumni and to be able to ask questions that will help them move more efficiently into the marketplace. Jaderholm has been organizing this annual event for approximately 10 years. The group enjoyed 30 special, stuffed, Chicago-style pizzas and 44 pitchers of pop.

Greater Fort Wayne, Indiana
Post-game deli buffet, February 20

Over 110 parents, friends, and students were part of the post-game deli buffet when Taylor played St. Francis in Fort Wayne, Ind., on Saturday, February 20. Alumni from both the Fort Wayne and Upland campuses were present with George Glass providing a campus update. Dr. Daryl Yost and Marty Cleveland Songer represented the Upland campus, while Bill Gerg represented the Fort Wayne campus. The event is coordinated by Ron ’57 and Sheila Jean (Yoder FWBC ’60) Shaw.

Greater Upland
Basketball game and post-game dinner, January 23

Approximately 140 Taylor and Houghton College alumni gathered for dinner after the basketball game in which Taylor beat Houghton 73-62. Special guests at this dinner were the basketball team members and coaches from both schools. The head coach of the Houghton Highlanders is 1980 Taylor graduate Steve Brooks. He and his wife, Terri (King ’79), were extended special words of welcome by Taylor coach Paul Patterson, Steve’s former coach.

Taylor Plan Dinners Scheduled

March 29 Long Island, New York
March 30 New York, New York
March 30 Northern New Jersey
April 1 Central New Jersey
April 2 Hartford, Connecticut
April 3 Western Connecticut
April 19 Peoria, Ill.
April 20 Bloomington, Ill.
April 22 Champaign/Urbana, Ill.
May 4 Nashville, Tennessee
May 6 Archbold, Ohio
May 7 Toledo, Ohio
May 10 Cleveland, Ohio
May 11 Akron, Ohio
May 13 Wooster, Ohio
By William Pannell, D.D.

Today, more than ever, the world’s cities are ripe with promise and rife with despair. Yet, God is in the midst of it all, calling Christians to actively seek the welfare of cities. So says this chapel speaker in an address marking the re-entry of Taylor University into Fort Wayne, Indiana’s second-largest city.

There’s nothing quite like a riot—a real good one, in which half the town burns down. Euphemistically called “matchbook diplomacy,” it gets ugly and causes chaos. It retards progress. And in its aftermath it stimulates new possibilities. We in the Los Angeles area recently worked our way through just such a riot.

It wasn’t my first one: that came in Detroit in the late 60s. Shortly thereafter, I went to Newark, N.J., to work in an evangelistic crusade. That city still smelled of smoke and fumes when I arrived. As I’ve made my way around the country since then, I’ve become increasingly aware that history—not only in our society, but all over the world—is the collective history of men and women who are attracted to or drawn to cities.

The city becomes the paradigm of human existence—and the locus of the Spirit’s activity at the end of the age. The city is where Christian discipleship, for the most part, will be lived out in its most crucial dimensions.

Cities are a lot of fun. If you can stand it, cities can bring more light and vitality to your life than you can imagine. Cities will convert you, mess with your mind, and raise serious questions about the definition and quality of your discipleship. Cities will get to you.

The Bible itself is about cities. It might begin in a garden, but it ends in a city—the City of God, the new Jerusalem. The tension in the scriptures is the tension between the City of God and the cities of men.

And most cities are about men. Cities are about men because cities are about power. (And when men control power, they quote Bible verses about women being at home and raising the kids. Have you noticed?) Cities are about power and control because they are about money and economics and the gathering together of culture and commerce and religious life.

Jesus Christ is very comfortable in the city. He likes people. He’s a people sort of person. When he came to Earth, he didn’t come grudgingly. He came willingly and gladly. His solidarity with us was freely given—with enthusiasm, with snap and verve and vitality. And much of that was in the towns and villages and in his Father’s favorite city, Jerusalem.

Too, the early church was an urban church. The early Christian movement was an urban movement. Follow the marvelous footfall of the saints as it moves from Jerusalem right out into the Middle East. In every major urban center you’ll find a Christian community. Part of the Spirit’s strategy has always been to penetrate cities and to establish the witness of God there. There are the politics, there is the culture, there is the economic system. The ordering of an entire society is pulled together in the city.

Jerusalem was like that. Jerusalem was God’s city, or at least it was supposed to be. It was supposed to be full of godly people who gave allegiance to Jehovah. And it did work that way sometimes. But at other times the people became sloppy in their discipleship. They became idolatrous. They refused to do things God’s way. They ignored his word. And judgment came. God sent them into exile.

In one such instance, exile took the shape and form of Babylon. The story is recorded in Jeremiah 29. It’s a wonderful story. God comes to the prophet and says, “I want you to send a letter to the leaders who are in exile.” Basically, this correspondence is about helping these people settle down in Babylon.

There are some lessons we need to learn from this text that will be useful to us as we work here in Fort Wayne and as we
serve Christ in this Summit city. God says, “I want my people in cities.”

As Jeremiah recounts, the correspondence to the exiled leaders is God’s attempt to say, “I want you in Babylon—not simply for judgment, but because I have a long-range purpose for your being there. I don’t want you sitting around twiddling your thumbs, having funny little Bible studies, trying to figure out the eschatological moment when you’re going to be released from this place.

“Some prophets are going to come to you and they’re going to say, ‘Be cool—in six weeks we’re out of here.’ If you hear that, know that they are lying to you. You’re going to be there a long time. But I don’t want you sitting down, moping about it. Rather, I want you to Build houses and live in them, plant gardens and eat their produce, take wives and have sons and daughters. Take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage that they may bear sons and daughters. Multiply there and do not decrease. Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf. For in its welfare you will find your welfare” (29:5-7).

God’s welfare program with the city is what this is about. It does not center in government. It centers in the people of God. There is no welfare program for any city that has anything to do with making a city whole—really, radically whole—if it isn’t centered in the people of God.

Not all people know that. There are some of God’s people who are more Republican than they are Christian, and they don’t know that. Others are more Democrat than they are Christian, and they don’t know that. They don’t have a clue. And they don’t vote their principles, they vote their pocketbooks. They don’t have a clue as to how radical are God’s intentions for the city through them.

The city isn’t going to tell them because the city doesn’t always know. A recent brochure, touting Los Angeles as the place to be, made no mention of the city’s churches or synagogues. Can you imagine any great city without churches or synagogues? Take the influence of the Judeo-Christian culture and tradition out of Los Angeles, and you’d have absolute chaos. You can trace that in some of the tragedy that remains in that city to this day. Marginalize the witness of the people of God, frustrate the possibilities of their work, demean the significance of their presence, and you will find yourself mired—absolutely mired—in more sin than you can shovel in a week.

Let me tick off two or three reasons why I think we need to take this passage of scripture seriously as we work together here at Taylor University-Fort Wayne. We are committed to Jesus Christ, and to be committed to Jesus Christ is to be committed to this city, first of all because God put us here.

God put us here.

That language is replete throughout this passage. God constantly says, “I sent you there, I called you there, I put you there. You are there by my appointment.” I think that’s important. Much of the church of Jesus Christ in our time is not at home in cities. I’ve heard the directors of various missionary boards say over and over again, “One of the reasons we do not recruit young people from certain colleges, even certain regions in the country, is because their whole orientation is so rural that they find it difficult to adjust to an increasingly urban world. They’re not at home in the city. They can’t adjust to the city. They’re not sure about how they fit in the city or, when they are in the city, they’re not comfortable there. They’re not there with a lot of joy, a lot of snap.”

Now of course that’s not true of everybody. I want simply to make the point that God’s people must get used to being urban. It’s not going to be easy for some, and it’s not going to be possible for others. But for the rest of us, we must follow our Christ into the city. We must do it with joy and anticipation and with a sense of calling and of purpose because God has put us there.

God has put us there.

The second lesson from this wonderful story is that the purpose of God for the city is wrapped up in his concern for his people there. We are committed to the city because our own welfare as the people of God is bound up in the city’s welfare.

We usually word that the other way, of course. We usually say that the city’s welfare is bound up in and altogether determined by how the city treats us.

The text seems to indicate just the opposite. Our welfare is bound up in how we treat the city. Our attitude toward the city, our commitment to the city, our willingness to be there—to be present, truly present with joy—redounds to our own welfare, for “in its welfare you will find your welfare” (29:7).

That’s an important concept to understand. It will save us from much elitism. It will save us
from much arrogance. It will preserve us from thinking that we’re the only pebbles on the beach. It will save us from running around, repeating in modern form those old, old bumper sticker slogans such as, “We don’t smoke, and we don’t chew, and we don’t even play Rook anymore.” You remember, the things we used to brag about.

Understanding that our welfare is bound up in how we treat the city will save us from a certain superficial sense of our own purity. It will deliver us from being obstinately distinct from the people we’ve been called to serve. It will preserve us from staying out here in the missionary village up on the hill while the people we’ve been called to serve are down in the valley in the flats below. We will identify. As Barth says, “We will be in solidarity with the world even though we are not in conformity to it.”

The welfare of the city is one thing, and our welfare is another. But our welfare is served because we have first taken care of the city’s welfare, and we will be there.

Now, never before have we been so well-equipped to do that. That’s why this college exists: to better equip God’s people for the work of the ministry and for commitment to this great city and other cities.

I met a colleague in East Detroit several years ago by the name of Eddie Edwards. He has put together a ministry called “Joy of Jesus.” He began by taking children from the Ravendale neighborhood on the east side of Detroit to summer camp. Over the years, he began to notice that it’s one thing to get kids to summer camp; it’s another thing to get them to profess faith in Jesus Christ; and it’s another thing to watch that all come unraveled in a couple of weeks once they get back home on those mean streets.

Eddie began to realize that you can’t just get people converted; you must also address their environment. You must take a look at their housing and ask questions about what it means to be a single parent in those houses. You must talk about drugs; you must deal with run-down, dilapidated housing and crack cocaine. And you must deal with absentee WASP landlords who hole up in the suburbs and rent their places to prostitutes and drug dealers. You must start taking back the neighborhood. Eddie and I shared fellowship this past weekend in that great city. As he walked me around that place, I saw how God is beginning to multiply and bless his efforts. It is probably the most exciting community development project I have ever seen in my life. And it has sprung from the realization that our welfare is tied up in the welfare of our cities.

A final reason we are committed to the city is because there is a kind of a “kairos” involved. Kairos is a Greek word signifying a specially appointed time. There is a kairotic significance to the Christian presence in the city. That is to say, there is a time on the calendar of God which involves the people of God in that particular place. God says to the exiles in Babylon, “Yet 70 years and then I’ll get you out of here.”

“And then you will pray to me, and I will hear you. And then you will seek me and find me. When you seek me with all your heart, then I will be found by you.” says the Lord God (29: 12-14a).

There is a timing here. There is a rhythm here. There is an over-arching purpose here and, ultimately, it has everything to do with the welfare of the people of God.

If you want to trace human history, don’t follow Genghis Khan. If you want to trace the significance of history, do not hitch your wagon to any ideology that goes on in a pagan world. If you want to know what’s going on in human history, follow the footsteps of God’s people. Watch God work through the people of God and then you’ll get a sense of history, a sense of its rhythm, a sense of its significance. You’ll get a sense of the many-faceted dimensions of God’s working in human history, for God says, “I know, I have it well in mind, what I have for you. I have in mind for you a purpose, a future and a hope” (29:11).

That’s God’s word for us.

What God has in mind for you and me is a future guaranteed and anchored in the powerful resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. God knows exactly what he has in mind for you and me, and it’s all good.

A future and a hope. As I look over the scarred ruins of a city, as I ponder the significance of vacant lots and whole areas that are cleared off, looking something like the aftermath of Hiroshima—and this can be found in all major cities—I have to ask, “What does that city really need?”

With all seriousness and with deep respect, that city does not need more Republicans, it does not need more Democrats, and it certainly doesn’t need more bureaucrats. There is a profound sense that that city fundamentally doesn’t need more money dumped on it.

What that city needs is hope—the possibility that it can have a future. The only people who can guarantee that are the people of God. For God says, “I know what plans I have for you, to give you a future and a hope.”

The city will know that we’re here because we’re committed to its welfare. Amen.

William Pannell, D.D., is professor of preaching and the dean of the chapel at Fuller Theological Seminary, and author of The Coming Race Wars? (1992, Zondervan). His other books include Evangelism From the Bottom Up and My Friend, The Enemy. A graduate of Fort Wayne Bible College, now Taylor University-Fort Wayne, he is a member of the Taylor University Board of Trustees.
For a small city boy from Canada, sitting on a bar stool with the owner of Graceland mansion was pretty heady stuff. "Incredible," Wayne Coombs thought to himself. "Here I am, sitting in Elvis Presley's kitchen having hamburgers with Elvis Presley at 4:00 in the morning. And I am just a guy that has come out of Hamilton, Ontario, which is absolutely nowhere."

The conversation turned to gospel music, and the rock and roll star said how much he enjoyed gospel music. According to Coombs, "Elvis then continued on to say he knew the way to the Lord, but to walk that way could cost him his career."

Now, looking back, it seems that Presley's career itself cost him dearly. The irony is not lost on Coombs, who left a position of prominence in the entertainment industry to answer a call to the ministry.

In contrast to Presley, Coombs has seldom allowed the cost of a given action to stand in the way of his doing what he perceives to be God's will. "God has a difficult time finding people who are willing to take risks," he says. "I have lived my whole life on the edge."

That summary statement evidences itself in nearly everything to which this member of the Taylor class of 1967 has put his hand, including the ministry to endangered children he recently founded, the church he now pastors, the Catholic-Protestant ministry he hopes to start, and the talent agency he headed for 14 years.

