Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

Proverbs 13:12

“Hope” is the thing with feathers—
That perches in the soul—
And sings the tunes without the words—
And never stops—at all—

Emily Dickinson

Hope is definitely not the same thing as optimism. It is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that something makes sense, regardless of how it turns out.

Václav Havel

Hope is like a harebell trembling from its birth.

Christina Georgina Rossetti

Hope, the patent medicine
For disease, disaster, sin.

Wallace Rice
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In the days following the April 26th accident the Taylor University Web site was flooded with a tremendous outpouring of emotion and prayer support for families, students, and staff connected with Taylor. Over 800 messages of prayer and condolences came from individuals around the world. Although several posts were made anonymously each was

written with quality and love.

"I just heard about this accident this morning on Armed Forces Radio overseas... This Wheaton alumnus is praying for the families and your campus as a whole. May God use this horrible tragedy somehow and bring healing to all those affected both physically and emotionally."

"I'm a Grant County community member who attends a local church. News of the accident came in to my Bible study just after 8pm last night, and we stopped and prayed immediately. Know that our thoughts and prayers will continue with all of you in the coming days and weeks."

"Many at Huntington University are praying for the Taylor community and the many friends and family impacted by this tragedy. We thank God that He is welcoming those you will be missing. We are thankful that He can also bring peace to those still here who are so personally impacted."

"I am a mother of three Taylor grads. My husband and I and our whole church family will be praying for the families of those who are now with their Savior and the ones in the hospital. We will be praying that God will strengthen and sustain everyone at Taylor as you trust in his never failing love."
"I am a student from India who will be joining Taylor during this upcoming fall semester. Just want to let everyone at Taylor know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of grief."

"Prayer from California to all those on campus feeling the loss of these individuals. I feel it and I didn’t know any of them. I know there are alumni all over the country who are sending up prayers for the campus."

"As Taylor University graduates, we know how close the students and families of TU are. We are thankful for this consistent closeness, but realize that parting with friends and family members is that much more difficult because of it. May you find the peace that only our God can provide. He is faithful. He keeps his promises."

"Our schools may be rivals in some facets; however, Taylor University students and staff are brothers and sisters in Christ to those of us from Indiana Wesleyan. Our hearts break for you, yet we pray for the peace and hope that is found in the Truth of our faith. We are praying for you, care about you, and grieving with you all."

"From your friends at Ball State: We love you and are praying that God may bring you the peace and comfort only He can bring!"

"Our children at St. Lawrence remembered Taylor University in their morning gathering this morning. My ten year old son, Tim, wanted to know if the students and staff member had seen Jesus? ‘Yes, Tim, I replied, they saw Jesus immediately!’ What a comfort to know in the middle of such a tragedy, that Jesus was in the midst of the accident, and welcomed each one home by name! We love you at Taylor and pray that God will bring healing...Peace Be with You!’"

"I came to your blog via a newspaper’s website in Sydney. The newspaper did not mention your faith. Yet coming to this site it is the most overwhelming feature. I wish I shared your faith. In reading through this blog it is obvious you have something so special there and I wish I did too. I came here saddened over your terrible circumstances and such a dreadful way to lose your daughter and troubled by the hard time you have been through... and yet here I am, wishing I had what you have. How can that be?

How rich you are. I hope I don’t sound callous; I’m just so moved by your blog...

I hope you have the comfort, love and support you need in this hard time."

Comment posted to the VanRyn's blog
by the numbers

Books

Although the Zondervan Library celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, it could be argued that it's not getting older, it's getting better.

Home to over 200,000 resources, Zondervan holds membership in an interlibrary loan program that allows its users to access literally millions of books, tapes and periodicals. A reciprocal borrowing program with 70 libraries throughout the State of Indiana also lets Taylor students visit and check out resources on college campuses from New Albany to South Bend.

And when students return in the fall, they will be greeted by five new technology-enabled multi-purpose rooms which will complement Zondervan's current 11 multi-purpose rooms. According to Librarian Dan Bowell, a gift from the estate of former Librarian Lois Weed paved the way for the addition of the new facilities, which will serve as classrooms and places for workgroup meetings.
Where was God last night?

It was a question asked by a reporter during the frenetic hours after what may have been the most devastating loss in Taylor's history. In a world filled with famine, hurricanes, terrorist threats and genocide, how could five people with such promise be taken so quickly in what appeared to have been such a random fashion?

Betsy planned to stay in Marion so she could work with the children she loved. Brad was a man of personal devotion who planned to attend law school. Laura was funny, athletic, and loved Jesus in a way that challenged her friends. Monica doted over the students in her lunch line and gave candy bars to athletes on game day. And Laurel was a gifted artist who saw beauty in all things and used to wake up early just to watch the sunrise.

Each left behind devastated family, friends and loved ones. Each is deeply missed. Even today.

In those initial moments of shock and dismay, students, faculty and staff converged upon the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium to weep together, pray together and somehow, get through the unthinkable together. That night, as they clung to each other and to the Lord in their broken-heartedness, they realized, as I did, that God was on His throne. But we also sensed Him there among us—shedding our tears and ministering to us in ways that mere words cannot express.

There is no neat and tidy answer to the question, “Why?” But we rest in the truth of God’s faithfulness and goodness; and while we grieve, we also have the blessed hope that one day we will see each of these people again. To paraphrase the late Rich Mullins’ poignant song Sometimes By Step, five of the stars that Abraham saw that brilliant night so many years ago were lit for Monica, Betsy, Laurel, Brad and Laura.

James R. Garringer
Editor

New Address – Same Taylor Magazine!

The Taylor Magazine is getting a new e-mail address! Please send all of your messages to magazine@taylor.edu
The right stuff

A group of Taylor University students spent their spring break at Microgravity University at the Kennedy Space Center, Houston, Texas. But their classroom was not in a building, it was the padded cabin of a NASA C-9B aircraft flying at varied altitudes.

The Taylor students were selected from a nationwide pool of applicants by NASA's Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program for their proposal to test a motor-driven tether for a micro-communications satellite designed and built over the past six years. In Houston they joined other universities also chosen for participation in the program by NASA.

The C-9B is known as the Vomit Comet. Inside its 45-foot padded compartment, the Comet's passengers experience weightless conditions (along with a host of other physical sensations) through over 30 sets of climbing and diving maneuvers per flight.

And the name is not limited to just one plane, but several in NASA's microgravity program used for training future astronauts, and in one case the filming of weightless scenes for the motion picture Apollo 13 in the mid-1990s. The Taylor students took two rides on the aircraft. Funding for the trip was assisted by a grant from the Indiana Space Grant Consortium.

"It shows the caliber of students we have," said Taylor physics faculty member Dr. Hank Voss, who is himself no stranger to NASA, having worked with the agency in the past on satellite and component projects.

Voss said the flights were critical because it allowed the students to test the satellite's tether, made from copper and nitenol (an alloy comprised of nickel, titanium, carbon, oxygen and hydrogen) in weightless conditions.

"(Our students were) competing with a selected number of large universities," he added. "They (got) to see the other students' experiments at a pretty high level."

"This is going to be awesome," said Taylor physics senior and Comet team member Mark Burtness prior to the trip. "We are one step closer to getting the satellite in space; we're excited about the experience."

Burtness said the team's time in Houston was to be spent in extensive training sessions for their flights. "Working with NASA is very exciting," he added. "The projects that we do really make our education a quality one."
Springtime in New Orleans

Members of a Taylor World Outreach team spent their spring break stripping mold-infested drywall from wrecked houses, moving disabled cars from their resting places and hearing over and over again the heartbreaking stories of people who had lost everything. And they would go back in a heartbeat.

“This team is full of joy,” said Amy Barnett ’94, admissions communications coordinator. “If you met them on campus you would see it.”

Barnett and fellow admissions staff member Dusty DiSanto ’05, led a group of 18 students to hurricane-ravaged New Orleans for a week of backbreaking work in filthy conditions. They were the second Taylor group to minister to Katrina’s victims in their home settings – in 2005, a group of nearly 200 spent their fall break in Pascagoula, Mississippi, a town that suffered a direct hit from Katrina last year.

“It was like 9/11,” DiSanto said of the damage seen in New Orleans. “There are 1,400 people still missing. Half the city is gone. They are anticipating this hurricane season to be worse.”

“Every house we went into looked like a bomb hit it. Even stuff that looked salvageable wasn’t,” added DiSanto.

Wearing masks to protect their lungs from the millions of mold spores in the air around them, the team scrubbed personal belongings from contact lenses to porcelain bath fixtures. Some items could be saved; others could not. But in each case they were able to bring closure to their respective projects.

“Our team was determined to finish the project,” said Barnett. “We went in with the attitude that what was given to us was expected to be finished.”

Wake-up call came at 6:30 a.m. on a typical day, if there was such a thing given the setting, with group devotions and breakfast 30 minutes later. The teams arrived at their worksite by 9:00 a.m. After an hour’s lunch break the teams were back at it for three to four more hours of work.

In addition to their reclamation work, the group staged puppet shows and worked one-on-one with hurricane victims, most of whom had lost everything but yet displayed a joy that can only come from Jesus.

“(We learned) the importance and power of serving. Serving the people like we (did) – they served us. That is what we are called to do. I was completely and utterly humbled by the people we worked with,” Barnett said. “To see them live out their leadership capabilities is so humbling. I’m forever changed as a result of this trip.”
Commencing and remembering

The 2006 Taylor University commencement featured a cloudless sky, breezy conditions and solemn reflection as 420 graduates were awarded diplomas and servant’s towels on Saturday, May 20th.

Although much of Indiana had experienced rainy conditions for a 10-day period which finally subsided the previous Wednesday, workers were able to prepare Wheeler Stadium for the large crowd.

The truck-van accident which claimed the lives of five Taylor University community members on April 26th was observed as each program participant wore a green ribbon celebrating the beginning of new life in Heaven for Whitney Cerak, Laurel Erb, Monica Felver, Brad Larson and Betsy Smith. It would be discovered 11 days later that Cerak and VanRyn were misidentified at the crash site and that VanRyn had died and Cerak had lived.

Degrees were awarded to Larson, Smith and VanRyn, all of whom were Taylor seniors; and an Associate of Arts degree was awarded to Erb.

Honorary doctorates were presented to the Reverend A. Miller Malloy, general secretary of the United Bible Society, and 1973 Taylor graduate Stephen L. Johnson, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

“It is indeed a privilege to be able to address you and extend my deep appreciation for this great honor that Taylor has bestowed upon me,” Malloy told the crowd. “It’s a particular honor and joy for me and my wife to be here in the first year of the presidency of Dr. Habecker at Taylor. I’ve known your president and his wife, Marylou, for many years and my appreciation for them has grown throughout that time.”

Johnson, who received one of the first honorary doctorates in science awarded by Taylor, delivered the commencement address. “When my parents and I drove to Upland, I didn’t know a single person. But through years of classes, intramural sports, and late night hang-outs, I formed such significant bonds with my classmates that (it) made it hard to move away from them on graduation day. Even more than that, I fell in love with this place,” he said.

“Sitting around you are some of the best friends you will ever have in your life,” Johnson added. It will be hard to be without them in your daily lives. I know you are already feeling this loss of several members of your classmates, including two from the Class of 2006. I hope that you carry on their memories and touch others’ lives as they touched yours.”
Faculty accolades

Zach Bent, visiting art instructor; Shaun Casbarro '01, visiting art instructor; and Kathy Herrmann, assistant professor of art, displayed artwork at the Minnetrista Art Show in Muncie, February 25 through April 9.

Jim Cee, associate dean of business, completed his doctorate in March. He was honored with the Gary Confessorre Award for Scholarly Work in the area of adult learning theory and was inducted into the Beta Phi Society.

Gary Friesen '75, director of instructional and academic technology, received an Indiana Partnership for Statewide Education (IPSE) Award for Innovation and Leadership in the support for online teaching and learning category. The award included a $1,000 prize.

Jonathan Geisler '95, assistant professor of computing and systems sciences and Stefan Brandle, associate professor of computing and systems sciences, hosted the 6th annual Taylor programming contest April 9. Participation has grown from 13 teams from seven schools in 2001 to 35 teams from 14 schools. Taylor placed first in this year’s competition.

Dan King, assistant professor of chemistry and student Ryan Poe '07 presented research on Fungal-Plant Protein Interactions at the Midwest Scholars Conference in February.

Bob Lay, professor of biblical studies, presented a paper and slides on the legacy of Taylor President Monroe Vayhinger at the Indiana Association of Historians in February.

Ken Kiers, associate professor of physics, co-authored an article in Physics Review about neutrinos with Taylor students Michael Assis '06 and David Simons '04, along with scholars from Wayne State and Brookhaven National Lab.

Bill Ringenberg’s ’61, professor of history, newest book, The Christian College: A History of Protestant Higher Education in America (2nd edition), has been published and was recently distributed to all 1,500 delegates who attended the 2006 Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) International Forum in Dallas, Texas.

Don Takehara, director for the center for research and innovation, presented a paper and was a panel member at the 2006 Bioenergy Symposium in February at Purdue University.

Laurie Wolcott ’80, technical services/collection development librarian, received the Master of Divinity degree from Christian Theological Seminary in December, 2005.

Top faculty 2005-2006

Dr. John Moore and Win Corduan have been named recipients of two of Taylor University’s top faculty awards for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Moore, professor of biology and biology department chair, was named Distinguished Professor for 2006 by Taylor University’s Alumni Council; Corduan, professor of philosophy and religion, received the Franklin W. and Joan M. Forman Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award for 2006.

According to Taylor Alumni Director Marty Songer, Moore “has served with extraordinary dedication. From supervising student teachers to supervising labs and experiments, (he) has empowered students and poured into their lives the love of God’s creation and His handwork.”

“As I realized what this recognition means and the honor that it holds, I needed to make sure that any accolades for myself became praise for my Lord and Savior who gives me the strength to do what I do,” said Moore, who also received an Award of Recognition from the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers Inc. (HASTI) in April.

Corduan’s receipt of the Forman Award marks the third major honor accorded him by the University since he joined the Taylor faculty in 1977. He is also a two-time recipient of the Distinguished Professor award.

“(Dr. Corduan) loves Taylor University and is passionately committed to the task of equipping his students to achieve their dreams and sharing his knowledge of the Bible and his love of Jesus Christ honestly and clearly with people from all faiths and cultures,” said Dr. Tom Jones.

Corduan, whose book Pocket Guide to World Religions was recently published by NavPress, said he was moved by the honor: “As everyone knows, my scholarship has been a very important part of my academic life,” he said, “I’ve paid a lot of attention to it and invested a lot of time in it. It was wonderful to have my colleagues’ recognition of these efforts.”
Trojans name new football coach

James Bell has been hired as Taylor University’s head football coach. Bell, who has been coaching in the collegiate ranks for 25 years, comes to Taylor following a three-year stint as head coach at NCAA Div. I Jackson State.

“I am excited about getting on board with Taylor University,” said Bell. “President Habecker has a vibrant vision for Taylor, and we are ready to join in that vision of excellence. I want to do my part to be a positive contributor to the athletic department and to the University as a whole.”

Prior to Jackson State, Bell served as an assistant at the University of North Texas, Wake Forest, Indiana and Louisville.

Athletic Director David Bireline said Bell brings strong credentials to the Taylor program. “Taylor athletics is very excited about Coach Bell and the whole-person approach he exhibits,” he said. “Not only has his football background allowed him to work with some of the country’s leading coaches, his educational background will allow him to contribute to the PHP department. We are looking forward to his leadership in the football program.”

“James Bell is an outstanding Christian coach, father and husband who will be a tremendous asset to the Taylor University community,” said Indianapolis Colts’ Assistant Coach Jim Caldwell. “James will provide great leadership while developing a winning philosophy without compromising his Christian values. He is an intelligent taskmaster with an unusual ability to organize, recruit and create an atmosphere for success on and off the field.”

Bell and his wife, Alfreida, have a daughter Curtisha, 21, and a seven-year-old son, Aeneas.

“President Habecker has a vibrant vision for Taylor, and we are ready to join in that vision of excellence. I want to do my part to be a positive contributor to the athletic department and to the University as a whole.”

Trojans Football Coach James Bell
Spring 2006 sports review

Baseball
33-22 record, setting a school record for wins in a season
Finished second in the MCC South Division
Won the MCC Tournament, advancing to the Region VIII Tournament
Four players named All-MCC First Team
   (Tad Livers, Trent Mast, Ricky Pedersen, Michael Bentley)
Three players named NAIA Honorable Mention All-Americans

Softball
Finished the season with a 7-24 record
One player named All-MCC First Team (Emily Pensinger)
Three players named NAIA Scholar-Athletes

Women's Track
Placed third at MCC Conference Meet
Broke three school records (Lolly York 2 and Carolyn Betteridge)
   Lolly York placed 7th in the 5,000 meter run at the NAIA National Championship

Men's Track
Finished third at MCC Conference Meet
Broke one school record (Mitchell Jones)
Qualified six members for the NAIA National Championship

Coaching milestones
Paul Patterson and Tena Krause both enjoyed milestone wins during the 2005-2006 season when Patterson notched his 600th collegiate coaching victory and Krause got her 300th victory.
Since Patterson's arrival in 1979, the Trojans basketball team has averaged 20 wins a year. Krause has built a consistent winner since she joined the Taylor coaching ranks 17 years ago. Under the two, the Trojans have consistently vied for conference crowns and trips to the NAIA national tournament.
"I hope a prospective student would look at our program and think about the stability we have, but also to take a deeper look at the women involved in our team and the commitment they have to the Lord as well as basketball," said Krause.
"Whenever you reach a milestone like this, it makes you think back," Patterson said. "It reminds me of all the great people that I have been fortunate enough to work with over the years."
Always providing

It was during a visit to the hospital in Fort Wayne when I visited the VanRyn family and was privileged to sit at their daughter Laura's bedside. As I prayed for her, and for her family, I asked God to bless her with a complete recovery, and them with the peace that passes all understanding.

By now, I'm sure you have heard that it was not Laura who was recovering in that hospital bed that day, but Whitney Cerak, whom we all believed had died on that tragic night of April 26th. To say we were stunned at this news would be an understatement.

Only God knew the full scope of the events of April 26th as they unfolded that dark night and in the coming days. Only God knew that it was Whitney who had been so seriously injured and that it was Laura who along with Laurel Erb, Monica Felver, Brad Larson and Betsy Smith was part of a homecoming during which she heard those words for which each of us longs so deeply, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

We have learned so much of God's faithfulness and love in the lives of Laura's and Whitney's families. The VanRyns, after caring and being prayer warriors for the person they believed was their daughter, have responded to this human tragedy with a grace that has both challenged us and broken our hearts.

And the Ceraks, while filled with a sense of joy because their daughter is alive, stand in solidarity with the VanRyns. The Ceraks too have traveled that road of sorrow.

We should never be surprised by God's faithfulness. Philippians 3:20 states that God is able to work "exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us." We serve a good and loving Heavenly Father who has called us to obedience and trust, even when the way is uncertain, the path is dark and the challenge is great. As C.S. Lewis puts it, "I know now Lord, why you utter no answer. You are yourself the answer. Before your face questions die away."

Marylou and I are so pleased to serve with you in the place where the Lord brought us together, allowed us to study under the mentoring of excellent faculty, and equipped us to go out and minister the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need. As the old saying goes, "If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got." God is calling us to ensure that His work at Taylor University will go on, not just through the remainder of the 21st century, but beyond. As we have learned over the past few weeks, sometimes that road is stained with tears, but it is paved with God's faithfulness.

“We should never be surprised by God's faithfulness.”

—Dr. Eugene B. Habecker '68
Faith and the Problem of Suffering

Now well into summer, the Taylor community still mourns the loss of those who died in the van accident on April 26. This tragic event has touched us all in one way or another, and it has no doubt presented a challenge to the faith of many. After all, God is supposed to be all-powerful and all-good. If He is all-powerful, then He can stop such suffering. And if He is all-good, then wouldn't He want to stop this suffering? Yet the pain goes on, and the deaths of our beloved sisters and brother are but the latest horrific chapter in a daily reality all over the world. As Dostoevski once wrote, the earth is soaked from crust to core with the tears of humanity.

For centuries philosophers and theologians alike have wrestled with the problem of human suffering. And many solutions have been attempted. For example, some propose that all suffering is divine punishment for sin. Victims of disease, poverty and natural disasters are all experiencing the wrath of God. Such thinking was apparent in Jerry Falwell's notorious declaration that with the 9-11 attacks God was punishing the United States for its sins. The problem with this approach is that it forgets that the innocent suffer too. From Job and Joseph to Jesus himself, plenty of people who are not wickedly rebelling against God have suffered severely.

Another approach insists that suffering is the inevitable consequence of the laws of nature. God had to make the world operate according to certain predictable rules, such as gravity and the laws of thermodynamics. But, unfortunately, doing so inevitably resulted in the possibility of painful accidents and diseases. So human suffering simply results from God making an orderly world. Unfortunately, this approach forgets that God, being all-powerful and all-wise, could have made the world in such a way that diseases and accidents didn't happen. Indeed, He has promised to do just this in the New Earth that awaits us. Furthermore, to say that suffering is inevitable ignores the biblical fact that suffering only came into the world when humans began to sin (the Fall).

Yet another approach focuses on a crucial aspect of the concept of sin. Our rebellion against God — and all of its negative consequences — resulted from our abusing our free will. As with Adam and Eve in the Garden, God presents us with the choice of obedience and blessing on the one hand and disobedience and curse on the other. Sadly, we all choose wrongly from time to time, which results in suffering. So we have no one to blame but ourselves. However, the limitation of this approach is that it doesn't explain why God would allow us to sin as we do. Is our freedom really worth all the pain? Why so much suffering?

These are just a few of the more popular approaches to the problem of suffering. And while I think each of these offers some help in dealing with the problem, each is incomplete by itself. In fact, I believe we do not and can not know the reasons for all of the suffering in this world. But this is not to say that we can't know that there are good reasons in every case. Let me explain.

If we believe in a God who is all-wise, as well as all-powerful and all-good, then He must have good reasons for all that He does, whether this regards the blessings of good health and children or the pain of car accidents and natural disasters. But, one will reply, isn't this a rather cold and aloof way of looking at it? And, anyway, isn't the fact of suffering by itself a reason to stop believing in God's wisdom? Or even to deny His existence altogether?

Some people think so and even give up their Christian faith as a result. But I believe they make a sad and ironic mistake, for Christianity is the worldview that best addresses suffering. In fact, the Christian faith was borne out of suffering — Jesus himself suffered severely, perhaps even beyond what was necessary for our salvation. The prophet Isaiah tags him as "a man of sorrows." And as for the suffering of His followers, the Bible gives us clues as to its purpose, linking it with character development. The book of James says that the testing of our faith through trials "develops perseverance," which in turn makes us "mature and complete, not lacking anything" (James 1:3-4). More significantly, suffering gives us solidarity with Christ. The apostle Paul writes, "I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death" (Phil. 3:10).

These and similar biblical passages should inform the Christian's perspective on suffering. And when the reason for some suffering is incomprehensible to us, we can still trust that God has His good reasons. Even tragedies such as the April 26 accident somehow fit into the divine plan. We can be confident that this is the case, even if we don't fully understand how it is so.