Coombs serves as president of the Adam Children's Fund, which styles itself a "non-profit Christian organization dedicated to rescuing orphans and other endangered children from their distress."

Just over a year old, ACF is already involved in caring for refugee children from war-torn Bosnia and for orphans in Albania, Hungary, Romania, and Russia. "Our ministry is twofold," he says. "First, we are attempting to bring as many orphans out of Eastern Europe as we can for the purpose of adoption in America. Secondly, we also want to improve the life of children left behind in these same orphanages."

Opportunities continue to present themselves. Officials in St. Petersburg, Russia, for example, invited ACF to work with two of their city's 36 orphanages (see side bar) in providing medical supplies, food, financial assistance, and in establishing in-house Christian preschools. Also, ACF is preparing to fly a critically ill child to the United States for medical treatment.

ACF seeks to rescue unborn children as well as the born, says Coombs. Toward that end, ACF provides prenatal care, living and medical expenses for women who, through other agencies, are making adoption plans for their unborn children. Currently, ACF offers those services in Hungary, Romania, and Bosnia-Croatia (where, says Coombs, citing a Time magazine report, more than 35,000 women have been raped by Serbian soldiers). Discussions initiated with the government officials in Russia may result in similar adoption opportunities being made available in a country in which—and this is a fairly accurate number—about 100 women each day die from botched abortions, he says. "The Adam Children's Fund is making an absolutely positive contribution to the pro-life movement."

Pulling snapshots from his pocket, he personalizes the plight of some of the children ACF seeks to rescue. Here is Nikolai, a 4-year-old spina bifida victim with a grossly disfigured body cavity; here, Bella, a 6-year-old boy found living in a pigpen with pigs, for fear of his father's threat to kill him; here, infant Roma, with her face badly pocked due to numerous mosquito bites, something that "could have been prevented by something as simple as a screen on the orphanage window."

Besides his work with ACF, Coombs pastors the 250-member Lunada Bay Vineyard Christian Fellowship in Palos Verdes, Calif., one of three churches he has helped plant. He says the church is "not Pentecostal; basically, we are just an evangelical ministry that allows the Holy Spirit freedom to work in our midst without any restrictions. We have a lot of freedom, a lot of spontaneity, no legalism, and we don't put God in a box."

God, on the other hand, put him in the pastorate as a means of keeping his personality in check, he believes. "Pride is a killer. Pastoring for me has been very, very humbling. I have always been a visionary, and my greatest difficulty, even as a pastor, is that I have a hard time looking across the street because I am too busy looking around the world. I have huge vision, and I am always thinking, and when I think, I tend to think big."

Recently, such thinking has allowed Coombs to pursue discussions that may soon lead to the formation of a ministry that entwines Catholic and Protestant traditions. To succeed, he says, such a body must sidestep theological debate. "We will come together to worship God and lift up Jesus." He acknowledges there will be opposition. "The Protestant theologian will scream at that; he will say it is compromise. But I foresee literally hundreds of [disillusioned] Catholics coming to Christ through this movement—just coming to meet Jesus. For me, that is all that matters."

The level of Coombs' commitment is underscored by his actions. From 1972 to 1986, he headed the Wayne Coombs Agency, for over a decade known as the nation's leading agency in its market niche. Coombs represented well-known personalities the likes of Pat and Debbie Boone, Andre Crouch, Dr. James Dobson, Phil Driscoll, Dale Evans, Glen Campbell, Art Linkletter, and B. J. Thomas, among others. He left that position to answer a call to pastoral ministry, a profession he had not pursued since his days as a student pastor while attending Taylor, and his subsequent term of service as executive director of a large Youth for Christ program near Toronto.

Ministry took on new meaning for Coombs and his wife, Janice, in January, 1990. Janice's vision for personal involvement in the care of crack babies led the
Can You Hear the Children Cry?

This account of a recent visit to a Russian orphanage by Wayne Coombs, president of the Adam Children’s Fund, is drawn in part from “Miracles in the Making,” a video recording produced by ACF.

The orphanage courtyard is filled with preschoolers, but it is strangely quiet. No peaks of laughter, little talking, less activity. The orphanage director explains to her Western visitors that the small underpaid staff has little time to spend with the children. As a means of behavior control, children are sedated with illegal narcotics.

The place is Moscow, Russia. The orphanage is one of many in the city and houses well over 100 children. The conditions that so surprise the visitors are the legacy of corrupt government practices and policies that leave orphanage staff with woefully inadequate resources and a Herculean task.

The visitors include Rev. Wayne Coombs, founder and president of the Adam Children’s Fund, and Austin Forsyth, ACF’s director of Russian affairs. ACF was “founded for the specific purpose of rescuing endangered children,” says Coombs.

All around him are children who fit that description: children who are left to play alone, unsupervised, day after day; infants who lie in cribs for hours with no one to change their diapers or respond to their cries. These conditions are typical of the city’s orphanages, the director explains.

Many of the children are in need of medical attention they will never receive. “Modern medicine is simply not available to the children,” says Forsyth. “We estimate that some of the medical practices used here today date back to the 1950s. The government supplies no training and little to no money for even the most basic medical supplies. The toll this takes on the children is shocking.”

The orphanage director leads the men to children who are permanently confined to their cribs. Coombs visits a little girl with hydrocephalus, a swelling of the head caused by excess fluid around the brain. “This child would have already been treated and probably been cured by now had she been in America,” he says. “She is now 3 years old and will probably have permanent brain damage.”

There are others, many others. The scenes tear at one’s heart.

Among a larger group, several children stand constantly rocking from side to side. They are “displaying a severe symptom of emotional neglect known as autostimulation,” says Forsyth. “This unconscious rocking back and forth motion is a child’s last resort effort to subconsciously meet his own starving emotional needs and is often followed by a complete and irreversible withdrawal within, simply because he needed to be loved.”

Seeing the needs of the children first-hand is what prompted Coombs to found ACF. He now asks others to help fund its ministry. “As you can see by the physical and mental condition of many of the children in this room, these children need a great deal of help from America: financially, medically, and spiritually. We need to do something to help these children.”

Officials in St. Petersburg have invited ACF to begin working in two orphanages in their city: Orphanage #2 houses 150 children ages four to seven; Baby House #8, 125 infants up to age three. ACF’s responsibilities include providing much-needed medical supplies, food, financial assistance, “and a lot of love,” says Coombs. ACF is also committed to starting Christian preschools in the orphanages, as well as flying critically ill infants to America for treatment.

For more information about the Adam Children’s Fund and opportunities for involvement, including a 2-week visit to the orphanages in St. Petersburg, Russia, planned for late April/early May (“We’ll spend most all of our time just playing with and loving the children,” says Coombs), call toll-free, 1-800-45-CHILD, or write, ACF, P.O. Box 1113, Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., 90274.

(Left:) Russian orphans from Baby House #8 in St. Petersburg.

couple to obtain licensure as foster parents. Two weeks later, Adam arrived. He was 2 weeks old, “a precious little guy, shaking and shivering from his crack cocaine addiction and stiff as a board,” Wayne recalls. Two years later, Adam was returned to his birth mother. The Coombs have since cared for two more such infants.

“Without a doubt, this is the most difficult thing we have ever done in our lives. It is absolutely dying to Christ. It is absolute pain to take these kids, bond with them, become their parents, love them, have them become our children, and then turn around and give them up. It is the hardest thing I think a person is called to do. I don’t know of any tougher thing in life to do than that.”

According to Coombs, caring for Adam opened his eyes to the plight of needy children. Then, during a visit to Romania in 1990, his eyes were opened wider. He was stricken by the sight of understaffed orphanages, with babies lying in row after row of cribs, receiving little or no attention. The final blow was an observer’s comment that the children were dying solely for lack of love. When he returned home, he and Janice committed themselves to making a personal response.

Shortly thereafter, the Adam Children’s Fund was founded and named for “little Adam, who was the seed that birthed the whole ministry,” says Wayne. It is a ministry with enormous potential—“depending, again, on what God wants to do with it. The future is unbelievable.”

Come what may, Coombs is ready for it. “If I didn’t have a risk in life, I would feel bored,” he says. Indeed, he called just as this issue of Taylor was going to print to provide a last-minute update: ACF recently opened its Moscow office, just last week purchased a farm in Hungary for use as a refugee center, and established a counseling center for rape victims in Zagreb, Croatia.
A

bout 20 miles from campus, at the corner of 17th and Washington in the inner city of Marion, Ind., stands a three-story house. Although structurally sound, the building is far from attractive. It requires imagination—and vision—to see it as home base for an ambitious ministry to inner city youth and their families.

Yet it is all that and more in the minds of three Taylor University seniors. The three plan to move to Marion after graduation this May to further develop relationships begun when they joined Realife, an inner city ministry opportunity sponsored by Taylor World Outreach. Formed about eight years ago, Realife encourages Taylor students to build relationships with children in nearby Marion through leading Bible clubs and other activities.

Teresa Schrock, of Johnstown, Penn., began working with Realife during her sophomore year. She recalls an incident that has remained with her through her college years:

"I felt a real burden for this particular girl with whom I spent a lot of time. I’ll never forget the look in her eyes when I first met her. It was the coldest, hardest look I’ve ever seen.

"About six months after I got to know her, I took her out for ice cream, and I said, ‘You know, Tina, I remember when I first met you. You wouldn’t smile or respond in any way. She just looked at me and gave me this little grin and said, ‘It’s about time someone notices.’"

Seeing lives changed is exciting. For Schrock, Connie Schneeberger, of Cass City, Mich., and Scott Hoeksema, of Berwyn, Ill., it is a motivating factor in their decision to move to the inner city and continue to build relationships with families and children. In making a long-term commitment to the inner city, they hope to better address significant issues that affect its residents. In Realife, the three seniors have seen how close relationships with the community can be developed through such avenues as the Bible clubs for children and teens, which provide an opportunity for the staff to get to know the children and their families and the problems they face.

"One evening I was teaching sixth graders," says Schneeberger, "and several girls pulled me out of the room to tell me about things that were happening at home. Finally after four years, some of the walls are starting to come down.

"If you get through to a place where they will open up to you, you’ll find that many are from alcoholic homes, and some have been abused, both sexually and physically. They don’t feel as if anybody cares enough to take an interest in their lives.

"A part of the problem, too, is with parents,” she adds. “Though they want to be good parents, it seems that they have so many problems within their own marriages and their past that they don’t know how to build good homes. There is no consistent discipline at home, and when there is, it is very harsh.

"As a result of some of these problems, the kids are trying to fit in and be accepted. Thus, we are seeing a big increase in gang activity and, along with it, an array of other problems. Although it is difficult to look at the big picture and see any hope, Jesus is alive. He has simply called us to be salt and light in the city."

As these students look back on their years of involvement, they recall several examples of walls coming down. One such incident occurred when a parent questioned Schneeberger about her relationship with Christ. "We ended up talking for three or four hours," she says. "About a week after our conversation, her son asked me, ‘When are you going to come to talk to my mommy about Jesus again?’ That was really neat.” The relationship
initially established with a child provided an opportunity for her to proclaim the gospel to an entire family.

Not only are we commanded to proclaim the gospel, but to show it in tangible means, says Schneeberger. An opportunity to do this arose when a family was burned out of their house this year.

“We found out about it through their little boy who came to Bible Club,” she says. “We were able to collect some money from one of the classes at Taylor and provide for some very basic needs. It really provided an opening to build a relationship with that family.”

“Our main goal,” says Hoeksema, “is to share Jesus and show people that Christ needs to be at the center of their lives. This can be accomplished by being involved with the kids and available to them.

Having had contact with over 190 children in the past year, the Realife volunteer staff of 40 Taylor students are able to run quality Bible clubs, says Schneeberger. However, there is always a need for additional persons who have the time and commitment necessary to work with the children. Living in the inner city will give Hoeksema, Schneeberger, and Schrock an opportunity to address that need.

The three are realistic about the challenges they will face. Among them is their own youth and inexperience, Schneeberger says. “We need someone who is older and much more familiar with this type of ministry to serve as a model in relating with kids.” Too, the cross cultural aspect of the ministry presents a challenge, says Schrock.

Children of the city deal with problems the typical Taylor student cannot comprehend.

What they lack in experience, however, these soon-to-be graduates make up for in their commitment to the city. After working with Realife for a year, Schneeberger realized first-hand that a long-term commitment to the city was necessary. The college student who spends a few years in Realife can benefit the children in the city, she says, but will not have the impact of “someone who is there through thick and thin with a kid. I’ve built up significant relationships with families and kids, and until God leads me elsewhere, why move on?”

Establishing an inner city base for their operations is an initial hurdle. The three have enlisted the aid of recent graduates-cum-Marion residents Bryon ’92 and Rebecca (Brown ’91) Phinney in laying plans to purchase and renovate the “dream house.” The Phinneys were involved with Realife as Taylor students and remain sympathetic to its goals. “They are focusing more time now working one-on-one with the kids, instead of teaching Bible clubs,” says Hoeksema. “They’re looking into purchasing the house and we would rent there to help defer the cost.”

“Living where we minister will decrease the barriers of ‘us’ and ‘them,’” says Schneeberger. “It will allow more of a receptive relationship to develop within the community.”

With big dreams and high energy, Hoeksema, Schneeberger and Schrock prepare for life in the inner city. But as big as their dreams are, they also look for small, significant victories.