— Dr. James Spiegel
Two human tragedies unfolded the night of April 26th; the first when a semitrailer crossed the median on I-69 and struck a Taylor University van, killing four students and a dining services worker; and the second in the frantic minutes after the crash when the identities of Whitney Cerak and Laura VanRyn were inadvertently confused, leading to a five-week odyssey of shock, worship, soaring anticipation and crushed hopes.
Laura J. VanRyn
Elizabeth A. Smith
Monica Felver
Laurel E. Erb
Bradley J. Larson
The crash was a deep blow to the Taylor community, which was already in the midst of another crisis. On Monday, April 24th, senior Melissa Munn had been hospitalized and nearly died from a pulmonary embolism. Following an all-night prayer vigil and three open-heart surgeries, Munn eventually recovered and was able to attend commencement ceremonies.

As the crisis with Munn continued, the university was moving forward with inauguration plans for President Eugene B. Habecker, which included a student scholarship appreciation banquet on the Taylor Fort Wayne campus, scheduled for April 27th. On the evening of the 26th, a team of dining services workers and students went to Fort Wayne to assist in the setup for the banquet in a Taylor University van. Onboard were Creative Dining Services staff members Monica Felver, Connie Magers, Michelle Miller and Vickie Rhodes, as well as Taylor students Whitney Cerak, Laurel Erb, Brad Larson, Betsy Smith and Laura VanRyn.

Following their work on the Taylor Fort Wayne campus, the group stopped for pizza before turning south for Upland. According to Magers, during an interview with an Indianapolis television station, spirits were high and there was some good-natured ribbing of Larson, the only male in the group.

But shortly after 8:00 p.m., as they neared I-69's interchange with State Road 18, a semitrailer rig drifted from the northbound lanes of I-69, across the grassy median and into the roadway's southbound lanes, smashing into the van and killing five of its occupants. The rest were left with serious injuries.

According to published reports, the scene rescue workers discovered as they arrived was one of absolute mayhem with wrecked vehicles, people and personal effects strewn about. How VanRyn and Cerak, who were both blonde, petite, and shared similar features, were confused for each other is a question that may never be answered. But Cerak, who was believed to have been VanRyn, needed immediate treatment for life-threatening injuries and was flown from the site to a hospital in Fort Wayne where she lay in a comatose state for nearly three weeks.

VanRyn had actually died in the crash along with Erb, Larson, Smith and Felver, but the identity switch would lie dormant for over a month before being discovered.
As word began to spread that night, students, faculty and staff members flocked to the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium, where an emergency prayer meeting began at 11:00 p.m. and lasted over four hours. A second prayer service was convened at 9:00 a.m. Thursday. Students, faculty and staff hugged each other, cried and prayed inside and outside the building — some lying prostrate upon the ground.

The accident plunged the Taylor community into a deep state of mourning. Thursday and Friday classes, along with many previously scheduled events, were cancelled. Habecker’s inauguration went forward, but was repurposed into a tribute to the accident victims, their families, loved ones and friends, as well as a reaffirmation of Taylor’s commitment to Christ. On Taylor’s Fort Wayne campus, the luncheon for which the workers had prepared, as well as all Thursday classes, was cancelled as the entire university community grieved.

Many from beyond the university family reached out to the Taylor community during its time of need. Indiana Wesleyan University furnished busses and fuel so students could attend out-of-state funerals; Anderson University hosted a May 7th memorial service reception, sending catering staff and food; the Indiana University School of Music, which lost five students in a plane crash just five days before, sent flowers. Thousands of well wishers also posted notes on the Taylor website, sent cards, banners and e-mail messages expressing their sorrow and prayer support.

During the May 7th memorial, friends and family eulogized the five to a packed Rediger Chapel-Auditorium. “How do I even begin to describe to you just how wonderful she was?” said Elizabeth Franz of her friend, Laurel Erb. “She was committed to her faith and expressed that commitment in so many ways. She loved her family, loved her friends, treasured the present and dreamed about the future. She lit up a room with her beautiful smile and enthusiasm for life.”

Franz related Erb’s innate ability to see beauty in everything from a sunrise to an ice cube. “Laurel lived a life that exemplified the true meaning of being a Christian,” she said.

At first, Monica Felver was drawn to her work at Taylor because of the flexibility of schedule that allowed her to spend time on her yard work and with her beloved animals.
“When it came to doing events, the kids (who) worked on her line knew that Nostalgia Night was the best. If you worked on her line you had to like 50s and 60s music, because that is all she ever played ... she loved Elvis,” said Connie Magers, her co-worker and friend.

“Monica fell in love with the students here at Taylor,” she added, relating how deeply moved Felver was when students presented her with several hundred dollars they had collected in response to an illness that hospitalized her husband. “I know she loved all of you.”

Jordan Hawkins was a lifelong friend of Brad Larson and recounted his memories of a young man with a humble and genuine heart. “You could describe Brad as being a man above reproach. He never put himself in compromising situations; and if there was ever any question as to the way in which he behaved Brad was always the first person to own up to his mistakes.”

“Brad was uncompromising in his priorities, convictions, and most importantly, his relationship with Christ,” Hawkins relayed. “I cannot tell you how many times I walked in on Brad doing his devotionals. He was never showy about his quiet time in the word; it was simply something he just did.”

For Heidi Smith, a personal mission statement discovered in the bible of her sister Betsy painted a portrait of a young woman whose sole purpose in life was to love God through people. “People are my passion,” said Smith as she read from her sister’s statement. “God must be my first passion. When I am a failure and weak, it allows God to get bigger ... my life must be a sacrifice and a drink offering poured out to God.”

“As I look at her life, it causes me to evaluate my own,” Smith said. “It is absolutely important for all of us to find our mission from God and begin to live it ... All of you here at Taylor held a special place in her heart and I praise God for the four years she was able to spend here, because I know God taught her so much through all of you.”

Whitney Cerak’s sister Carly praised her ability to light up a room and make new friends, but it was the growth that she had seen in Whitney’s personal life that had touched her most deeply. “I watched my sister fall in love with God this year - He was her own. I couldn’t have asked for a greater blessing,” she said. “God is still a good God and his promises are true. I will see Whit again; and these are not just things I say to get by; or to help me cope with my pain. I know the living God; and I will worship Him next to my sister again some day.”
While a tremendous amount of media interest was focused upon the Taylor community following the accident and its aftermath, it paled in comparison to the worldwide sensation the story became when the mistaken identities were discovered. Television crews from national media as well as Indianapolis and Fort Wayne affiliates arrived to broadcast from the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium and the story eventually was carried by international media.

That phase of the story actually started shortly before year-ending commencement activities when, after visiting Cerak (the person she believed was Laura) in the hospital, VanRyn’s roommate approached Taylor administrators with questions about the identification process that determined VanRyn had lived and Cerak had died. That day the university began a quiet fact-finding effort involving state and local authorities, which was ongoing when the misidentification was revealed.

The next day VanRyn’s family moved Cerak to a rehab center in Grand Rapids and a web log (blog) set up by the family continued to post progress updates. By May 29th, Cerak’s progress was gathering momentum; but as she began to speak and interact more and more with the VanRynes, they started having their own questions about her identity and initiated the investigation that determined her true identity.

“We have some hard news to share with you today,” wrote Lisa VanRyn on May 31st. “Our hearts are aching as we have learned that the young woman we have been taking care of over the past five weeks has not been our dear Laura, but instead a fellow Taylor student of hers, Whitney Cerak ... it is uncanny the resemblance that these two women share. Their body types are similar, their hair color and texture, their facial features, etc.”

“It is a sorrow and a joy for us to learn of this turn of events. For us, we will mourn Laura’s going home and will greatly miss her compassionate heart and sweetness while knowing that she is safe and with her King forever. We rejoice with the Ceraks, that they will have more time on this earth with their daughter, sister, and loved one ... We also want to thank you for your prayers for our family as well as the other families during these past few weeks. Your love and support have been amazing,” VanRyn added before saluting her sister with a beloved family nickname. “We love you Sweets.”

For the memorial service, Dr. Habecker’s press conference and more visit www.taylor.edu.
UP AND BEYOND

2006

The Inauguration of
Eugene B. Habecker, PhD, JD
as the 30th President of
Taylor University
Friday, the twenty-eighth of April
two thousand six
Eugene B. Habecker was inaugurated as Taylor University’s 30th president amidst music, delegates, faculty, staff and students in a packed Odle Arena and before a cluster of five candles.
The candles represented the four students and a dining services worker killed in an accident on I-69 just 38 hours earlier. Carnations were handed to each of the representatives who entered the gymnasium and the reworked program included special prayers for the families and friends of the accident’s victims. The purple Taylor banners, which have been displayed at commencement, homecoming and other festive occasions, were draped with black ribbon and the room was ringed with television cameras and media who had come to cover yet another facet of the Taylor community’s response to the tragedy.

Calling the accident a “horrific human tragedy that cut deep into the foundation and fabric of Taylor University,” Habecker spoke, sometimes haltingly, about the reality of God’s love and providence in a fallen world. “If this were a normal day this would be a very long chapel. But this is anything but a normal day; and for us to pretend it to be normal would be foolhardy,” he said. “Look around at the eyes of our students. You want to be able to say I talked with them and I hugged them. I looked into their eyes. Marylou and I have enormous respect for our students.”

“As we go to various events and you see one of our students, give them a hug,” Habecker exhorted the assembly. “As you see a faculty member who faces the prospect of an empty chair; or see a coach who has a vacant jersey, give them a hug. I thank God that even in this difficult moment he has sent all of you to our midst these days.”

The theme of inauguration was *Up and Beyond*; Habecker’s address was to have been the grand unveiling of Vision 2016, an ambitious movement of brick, mortar, programs, people and funds that seeks to ensure Taylor University’s spot among the world’s elite universities of evangelical faith. And while the speech provided a glimpse of things hopefully to come, it was also a moving examination of hope in the midst of pain.
“Taylor did not apologize for its biblical anchor points on being fully Christ-centered in the past, and we will fully embrace these going forward into the future . . . These will not change.”

“Our commitments to do higher education at Taylor are fully contextualized in the Christian faith; based upon the bible,” Habecker declared during his address. “So it is no long stretch to suggest that just as we honor those who preceded us here at Taylor, and just today as we honor the past in reflecting upon the lives of our students and staff who are no longer with us in this room, it is also right that we honor the faith of our fathers and mothers.

“Taylor did not apologize for its biblical anchor points on being fully Christ-centered in the past, and we will fully embrace these going forward into the future,” he said.

“These will not change.”

The hand of the Almighty was evident as well when a musical piece selected months in advance and performed by the Taylor Chorale offered the lyrics:

Farewell my brothers in the Lord, we all ere long shall meet above.

For we believe His Precious Word: To you I’m bound with chords of love

... We’ll march to the Promised Land.
We’ll land on Canaan’s shore,

where pleasures never end, and troubles come no more.

The day’s events also included the dedication of a display celebrating Venture for Victory, considered by many to be the first sports evangelism outreach, and the official renaming of the former Odle Gymnasium as Odle Arena. On hand for the event were the members of the first Venture for Victory team. Grandparents Day, President’s Weekend and Council of 100 activities also rounded out the day.
Students studying in venues from Cairo to Malaysia; Republic to new graduate-level offerings in 10 new fields; sparkling new facilities and a student body numbering 2,400. What could Taylor University look like in the year 2016?
"God must be in every phase of this. We desperately desire to go where the Lord leads us. At this time, by His rich grace, we believe these are the plans He has for us."

Since his arrival on campus last August, President Eugene B. Habecker has called upon the Taylor community to imagine where Taylor University could be on its 170th birthday in 2016 - and then dream big. Vision 2016 is an ambitious initiative that seeks to ensure Taylor University's spot among the world's elite universities of evangelical faith through the addition of dollars, buildings and programs while relying upon the hand of God for guidance, keeping and success.

"As it says in Psalm 127, 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain,'" Habecker said. "We have got to go with God on this one. We cannot make our own plans and ask God to bless them. We have to find out where God's heart is and go there."

While the brick and mortar portion of Vision 2016 is a culmination of a master planning process for the Upland campus which began two years ago, the programmatic aspects of the plan draw in part from Taylor University's heritage of evangelical education, missions involvement and graduate-level course offerings. Portions of Vision 2016 are already in place with the upcoming launch of the Cindy L. Spencer Centre for Global Engagement, and Taylor's return to graduate level offerings three years ago.

But it is the brick and mortar along with student body growth that has created a buzz among Taylor faculty, staff and students. Planned Vision 2016-related expansions include:

- a total student enrollment of 2,400 on the Upland campus
- a new $40 million science facility adjoining a renovated Nussbaum Science Center
- a new 2,800 seat chapel that will allow all faculty and students to attend chapel services
- a new student center
- new football, baseball and track facilities on the west side of 8th Street
- a new and extended campus drive that will create a completely pedestrian campus
- a new campus entrance with a reflecting pool
- new classroom and residence facilities

"A speaker at a recent business seminar said, 'If your plans don't frighten you, God must not be in them,'" Habecker remarked. "God must be in every phase of this. We desperately desire to go where the Lord leads us. At this time, by His rich grace, we believe these are the plans He has for us."

As Habecker has continued to relate the Vision to different audiences, the ideas put forth have generated excitement. But it was at a recent event in Indianapolis when a minister asked him, "What is Taylor's bottom line?"

"I was somewhat taken aback by the question, but I was reminded of the words of Jesus from Luke Chapter 10 when He said, 'The harvest is indeed plentiful, but the laborers are few. Pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest, that He may send out laborers into his harvest.' That is Taylor's bottom line. We are working to help ensure the harvest," Habecker said.

"As it says in 2nd Chronicles 16:9, 'For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him,'" he added, "It was theologian A.W. Tozer who said, 'God is looking for those through whom he can do the impossible. What a pity that we settle only for those things we can do ourselves.'"

"I think it's fabulous," said recent Taylor graduate Matt Mancinelli '06, a veteran of missions outreach. In addition to his work on an AIDS orphanage in Thailand, Mancinelli left Taylor for a year to travel with missionary George Verwer before returning to campus where he later served as student body president.

"Dr. Habecker has such a great balance of understanding the mission of Taylor that we're about whole person education but also living and giving the gospel of Christ," Mancinelli said. "It's like he lives and breathes that mission statement. It's about not keeping Taylor confined to Upland, but advancing our evangelical mission (and) our educational mission. I'm super excited about all of it. I can't wait to see where this place is in 10 years."
Residence Hall / New Beds Needed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buildings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Building West of Samuel Morris Hall</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Housing North of Reade Avenue</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addition to Gerig Hall</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addition to Wengatz Hall</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addition to Olson Hall</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Existing Facilities

A. Swallow Robin Hall
B. Sickler Hall
C. Samuel Morris Hall
D. Helene Viemural Hall
E. Ayres Alumni Memorial Hall
F. Reade Memorial Liberal Arts Center
G. Modele Metcalf Visual Arts Center
H. Rupp Communication Arts Center
I. Smith-Hernanson Music Center
J. Rediger Auditorium
K. Zonderan Library
L. Nussbaum Science Center
M. Grace Olson Hall
N. Wengat Hall
O. Haakonsen Health Center
P. English Hall
Q. Gerg Hall
R. Hudson Dining Commons
S. Bergwall Hall
T. Odle Gymnasium
U. Kesler Activity Center
V. Randall Environmental Studies Center
W. President's House
X. Arboretum/Nature Preserve
Y. Intramural Fields
Z. Softball Field
AA. Taylor Lake
BB. Water Tower
CC. Modelle McTcalf Visual Arts Center
DD. Rupp Communication Arts Center
EE. Rediger Auditorium
FF. Reade Memorial Liberal Arts Center
GG. Helene Viemural Hall
HH. Samuel Morris Hall
II. Swallow Robin Hall
JJ. Sickler Hall
KK. Ayres Alumni Memorial Hall
LL. Modele Metcalf Visual Arts Center
MM. Smith-Hernanson Music Center
NN. Zonderan Library
OO. Nussbaum Science Center
PP. Grace Olson Hall
QQ. Wengat Hall
RR. Haakonsen Health Center
SS. English Hall
TT. Gerg Hall
UU. Hudson Dining Commons
VV. Bergwall Hall
WW. Odle Gymnasium
XX. Kesler Activity Center
YY. Randall Environmental Studies Center
ZZ. President's House
AA. Arboretum/Nature Preserve
BB. Intramural Fields
CC. Softball Field
DD. Taylor Lake
EE. Water Tower

Future Facilities

1. Academic Building
2. Student Life Center
3. Chapel Auditorium
4. Alumni Welcome Center
5. Academic Space Addition To Library
6. Residence Hall
7. Alternative Living Units
8. Guest House
9. Academic / Research
10. New Entry Configuration
11. New Secondary Entry Drive (Controlled Entry Off Of Overlook Drive)
12. Improved Bell Tower Plaza
13. Reflection Pool
14. Avenue Of Encounter Walkway
15. Amphitheater
16. Improved / Relocated Beach Area
17. Tennis Courts
18. Baseball Field
19. Soccer Stadium
20. Football Stadium
21. Soccer Practice Fields
22. Football Practice Field
23. Track
24. Track & Field Event Area / Practice Area
25. Facilities / Maintenance
26. Storage Area
27. Visiting Athletic Team Facility
28. Nussbaum Science Center Addition
29. Residence Hall Addition
30. Conference Center Addition
31. Conference Entry-Lobby & 24 Hour Student Cyber Cafe
32. Odle Gymnasium Addition
33. Kesler Center Natatorium Addition
34. Kesler Center Classroom Addition
35. Kesler Center Raquetball Court Addition
36. Walking / Jogging Path
37. Expanded Lake & Wetland Area
38. Campus Security and Motor Pool Area

The Taylor University Upland master plan is subject to Board of Trustees approval and possible modification.
21st
Science Center
The first brick-and-mortar evidence of Vision 2016 could become a reality next year if Taylor officials can successfully raise the needed funds for a proposed $40 million expansion and renovation of the Nussbaum Science Center.

Highlighted in Dr. Eugene B. Hahecker's inaugural address, the Nussbaum expansion would mark the most ambitious individual building effort in Taylor history.
Is Taylor’s science program at a crossroads? While significant achievements have included an expanding physics program, two students’ acceptance into the prestigious medical college at the Mayo Clinic for this year’s fall class, Taylor students’ participation in numerous NASA programs, and teams of Taylor math and computing students competing successfully against significantly larger state schools, a widening gulf in the area of facilities has become a growing concern.

The venerable Nussbaum Science Center is nearly 40 years old. For many buildings, that’s middle-aged; but for a facility that depends upon cutting-edge technology and innovation, it could be measured in light years.

For Dr. Stan Burden, there was not a precise date when he first noticed the science department had outgrown the Nussbaum Center; it was more a growing realization. Burden, a 1961 Taylor alumnus, has been a key member of Taylor’s scientific community for nearly 50 years. And during much of that career he has had to make do. Whether it was studying in a converted lab in the late Wright Hall (which burned to the ground during his college years), working in makeshift cement block buildings, or adapting to his current surroundings at the Nussbaum Center, a growing portion of Burden’s scientific efforts has been dedicated to making something fit or rescheduling around other classes and professors’ needs.

Actually, there was about a 10-year window that wasn’t the case. “My first year of teaching was in what became the Freimuth Building,” said Burden, who joined Taylor’s faculty in 1966. “When we came over (to the newly-finished Nussbaum Center in 1967) it was really a treat. At that time there were only a dozen to fifteen faculty members – the building was sized for that group of people and it’s one reason (Nussbaum) is so over utilized now.”
Over utilized. The Nussbaum facility was built for a student population numbering 1,100 to 1,200 with a 15-member science faculty. Forty years later, the student population has grown to nearly 1,875. In fact, Taylor officials project the student population will swell to 2,400 students in Upland over the next 10 years. Today the science faculty's 35 members split offices in converted classroom space that, in many cases, does not meet the minimum requirements for their work.

“There were a growing number of classes that had to meet outside this building — quite a formidable list of classes,” said Burden, who related stories of discussion groups and computer stations in hallways and an ever-increasing demand for space as Taylor's science program has blossomed into one of the premier programs in the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities.

The proposed Nussbaum addition will add 60,000 square feet of critical classroom, lab and office space, and take a huge step to ensure the success of scientific studies at Taylor for another 40 to 50 years. Plans also call for the renovation of an additional 58,000 square feet of the existing science center that will bring it up to 21st century standards.

“We want to expand our science program through the construction of new facilities as well as the creation of new programs that will produce distinguished scientists who love the Lord their God with all their heart, soul and mind, and who will use their scientific training to meet society's needs on humanitarian and spiritual levels,” said Dr. Stephen Bedi '65, Taylor's provost. “With the host of ethical, moral and environmental issues that our world today faces, we believe there will be an even greater need for gifted scientists with that moral compass whose worldview is shaped by an eternal perspective.”

Even though growth has occurred, Jerry Cramer, Taylor's senior development officer, and point man for the project, says that the addition is a critical component in the future of sciences at Taylor.

“We believe that the moneys will come from perhaps a few major donors who align themselves with Taylor's passion for excellence and teaching in the sciences,” Cramer said. “We truly are looking for major foundation support.”

“We must be aggressive because this is a real need. As well as the Nussbaum Center has served our needs, it has also fallen behind in critical areas of technology and physical space. Yes, we do experience tremendous success today, but at what point will the law of diminishing returns take effect?” Cramer wondered aloud. “At the same time, I have to wonder, 'What could those same students and faculty accomplish if their true potential is unleashed with an up-to-date, state-of-the-art facility?''

For more information contact Jerry P. Cramer, senior development officer, at 800-882-3456, ext. 5112, or jrcramer@taylor.edu.
If you could wish for anything, what would it be? For 100-year-old Althea Jane Catlin, a 1929 Taylor alumna, that wish was to see her old friend and former Taylor roommate Dorothy Miller.

Since the days when they were freshmen roommates in the newly-constructed Magee-Campbell-Wisconsin dormitory 81 years ago, the two struck a fast friendship that carried them through careers, marriage, children and retirement.

But time and geography have conspired together to separate the two. Today, Catlin lives in Columbus, Ind., and Miller, 99, lives in Angola. Enter Never Too Late, an Indianapolis-based organization that grants seniors' wishes. On April 29th, Catlin and her family boarded a stretch limousine, chartered by Never Too Late, for Upland and her first face-to-face visit with Miller since 1979.

"You haven't changed a bit," Catlin said as she cradled her friend's face in her hands. The reunion was held in the Hodson Dining Commons and attended by a handful of family members and Taylor administrators. "I was glad to be able to be here; I wanted to see you," she added.

Their lives are connected by more than just a room. Catlin's birthday is March 3rd; Miller's is March 5th. They graduated together in 1929 and their 1942 weddings were only hours apart. "But my Dad pursued her for 11 years," quickly added Miller's daughter, Judith Vanzanten '68.

"Sometimes if I didn't write to her, she'd call me up and see if I was OK," Miller said. "I guess our natures, or personalities, are the same. Of all the ones I've ever known, she's the only one I've stayed in contact with."

Laughing together, perusing old yearbooks and reminiscing of classmates and professors (one in particular who drove a red sports car and was rumored to have proposed to his wife by rowing her out to the middle of a lake and refusing to return to shore until she accepted), the two literally turned back time. Well, at least most of the time.

"Do you remember Miss Edwards (the missionary) from China?" asked Miller. "No," said Catlin with some hesitation. "Did we have an alarm clock?" Miller queried. "I think we did," came Catlin's answer. "Your memory is better than mine."

The tragic accident that claimed the lives of five Taylor community members the previous Wednesday also entered the conversation. "I was as sad as if it was my own family, I was really touched," Miller said, struggling to hold back tears.

"We had a really good conversation," said freshman Sarah Froggatt, who helped cater the event. Froggatt said Miller's insights about life's ups and downs had touched her.