“I tend to be an idealist and want to do great things,” says Hoeksema. “But if we wind up only spending time with two or three kids and seeing them grow into mature Christians, that’s going to be worthwhile. Jesus is the one who changes lives. We simply want to serve as vessels.”

“In the church and society, we have a mentality that big is best,” says Schneeberger. “But we have no idea how God may use a single child to make a difference in the world.”

Randy Dillinger, a sophomore, is a student writer for Taylor. From Grand Rapids, Mick, he hopes to live and work in the city after graduation.
Welcome to the City

BY JAY KESLER, PRESIDENT

In Fort Wayne, Taylor now moves intentionally into a new venture, directly engaging a needy world.

In 1846, on the plains of northern Indiana, a group of godly men and women founded the institution of higher learning now known as Taylor University. Those men and women acted, not without risk, but in response to a God-given vision for Christ-centered higher education.

Similarly, the establishment of the Taylor University’s Fort Wayne campus constitutes a major step of faith for everyone involved. It also comprises a visionary response to current needs in higher education.

Traditional Two-Step Approach

The advent of Taylor University-Fort Wayne was marked on July 1 of last year by the merger of Summit Christian College/Fort Wayne Bible College into Taylor University. Both Taylor and Summit/FWBC have a long history of Christian education, ministry and service to humanity. The method has been to provide Christ-centered education to young people in a broad range of disciplines and encourage and motivate them with a desire to make a difference in the world.

From her earliest days, and in just such fashion, Taylor has prepared youth for Christian ministries in the pastorate, foreign missions, and Christian education. Graduates in both the 19th and 20th centuries have also entered medicine, law, education, social work, business, and research.

They are making a difference in the world. From my own somewhat extensive world travels, I have learned there are graduates from the combined institutions in nearly every country I have visited. Some of these alumni have moved beyond their undergraduate experience; they have lost contact and interest, but now desire to reconnect with their alma mater. Others have seen their alma mater as a kind of home base—a family of diverse people with a central motivation to carry out the Great Commission through a broad spectrum of personal interests, callings and professional endeavors.

Direct Engagement: A New Approach

The Fort Wayne venture is all of that, but contains an element not largely present in our 150 years of experience. In Fort Wayne, we are researching and planning programs and strategies that involve the institution herself directly engaging a needy world, rather than doing it through the risk-taking, commitment and dedication of her graduates.

An urban campus allows the University to offer nontraditional students—who, because of a variety of factors, have been unable to prepare at the college level—an opportunity to obtain a quality Christian education.

We hope to welcome the single mother who needs to finish her degree so she is able to support her family. We want to help free the men and women trapped in dead-end or obsolete jobs to meet new challenges and contribute to personal and community growth. We want to assist pastors and others to broaden their educational base to more effectively serve their churches and institutions. We want to expose Taylor students to the laboratory of urban opportunity by providing internships and mentoring and professional opportunities while they are obtaining a solid general education core and a broad exposure to the liberal arts.
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Taylor: President satisfied with university's present size

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Interdenominational in the late 19th century; typical fees (including tuition, room and board) are about $14,500 this year. Administrators stress about 70 percent of the students receive financial aid.

Three religion courses — non-denominational, Christian classes on the Old and New Testament, as well as ethics and values — are required. Attendance at a daily chapel session is urged.

"We say we expect you to go to chapel, but don't require it," Kesler said. "You are young adults now."

Fewer than 6 percent of the students pursue theological studies.

Rather than train clergy and missionaries, Taylor's primary goal, Kesler said, is to educate businessmen and women, computer analysts, teachers, environmentalists, undergraduates preparing for medical or dental schools and others in secular walks of life.

"'Bloom where you are planted,'" Kesler said, quoting a theory about spreading spiritual values through model behavior in various occupations.

He paused after strolling across campus and greeting students under a bell tower.

"You know, there is something fragile about an 18-year-old away from home for the first time," he said, speaking softly. "We want to create an atmosphere of love and acceptance."

There are no dress codes.

"We don't do a lot of cops and robbers here," Kesler said, smiling. "We have a 'life together' statement. Basically, we ask the students to commit not to drink or use drugs while at Taylor. Living

Asked about Kesler, she beamed. "He's almost treated like a movie star — not that he puts on airs. It's just that he is so honored here. He's personal with us. When he walked into the auditorium the other day, the students gave him a standing ovation."

Adding students at the Upland campus is not among the president's goals. The 1,800 enrollment figure, Kesler said, is the cap — although he hopes the branch campus in Fort Wayne will thrive and expand.

"If we grow here, we would get into a spiral of more bricks and mortar," he said. "This is our fighting weight."

"We want to avoid what I call de facto elitism. That's what happens when your costs rise, so you are forced to increase tuition. Only upper-income families can afford you then."

Kesler and his wife, Janie, sent all three of their children to Taylor.

Their son Bruce, who wrote the preface to "Ten Mistakes Parents Make With Teenagers," runs an inner-city rescue mission in South Bend. Kesler's daughters Laurie and Terri live in the Indianapolis area with their families.

Explaining that he came from a family in which "church was not a priority," Kesler enrolled at Ball State University in the 1950s. A fellow student told him about Taylor — just, he said, as he was beginning to develop his spiritual side. He transferred to Taylor and graduated with the class of '57.

Then came more than 20 years with the Chicago-based Youth for Christ movement. Kesler eventually became president of the organization, an interdenominational ministry to high school students. He also conducted activities in 20 countries for the
But that does not rule out pranks.

Taylor students used to TP — or wrap toilet paper around — Kesler’s home. (The president called those episodes “gestures of love.”) The tradition seems to have stopped with the arrival of a new target: a towering piece of modern art called the “Palm Tree” that resembles a telephone pole topped by a weather vane.

“If you don’t like teen-agers, you shouldn’t be in this business,” Kesler said. “We are an undergraduate teaching institution.

“Too many universities are devoted to research or their graduate schools. The undergraduates are not an interference with our work. They are the reason for it.

“Taylor is based on the American colonial model, with students and faculty living together. Ninety percent of the faculty can walk to work.”

Popular hangouts for both include Ivanhoe’s, a burger and ice cream shop that lists more than 100 flavors of sundaes and shakes on its menu.

“I feel like I really fit in at Taylor,” said Heather Finslad, 19, a freshman from Oostburg, Wls. On a recent sunny afternoon, she relaxed on a bench near the library and read “Brave New World.”

“Taylor wasn’t well-known at all in my community,” she explained. “I heard about it during a trip to Milwaukee.

“I came for the spiritual aspects, the feeling I could grow here in many ways. There is a required class for freshmen on time management and roommate problems. It’s so valuable, but how many colleges require something like that?”

Because of his years of work with high school students, most of Kesler’s books concern parent-child relations.

His prominence in Christian education led to the syndicated radio show. (Kesler used to travel to Chicago to tape segments in bunches. Now, because Taylor’s Fort Wayne campus has a radio station, he shuttles there.)

It also spawned his appointment to a long list of boards, including those that oversee Campus Life and Christianity Today magazines and the Christian College Coalition.

When alumni and faculty at Taylor began looking for a president in 1985, they approached Kesler — partially because they hoped the charismatic broadcaster and author would increase the university’s visibility.

“I came here with no background in higher education and no credentials,” said Kesler. (He is called “Dr. Kesler” by students because he has been awarded five honorary doctorates.)

“I just have always had a desire to try to affect the lives of young people.”

He paused and excused himself to talk to a teenager whose face looked unfamiliar.

Responding to questions from the president, she explained she was new on campus and hailed from Milan in Southern Indiana.

“Well, welcome to Taylor,” Kesler said. “We all want you to love it here.”
Increasingly, nontraditional students have become a focal point for educators. Secular society has recognized the great gap in culture between the educated and the “underprepared.” The mood of the nation and the national will are being focused on making up this differential. It seems both responsible on the part of Christians to assist in this national effort and also in the interest of the kingdom of God to ensure that the Christian education option is among these efforts.

**Nothing Ventured, Nothing Gained**

There is risk. Will we tarnish our academic reputation by admitting nontraditional students for whom traditional standards of evaluation are nonapplicable? Our academic reputation has been hard-earned over a long period of time. However, it was never envisioned that it should be elite and a source of institutional pride. It was developed through the faithful dispatch of a Christian search for excellence to the glory of Jesus Christ.

Our graduates have been acquainted with risk at home and abroad. Now, as an institution, we have an opportunity to respond to today’s challenges, those that will carry us on into the 21st Century. No citizen can deny the sobriety of the challenges facing the families, schools, and communities of America. Poverty, despair, crime, violence, drugs, and avarice are rampant. We must act, and soon.

We have intentionally moved into a fine urban setting. Fort Wayne is nowhere near the most challenged community in America. In fact, it is one of the best. However, it is a great distance—not in miles, but in complexity and diversity—from Upland, Ind. In some ways, Taylor University, as an institution, has the luxury of having the best of both worlds. We can maintain a resident, liberal arts atmosphere with traditional 18- to 22-year-olds in Upland and reach out with a diverse approach in Fort Wayne. We can broaden, deepen, and develop TUFW’s increasingly high quality student body (average SAT scores are currently 1088; 56 percent are in the top 10 percent of their class), while providing nontraditional students the opportunities they seek in Christian higher education. By doing so, we directly engage a needy world.

In the past, this has been a two-step process: Taylor prepared the student, then the student made a contribution to the world. In Fort Wayne, we are attempting to directly serve the needs of many to whom Taylor University would have been an impossible dream. I am sure that there will be pain. We have had some already. However, I am convinced that there is a “Well done, good and faithful servant” awaiting us from the very heart of God if we dare to risk our resources and reputation and move toward the direct challenges of this decade. There is plenty of personal challenge for all, but in the larger sense, we face an exciting institutional challenge and one that I do not feel we can avoid while still seeking obedience to the heavenly calling.

I am excited about the prospect of another century in Fort Wayne. I trust you, too, will be thrilled with the opportunities. ■
Stop. Look. Listen.

What you need to know before attempting cross-cultural ministry in your city neighborhood

By Craig Scandrett-Leatherman

More than ever before, ours is an urban world. Fully half of the people inhabiting this globe now live in and around cities. That is a new phenomenon in the history of humankind, a result of exponential population growth and a vast migration to the city. Neither movement shows signs of slowing soon.

Ours is also a multicultural world. The cities beckon people of all races and nationalities. The student body of one school in my Chicago neighborhood includes representatives of 66 different ethnic or language groups. During the lifetime of current Taylor students, Caucasians will become a minority group in the United States, outnumbered by people of color. Such a world presents the church with new and sudden opportunities for missions outreach. Cities are ripe fields for evangelism. Countries otherwise closed to the gospel are sending their students to this country for training. We in America have unprecedented opportunities for cross-cultural mission within our own cities and towns.

1. CONSIDER THE BIBLICAL PRECEDENT

Cross-cultural outreach to the city is not a new idea; it is evidenced in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost—to me the very climax of the Bible and the goal of Christ’s coming (Matthew 3:11). According to the biblical account, the disciples have been expectantly waiting in the city, at a time when Jews from every nation under heaven are gathered together there. (Acts 2:5) The Spirit falls, and following that baptism at Pentecost, the church becomes multicultural. Its headquarters move from Jerusalem to Antioch, a multicultural center. Indeed, one of the church leaders there is Simeon, a.k.a. Niger, or Black. Another is Lucius from Cirene in Africa (Acts 13:1). The church includes Gentiles and Jews, priests and tent-makers, and high-class Gentiles in the court of Herod. There in Antioch, Christ’s followers are first called Christians. There the Holy Spirit sets aside Paul and Barnabas for a special ministry; cross-cultural outreach to the Gentiles and to multicultural cities.

2. LEARN FROM MISSIONS AND ANTHROPOLOGY

We know that the Holy Spirit is given for cross-cultural ministry. We see opportunities for such outreach more and more abound. But we have not adequately prepared ourselves to engage in that activity. There is much we can learn from missions, the study of missions, and the area of anthropology. Anthropology is a kind of discipline of incarnation. Jesus lived among us as a Jew, infant refugee, boy, and carpenter before he began his preaching ministry. Anthropology is the social application of how God designed our face. We have two ears and two eyes but only one mouth. We need to listen twice as much as we talk; we need to see and strive to understand people who are different from us before we put our mouths in motion and pass judgment on them too quickly.

3. TAKE TIME TO LISTEN

It takes time to listen—really listen—to persons of another culture. Anthropologists and missionaries tell us that it takes individuals immersed in a new culture three years to become bicultural. When missionary recruits go overseas, they generally spend the first year with a tourist mind set. They are on an adventure exploring the new culture, including food, art, and lifestyle. During the second year, a kind of a crisis develops as they realize, “These people are strange.” In the third year, out of necessity, they begin to take on the perspective and the values of the new culture, simply because theirs is gone, and they must bond to something and relate to something. Becoming bicultural is neither a quick nor easy process, but it can be an adventure of loving God and neighbor.

4. PRACTICE PARTNERSHIP

As opportunities for cross-cultural ministry to the city multiply, students, pastors, churches, denominations will be eager to become involved. I’m concerned that they, we, practice partnerships to avoid the paternalism of the past. First, we, as educated Christians, need partnerships with the poor. John Wesley acknowledged that his most important decision about ministry method was to preach in the fields to the coal miners. This was a challenge to an Oxford don, but he determined to speak to the people and in their language. He began his first sermon “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has appointed me to bring good news to the poor.” Second, we need partnerships with minorities and people of other cultures. People of other cultures, including bicultural American minorities, have different world views including sets of values, orientation to time and space, important ceremonies, and others. Partnerships with poor and other-culture people can free our knowledge of God and scripture from our own cultural captivity.