"She said to me, 'I was really frustrated with God and I thought he'd made a mistake.' That really stuck with me," Froggatt said. "Then she said, 'God doesn't make mistakes and there is a reason for everything.' That was really encouraging after all that has happened."
“The Taylor Fund is the cornerstone for all giving to the University and, in fact, is the best way to show your support for the Taylor Experience. It is vital for meeting the financial aid needs of students and maintaining dynamic academic programs that make Taylor University one of the premier Christian universities of evangelical faith. Marylou and I have chosen to make our first gift each year to the Taylor Fund. Will you join us in giving?”

– Eugene B. Habecker, President

Just as men and women in the 1800s gave sacrificially so a penniless Liberian named Samuel Morris might attend Taylor University, the spirit of the Samuel Morris Faith Fund continues today through the Taylor Fund. Alumni and friends intentionally, humbly, and sacrificially support the Taylor Fund and provide crucial resources for the University. These generous individuals allow Taylor to uphold her commitment to provide excellence at the highest level in faculty and program resources while also helping to meet the financial aid needs of students. The Taylor Fund is truly the “Faith Fund” of the 21st century.

Taylor Family Taylor Fund. Your gifts touch lives. The 05-06 goal was $1,566,000 to strengthen academics, student programs and financial aid… and we topped the goal on May 31 by just $769. So every gift mattered - thank you! Our goal by May 31, 2007, is $1,723,000. Thanks for your prayers and support.

To learn more, contact David Ritchie, director of the Taylor Fund, dvritchie@taylor.edu, 800.882.3456 ext. 5397. www.taylor.edu/giving
1929
Althea Jane (Osborne) Catlin celebrated her 100th birthday on March 5, 2006. During her

teaching career, Althea taught chemistry, biology and social studies at high schools in Arcadia, Atlanta and Troy, Ind. She now
lives in an assisted living facility in Columbus, Ind., and has three
children, 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

1936
Esta (Herrmann) Howard, 91, died on Jan. 23 in her home.
Survivors include husband Arthur ’34 and two sons.

1938
Emma (Alspaugh) Copeland, 91, passed away on Feb. 6. She was a HS teacher and received
several outstanding educator awards. Survivors include nephew
Michael Alspaugh ’78 and great
nephews Shawn Alspaugh ’02 and Matthew Alspaugh ’04. She was preceded in death by brother
James Alspaugh ’39.

1945
Gordon Bell retired in 2000 as chaplain at Warm Beach Senior Community (Wash.), where he and
wife Lola reside. Since “retiring” he has assumed leadership of
chapel services at Merrill Gardens
for the past four years.

1948
William Hunt has written the book Sandy’s Story, a
nonfiction Christian guidance
book published by Xulon Press. William was a pastor for 21 years
and then became a marriage and
family therapist for 34 years and
serves still. E-mail is whunt@
komputerguy.com.

1950
A gathering of the Paul & Ruth Erdel family was held
in the summer of 2005. All
their children either serve at
Bethel College
(Ind.) or as World Partners
missionaries. Paul continues
to teach and serve with the
Missionary Church.

1951
Conrad Collins passed away on
Jan. 28. He pastored churches in
Conn. and New York over more
than 40 years of ministry.

1952
Rev. Paul Johannaber x died
Dec. 20, 2005. For 30 years he
served as the superintendent of
Wayside Cross Rescue Mission,
Aurora, Ill.

1956
Elsie Dahl retired after 50 years
of nursing. From 1970-74 she
served in Afghanistan with a
medical assistance program.
For the past five years she has
been training and participating
in Olympic style weightlifting
including competitions on the
world level.

1960
Charles Ford, PhD, professor of
health sciences at the Univ
of New England, returned to
Tel Aviv with wife Barbara
(Hanawalt x’61) to teach law
and ethics in Tel Aviv and Haifa
to Israeli nursing students. This
is the fifth year the Fords have
participated in the American/
Israeli joint program. The
Fords have 20 grandchildren
and make their permanent home
in Lake Wylie, SC. E-mail is
uene1@hotmail.com. • Miriam
(Beers) Van Valkenberg
passed away on
Feb. 6. She spent her
freshman year
on campus with the class of ’49,
but graduated with the class of ’60. Miriam was an outstanding
5th grade teacher for 28 years
and enjoyed about 10 years of
retirement before falling victim
to Alzheimer’s disease.
Surviving are husband Dalton
x’50, children Diane (Van
Valkenberg x’73) Harris and
Dale x’75, seven grandchildren
and three great grandchildren.

1962
Marge Livingston and Hugh
Dickinson were married on July
30, 2005. They live in Rockford,
Mich. Marge continues to
serve with BCM Int. • Wayne
& Jeanie (Wills x’64) Weeks
recently retired to their lake
home in Onsted, Mich. They
served as missionaries for
the last four years at a school
for MKs in San Cristobal,

Wayne ’62 & Jeanie (Wills ’64) Weeks

Guatemala. Wayne had been a
professor at Western Michigan
Univ, Eastern Michigan Univ and
Spring Arbor Univ during his
teaching career. After finishing
her teaching degree and master’s
degree, Jeanie taught 28 years
in Christian schools. They have
been married 43 years and
have two children and three
grandchildren. Wayne & Jeanie
have fond memories of Taylor
where they met and fell in love.
E-mail is jcaniewayne@weeks@
hotmail.com.

1964
Dr. Evan Bergwall, Jr. died
on Feb. 16 in his home. Evan
was a Methodist minister and
vice president of Flag Bank.
He was director of Roswell
United Methodist Church
He also was a member of the
American Psychological Assoc
and the Northern Ind. Methodist
Conference. Survivors include
wife Jacquelyn and sons Drew
and Evan Bergwall III. His
mother Jean Bergwall HA ’81,
also survives. Evan was preceded
in death by his father Dr. Evan
Bergwall ’39, former president
of Taylor University.
1969
Mike Miley took early retirement from North Central HS in Indianapolis to coach the offensive line at Taylor. The highlight was

being with son Nathan '06 on the same team. What a blessing for both! • Chris Stauffer died of a massive heart attack in Nairobi, Kenya, on March 1. Chris taught in the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Community School system for 15 years. Feeling that God was calling them into missions, in 1981 Chris and wife Hettie (Hardin) went to Faith Academy in Manila, Philippines, for a two-year assignment with Wycliffe Bible Translators as support personnel, assisting the translators and other missionaries by teaching their children. Little did he imagine in 1981 that he would teach elementary PE at Faith for 12 years and raise four children there. After a five-year break in the US, taking care of elderly parents, the Stauffers accepted another overseas assignment, this time at West Nairobi School in Kenya. Survivors include wife Hettie, four children, one son-in-law and two grandchildren.

1970
Walter & Joyce Roberson are teaching pastors in Africa. Walter is also senior pastor at Vinelife Community Church in Longmont, Colo. E-mail is wroberson@vinelife.com.

1971
Dr. Bob Canida followed his father as a dentist in Madison, Ind., and now is joined by his son Ben '01. Ben graduated from IU School of Dentistry in 2005. • Gayle Ott recently retired after teaching elementary education in Caledonia, Mich.

1973
Mike & Bethany (Hartman x) Felix spent their 4th winter in Anchorage, Alaska. Mike runs AT&T's stand-alone business unit called Alascom. They left the sunny beach in Florida to seek great adventure, and they found it! Children Josh x'99, Sarah Beth '01, Hannah '04, and Bethany's mother Dottie (Hartman x'52) Stanton have moved to Alaska as well. • Thomas Lawson is financial aid administrator at Pillsbury Baptist Bible College. He & wife Kathleen (Woznicki) live in Owatonna, Minn. E-mail is tomlawson@pillsbury.edu.

1976
Steve Berwager retired after teaching 16 years, serving as administrator for 10 years and special education consultant for three years. He lives in Asheville, NC. E-mail is sberwager@aol.com.

1979
Drew Whitfield is secondary principal and athletic director at Cornerstone Christian Academy, Sycamore, Ill. Drew & wife Christine have five children: Lucas (25), Emily (23), Zachary (21), Seth (19) and Noah (6). E-mail is whitfd@tbcnet.com.

1980
Bob & Candace Walker have accepted a call to Zambia, Africa, as missionaries for Heart of the Bride, a ministry to the world's orphans. They will be leaving with their eight children — Shad, Hannah, Wil, Hailey, Hope, Halayna, Graham and Nathan — in September. Their job will be to rescue orphaned street boys and develop a boys' ranch for teaching and training 8- to 15-year-olds for the Lord. To keep in touch, e-mail WalkersXL@yahoo.com.

1981
Alma Shepard is now vice president for development for The National D-Day Museum. She is responsible for working with the board and volunteers to complete the $282 million campaign. E-mail is almanajane1026@yahoo.com. • Dirk & Cindy Case are proud to have both their children attending Taylor. Joshua '07 lives on 2nd West Wengatz and is a political science major. Amanda '09 lives on 3rd West Olson and is a freshman psychology major.

1982
Michael Lee died on March 13. He was formerly a Paulding County (Ohio) Sheriff from 1989-1992. Wife Cathy Harper x'82 survives. • Tim & Barb Stevenson, along with sons Dane, Ryan and Soren, are serving with Frontiers by planting churches that lead to movements among Muslim peoples through Apostolic teams in partnership with others who share in this vision. Pray for the family as they serve in Kyrgyzstan.

1983
Tim & Ronda (Gentis) Ablé live in Indianapolis, Ind. where Tim is a PE teacher and head varsity football coach at Decatur Central HS. He had a successful football campaign in 2005 with a 10-3 record. He was named the Marion County Coach of the Year. Ronda is the head gymnastics coach at Decatur Central and teaches at Kingsway Christian School in Avon, Ind. Son Ryne is 17; daughter Daphne is a freshman at Taylor. • Mark & Cindy (Keener '84) Allan live in Ashland, Va., with children Kaitlynn (14) and Isaac (12). Mark recently accepted the position of director of elementary ed for the Virginia Department of Education. He is also a doctoral student at Virginia Tech. Cindy works as a computer systems operator for Hanover County Public Schools. E-mail is mracla@comcast.net. • Dean & Mindy (Date) Anderson live in Healdsburg, Calif. Children are Bret (16), Paige (14) and Jill (11). Dean & Mindy are planning a book, “52 Sundays,” which will chronicle their attempt to worship in a different church, one per state (plus their home church and the National Cathedral in Washington, DC) over the course of a year. They would love suggestions of churches to visit during 2007! • Andrew & Debra (Messamore) Kral have three children: Michael (12), Michelle (6) and Marcus (1). E-mail is dkral@ellr.com. • Scott & Andrea (Price) Preissler now live in Flower Mound, Texas. Scott is the executive director of the Jntl Center for Steward Leadership. E-mail is aprissler@sbcglobal.net.

1984
Lisa & Rick Florian recently adopted a daughter Lily (2) from South Korea. Siblings are Taylor (15), Will (13) and Hunter
One cold marathon

When Alan Briggs spent the past winter in Antarctica, he found polar desert, life-threatening cold and the same faithful God.

Briggs, a 2005 Taylor University graduate, worked for Colorado-based Raytheon at the McMurdo Station in Antarctica. Spending up to 60 hours a week in 60-70 degrees below zero temperatures loading and unloading U.S. Air Force C-130s and C-17s on a packed-ice runway, he was also able to carve out some additional time for outdoor exploration.

"The cold … zaps the energy. That’s the hardest thing about the job," he said.

One of the benefits, beyond an adventure he’ll remember for the rest of his life, was the summer solstice conditions he experienced there: when he arrived at McMurdo in October, the continent had just begun a period of 24-hour daylight conditions. But despite the all-day-all-night sunlight of the Antarctic summer, Briggs said the only people who live there are those paid to do so.

"Some people do stay for a year," he said. "But most … only experience the summer down here. People have to go back to civilization for sanity."