5. DEFINE SUCCESS BY GOD’S PASSIONS

Cross-cultural ministry to the city is not easy, and not everyone will share your enthusiasm for it. For example, just because you’ve developed a personal interest in a refugee family doesn’t mean your church will necessarily adopt that interest. Rather, consider it a joy, a calling, a ministry in itself to understand that culture. Watch as your faith is enlarged. Come to understand better how the gospel might be communicated in that culture.

The Bible’s closing scene is that of Jesus planting a tree in the middle of the City of God for the healing of the nations. Would that we be planted in our cities, our present locations, even, and used for a similar purpose.

Craig Scandrett-Leatherman is the director of the Wesleyan Urban Coalition which connects Taylor and 11 other schools with Chicago’s homeless and multicultural populations through urban studies courses and experiences. He, his wife Beth, and 3-year-old son Luke live in Chicago.
Glorious Horizon
This past January, at age 69, Agnes (Van Meter) McLane earned her bachelor's degree from Taylor. That diploma has been a goal of hers since the fall of 1941, when she first enrolled as a freshman.

Agnes (Van Meter) McLane is the sort of person who finishes what she starts. Her latest project took 52 years to complete.

McLane arrived in Upland as a freshman in 1941, but returned home to Philadelphia at the onset of WW II feeling she was not mature enough to be away from home during so difficult a time. She says she always wanted to come back and finish her degree, however. In 1990—four children and six grandchildren later—she arrived on campus to do just that.

McLane was in pursuit of a dream, one that sometimes kept her awake at nights thinking about it. Of the years between 1941 and 1990, she says, “During all that time I never lost sight of Taylor. I wanted to come back. I wanted to finish the education that I began.

“I would dream at nights of coming back to Taylor and getting my degree.” More recently, she says, that ambition was fueled by her circumstances. She was living alone and working for an attorney. “I thought there must be more to do than type wills and divorce decrees.” She decided she would return to Taylor if the opportunity ever arose. She was as good as her word.

The adjustment to college life was not easy, but McLane says a realistic attitude helped. Hers was that of “I know I am older than everyone else and I am not trying to be young, I am just trying to finish my education.”

McLane coupled that attitude with fierce determination. Fellow students added encouragement and helped her with her studies. Faculty, too, were supportive, she says.

On January 28, 1993, she completed requirements for the long-awaited diploma.

Just the day before, McLane participated in a chapel service led by January graduates. Addressing the student body, she explained how she came to be at Taylor. “I belong to the class of 1945,” she said, “but now I am also part of a wonderful group of young people who are graduating in 1993. Bill Clinton isn’t the only comeback kid.”

McLane then held up a copy of Streams in the Desert. Years ago, a friend had presented her with the book as a wedding present. McLane read for her audience the words inscribed on the flyleaf: “May there be enough clouds to give a beautiful sunset.” Looking out at the students in front of her, McLane gripped the podium and declared, “You know, my western horizon is ablaze with glory this morning. It’s a wonderful, wonderful life. Some of the clouds have been storm clouds; some of them have seemed insurmountable... but I can’t tell you how blessed I am this morning.

“And it is true that I look forward to still more years of blessing and of benefit. I’m not ready to quit, even though my birthday cake said, ’69 and holding.'”
Graduate Starts City’s Top Business Concern

Taylor University left Fort Wayne, Ind., 100 years ago and moved south to establish a campus in Upland. Her near-50 years in Fort Wayne, however, had left a mark on the city, and her influence continued to be felt through the lives of alumni active in city affairs.

One of these was Frank W. Edmunds, a graduate of the Taylor University (then Fort Wayne College) class of 1889. Six years after his graduation from the college, he founded an electrical construction company which, in time, became the largest business concern in the city of Fort Wayne.

Edmunds was born in Fort Wayne on November 23, 1869, son of James and Mary (Smith) Edmunds, both early pioneers of that area. His maternal grandfather, Conrad Smith, was a Massachusetts native who served in the Revolutionary War as one of the original Minutemen at Concord bridge in 1776. Smith’s term of military duty covered the entire conflict: he was discharged in 1783. Edmunds had among his papers his grandfather’s original discharge from the militia.

Following his graduation, Edmunds was a telegrapher for two years. He then took training in civil engineering and was employed for three years with the Jenney Electrical Company before starting his own business.

Upon his death, Edmunds was remembered as a stalwart Christian citizen and one who had contributed greatly to the culture of Fort Wayne.

Pulpit Ministry Is Professor’s First Love

“`The greatest preacher on Christology I have ever heard,’” is how one of his peers in the Methodist Holiness Movement described the Reverend John Freeman Owen, D.D., 1882-1947. That accolade comes from the well-known southern orator and preacher Dr. Henry Clay Morrison whose own ministry spanned some 65 years.

Another admirer, John Lakin Brasher, writes of Owen, “He did excellent work as a pastor and as a professor in college. But the pulpit was the place of his greatest power.”

From a young age, Owen was an evangelist, pastor, and orator. He was professor of theology at Taylor from 1924 to 1930. While at the college, Owen also served as advisor to the student ministerial association, gospel team association, and committee on forensics, and as endowment treasurer to the governing body of the University. Taylor University conferred upon him the honorary degree, Doctor of Divinity, in 1925.

In 1930, Owen left Taylor to return to his former role as an evangelist. He served in that capacity for several more years before an extended illness put an end to his pulpit ministry. He died at his home on December 5, 1947. He is buried in the family plot at Boaz, Ala., as was his wish. “Take me to the mountain,” he said, explaining that from that vantage point he would be able to see saints from four states rising up from their graves on the day of Christ’s return.
At Age 61, Graduate Founds a College

By her own testimony, the late Rev. Emma Bertha Keinbaum early in life adopted a motto that served her well: “The Word of God...read it, live it, and share it with others.” For 99 years, that is exactly what she did.

She served variously as a pastor, evangelist, college professor, business executive, overseas missionary, and theologian. At age 61, she founded in South Africa a college which is still in existence today.

In addition, Keinbaum testified that she regularly spent four hours each day in intercessory prayer.

She was born on March 20, 1893, in Sanilac County, Michigan, to August and Marie (Klaus) Keinbaum. She accepted Christ as Savior in 1918. After attending local schools, she earned undergraduate degrees from Kentucky’s Kingswood College and Theological Seminary. In 1926, she then accepted a position as professor of Latin, Hebrew, and Greek at Bible Holiness College (later Owosso College) in Michigan.

Four years later, Keinbaum enrolled in Taylor University’s master’s program and in 1931 was graduated from Taylor with a M.A. degree in biblical literature and theology. An ordained elder in the Wesleyan church, Keinbaum served as a pastor for nine years in Ohio.

In 1954, at age 61, she established a college at Brakpan, South Africa. She returned to Owosso College four years later and continued teaching there until her retirement at age 80. She died at age 99, on June 27, 1992.

“[She] was an extraordinary woman of God. She was unafraid to pursue her calling and she did so with great success. She was a true leader and a mentor to many. She will be missed, but her legacy will live on.”

—WR

Football Proposal Passes by Slim Margin

Taylor’s entrance into the world of intercollegiate football took place in the fall of 1948, but only after a not-so-private struggle to convince members of the administration and governing board to allow it. Retired dean Burt Ayres and several board members opposed the proposal; President Clyde Meredith supported it. According to reports published in the student newspaper, The Echo, when Coaches Gilbert Dodd and Don Odle ’42 took the debate before the William Taylor Foundation in October of 1947, that governing board ultimately gave the go-ahead signal. When the sport was instituted the next fall, Meredith’s son, Clyde Jr. ’50, was among the first team members.

Dodd was to serve as head coach with Odle assisting as backfield coach. Both men had previous coaching experience, Dodd in Pennsylvania, Odle in Indiana. The next fall, however, the coaching burden fell entirely upon the shoulders of Coach Odle, newly appointed athletic director.

In November of 1947, Dodd and Odle attended a meeting in Lima, Ohio, in an effort to establish a tri-state athletic conference. Representatives attended from thirteen schools in the tri-state area (Michigan, Ohio, Indiana). The positive response ensured a start for the program. After a year of hard work, the season was launched, and Taylor saw its first kickoff in the fall of 1948.

1931

Rev. Emma Keinbaum said she spent four hours each day in intercessory prayer. Perhaps that is why she could accomplish so much in her 99 years.

1947

Before football aficionados could establish a league of their own, they had to tackle some recalcitrant members of the administration.
A personal note of thanks...

Dear Friends,

In this, my last issue of Alumni Notes, I want to express my heartiest thanks for all the pleasure and blessings my association with you has brought to my life. For nearly 22 years I have had the joy of being a link between you and your alma mater. I have celebrated your marriages, the births of your children, your career changes, and have mourned with you the loss of your loved ones. In this little section of Taylor, you and I have communicated much of what is happening in your lives.

Now Bob and I have retired from active participation in the ministry of Taylor University. Our hearts have been warmed by the messages we’ve received from so many of you. We cannot adequately express how much your loving wishes have meant to us as we begin this new phase of our lives. Please accept our love and gratitude for all the friendship you have offered through the years. It has made our lives happy and fulfilled.

As I always say, "Taylor alumni are the greatest people in the world!"

Betty Freese

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Note: The Taylor University Alumni Association is sponsoring a Scandinavian Holiday: 15 memorable days in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, June 22- July 6, 1993. Hosts for the trip will be Dr. and Mrs. William A. Fry. Cost is $3,099 per person from Chicago, $2,999 per person from New York. For more information and a free brochure, call the Alumni Office at 1 (800) 882-3456, ext. 5113.

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1926
Rev. Elmore Eicher died October 18, 1992, in the Alliance Home, DeLand, FL. Longtime missionaries to India. Elmore and Alice are the parents of Ray '64 and grandparents of Andi '92 and Stefan '94. Alice’s address is 151 W. Wimemisssett Ave., DeLand, FL 32720-6854.

1930
Lester Clough continues under the caregiving of his daughter, Lois Clough ’62 in their home at 1650 S. Arizona Ave., Box 72, Chandler, AZ 85248. He suffered a stroke February 23, 1991, and must work through TIA’s as they occur, each one bringing some memory loss of the recent past. He served for 41 years as a UM pastor in the West MI Conference. Wife Lillie (Reedy) x'32 died July 26, 1991, after an illness of several months. Daughter Carolyn (Clough x'57) Ohman lives in Denver, CO. Lester and Lois would welcome visits from Taylor friends.

1931
Hugh x & Vivien (Myers x'32) Freese celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary October 15, 1992. They live at 2808 60th Ave. W., #1506, Bradenton, FL 34207.

1932
Jeannette (Leisure) Apple died December 10, 1992, after a brief illness. She was a teacher, principal and librarian for 38
years. Memorial contributions may be made to the Taylor University library.

1934

Alice Lovin died December 9, 1992, after an extended illness. She was a retired elementary teacher from the Anderson (IN) Community School Corp.

1939

Maurice Beery was honored October 11, 1992, by the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church, Port Charlotte, FL, for his dedicated ministry from 1964 to 1983. Now Pastor Emeritus, he lives at 617 New York Ave., Port Charlotte, FL 33952.

1940

Gwen (Niebel) Randall went to be with the Lord on August 31, 1992, following an extended illness. Gwen and Walt '38 moved to Upland in 1987, where Walt continued his long career as a research scientist. Gwen did some teaching and endeared herself to all she met in her new community. She was able to attend the groundbreaking for the new Randall Environmental Studies Center, named in honor of Walt and Gwen, which was dedicated on October 16, 1992, after her death. Taylor friends Nelle (Leisman '43) Alspaugh and Margaret (Hyde '42) Behnken participated in her memorial service at the Upland UM Church. Walt and Gwen have four children—David '67, Marilyn '69 Anderson, Doug and Craig. Walt may be addressed at Taylor Univ., 500 W. Reade Ave., Upland, IN 46989.

1944

Janice (Swearingen x) Lyman died December 18, 1992, as the result of a brain tumor discovered last July. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Howard Lyman '42, 16580 Eleven Mile Rd., Battle Creek, MI 49017.

1945

Dr. Earl Pope x, professor emeritus of religion at Lafayette College, was awarded a Fulbright professorship to teach the history of religion in America at the University of Bucharest for the 1992-93 academic year. He taught at Lafayette for 30 years, and continues to make his home at 714 Hamilton St., Easton, PA 18042 with wife Miriam. During this year they are occupying an apartment in Bucharest.

1946

Lois (Guyant) Gallenberger died April 14, 1992, after a long illness. Lois was a nurse in Seattle, WA. Her husband, Don, lives at 350 N. 190th C 160, Seattle, WA 98133.

1947

Russ & Trudy (Johnson '43) Clark celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on September 22, 1992, with a reception at Upland UM Church hosted by their sons and families. The Clarks' winter address is 3302 Nauvoo St., St. Cloud, FL 34769.

1950

Dr. William S. Deal died January 25, 1992. His wife of 60 years, Myrna (Allen x'53), lives at 11326 Ranchito St., El Monte, CA 91732. A Wesleyan Church pastor and evangelist, Dr. Deal was author of 40 books and also served as president of Western Pilgrim College.

1951

George x'51 and Fran (Burtner x'50) Boggs

George x & Fran (Burtner x'50) Boggs are the subjects of

New Alumni Director Named

Taylor University is pleased to announce that Marty Cleveland Songer has been named director of alumni programs. A 1978 graduate of Taylor, she worked at Avis Industrial Corp., Upland, Ind., for 12 years before joining the Taylor development staff a year ago. Her appointment as alumni director was effective on January 1 of this year.

No stranger to Taylor, Songer was reared ("literally," she says) in the shadow of Magee-Campbell-Wisconsin residence hall. She is the daughter of Alyce (Rocke '48) Cleveland and the late Will Cleveland '49, who for decades served as editor of the University's alumni magazine.

Songer resides in Upland with her two daughters, Allison, 14, and Loralee, 10.

Dear Friends,

As I sit behind my desk in the alumni office today, my mind tries to envision the almost 13,000 Taylor alumni throughout the world and what each one of you might be doing at this moment. Many of you I do not know; many of you may be wondering how anyone will be able to replace the gracious lady who preceded me here. That is an honest question!

My desire is, in my own way, to continue the high level of personalized service that has characterized this office.

The role that you, as Taylor alumni, play in the support, success, and ongoing prosperity of your alma mater cannot be overstated. In that knowledge, it is my pleasure—in some small way—to be your link with Taylor.

Many of you I do not know, but hopefully not for long!

Marty Cleveland Songer
1954

Ted & Ruth
(Allspaw '56)
Hopkins
live at 303
Brown St.,
Box 68,
Lineville,
IA 50417.

1954

Ted Hopkins ‘54

Baptist minister, is semi-retired but still does pulpit supply and substitute teaching. He has served since 1986 as director of music for North Grand River Baptist Assn.

1956

Margaret Bash recently returned from Austria and Hungary where she has served with Child Evangelism Fellowship, and is now living at 144 Northbrook Dr., Wilmington, NC 28405.

1956

Shirley Rodiger x died July 3, 1992, of stomach cancer. Her memorial service was held at Bel Air Presbyterian Chapel in the Los Angeles area.

1957

Dr. Kenneth Gangel, former chairman of the Christian Education department of Dallas Theological Seminary, has been named academic dean and vice president for academic affairs. He continues as senior professor of Christian Education. In addition to numerous books on CE and leadership, Ken has written more than 1,000 journal and periodical articles. He and wife Betty (Blackburn ’58) reside at 1625 Plummer, Rockwall, TX 75087.

1959

Marilyn Follett has had a difficult year of hospitalizations and surgery on her foot, and has undergone extensive therapy with the hope of being able to walk again. She appreciates the continued prayers of classmates for her return to health. Her address is 3917 E. Galbraith Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45236-2321.

1961

John Affleck, Binghamton University golf coach, was voted Division III Coach of the Year by his peers. The award was presented in January at the National Golf Coaches Assn. annual meeting in January. His team was unbeaten this season against Division II and III competition.

1962

Lois Clough praises God for His healing power over cancer and six spinal surgeries. She teaches music part-time at Good Steps Children School and cares for her invalid father. Lester ‘30, in their home at 1650 S. Arizona Ave., Box 72, Chandler, AZ 85248.

1965

Barbara Inglis has resigned as assistant director of the Voskyn Library at Westminster College to pursue an MA in American Indian Studies at UCLA. Her address is 10983 Wellworth Ave., #406, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

1969

Penny (Correll) Smith followed her Fulbright experience in India with another adventure. She headed for Barcelona to see a former 6th-grade student participate in the Olympics. Unable to speak the language, and without lodging reservations, Penny managed to make connections with her former student who provided an inside look at Olympics facilities as well as a seat for the games.

1970

Ray & Christa Eicher have been assigned by Operation Mobilization to be campus representatives of the work in India. In January they led a ministry team of T. U. students to India, and their campus home, called India House, is a welcoming place for missionary kids and other international students. Son Andi ‘92 is doing graduate study at Yale Forestry School. Son Stefan is a junior at Taylor, and daughter Amye is a senior in high school. The Eichers live in the historic Abbey home near the campus. Their address is Taylor U., 500 W. Reade Ave., Upland, IN 46989.

1980

Jim & Val MacLeish have moved from the city to Cedar Lake Farm, 4000 Bently Lake.
1966
Ken & Jo (Sandford ’64) Walker have moved to Camden, NJ, to work as inner-city missionaries with EAPE. Their main job is to act as house parents for fourteen missionary interns working in latechey and Bible Club programs. Son Jeremy (22) is in a master’s program at U. of Washington, and Jedidiah (19) is a sophomore at USC. Ken and Jo live at 3199 Federal St., Camden, NJ 08105.

1967
Carol (Marshall) Ashman reports that five TU roommates met last June in Merrillville, IN, to celebrate 25 years of friendship. Since graduation they have circulated a round-robin letter and have tried to meet annually. Besides Carol, they are Geri (Nelson) Morton, Carol (Batdorf) Shearer, Sharon (Steiner) Connor and Linda (Sweet) Williams. In addition, three of their husbands are TU grads: Warren Morton ’64, Rick Shearer ’66 and Bill Williams ’67. • Paul & Ruth Cochrane have served with TEAM in the African Republic of Chad for the past 18 years. They are currently on loan to Trinity College of Florida for two years while they are caring for Paul’s elderly mother. Their address is 1350 Lotus Dr. S., Dunedin, FL 34698. • Carolyn (Kraner) Highley was honored in Who’s Who Among American Teachers, for which nominations are made by students. Her address is Box 71, Rockford, OH 45882. • John Maybery is superintendent of #1 BAR Mill Sielco Steel Hilton Works in Hamilton, ON, and lives at 3 Mays Crescent, Waterdown, ON, Canada L0R2H4. • Rev. Francis Thomas, recipient of a DD degree from Taylor in 1967, died July 29, 1992. He had served congregations in the Philadelphia area from 1926 to 1974.

1968
Rebecca (Nunley) Clough has been named administrative assistant and assistant principal at Deer Ridge and Lafayette Central Elementary schools, Southwest Allen County, effective for the 1993-94 school year. Becky, whose major at TU was social work, completed a second degree in elementary education at IPFW and began teaching in 1987. She has now completed a master’s degree and educational administrative certification. Mark is guidance coordinator at R. Nelson Snider HS in Fort Wayne, and daughter Lara is completing her first year at Taylor. The family lives at 4626 Birchdale Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46815. • Dr. Ed & Ellen (Ridley ’69) Smyth have founded a new ministry called The Master’s Men to encourage men in their Christian development through retreats, conferences and materials. It is an outgrowth of Ed’s 15 years of discipling men while on the faculty of Seattle Pacific University, and of his work as director of church relations. For further information, call 1-800-925-2292, or write to Ed at 845 NW 116th, Seattle, WA 98177-4746.

1969
Rick Poland was re-elected last November as Somerset County Judge of Probate in Maine for a fifth 4-year term. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member at Thomas College Graduate School of Business. Rick, wife Judy and daughter Brooke reside at 19 Dyer St., Skowhegan, ME 04976.

1970
Jonnie (Harstück) x Davidson is a fitness specialist in business with her sister, Joani (Harstück) ‘74 Heavey. They travel to grade schools with “The Awesome Fitness Show,” teaching children in a fun and energetic way how to make healthy choices. Jonnie also teaches a Christian aerobics class of 65-75 women at Wheaton Bible Church. Her address is 2061 Gladstone Dr., Wheaton, IL 60187. • Roger Schnepf has quit college coaching and returned to the hysteria of high school! He teaches and coaches basketball and track at Upper Scioto Valley HS, McGaffey, OH. Wife Nancy (Sonnenberg ’71) is in charge of the GED program at Ohio Hi Point JVS in Bellefontaine, OH. Their 6’6” son BJ is a sophomore at USV, and daughter Ashley is in 6th grade. The family lives at 2771 Co. Rd. 90, Alger, OH 43812.

1972
Tom Hoffrage has been named to the 1992 Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers by his former students who have themselves been recognized in the top 5% of high school and college students. Tom teaches at Alice M. Barrows School, Reading, MA. Wife Phoebe (Gardner ’71) is a teacher at The Image School in Reading. They have two children at Taylor — Kristin, a junior, and Tom, a freshman. They live at 346 Middle Rd, Boxborough, MA 01719.

1973
Sam & Michele Hadley had their first child, Colson Mark, on July 9, 1992. Sam teaches GED at the Ft. Wayne Juvenile Treatment Facility, and Michele is a hairdresser in Leo. Their address is 6229 Sawmill Woods Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46835. • Ed Melberg, athletic director, teacher and coach at Auburn Hills Oakland Christian School, led his girls basketball team to the Class D state championship and was designated Coach of the Year. Ed, who lives at 3018 Carly Ct., Auburn Hills, MI 48326, is in his 20th year at Oakland Christian. • Janice (Alvey) Nevins, her son Jonathan (11) and her mother-in-law Vivian Nevins were killed December 14, 1992, when the car driven by Janice’s husband, Arch ’74, skidded off the road into a pond. Arch and two other children Adam (16) and Betsy (10) survive. Arch is pastor of Northview Brethren Life Church in Springboro, OH. His home address is 100 Bramble Bush, Springboro, OH 45066. Friends of the family have established a fund to help with expenses. Contributions may be made to Nevins Family Fund. PO Box 145, Springboro, OH 45066.

1974
Since last spring, Ray & Marcia de la Haye and family have been serving SIM at Kent Academy in Nigeria. Sons Ted and Tim are students at the Academy, and Marcia is teaching Doug. Mark (3) had an early bout with malaria, but recovered fully and enjoys his new home. Their address is Kent Academy, ECWA/SIM, PMB 2009, Jos, Nigeria, West Africa. • After a long and successful tenure as director of women’s services in Marion, IN, Judi (Bragan) Flannery moved to CA to begin...
a private practice as assistant director for the North County Psychological Associates in Encinitas. At a party in her honor before she left for California, Jadi was recognized by the Domestic Violence Commission for her outstanding service to the Marion community. • Joani (Harstick) Heavey and sister Jonnie (Harstick ’70) Davidson have a company called “Nothing’s Limited.” (See item under class of 1970.) Joani and husband John, a fire inspector specializing in public education and public relations, have been married for 15 years and have two children—Jeremy (13) and Erik (10). They live at 306 Oxford Rd, Des Plaines, IL 60016.

1975
Melvin Hall completed the PhD in sociology at Notre Dame last August. While in graduate school he earned the John J. Kane Award as Outstanding Graduate Student in Sociology, and was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation to interview community organizers. He is an assistant professor of sociology at Indiana University South Bend, and lives at 1135 N. Notre Dame Ave., South Bend, IN 46617. • Dr. Paul Kasambira, associate professor of education at Bradley University, represented his alma mater at the inauguration of Bradley’s new president on October 24, 1992. Paul, wife Irene and family live at 801 W. Sherwood St., Peoria, IL 61614. • Alex Moir has completed the Doctor of Ministry degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Alex and wife Linda serve Westview Baptist Church in London, ON—Alex as pastor, and Linda as minister of Christian education. Their address is 142 Cottonwood Crescent, London, ON N6G2Y8, Canada. • Alison Musiungu lives at 2350 Southgate Sq., Reston, VA 22091. She is in her 11th year withYWAM (Youth With A Mission), over 6 years of which have been spent in the Washington DC area. Last fall she directed the 5th School of Journalism withYWAM’s University of the Nations. • Dave & Nancy (Cole) Nettekoven x are pleased to announce the birth of Peter David on November 22, 1991. He joins Rebekah (9), Christina (6) and Nathan (4). Nancy is home educating the two oldest and working as a RN on a limited basis. Dave is a computer analyst/programmer for Harrisburg Hospital. They are members of the Hershey Evangelical Free Church, and live at 109 E. Areba Ave., Hershey, PA 17033. • Larry & Alice (Himebaugh) Polston announce the birth of Thomas Wayne on June 28, 1992, joining Laura Leigh (6). Larry is pastor of Aberdeen Baptist Church, and Alice is at home with the children at 1850 Stivers Rd., Aberdeen, OH 45101.

(From left) Sarah, Peter, Marabeth (Johannes ’75), Roy ’75, and Ruth Ringenberg

Roy & Marabeth (Johannes) Ringenberg, Sarah, Peter and Ruth, returned to Quito, Ecuador, last August to begin another term of service with World Radio Missionary Fellowship. Roy, a physician, teaches medicine and Bible at Hospital Vozandes. Their address is Hospital Vozandes, IICJ, Casilla 17-17-691, Quito, Ecuador. • Dan Sprunger x died February 27, 1992, in Ft. Wayne, IN. He had been paralyzed from his waist down for nine years, and abdominal infection brought on cardiac arrest.

1976
Chuck & Carole Fennig returned in January for another 4-year term in New Caledonia with Wycliffe. While in the states they spent 8 weeks in a home-study program with Evangelical Adoption & Family Service and were approved to go into the pool of waiting adoptive parents. • Marilyn (Amstutz) Helms is living in Retly, Zaire, where her husband Rob is a pediatrician and coordinator of AIM’s health service in northeastern Zaire. They have four children—Eleanor (11), Laurel (9), Allison (6) and Robby (2). The family requests prayer for their ministry in this country from which most missionaries have been evacuated and where much political and economic instability remains. Their mailing address is PO Box 21285, Nairobi, Kenya. • Max & Lynette (Lewis) McGowan have accepted a 2-year assignment in Laos with The American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker-based relief and development organization. They are involved in village-level development projects. • Jeff Meyer was a featured speaker at the 2nd annual Taylor U/FCA basketball coaches’ clinic held in Odle Gym last October. Jeff, basketball coach at Liberty University, led the Flames to a 22-7 record in 1992, equaling the biggest turnaround at the Div. 1 level ever in the NCAA. Other TU grads who attended the clinic included Stan Daugherty, Gerald Eash ’70, Steve Brooks ’80, Mike Springer ’83, Greg Habegger ’87, Jeff Beck ’87, Robby Phillips ’88 and Darren Nyce ’90.