Some trappings of civilization were there. Briggs, along with 35 other kindred spirits, ran a marathon on the Ross Ice Shelf on one of the warmer days when the temperature climbed to a balmy 26 degrees. Some, like Briggs, ran the entire distance while others skied it and others settled for a half marathon.

The cold was ever present. Briggs’s lungs felt raw when he was outside; and during one hike, he avoided a potentially life-threatening mishap when he lost his mitten in 60-below-zero wind chill conditions. "My hand went numb quickly, I have never experienced cold like this. Ever. It gives you a headache some days," he said. "Imagine the coldest, windiest day in Upland each year. It feels 10 times worse."

story continues on page 38
IN 46774. E-mail is mabertsche@verizon.net.

1989
Since 2001, Jodi Jacobsen has been working with women in prostitution and their families in Cape Town, South Africa. The ministry is called Straatwerk which has been active for 40 years. Recently, a new door for ministry has opened through Hands of Hope, a job skills training program. Jodi would love to hear from TU friends at jodi@urbanchapel.org. • David & Traci (Stewart) Mason are proud to announce the birth of Audrey Jeanette on Dec. 9, 2005. Siblings are Katlyn (13), Maxwell (10) and Taylor (7). E-mail is dmason67@aol.com. • Scott McRae x died tragically in a car accident Aug. 9, 2005 in San Luis Obispo, Calif. where he had recently moved. He is survived by his parents and sister Pamela (McRae '87) Prell. • Rick & Beth Muthiah welcomed son Malachi Hosley into their family on Sept. 30, 2005. Brothers are Caleb (5) and Corban (2). Rich continues to work as director of the Academic Resource Center at George Fox Univ in Newberg, Oregon. E-mail is rmuthiah@verizon.net.

1991
Missy Nieveen Phegley has earned a PhD in rhetoric and composition from Southern Illinois Univ. She is assistant to director of undergraduate studies and lecturer in the English dept at SIU. E-mail is msphegley@socket.net.

1992
John & Michelle (Devee) Aho live in Dearborn, Mich., where John is pastor of the Dearborn Evangelical Covenant Church. They ask for prayer as they partner with an Arab American church plant in the area. In 2003 John had two books published including William Taylor - A Portrait of a Pioneer Prophet. E-mail is driven313@aol.com. • Jay Green is a history professor at Covenant College in Lookout Mtn, Ga.

Last year he served as interim dean of the chapel at Covenant where he was pleased to host Taylor professor Jim Spiegel and Jay Kesler '58. Jay, wife Beth Ann and children Lucy (7), Tillie (4) and Charlie (2) live in Chattanooga, Tenn. • Steve & Jen (Johnson) Moorhatch gladly announce the birth of Stephanie Grace on Dec. 29, 2004. Brother Cody is 6. Steve is an engineer project manager for the state of New Jersey. Jen is a stay-at-home mom and a part-time vocal and piano instructor at the Baldwin School. They would love to hear from TU friends! E-mail is sjmoorhatch@comcast.net. • Sabrina (Munson) Nowling is regional business development director for the First National Bank – residential mortgage in Fort Collins, Colo. E-mail is sbnowling@aol.com. • Ben & Jane (Moore x) Wilson proudly announce the birth of Daniel Cedric on Oct. 30, 2004. Siblings are Hannah (12), Samuel (10), Elashah (8), Salah (7), Josiah (5) and Gabriel (3). Ben is employed by Quality Restoration Services where he serves northern Indiana car dealers as a vehicle paint technician. Ben also teaches his children math and piano, and does a little elementary basketball coaching on the side! Jane orchestrates schooling at home. They can be reached at 202 S Henry, Millford, Ind., 46542.

1993
David & Elizabeth (Boush) Boulware live in Lakeeland, Fla. E-mail is bboush@hotmail.com. • Eric Hofmann teaches special education at North Scott Schools in Eldridge, Iowa. He & wife Cathie live in Aledo, Ill. E-mail is hofmann9@aircastwireless.com. • Stacie Shopp is ministering in Moscow, Russia, with Intl. Teams. Her role is discipleship, short-term group coordination, seminars and training. E-mail is stasistru@yahoo.com. • John x & Carrie (Boyd '92) Williamson gratefully announce the birth of Jeremiah "Luke" on July 9, 2005. Siblings are...
continued from page 36

Even amidst the icy conditions, Briggs put his Christian education degree to use, leading Bible studies and preaching a memorial service before returning to Colorado in March.

"Sometimes I think we have to really risk things and push our limits in order to understand God's much 'unreachable' characteristics," Briggs said. "I have also been reassured that the Church is everywhere. It is one unit, an organism that exists apart from region or denomination, even in the literal ends of the world."

"I have also learned that apart from Christ the biggest adventure will not satisfy," he added. "I am reassured that putting yourself on the line will help you grow in huge ways."

Christina (13), Abigail (10), Isaac (7) and Charis (4). John is an OB-GYN in solo practice in Middlesboro, Ky. Carrie is loving life as a stay-at-home mom. The family resides in East Tennessee.

1994
Karen Conrad and David Balmer were married on Oct. 29, 2004. Karen works as a research consultant for the Republican Caucus in the Minn. House of Rep and also serves on her local school board. David is a reinsurance broker. They live in Burnsville, Minn, with their dog Ziggy and would love to hear from Taylor friends. Karen's e-mail address is kc_balmer@yahoo.com. • Cynthia Bennett completed her master's degree at Regent College (Canada) and has moved to Northern Ireland to begin PhD studies there. She works at Union Theological College in the area of systematic theology with a view to teach in Eastern Europe or North Africa once her doctorate is completed. Email is cbennett06@qub.ac.uk. • Philip Berg, director of the Shevet Achim Jerusalem office, and husband of Martha (Smith) Berg, died of an apparent heart attack. Children are Asher, Adam, Nathan, Sarah and Anna. Shevet Achim is a non-profit organization that has brought hundreds of Palestinian children to Israel for lifesaving heart surgery. Martha and the children continue to live in Israel. Write them at PO Box 32296, Jerusalem 91000 Israel.

• Ross & Jennifer (Barton) Brodhead joyously announce the birth of Sullivan Ross on Sept. 29, 2005. Brothers are Knox (8), Remington (6) and Jeremiah (4). Ross works in administration at St. John's Health System in Anderson and Jennifer is the self-proclaimed "chief operating officer" of the household. • Mike & Anne (Whitecotton) Carpenter are the proud parents of Isaac Michael born Oct. 4, 2005. Sisters are Eve (5) and Gwynth (3). E-mail is mikeandanne@the-carpenters.com. • David & Anne Chamberlin and their three children have moved to Shanghai, China, where David is serving as general manager of Edelman PR Worldwide. On May 9, the PR team David led for JPMorgan Chase was awarded the Gold SABRE (Superior Achievement in Branding and Reputation) for Business-to-Business Consumer Marketing for the launch of Chase credit card with “blink.” E-mail is davidchamberlin@yahoo.com. • Tim & Beth (Siekerman) Downing live in Malinta, Ohio. Tim is a CPA who works for the state auditor of Ohio. Beth is home with Madison, born Jan. 17. E-mail is bdowning31@hotmail.com. • Landy & Manya Glavach are happy to announce the birth of
Victor Luke on Nov. 22, 2005. Brother Landon (3) is happy to have someone to squeeze, pinch and tickle. Landy is a CPA with KPMG’s Miami office and Manya continues to work part time at the Univ of Miami, doing research. Scotty Miser married Lisa Kincaid on Aug. 27, 2005, in Gainesville, Fla. The couple met as missionaries in Bolivia and plan to return there as church planters with SIM in Sept. They currently live in Charlotte, NC. E-mail is Scotty.miser@sim.org. Matt & Angie Moller are senior directors with a well-established health and wellness company which Angie manages from home in her spare time. Matt is completing his 13th year at Carmel Middle School and still loves middle school kids! Daughter Kaleigh Joy was born Jan. 18. E-mail is mollers@iglide.net. David Sliger was the first deputy sheriff in Indiana to complete the Police Executive Leadership Academy in 2005. He was recognized at the Ind. Association of Chiefs of Police winter conference in Feb. E-mail is dsliger7041@yahoo.com.

1995

Perry & Theresa (Conner) Board joyfully announce the arrival of Anna who was born on Dec. 3, 2004, and welcomed home in Nov. 2005. Toby was born Jan. 19, 2006. The family lives in Gilbert, Ariz. E-mail is reeseboard@yahoo.com. James & Laura Blackwood are grateful for their family of five. Son Benjamin was born in Sept. 15, 2003 and is loved by sisters Anna (6) and Holly (4). James completed his doctorate in mechanical engineering at UA in May 2004. Their new address is 197 Raspberry Way, Madison, AL 35757. Eric & Shelly (Battles) Deitert live in Needham, Mass. Eric is director of market analysis at Pegasystems. His primary role is marketing and researching business process management technology. Shelly is a VP for Deutsche Asset Management. She manages three of their top municipal bond portfolios. E-mail is edeitert@yahoo.com. Jennifer (Halton) Friesen & husband James continue to serve as missionaries in Quito, Ecuador, with HCJB World Radio. Jen is a stay-at-home mom and James is the webmaster for the mission. Children are Kaleigh (8), Andrew (6) and Gracie (3). E-mail is friesen_family@yahoo.com. Matthew & Dee Ann (Welch) Martin reside in Avon, Ind. Children are Kiersten (4) and Cooper (1). Dee Ann is a second grade teacher for Avon Community Schools. E-mail is dmartinm@juno.com. Amy (Watson) Nickel & husband Karl Schumann on Jan. 6, 2006 in Yaounde, Cameroon. E-mail is schumannka@gmail.com. Deron & Rebekah (Wichterman) Nelson are the proud parents of twins Joshua and Caleb born July 15, 2005. Sister Andrea is 3. E-mail is rebekahnelson@msn.com. Dawn Pick-Benson is creative director in the marketing dept at Cornerstone Univ. She & husband Erik live in Grand Rapids, Mich. E-mail is dawnpickbenson@hotmail.com.

1996

Bill & Jen (Bartels) Colin are enjoying life with Brayden Taylor born June 8, 2003. Jen is a social worker and guidance counselor at West MI Academy of Environmental Science in Walker, Mich. E-mail is jenncolli@hotmail.com. Hyun Lim earned a PhD in social work from the Univ of South Carolina in Aug. 2002. He, wife Lee, and children Juri and Youngbin, live in Yongin, South Korea, where Hyun is assistant professor in the College of Social Welfare at Kangnam Univ, South Korea. E-mail is llh14@hotmail.com. Chad & Candice Roberts are the proud parents of Hailee Faith born Dec. 14, 2004. The family lives in Nassau, Bahamas. E-mail is ccruberts@coralswave.com. Mark Schutt and Maria Dyk were married on Aug. 14, 2004. In the wedding from TU were Greg Hagen and Joe Toren ’97. The couple lives in Lansing, Ill. Maria is a HS choir director and Mark is an accountant at...
a manufacturing company. E-mail is m_schutt@hotmail.com. • Scott & Rebecca (Kraft) Touzel joyfully announce the birth of Faith Rebecca born on Christmas Day 2005! Siblings are Daniel (16), Marisina (12), and Hannah (5). E-mail is braincramptouzel@hotmail.com. • Brent Bradish wed Maureen Smith on Oct. 8, 2005. E-mail is brentbradish75@hotmail.com. • Shane & Heather (Mason) Guy are praising God for the birth of healthy triplet boys April 27 in Muncie, Ind. Brother Payton is 8. Grandmother of Carter, Jackson and Grant is Beth Holloway of the computing and systems sciences dept. at Taylor. • Joel & Tami (Spaan '97) Hertzler joyfully announce the birth of Abigail Kay on Jan. 26, 2005. The family lives in Grantham, Penn. Joel is a foreman for Aycock, Inc. and Tami is home with Abby. • Tamara Hoffman and Attila Szogedi were married on Aug. 19, 2005, in Budapest, Hungary where Tamara has been working with Pioneers and the Fellowship of Evans Churches. TU participants in the wedding were DeAnne (Marcotte '97) Sula and Jenifer (Hillstrom '96) Oldright. E-mail is szogediek@yahoo.com. • Christina (Lannan) Kaufmann is a writer for Cox Custom Media. Husband Kenneth has been admitted to the Univ of South Carolina Med. School and will begin in Aug. 2006. Children are Cecily (6), Michael (3) and Samuel (1). • Chris & Janyre (Stockinger) Tromp are the proud parents of Bryanna Grace born June 11, 2005. Janyre is an editor for Kregel Publications. She has written a book for tweens (ages 8-12) titled That Sinking Feeling. It is available online at Parable.com.