1977
Harry and Nancy Albright announce the birth of Joshua Francis on April 20, 1992. The Albright family, which also includes Benjamin (5), Emily (4) and Erin (2), lives at 1461 Rill Ct., Naperville, IL 60563. • David & Rita (Bullis) Bagley announce the adoption of son Jonathan in June 1991. Rita, an elementary teacher for the past four years, is now at home with Jonathan. David is pastor of New Hope UM Church in Marion, IN, and the family’s address is 303 E. 38th St., Marion, IN 46953. • Randall & Debbie (Wolgemuth) Birkey rejoice in the birth of daughter Kathryn Grace, named for her grandmother, Grace (Dourte x’39) Wolgemuth. who witnessed the home birth of her 20th grandchild. Kathryn is welcomed by brothers Taylor (9), Noel (7) and Marshall (5). The Birkey family lives at 635 S. Home Ave., Oak Park, IL 60304. • Deb Maat and Howard Caine were married June 6, 1992, in Highland, IN. Taylor participants were Gay (Schieben) ’76 Kuhn and Ron Windmiller x’79. Deb is a specialty lines product analyst with CNA Insurance Co., and Howard is a chemical engineer working for the US Environmental Protection Agency. They live at 17850 Wentworth, Lansing, IL 60438. • Sarah Nicole, 5th child of Jim & Sandy (Howard) Nassar, was born July 10, 1992. Her siblings are Tamar (12), Rebekah (11), Jessica (9) and James II (2). The Nassar family resides at 6816 Tamarind Circle, Orlando, FL 32819. • Dr. Daniel Olsen has completed his residency in general surgery at Metropolitan Hospital, Grand Rapids, and is now in a 1-year sub-specialty fellowship in hand surgery at Detroit Medical Center.
Gary x & Karen (Brummeler x) Carr are living in Spain where Gary is base chaplain for the Naval Station in Rota. They have two daughters, Lesleigh (9) and Lauren (6). Their address is Naval Station Rota Spain, PSC 819, Box 12, FPO AE 09645-1900. They would like to hear from TU friends. • Randy & Sarahlynn (Crouse) Crist announce the birth of Shelley Lynn on April 24, 1992. Their other children are Jason (5) and twins, Heath and Sarah Beth (2). Randy continues to teach at Anderson Middle School while Sarahlynn is at home with the children at 102 Lakeview Dr., Lawrenceburg, KY 40342. • God has blessed Jay & Kathy (Ritchie) York with six precious gifts—Emily Beth (11), Laura Kate (8), Anne Claire (6), twins Sarah Nell and Mary Ashley (3), and Jason Austen (1). Jay’s law firm is Sherling, Brown & York. They are both happy in their church and with their parenting roles. They live at 1585 Melntyre Dr., Mobile, AL 36618.

1979

Andrew James was born September 26, 1992, to Jamie & Debbie Nesmith, PO Box 367, Russell, PA 16345. Their older children are Jeffrey James (7) and Danielle Lyn (3). Jamie is owner of Nesmith Insurance Agency. • Mike Reger died August 25, 1992, of meningitis and a stroke. His wife Susan and daughter Alexi live at 2804 Buena Vista Ct., Carrollton, TX 75007. • Robert & Linda (Schmid) Schroeder are grateful for the birth of Elizabeth Anne on July 16, 1992. She joins Catherine Jeanne (3). The family resides at 5930 McGee, Kansas City, MO 64113. • Dean Swanson spent two weeks in Russia this past summer with other members of Highland Park Baptist Church choir in a program of evangelism and literature distribution under the auspices of SEND Intl. Dean is a consultant with a support services group of EDS, and lives at 86 Webb St., Troy, MI 48098. • David & Diane (Barrus) Thomson, 4210 S. Wayne Ave., Ft Wayne, IN 46807, are the proud parents of two daughters—Larissa (6) and Stephanie Elizabeth Dyanne, born July 17, 1992.

1980

Patricia (Goodine) Baker and husband Ron live at 6603 Pearl St., Bliss, NY 14024. Both are grads of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, where Patricia received a master of social work degree and a certificate in theology. Ron is pastor of an American Baptist Church, and Patricia is providing consulting services to churches in western NY, assisting with the development of social ministry programs. • Dean & Rhonda (Delcamp) Hardi announce the birth of Jessica Robin on October 11, 1991. Her proud mother reports that she has beautiful blue eyes and a cheery personality. The Hardi family lives at 2227 Cooley Pl., Pasadena, CA 91104. • Timothy John was born October 27, 1992, into the family of John “JJ” & Carol Jaderholm and daughter Jayne (2). Their address is 4261 Cottonwood Trail, Hoffman Estates, IL 60195. • Phil Sommerville and Linda Maurer were married July 11, 1992. Taylor participants were Brad Brison, Dave Sommerville ’83, and Don Sommerville x’90. Phil was ordained in June 1992 by the Covina Evangelical Free Church, and anticipates a pastorate in the Evangelical Covenant Church. Linda is assistant director of continuing education at Fuller Theological Seminary. The couple lives at 999 E. Locust St. #3, Pasadena, CA 91106.

1981

Bill & Jeannette Bauer have moved from Upland, where Bill was head track coach, assistant athletic director, assistant professor of HPER and assistant football coach at Taylor, to Sterling, KS, where he is defensive coordinator and recruiting coordinator for Sterling College. Bill and Jeannette have two sons—Travis (3) and Cole (1). Their address is 403 W. Adams, Sterling, KS 67579. • Dave & Kathy (Hubbs) Harden announce the birth of Christopher David on March 9, 1992, joining Jonathan (3). Dave is associate dean of students at Geneva College and Kathy is at home with the children. They live at 602 Shenango Rd., Beaver Falls, PA 15010. • Jay & Nancy (Frylink) McManan welcomed Jonathan James (JJ) into their family on March 31, 1992. Nancy returned to her 4th-grade classroom in the Falls Church City Schools last September. Jay works for the CIA in Washington DC. Their address is 1534 Hidenbrook Dr., Herron, VA 22070. • Jacob Stephen was born July 12, 1991, six weeks early. to Walter & Shari (Guthrie ’83) McRae, 7701 Twin Oak Dr., Richmond, VA 23228. He spent two weeks in intensive care and seven months on an apnea monitor, but is now healthy and happy. His siblings are Benjamin (6) and Erin (3). Walter is counselor/chaplain at a Richmond hospital. Shari, a former mental retardation case manager, is now at home with the children. • Phillip & Mary (Lettrich) Poleti are happy to announce the birth of their first child, Michael Joseph, on June 22, 1992. The family resides at Smith Mountain Lake, 132 Cross Harbor Dr., Penhook, VA 24137. • David Poucher has completed the requirements for the Certified Management Accountant designation which recognizes professional competence in management accounting. David is corporate accounting manager for Goodmark Foods, Inc., Raleigh, NC. He and wife Susanna (Hartman), Andrew (3) and

NEW ARRIVALS. (from left) Patty (Walker ’82) Franklin and Joseph, Karen (Haegeland ’82) Anderson and Hannah, Becky (Schmid ’80) Cook and Emma. The note on the reverse of the photo reads, "Hannah and Ingrid are already discussing plans to be roommates in the year 2010." Abigail (1), live at 7700 Foxwood Dr., Raleigh, NC 27615. • Doug & Laurie (Schoen ’82) Walton announce the arrival of Jason Douglas on July 12, 1992. Jason’s proud sister Kim is 3. Doug is director of human resources for Scripture Press in Wheaton. Laurie is trust operations assistant in the investment department at Wheaton College. Walton’s Mountain is in Geneva, IL.

1982

Karen (Haegeland) Anderson, Becky (Schmid) Cook and
Patty (Walker) Franklin, all 1982 grads and roommates for two years at TU, delivered their first babies within six weeks of one another. Jim ’80 & Karen Anderson, 1137 Selma, Webster Groves, MO 63119, welcomed Hannah Ingrid on March 1, 1992; James & Becky Cook, ON159 Windermere 1108C, Winfield, IL 60190, greeted Emma Joy on March 3, 1992; and Randy & Patty Franklin, 9205C Anderson Dr., NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114, praise the Lord for Joseph Walker, born April 8, 1992. The children met at their mothers’ 10-year class reunion last October. They could possibly be classmates at Taylor in 2010. • Paul & Christine (Harmon) Retel welcomed Tyler Paul into their home on April 28, 1992. Sister Megan is 2. The Retels reside at One Lee Ct., DeKalb, IL 60115. • Ryan David joined the family of Tim & Barbie Stevenson on April 4, 1992, in Kijabe, Kenya. Son Dane Matthew was born at the same place and on the same date in 1989. Tim has served for over five years with Mission: Moving Mountains, as a community development consultant/discipler. Now in the states, Tim is beginning a graduate program in forest hydrology/agroforestry.

1983

Bruce & Beth (Jessop) Boyer announce the birth of Phillip James on October 16, 1992. Their older son is Joshua Bruce (2). Bruce is a CPA/audit supervisor with Williams-Keepers, and Beth is a homemaker. The family resides at 2113 Speck Ct., Columbia, MO 65202. • Tim & Michelle Ann Himmelwright were married July 17, 1992, with Kent Gerver x as a Taylor participant. The couple lives at 2131 Briarwood Ct., Allentown, PA 18104. Tim is cast region affiliate director for The New Inspirational Network. • Steve & Marsha (Brinson) Ngren are the happy parents of Zachary Stephen who arrived September 18, 1992, so join big brother Erik (3). For especially meritorious contributions to the company, Nalco Chemical Co. presented Steve its “Chairman’s Distinguished Award.” His article, “Improving Coal Preparation with an Expert Control System,” has been published in Mining & Quarrying Technology International 1992. • John & Bonnie (LeClair) Nystrom, Brianna (6) and Eric (3), returned last June to Papua New Guinea following a 1-year furlough in the US. They continue their work with Wycliffe, translating the scriptures into the Arop language. Their address is SIL Box 365, Ukurumpa Via Lae, Papua New Guinea. • Matt & Judi (Goodman) Osborne and Scott (2) welcomed Travis Lee into their home on July 27, 1992. Matt is Director of Admissions at Judson College, while Judi is home with the children. Their address is 2170 Vernon Dr., Elgin, IL 60123. • Joanna Svaan and Alexander Langberg were married October 12, 1991, in Bloomington, IN, where Joanna’s parents, John ’50 & Shirley (Gaerte ’49) Svaan live. Alex is a carpenter for Innovations in Shrewsbury, MA, and Joanna is assistant to the controller at the Worcester Telegram & Gazette. They live at 91 Water St., Clinton, MA 01510-2194. • On August 22, 1992, Darla Towne was married to James T. Ykimoff. Taylor participants were Susan Glassburn ’85 and Kelly (Rice ’x85) Marx. The happy couple’s address is 10795 Onondaga Rd. Onondaga, NY 13206. • Doug & Lynelle (Beeson ’81) Vogel announce the birth of twin girls, Marisa Danielle and Miriam Danae, on Nov ember 24, 1992. Caleb (3) is excited about having twin sisters. After pastoring Calvary Free Methodist Church in Lexington, KY, 1990-92, the Vogels are now pastoring Village Green Free Methodist Church in Ft. Wayne. Their address is 3415 Argyle Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46806. • Jim & Priscilla (Smith ’85) Wynalda and Nathan (2) have an addition to the family. Sally Patricia was born May 20, 1992, and is named for Sally Keith ’84. Jim is a busy physician in Grand Rapids, and the family lives at 445 Gaylord, Rockford, MI 49341.

1984

Ron & Brenda (Owen x) Bartel, R3, Box 10, Hillbors, KS 67063, had their first child, Andrea Michelle, on April 26, 1992. • Branson Cory was born January 6, 1992, to Chip & Brenda (McCollum ’85) Cooper. Chip is a district manager at Todd Corp., and Brenda is at home with Branson and his siblings, Brady (5) and Jenna (3), at 7521 E. 53rd St., Indianapolis, IN 46226. • Pam Drake has been accepted for missionary service in Quito, Ecuador, at HCJB World Radio. She serves in the accounting department. • John & Pam (Miller) Hays welcomed Daniel Alexander, born at home on October 18, 1992. Sisters Greta (4) and Caroline (2) are excited about having a brother. Pam continues to work as a medical editor, and John pastors an inner city church. Their address is 1212 Girard St. NE, Washington, DC 20017. • Catherine Elizabeth was born January 14, 1992, to Stephen & Amy (Pringle) Holmes, 3929 Highgate Rd., Norton Shores, MI 49441-5021. Amy is at home with the baby and working toward her certified financial planner designation. • Kevin & Patricia (De Pree) Kraay are happy to announce the birth of Laura Elizabeth on June 30, 1992. Laura Beth joins brother Bruce (2). Patricia enjoys teaching 2nd grade part-time. The family lives at 35 Park St., Zeeland, MI 49464. • Tom Lewinski was appointed tight-end coach for the Northern Illinois University Huskies last fall. He has been with NIU since 1986, and had previously served as recruiting coordinator. Tom and Terry (Stewart ’83) live at 121 Suburban Apts, DeKalb, IL 60115. • Barry & Debra (Richardson) Mason and daughter Emily have moved to Lafayette, IN, where Barry is administrator of Mulberry Lutheran Nursing Home. Debra, on extended leave of absence from Eli Lilly, is working part-time at a hospital in Lebanon. The Masons’ address is 3801 Maplewood Dr., Lafayette, IN 47905. • Gary & Dawn (Berge) Osborne have two sons—Justin (3) and Jacob Irving, born July 31, 1991. Dawn is at home with the boys after working seven years for United Airlines. Gary is a full-time lead mechanic at Patten Ind. and a full-time student at Moody Bible Institute. The Osburnes reside at 2N562 Euclid, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. • Dave & Claudia (Prestel) Riewald are pleased to announce the birth of Anna Rachel on June 30, 1992. Dave is a partner with a Portland, OR, law firm, and Claudia is now happily at home with Anna. • Kelsi Joan was born June 18, 1992, to Jon & Cylinda (Monroe) Ring. Kelsi joins sister Kaydi (4) and brother Colby (2). Jon is director of Youth Investment Foundation. The Rings live at 500 Inglewood Dr. N, Baxter, MN 56401. • Brian & Lynn (Barrigar) Schreiner, 7540 E. 50th St., Indianapolis, IN 46226, announce the birth of Breanna Lynn on March 27, 1992. Lynn is a kindergarten teacher in Lawrence Twp. schools, and Brian is a firefighter with Lawrence Twp. Fire Dept. They also own and operate Schreiner Scents, a wax potpourri business. • Carolyn Michelle was born November 22, 1991, to Shawn & Heidi (Montague) Sloan, 19 Tazewell St., Fredricksburg, VA 22405. The Sloans also have a son, Christopher. • Ted & Lynn (Billie ’87) Watanabe and son Michael Taylor (1) live at 206 Maryland Ave., Towson, MD 21204. Ted received his PhD in math education from Florida State University in 1991, and is currently assistant professor of math education at Towson State University.
1985

Scott & Sue (Nyman) Anderson announce the birth of Hope Elizabeth on July 1, 1992. Sue has resigned from teaching to be at home with Hope at 33 Creek Rd., Delran, NJ 08075. • Blake William was born May 5, 1992, to Mark & LeDania (Wallace ’86) Bowell. Mark is marking services administrator for the Indianapolis Dept of Parks and Recreation. The Bowell family lives at 1504 E. Markwood Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46227. • Nancy Hansen and Gerald Thomas were married October 24, 1992, in Winston-Salem, NC. Barbara Askeland was in the wedding party. Nancy is finance supervisor at Nabisco, and Jerry is a seminary student. They are preparing for service on the mission field. Their current address is 501 Park Ridge Ct., 4H, Winston-Salem, NC 27104. • Kevin & Lani (Ehara) Humble announce the birth of Vincent Leon on August 12, 1992. Big brother Justin Jay is 3. Last July Kevin and Lani were appointed by Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society as missionaries to the island of Java, and hope to leave by the end of 1993. They will be involved in church planting, and both will teach at Evangelical Theological Seminary of Indonesia. • Dong & Becky (Borland ’85) Klaus are happy to announce the arrival of Alyssa Joy on June 4, 1992. She has sister Brittany (5) and brother Taylor (3) at home to help take care of her. The family lives at 1022 N. Murphy Rd., Hanna City, IL 61536. • Jacob Yeager was born May 6, 1992, to Mark & Jenny (Miller) Leitnaker, 222 E. Fair Ave., Lancaster, OH 43130. After a career in bank operations management, most recently for Star Banc, Jenny is now at home with Jacob. Mark is an excavation contractor for the construction division of his family’s corporation.

1986

Benny & Chey (Dilly) Rivera announce the birth of Kelsey Scout on August 3, 1992. The Rivera family has a new home at 431 Barclay, Ferndale AM, Beaverton, OR 98031. • Scott & Beth (Flora) Shaum had their third son, Benjamin Nelson, on October 17, 1992. His brothers are Andrew (5) and Tyler (almost 2). Their address is 137 Foster Ave., Elkhart, IN 46516. • Kathleen Adele, first child of Andy & Elizabeth Varner, was born on April 6, 1992. They live at 3069 Buckingham Rd., Galesburg, IL 61401. • Phil Walton has been promoted to president at Huntington Bancshares Inc., Columbus, OH. Phil and wife Cheryl (Wheeler ’86) live at 1600 Worthington Club Dr., Westerville, OH 43081-4621.

1987

Paul & Lora Clark proudly announce the birth of their son, Silas Bark, on July 23, 1993. They reside at 10197 Bryant Rd., Fredericktown, OH 43019. • Sean Arthur was born on July 2, 1992, to Glen & Kathryn (Bieri) DeBraven. Their address is 128 Flat River Dr., Lowell, MI 49331. • On May 28, 1992, Collin Andrew was born to proud parents Frank & Jill (Wallace) Hatcher, who live at 23395 Dunbar Rd., Sheridan, IN 46069. Frank is an electrical designer at Moore Engineers, and Jill is a third grade teacher at Fox Hill School. • Michael & Andrea (Nelson) LeRoy are the proud parents of their first child, Dana King, born on July 20, 1992. Michael and Andrea have been at Vanderbilt University for the past three years where Michael was working on his PhD in political science and Andrea completed her master’s degree in counseling. They have now left for Sweden where Michael will be studying at the University of Goteborg on a Fulbright Scholarship. • Roger & Naomi (Humphrey ’87) Muselman announce the birth of Sarah Elaine, their first child, born April 20, 1992. Roger is director of marketing for E. P. Graphics in Berne, IN. Naomi is home with Sarah and also marketing homes in their new subdivision called Westwind of Berne. Their address is 1326 Hauptstrasse, Berne, IN 46711. • Kevin & Amy (Smith) Smith proudly announce the birth of Rebekah Lauren on July 18, 1992. Sister Rachel is 3. The family resides at R. R. 2, Box 224B, Sharpville, IN 46068-9556. • Kyle Alan was born on November 18, 1991, to Greg & Linda (Clark) Smith. Their address is 187 Castle Blvd., Akron, OH 44313. • Phil & Linda Taylor welcome into their home, Kyle David, born May 30, 1992. Phil received a MSed from the University of Dayton in 1989 and is currently a therapist at Jefferson County Mental Health. The Taylors reside at 347 Raleigh Ave., Weirton, WV 26062.

1988

Mike & Carla (Peterson) Brunbaugh proudly announce the birth of Kathryn Beth on March 25, 1992, who is joined at home by Courtney Lynn (3). Mike works at Lemper Agri-Service and raises sheep. Carla earned an MS degree in education at Indiana Purdue at Fort Wayne in 1991 and teaches third grade at Ligoniier Elementary. They live at 2137 S - 200 E, Albaon, IN 46701. • Neal Gore received the MD degree from Gordon-Conwell Seminary and has accepted an internship at Bethlhem Baptist Church in Minneapolis, MN. Neal, his wife Tamara and son Christopher James reside at 2728 14th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407. • Mike & Cindy Heiniger welcomed Kara Nicole to the family on May 19, 1992. Big brother Drew is 2. As of June 1992, Mike started a new position with Covenant Medical Center in Urbana, IL, as Director of Financial Management. Their new address is 502 Taylor Dr., Mahomet, IL 61853. • Scott Hughett has made a one-year commitment to serve with African Leadership and its affiliate Christian Mission Aid (CMA) in Nairobi, Kenya. He will be involved in various projects including Bible distribution, adult literacy, and church construction. Jordan Rae was born on May 21, 1992, to proud parents Patrick & Patti (Gammage) McNulty. Their address is 4505 Marselles, Detroit, MI 48224. • Julie Mervau married Mike S. Walters on July 11, 1992. Julie teaches fifth grade in Holland, MI and Mike works at Jordan College in Cedar Springs. They reside at 5912 E. Central Ave., Zeeland, MI 49464. • Bill Nelson received a JD degree from Valparaiso University and is employed as an associate attorney at Craig V. Braje Law Offices in Michigan City, IN. He and his wife reside at 323 W. Johnson Rd., LaPorte, IN 46350-1943. • Todd Sumney is working for The M Group Graphic Design in Phoenix as an Account Manager. He and his wife Kari reside at 3725 E. Tarol Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85024. • Nelson & Susan (Shevlot v) Vails announce the arrival of their firstborn, McKenzie Ann, on September 14, 1992. Nelson is a professional athlete (cyclist) and Susan is a mental health counselor for Charter Hospitals and an aerobic instructor. The family resides at 5145 N. Gulfford Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46205. • Andrew Timothy was born on October 7, 1992, to Tim and Sheila (Pitts) Weiland. He is joined at home by Abigail (4). Their address is 308 E. Wabash, Converse, IN 46919. • Garnell Williams is in China teaching English at the Hebei Institute of Education, 47 Xinshiming, Shijiazhuang, Hebei 050091, People’s Republic of China.
Publishers in Carol Stream, IL. Beth Keller has been named Associate Director of Admissions at Wayland Academy in Wisconsin. Her address is 106 Lake Crest Dr #216, Beaver Dam, WI 53916. Robert Mathiiah and Lisa King were married on August 8, 1992, in Breckenridge, CO. TU participants were Diana (King) Horne, Juli (King) x'86 Elliot, Terri (King) x'79 Brooks, Richard Mathiiah x'89, David Askeland, Joel Durkovic x'89, David Horne x'89, and Scott Hughett x Rob and Lisa live at P.O. Box 4452, Breckenridge, CO 80424. Denis Possing is a Sr. Knowledge Engineer for Integrated Software Specialists in Schaumburg, IL. Denis, wife Lynn, and son Miles Weber were born August 5, 1992, live at 1330 Quincy Ave, Racine, WI 53405. On July 14, 1992, Joel David was born to Mark & Carol (Neuhouser x'89) Stockdale. Mark has finished his MS in organic chemistry from Ball State University and is working for Eli Lilly in the skeletal disease drug discovery department. Their address is 11635 Chicago Ct., Fishers, IN 46038. Navy Lt. Oren Townsend recently received a Doctor of Medicine degree from Indiana University. His address is P.O. Box 434, Upland, IN 46098. On October 26, 1991, was the wedding day of J.R. Smith and Julie Wiseman. J.R. is Associate Dir. Communications Resource Center at Wheaton College, and Julie is a medical technologist at Central DuPage Hospital. Their address is 29W. 411 White Oak Dr., Warrenville, IL 60555. Denise Vincent and Adam Newell were married May 19, 1990. Kim (Black) Mishler and Dena (Wineman x'89) Marble were TU participants. Adam is attending Wright State University majoring in statistics and working on his Actuarial Fellowship. Denise is the operation manager for WPTW in Piqua, OH. They live at 538 Telford Ave. #D, Dayton, OH 45419-1428.

1989

Edwarro F. Drisdell was recently commissioned as Navy Ensign upon completion of Aviation Officer Candidate School. Edwardo's address is 1519 S. Ridgeway, Chicago, IL 60623. Kim Green x was married to Gary Reimer on July 20, 1991. Kim is a licensed property and casualty agent for Cuna Mutual League General Insurance Co. Gary is an engineer for the city of Grand Rapids. The couple resides at 3360 Cherry NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505. Jeff Jacobson has been promoted to Client Manager for Allstate Insurance Co. in Northeast Indiana. Jeff and his wife Kristie (Kuhnie x'90) will be residing at 9502 Sail Wind Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46804. David & Traci (Stewart) Mason announced the birth of their first child, Katelyn Diane, on July 10, 1992. The Mason family resides at 7577 Woodland Trace Dr., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. Rex Stump was married to Jenny Schaffner on June 27, 1992. Participating in the wedding was David Woodring. Their address is 16330 Co. Rd. H, Wauseon, OH 43567.