1998
After graduating from Trinity Div School in May, Darin Anderson, wife Kristin (Maggard '99), and sons Seth (6), Caleb (3) and Joel (1), have moved to Charlotte, NC. Darin is the family life pastor at the Church at Charlotte. E-mail is DKSCJn@gmail.com. • Jason & Shelley (Gault '99) Colley are pleased to announce the birth of Michaela Eowyn on April 6, 2005. The family resides in Columbus, Ohio, where Jason teaches social studies at Dublin Jerome HS and Shelley enjoys being a stay-at-home mom after resigning from Bank One/JPMC. E-mail is jscolley@wowway.com. • Ben & Linh (Tennis '96) Eib are the proud parents of Liliana Lan born April 5, 2005. Ben is the director of environmental services for Bowman Consulting Group and Linh is taking a break from teaching to stay home with Liliana. They live in the Washington, DC, area and would love to hear from friends! E-mail is linh10ease@aol.com. • Ross Eicher has released a new solo album, Better Day. E-mail is rossiecher@hotmail.com. • Amy Fagan has worked as a reporter, covering politics and Congress for the past 7 years in Washington, DC. Currently, she is a congressional reporter at the Washington Times newspaper. She lives at 2806 Laurel Ave. NE 20785 in Cheverly, Maryland. Email is amyfagan25@gmail.com. • Franz & Emily (Gottschalk '99) Forman joyfully announce the birth of Katherine Elyse on May 18, 2005. Sister Madeline is 3. They opened Forman Motorsport in Phoenix where Franz works exclusively and Emily works part-time in bookkeeping and marketing. E-mail is eforman@gmail.com. • Dave Frank is a clinician at Idaho Youth Ranch. Dave, wife Ruth (Daily '00) and Isaiah (1) can be reached at shadow@teuton.org. • Matt x & Amy (Jeffries '99) Junker announce the birth of Ashlynn Suzanne on Oct. 1, 2004. Brother Timmy is 3. Matt is a product engineer at Borg Warner and Amy enjoys staying home. E-mail is mattrandamy@excite.com. • Mark Lindell earned an MDiv from Grand Rapids TheoL Seminary in May 2005 and received the Nickolei Weins Pastoral Award at the same time. He is now associate pastor at Harvest Christian Fellowship. Mark & wife Carri (Post '99) can be reached at jefflindell@gmail.com.
(Doty) McGuire joyfully announce the birth of Mary-Allison Noel on Dec. 27, 2005.

The family lives in Bradenton, Fla. Email is christineol@juno.com.

• Tyler & Elizabeth (Diffenderfer) Mendenhall are the grateful parents of Colin Tyler born Nov. 30, 2005. The family lives in Brownburg, Ind.

The Mendenhall Family

• Michelle Ramsdale married Josh Garrels on Nov. 19, 2005. In the wedding from Taylor were Jay Kirkpatrick, Kari (Jordan ’95) Diller, Stephan Salo, Dawn McNair ’99, Alice Rouse, Sara (Weinraub ’00) Billups, Pat McCory, Cris (Loose ’95) Ramsdale, Jeff Ramsdale ’94, Erica Geigler ’01, and Zack & Gala Bent, TU art faculty. The Garrels’ live in Indianapolis where Josh is pastoring a church plant. They work together in ministry and make music and art. They may be reached at joshandelle@gmail.com.

The Ramsdale Family

• Paul & Kristin (Anderson) Sedy are the proud parents of Brianna Renee born March 25, 2005.

The Sedy Family

• Ben & Kris (Wahnsfried) Stichter joyfully announce the birth of Kamissa Kristine on Oct. 18, 2005. Sisters are Tali (3) and Lia (2). E-mail is bkstichter@bigfoot.com.

The Stichter Family

• Matt Zink received his MBA from Texas A&M in May 2005. He is a consultant with IBM Business Consulting. E-mail is matt_zink@yahoo.com.

The Zink Family

Lee-Chuvala and Aaron ’00 & Mindy (Benteman) Lech. Jennifer works as campus staff for Intl. Students, Inc. and is based at American Univ. Wayne is a mechanical engineer with NASA. They live in Derwood, Md. E-mail is Jennifer_in_dc@yahoo.com.

The Lech Family

Gammons are the proud parents of 3 sons: Benjamin (3), Caleb (2) and Matthew born Sept. 22, 2005. The family lives in Medina, Minn. E-mail is townic@yahoo.com.

The Gammons Family

...retiring” from 2 years of teaching HS history. Kenny is a Coast Guard officer. They live in Zuni, Va. E-mail joneena@hotmail.com.

The Grills Family

Ben & Libby (Crawford) Spotts moved to India on Jan 16. Ben is working as a human rights lobbyist. They will return to their home in Oregon every 2 years to visit family and friends. They ask for prayer for adjustment to their new home, language acquisition, and sensitivity to culture. E-mail is libbyspotts75@aol.com.

The Spotts Family

Scott & Kristi (Waschitz) Mfg are proud to announce the birth of Timothy Michael on Oct. 31, 2005. Timothy was born almost 11 weeks premature and weighed just 2 lb 11 oz. He stayed in the NICU until Dec. Through God’s grace he was strong and healthy from the beginning. E-mail is Kristi@catskill.com.

The Mfg Family

Jared & Sarah (Hol) Lehman announce the birth of Jacob Lee on June 2, 2005. Jared is the administrator at Arlington Good Samaritan Nursing Home and Sarah teaches one day a week at Owens Community College. They reside in Bluffton, Ohio. E-mail is jslehman@wool.com.

The Lehman Family

Jennifer Andrews wed Wayne Chen on Oct. 8, 2005. Participating from TU were Karen (Halter) Dextrom, Kristen (Taylor) Deese, Christa

1999

Jennifer Andrews wed Wayne Chen on Oct. 8, 2005. Participating from TU were Karen (Halter) Dextrom, Kristen (Taylor) Deese, Christa

2000

Amy Driscoll married Leon Headings on July 6, 2002. TU
alumni notes

participants were Lindy (Beam ’99) Keffer, Shelley (Gault ’99) Colley and Edith Driscoll ’40. In the summer of 2003, Amy & Leon bicycled 3300 miles across the US! Now the couple lives in Columbus, Ohio, where Amy is finishing a PhD in human nutrition and Leon is completing his PhD in mechanical engineering at The Ohio State Univ. E-mail is headings.226@osu.edu. • Fred & Lindsey (Bailey ’04) Heath live in Fairfax, Va. Fred earned an MS in information systems from George Mason Univ. E-mail is fred_heath@yahoo.com. • Anwar Smith is program director at the Salvation Army in Chicago. E-mail is anwar_smith@hotmail.com. • Joel Wilson married Kristen Robenstine on July 16, 2005 in Toledo, Ohio. TU participant was David Cruse.

Joel ’00 & Kristen Wilson

2001 Heidi Anderson and Mark DeKorne ’02 were married on Nov. 4, 2005. TU participants included Ryan Peterson ’02, Greg Yatooma ’02, Dave Niffin ’02, Andy Flanigan ’02, Jeff DeKruyter, Jared Seaman ’02, Matthew Johnson ’02, Virgil Hughes ’02, Justin Kisk ’02, Justin Johnson ’02, Abby (McLaughlin) Breyer, Alison (Schweiss) Moser, Jessica (DeKorne ’98) Korsmo, Jenny

Mark ’02 & Heidi (Anderson ’01) DeKorne

(DEWit) Monroe, April Gann, Elizabeth (Keller) Johnson and Kristy (Reed) Kish. Mark & Heidi reside in Houston, Texas. E-mail is mdekorne@hotmail.com. • Davis Evans is assistant land acquisition manager for Forte Macaulay Development Consultants, Inc. He recently earned an MA in intercultural studies from Biola Univ. He & wife Erin are the proud parents of Grace Elaina born July 20, 2004. Davis would like to hear from 3E class of ’01! E-mail is davis@fmcd.cc. • Jason and Kerry (Peifer ’03) Hillier joyfully announce the birth of Anna Laine on Jan. 27, 2006. The family recently moved to Dallas.

The Hillier Family

Heidi (Anderson) DeKorne, Jenny (DeWit) Monroe, Alison

Nathan & Abby (McLaughlin ’01) Breyer

(Schweiss) Moser, April Gann, Brianne (Shilling) Bowling and Carrie (Hartzler) Lambert. Nate & Abbey reside in St. Paul, Minn., where Abby works as a writer for a graphic design firm. E-mail is a.breyer@larsen.com. • Jonathan & Whitney (Cross) Mires are the grateful parents of Elijah Blair born Sept. 16, 2005. The baby’s middle name is after Whitney’s younger brother Justin who passed away in Jan. 2005 after a 4-yr battle with leukemia. E-mail is whitterz@yahoo.com. • Brandi (Jensen) Pelham was named 2005 Ambassador of the Year at the Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce annual banquet. The ambassador committee serves as the public relations arm of the Chamber.

Brandi (Jensen) Pelham

where Lindsey is a recruiter for Per-Se Technologies and John is a senior software engineer for Turner Broadcasting. E-mail is lindsey@johnritsema.com. • Cesar & Karin (Staffin) Sancho celebrated their first Christmas last Dec with daughter Graciella Mae born in Sept. 2005. The family lives in West Palm Beach, Fla. • Amy Schultz is project manager for Deborah Wood Associates. E-mail is stoops78@comcast.net. • Tyler Shedd married Katrina Rayner on Oct. 1, 2005 in Louisville, Kentucky. TU participants included Dave Coons ’02, Don Rosenow, Dan Mayer ’02, Mike Magnuson ’02, Katie Shedd ’04 and Sarah Shedd ’05.
E-mail is tyler_shedd@hotmail.com. • Shelley Stonecipher married Shaun Cassbarro on Oct. 19, 2002. TU participants were Lindsay Stonecipher '06, Josh '00 & Amanda (Gonzalez) Sandoz, Kara Gratz, Kim Baker, Sarah (Culp) Sharifi, Karin (Durtseh) Tooze, Joan Calderwood, Angela (Swartzendruber) Guinn, Daniel Stonecipher '06, Alex Mounts, Joel Top '00, Kevin Matte and Dinty Musk. Shaun is an art instructor at Taylor and Shelley is Olson Hall director and is pursuing an MA in counseling at Ball State. E-mail for Shaun is shcasbarro@taylor.edu and Shelley's e-mail is shcasbarro1@taylor.edu. • Deborah Veen has moved to Park Falls, Wisc., and is working at Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest as a GIS Specialist. E-mail is debooka2@yahoo.com.