1990

Nate x & Diane (Jelsema x'89) Bartow had their first child, Rachel JoAnne, on June 4, 1992, Nate is completing his last year of mechanical engineering at Michigan Tech and Diane is at home with the baby. The Bartows' address is 2110 G Woodmar Dr., Houghton, MI 49931. On August 15, 1992, was the wedding date of Gretchen Burwick and Kevin Schubert. They now reside at 5729 Bctn Pine Dr., Apt. 200, Orlando, FL 32822, and are both working with Campus Crusade for Christ in Orlando. Wendy Carlson and Jay Dells x'89 were married May 2, 1992, in Eden Prairie, MN. Taylor participants included Deborah Litsch, Jeff Gross, Dave Winters, Heidi Crutchfield, Mary Buhrer x'91, Lisa (Marker) x'91, Ebert, Dave x '91 & Donalce (Moore) Vermeesch, Tim x'89 & Ashlyn (Feil) Holz, Jeff Arnette x'88, Mike Muter x'88, John Cornelius x'87, Dave x'59 & Joyce (Worgul x'62) Gustafson, and Prof. Steve Snyder. Jay is an employee assistance counselor for Ceredan Employer Services. Wendy is a teacher and is training to be a wedding coordinator. Their new home is at 7385 Howard Ln., Eden Prairie, MN 55346. Judy Jamieson has received a MLS degree from Indiana University and is a children's librarian at the Wakeraska Public Library. Her address is 505 Bison Ridge, Nappanee, IN 46550. Terry & Elaine (Thayer) Johnson announce the birth of Taylor Scott, born August 8, 1992. The Johnsons report they named their son Taylor partly because of Elaine's great experience here! Their address is 149 Fay Ave., Avon Lake, OH 44012. Coreen Konya and Kurt Jovick were married August 8, 1992. Participating in the wedding from Taylor were Tara DeLaughter, Martha Godfrey, Bruce x'64 & Carolyn (Martin x'64) Konya, Jenny Dickinson x'89, Jim Church x'91, Keith Konya x'94, and Chad Rowe x'94. Coreen is working as a remedial reading teacher for grades 1-6 in Eylia, OH. She and Kurt live at 120 E. Main St., Apt. A, South Amherst, OH 44010. Janel Oestrike and Daniel Gano were married on August 1, 1992. Pam (Hookesena) Malliet and Ruth Coln were Taylor graduates participating in the wedding. The couple's address is 6976 Bedford Rd., Hastings, MI 49058. Mary Benziger and George Offenhauser were married on September 13, 1992. Jay Teagle was a Taylor participant in the wedding. George is the Associate Manager at the First Advisory Corporation, a financial planning firm, and Mary is a Marketing Representative at the Steele Insurance Agency. They reside at 2600 Rachel Terrace, Apt. #10, Pineland, NJ 07858. Jennifer Sorrell, wife of Ryan Sorrell, was killed in an automobile accident on August 17, 1992, on the way home from a weekend at King's Island. Also killed was Ryan's sister, Kim (Sorrell x'93) Lee, and Kim's husband, David Lee. Ryan's address is 3102 Oceanline East Dr. #204, Indianapolis, IN 46214-1660. Juanita Voder and Eric Albright were married on August 15, 1992. Taylor participants in the wedding included Kelly (Graham) Levesque, Deborah (Horn) Case, Melissa (Miller) Peterson, Kira (Rucker) Saylor, and Nate Peterson x'89. Juanita is a third-year medical student at the Penn State University College of Medicine in Hershey, PA and Eric is a medical pediatrics resident at the Hershey Medical Center. They live at 221 Old Hershey Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

1991

Joy Atenburg is working for TEAM for one year at Christian Academy in Tokyo, Japan. She is teaching physical education and coaching volleyball. Her address is Christian Academy in Japan, 1-2-14 Shinkawara Ho, Higashi Kurumeshi, Tokyo, JAPAN 203. Patty Carroll is teaching English at a vocational high school in Hungry. She specializes in economics, foreign trade and banking. She will be in Hungry for at least a year with Educational Services International. Patty lives at Rudas Laszlo Szakkoezpiskola, 2403 Dunaujvaros, Romi krt. 47-49. HUNGARY. Karen Kraft and Jeff Hammel were married August 8, 1992. Taylor participants were Shari MacFadyer, Teresa (Larimore) Holner, Mary Jane Schramm, and Rebecca Kraft x'96. Karen is earning her MS at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. Jeff is at Tennessee Technological University earning a degree in mechanical engineering. The couple's new address is 727A Kent Dr., Lebanon, TN 37087. Judith Kraus and Mark Sulka were married on July 18, 1992, in Merrillville, IN. Kim Gyi, Julie Heath, John Randolph, Brad Stumbo, Chris Plummer, Mike Robertson, Dave Venteurten x'90, Paul Leiniger x'92, and Lynne Sulka x'94 were Taylor participants in the wedding. Judy & Mark live at 960 Sherwood Lake Dr. #2C, Schererville, IN 46375. Susy Peterson and Ed Kelly were married on September 26, 1992, in Princeton, IL. Taylor participants in the wedding were Julie (Ringenberg x'73) Eisenburg, Doug Peterson x'88, Cheryl Hubers x'80) Bixby, Sherie Lewis x'91, Jenny (Zurburg x'92) Rhodes, Tami (Steinman x'92) Swymeler, and Alison Taggart x'92. Ed is an independent computer contractor.
current employed by Fidelity Investments in Boston and Susy is enjoying applying her art to her new home. They reside at 700-J Brookside Dr., Andover, MA 01810. • The wedding of Penny Polsgrove and John Smarrella was held on September 12, 1992. Participating from Taylor were Gordon '60 & Judy (Weber '59) Polsgrove, parents of the bride, Scott Polsgrove '87, Kim (Kile '88) Polsgrove, Kathy Smarrella '89, Linda (Johnson '90) Hanks, Maria (Mithaler) Odman, Laura Anderson, Cathy Crowder x'92, and Suzie Polsgrove '96. Jay Kesler '58 helped officiate. The couple works at Spring Hill Camps. John is Program and Personnel Director, while Penny works with teen and follow-up programs. Their address is Box 100, Evart, MI 49631. • Susan Sidebotham and John Bechtle '92 were married June 20, 1992, in Wheaton, IL. Taylor participants were Lisa Routley, Laura (Zorovich) Geyer, Tim Henries, Jim Palmer x'92, Greg Carlson x'93, and Mark Dirkes x'93. Their current address is 1054 Crestfield St. #1, Mansfield, OH 44906. • Heidi vonGunten and David Faulks '92 were married August 1, 1992. Participating in the wedding from Taylor '92, David is a student at Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, TN, and Heidi is a 4th grade teacher with Shelby County Schools. Their address is 6005 Summer-Ridge Dr. #1, Memphis, TN 38115.

1992

Susan Christensen and Phillip Brewer x'89 were married August 9, 1992, in Upland, IN. TU participants were Jennifer Eggert, Jane Denton, Lynette Howland '92, James Brewer '89, DeAnn (Gaithier '89) Brewer, Jonathan Brewer '84, Jayson Brewer '94 and Timothy Brewer x'83. The couple’s address is Box 97, Kenton, IN 46449. • Becky Gaertner and Edmond Heper were married February 29, 1992. TU participants were Jennifer Johnson, Wendy Joyce, Drew Hamilton, Mark Dubenbinder '91, Mike Fruehey '91, Beth Delmasco '93 and Jahn Burwash '94. Edmond is corporate administrator of disaster recovery for USA Funds, and Becky is a private voice teacher. They live at 1607 Fallingbrook Ct., Fishers, IN 46038. • Craig Gunther, 304 Galtain #8, Marion, IN 46952, manages inventories and assists in cost analysis at Foster-Forbes Glass Co. in Marion. • Cindy Hayes and Wesley Williamson '91 were married July 25, 1992. Participating from Taylor were Alison Taggart, Jon Halterman, Ivan Lee '93 and Aaron Kleist '93. Wesley is director of youth ministries for the Salvation Army of Plymouth, MI. Their home address is 5160 Nectar Dr. 42-653, Canton, MI 48187. • Tim Imperial is general accountant/office systems administrator for Cho Yang Lines USA, a Korean conglomerate based in Rutherford, NJ. Tim lives at 69 Aqueduct Ave., Midland Park, NJ 07432. • June 6, 1992, was the wedding date of Christa Itzhes and Steve Upton '91 in Hillsboro, MO. TU participants were Bonnie Houser, Mark Nevil '90, Cathy Itzhes and Dave Upton '93. Dr. & Mrs. Ron Sloan played the piano. Steve is a music teacher in Kirkwood Schools, St. Louis, assisting with high school choir and band beginning brass students. Christa gives private instruction in piano. Their address is 2362 Half Moon Dr. #C, St. Louis, MO 63114. • Lisa Landrue is an information technology consultant and business systems integrator with Andersen Consulting, a division of Arthur Andersen & Co., working with various clients on short-term assignments. She is currently residing with her aunt and uncle at 22 Alexander Ave., Parsippany, NJ 07054. • Thomas Moher is sales manager of The Computer Forms Co. Lasting Impressions, a company owned by Dave Ronig '91 in Midlothian, VA. Tom lives at 3009 Sage Grove, Midlothian, VA 23112. • Julie Olday and Timothy Henries '91 were married June 13, 1992, in Palatine, IL, with the following Taylor participants: Heather (Farney) Beitzel, Liz Behmer x, Erin Carlson, Johnny Bird, John Bechtle, Dawn Olday '90, Brad Beitzel '91 and Jenny Olday '95. The couple lives at 1515 Silver Ln. #1-A, Palatine, IL 60067. • August 15, 1992, was the wedding date of Laurie Randall and Andy McNeill. TU participants were Jill (Snyder) Smith, Shawn Sicha x, Jay Weitekamp, Meribeth Salveson, Laurie Winterholter '91, James Embree '93, Naomi Moore '93, Kevin Torrans '94 and Pastor Chuck Gifford '69. The McNeills reside at 6359 Monarch Dr., #B, Indianapolis, IN 46224. • Jennifer Settlage and Paul Urban were married June 6, 1992, with Beck (Franz) Nen, Tracy Tobey, Carrie Lucht x, Jeff Stonick '91, Missy Nieven '91, Wendy (Bilen) '91 Mesmer and Jon Linstra '93 participating. Paul is youth director at Silverdale UM Church in Washington, and they live at 12101 Daphne Ln. NW, Silverdale, WA 98383. • Matt Strange married Susan Bell on August 8, 1992, in Knoxville, TN. TU participants were Joel Nussbaum, Kevin Willis, Amy Eklund and Michelle Berry, all '93. Following a honeymoon week in Cancun, Mexico, the couple is back home at 6437 Maidstone #918, Indianapolis, IN 46254. •

To be included in Alumni Notes, just call 1 (800) 882-3456, and ask for Marty Cleveland Songer at ext. 5113. Or, if you prefer, you may send your name (including maiden name), class year, your address, and telephone number (the latter for alumni records, as only your address will be published in Alumni Notes), and current information in a style similar to that of the Alumni Notes section to: Marty Cleveland Songer, Alumni Notes editor, Taylor University, 500 W. Reade Ave., Upland, IN 46989-1001; (Facsimile: 317-999-4910).

Kim (Thacker) and Paul Leininger, both '92, and the Taylor people who attended their wedding.
Pieces of April
by Jessica Rousselow, PhD

April means many things to each of us: Easter; spring; thunders-storms; flowers; gardening; green grass. To me, April is dominated by the process of rehearsing the spring play, one of my favorite occupations. I am happiest when the show has intellectual, emotional, and spiritual significance, and Quilters possesses these qualities.

Playwrights Damashick and Newman have created a moving interpretation of human experience by exploring the pieces of women’s lives: childhood; puberty; romance; marriage; babies; aging and death interspersed with love and laughter; joy and tears precipitated by the ordinary and extraordinary happenings of women in 19th century America. These women preserve the meaning of their lives for posterity by piecing quilts—ordinary objects for ordinary use, but conceived and executed with extraordinary artistry and vision.

It strikes me that the great majority of us live out our days—the pieces of our lives—caught between the ordinary and the extraordinary. Some of us learn, at least in some small ways, to invest the ordinary with the creative, artistic vision which transforms life into the extraordinary, the mundane into the sacramental.

We learn to move from the activity of preparing the evening meal—washing and chopping vegetables, perhaps—to preparing the bread and wine of the Eucharistic meal to be eaten together in the context of community.

We go shopping for a spring outfit and pay attention to color and line. We reject the dull khaki colored outfit that makes us look jaundiced in favor of the one which brings the colors of our skin tones to life. We walk home or across the campus and are stopped dead in our tracks by the sheer beauty of the earth. The floor of the woods is wearing a blue and white carpet and the trees are sporting gossamer green gowns and any moment we will see the redbuds transformed into lavender clouds. With Thornton Wilder, our spirits cry out, “Oh, earth, you’re too wonderful for anyone ever to realize you? Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it every minute? And we know that the stage manager’s answer, “Saints and poets, maybe—they do some,” still rings true.

And then there’s Holy Week: Palm Sunday we wave what passes for palm fronds singing “Hosanna” as the choir processes down the aisle and the organ booms. Suddenly we are connected to those who participated in the first Palm Sunday. We close our eyes for a moment and remember the streets of Jerusalem and when we open our eyes the robed choir has been transformed into the disciples and the figure wearing the white alb carrying the gold cross is the Christ.

Maundy Thursday we return and sit in silence as the same robed choir makes its way down the aisle. We eat the bread and drink from the cup. We hear the ancient words of ritual: “This is my body broken for you...take...eat. This is my blood shed for you. Drink all of it. Rise and go in peace and the God of peace go with you now and forevermore.” We watch as the altar is stripped and the cross is draped in black, and we leave the church in silence.

Sunday morning—Easter—the day more than any other day when life wins over death. We enter the sanctuary and miraculously, it seems, the black drapes are gone from the altar, replaced by white and gold altar cloths. The whole chancel area is banked with Easter lilies and the silence is overwhelmed by sound: “Christ the Lord is Risen Today, Alleluia, Alleluia.” Even the sun is cooperating, streaming through stained glass of the clearstory windows, transforming the space into a house of joy and light.

The choir sings Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus.” We raise to our feet as one body and some eyes mist over—those beautiful lilies are all there as memorials to our loved ones who have gone before. I remember my father’s death: an April heart attack while planting his potatoes; my mother’s death: sudden, in the middle of the night, in my bedroom; and my aunt’s death: agonizingly painful. But faith says, “I believe in the resurrection of the body. I know that my Redeemer liveth, and because he lives, I, too, shall live.”

The ordinary transformed into the extraordinary.

Life lived between the poles of the mundane and sacramental.

This is spring...April...Easter.
Sickler Hall is the oldest building at Taylor, and one of only three that date back to the original Upland campus. Since 1902, it has served as a dormitory, science building, education building, and, currently, as the headquarters for the communication arts department.

The William Taylor Foundation is committed to restoring and renovating this historic edifice.

You can be a part of it. A signed, numbered, limited edition, 18" x 22" unframed print of a watercolor by retired art professor Jack Patton is yours for a suggested minimum gift to the William Taylor Foundation of $100 (or, $175 for a beautifully framed print).

Designate your gift to Sickler Hall restoration.

When you do, you will have a role in assuring this building remains on Taylor University’s campus for years to come. Use the reply card in this issue, or call, 1-800-882-3456, ext. 5239.
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