2002
Ashley Armbruster married Rob Livingston on Aug. 20, 2005 in Batavia, Ill. Taylor participants in the wedding included Brooke (Schupra '03) Cole, Brad Livingston '07, Jeff Larson, Matt Bellito '01, Chad Oldham '00, Steve Wardle '01 and Chris Hill '01. Rob continues to work for Performance Trust Capital Partners and Ashley has been focusing her energy on oil painting and commissioned portraits. They live in Naperville, Ill. E-mail is LivingstonArtists@hotmail.com. • Elissa Brooks wed Andy Bennett on Nov. 27, 2004, in Brookfield, Wisc. TU participants were Peter Bennett '98, David Voss '03 and Andrew Brooks '06. They currently live in Indiana where they both work for New Horizons Youth Ministry. E-mail is andyandelissa@gmail.com. • Amy Frederick and Steve Frew were married on Jan. 15, 2005. In the wedding from TU were Jenifer Dake '99 and Courtney (Taylor) Smeltzer. The couple lives in Antioch, Tenn. E-mail is anyfrewfrew@yahoo.com. • Jonathan & Katy (Gustafson) Eisfeld now live in St. Bonafacius, Minn. E-mail is katygustafson236@hotmail.com • Jill Nalywaiko is an instructor at Indiana Business College in Anderson. E-mail is grace2llama@hotmail.com. • Suzanne Page and Barrett Aukeman '03, Heather Baker '03, Chris & Janelle (Gomes) Bierdemann, Drew Bierlein '01, Suzanne Johnson, Lynn Kenny, Michael & Becca (Speicher) McBride and Allison Pizzi. They live in Glenkula Heights, Ill. and both enjoy working at Tyndale House Publishers. E-mail is Barrettsna@hotmail.com. • Regan (Hunt) Thompson is a music therapist at VITAS in Chicago. She & husband Kent '99 live in Berwyn, Ill. E-mail is krt@kentthompson.net. • Marc Goodwin married Stephanie Barbish on June 4, 2005 in Indianapolis. TU participants included Justin Noelle '06, Jennifer Ostendorf '06 and Brian Terpstra. The couple resides in New Albany, Ind. Marc is a student at Southern Seminary and Stephanie is a 3rd grade teacher, both in Louisville, Ky. E-mail is marcgoodwin@gmail.com. • Martina Graber married Clark Cully on Dec. 30, 2005 in Ann Arbor, Mich. In the wedding from TU were Desiree (Graber '01) Matthews and Kristen Brown '05. Two weeks before the wedding Martina earned
an MSW degree from the Univ of Mich. She is employed as an academic counselor at the Univ of Phoenix at the Warrenville Learning Center. The couple lives in Naperville, Ill. E-mail is martinaclully@gmail.com. • Megan Herrmann and Brett Kraftson '05 were married on Aug. 7, 2004, in Upland, Ind. TU participants in the wedding were

Abby (Johnson) Fennig, Becky George, Kristel Bailin, Loralee Songer, Marisa Gratson, Ben Harrison '05, Preston Cosgrove, Andrew Briggs, Ann Essenburg '05, Brendan Maloney '05, Matt Herrmann '07, Lowell '75 & Sherry (Korfemark '76) Haines and Jay Kesler '58. The couple lives in Arlington, Va., but will be moving to Muncie, Ind., where Brett will begin graduate studies.

• Kristina Kline is a customer service rep for MEGlobal in Midland, Mich. E-mail is knwhiting@gmail.com. • In Aug. 2005, some Taylor women from 2004 held a reunion in Chicago. Attending were Laurie Way, Kate (Neyland) Rickard, Kristina

Kline, Katy Hobbs, Leslie Ames, Lindsey (Bailey) Heath, Dana (DiSanto '06) Pietrini and Sarah Townsend.

2005
Teresa Gerg wed Daniel Peterson on Jan. 29, 2005. TU participants were Ashley Peck '04, Joanna LaForge '06, Liz Lynch '06, Brent Gerg '02, Matt Wissman, Eric Moore '06, Annette Driver, Sara (Chambers '06) Gerg, Theresa Henderson '07, Bethany Folkins and Linda (Trollo '74) Gerg. • Correction: David Mercier ("Frenchy") is living in the Indianapolis area and is working with The Boaz Project as trip-coordinator. His e-mail is david@boazproject.org.

He is raising support with hopes to join the ministry full-time this summer. • Sharon Nye married Chaz Leckron on Nov. 5, 2005 in Naperville, Ill. Sharon is an assistant research executive for Millward Brown and Chaz is a 4th grade teacher in Wheaton. E-mail is sharonleckron@gmail.com. • Kelly Peters married Brad Yordy on June 25, 2005, in Gas City, Ind. In the wedding from TU were Darla Stults, Micah Hatch, Jennifer Castellano, Brad Klaver '05, Kelly Yordy '01 and

Mark Yordy '78. The couple now lives in Lakeland, Fla. E-mail is bkyordy@gmail.com.

2006
Sara Chambers and Brent Gerg were married on Aug. 6, 2005, with many TU alumni present. Brent is a computer engineer at New Horizons in Marion, Ind. E-mail is brent@gerg.org.

2007
Dani Jorg x married Paul “Chip” Brown '04 on June 18, 2005. TU participants were Jamie (Jorg '00) Spence, Maggie Jetter '07, Dave Jorg '98, Andrew Wichterman '04, Matt Braham '04, Adam Griffis '04, Timothy

Have info for the Alumni Notes?

Send your update information to the alumni office at 236 W. Reade Avenue, Upland, Ind. 46989. Please include clearly labeled pictures (which will only be published if alumni are in the photo). We will return prints if requested.

You may also submit information to Marty Songer at (800) 882-3456, ext. 5212, or mrsonger@taylor.edu.

Thanks for keeping in touch with your alma mater! We love hearing from our alumni!
Bishop William Taylor Society

The Bishop William Taylor Society has been established to honor and thank Taylor University alumni and friends who have provided for the University in their estate plans. The Society is named after Bishop William Taylor, Taylor University’s namesake. By making a deferred gift you will join a distinguished group of donors who have made an investment in the future of Taylor University, one of the premier Christian universities in the nation. To become a member of the Society, you will have made one or more of the following arrangements and have notified the University in writing.

There are no dues or fees associated with membership. For more information, please call Ken Smith, Nelson Rediger, Tom Essenburg or Ian Blair at (765) 998-5144.
Memorials

(Deceased in bold)

Hazel Butz Carruth Anderson
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi
Janet Berst
Mr. and Mrs. William Ewbank
Mrs. Sherry Gormannos
Mr. Rick Jones
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Kerlin
Dr. and Mrs. Jo Keister
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Reichert
Dr. and Mrs. William Ringenberg
Mrs. Ruth E. Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Rupp
Mr. and Mrs. John Sanders
Mrs. Ken Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Lue Terdal
Mrs. Ruth Zimmerman

Harvey Armstrong
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

Ruby Smith Ashley
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Kerlin
Mrs. Bonnie Odle
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Rupp

Margaret Behnken
Miss Iona Amspaugh
Mr. and Mrs. J. Steven Amstutz
Mr. and Mrs. R. Randolph Behnken
Mr. Gaylord Conrad
Ms. Carolyn Curtelville
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Etzler
Ms. Eileen Jesswein
Mr. and Mrs. Homer Kenvy
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Kerlin
Ms. Connie Kowac
Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick Liechty
Ms. Jane Manich
Mr. and Mrs. Gene L. Patrick
Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Don Schneider
Mr. Ken Schneider
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Schneider
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Steiner
Mr. and Mrs. Millie Zechke

Evon Berlau, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James Adcock
Ms. Patricia G. Allen
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Atherton
Ms. Christine Buckley
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dexter
Mrs. Edith Driver
Mr. and Mrs. William Duffy
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dun
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Estill
Mr. and Mrs. M. Dean Hawkins
Rev. and Mrs. Martin Hess
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Kerlin
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Klein
Miss Anne Knowles
Mr. Ron Mahurin, CCCU
Ms. Eric W. Manvel
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Perren

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pierson
Ms. Pati Roberts
Roswell United Methodist Church
Roswell United Methodist Church
-CUC Class
Ms. Dorothy Schlatter
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Steflan
Robbin Storey
Mr. and Mrs. Terry K. Taylor

Johnny Chase
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

Emma Copeland
Mrs. Carolyn Jorison Besher
Mr. and Mrs. Hal Callice
Ms. Marilyn Davis
Ms. Jane Ford
Ms. Linda Fox
Ms. Sharon Miller
Mrs. Helen Jones
Mr. Rick Jones

Marjorie Davis
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi
Dr. and Mrs. Larry Helyer

Bob Freese
Mr. Elizabeth Freese
Mrs. M. Jane Hodson

Elizabeth Gardner
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Gardner

Greg Gerig
Mr. and Mrs. Emerald Gerig

Mary Getz
Mr. Elmer Regier

Earl and Wilma Gibbs
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Reynolds

Mary Gongwer
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Medhurst
Mr. Elmer Regier
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Rediger

David Gormannos
Mrs. Sherry Gormannos

Michael Hadley
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

Bonita Haines
Mr. Scott Boyd
Mr. and Mrs. David Broadwell

Dr. and Mrs. Joe Barnthouse
Ms. Anne S. Ecker
Ms. Margaret Embry
Everglades Florida Unit WBCCI
Mrs. Elizabeth Freese
Mr. and Mrs. John McClellan
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Matthews
Mrs. Barbara Pinkerton
Miss Suehlah Savidge
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shugert
Mr. and Mrs. Errol Whaider

Clarice Halfast
Mrs. Millam Fell
Dr. and Mrs. Carl Grothouse
Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Hillside
Overhead Door Corporation,
Lexington, PA
Tim Matthews
Jeff Cline
Dave Holster
Patti Bradford
Betty Hunsacker
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Rediger
Mr. and Mrs. Morris S. Stout

John Hershey
Dr. and Mrs. Rosie Kerlin

Rays Hiron
Mrs. M. Jane Hodson

Nelle Hodson
Mr. and Mrs. Merton Barry

Lillian Hopkins
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

Ollie Hubbard
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hoffmann
Mr. and Mrs. David Thompson

Everett Jarboe
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kelly
Ms. Jessie Ruth Lewis
Mr. and Mrs. James Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Smith

Charlene Jones
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi
Mrs. M. Jane Hodson
Mrs. Helen Jones
Mr. Rick Jones

Nikki Klepser
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

Ruth Krueger
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

Lucille Lightfoot
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

James McElwee
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Johnson

Brenda Mantha
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Atkinson
Ms. Anita Bunter
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bunter
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bartz
Dr. Charles Beasley and Dr. Rebecca Budzangi
Birchwood Construction Company
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Cloutier
Ms. Marsha Combs, Petonsey
Cardiology, PC
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Crow
Mrs. Barbara Davenport
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dooley
Mrs. and Mr. William Ewbank
Mr. and Mrs. Tom E. Flagel
Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Freeman
Mr. Larry Glass
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Greer
Hamptons City Tuesday Night Bible Study Group
Dr. and Mrs. Larry Helyer
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hopkins
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Howard
Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kachur
Mr. William R. Kanicin, P.C.
Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. Keeler
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Kerlin
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Keeler
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Key
Ms. Lecia C. Leman
Claude, Cajin and John McMillan
Mr. and Mrs. Robert McMillen
Mr. and Mrs. Scott McMillen
Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Mack
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Maddox
Mr. and Mrs. Don Mantha
Mr. Douglas Mantha and Dr. Rachel Meighan-Mantha
Ms. Gloria Mantha
Ms. Ina Mantha
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Meighan
Dr. and Mrs. David Neuhouser
Ms. Debra Noblett, Cardiology Consultants, PC
Northern VA Mennonite Church
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Peacock
Ms. Vida Pearson
Mr. Marsha W. Pitts
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Rediger
Ms. Terri D. Reichard
Miss Suehlah Savidge
Mr. and Mrs. James Sellers
Mr. and Mrs. R. Karl Shaffer
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Steinert
Ms. Jo Ella Stott
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Tabor

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Thomas
Ms. Charlotte J. Thurman
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tice, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Tomato
Ms. and Mrs. Phillip Thurman
Mr. Robert D. Wagner
Mr. Edger Wagoner
Ms. Winna Wilson

Virginia Martin
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

Doris Miller
Ms. Sandra Baum
Dr. and Mrs. M. Arthur Grant

Milo Nussbaum
Gloria Nussbaum

Marion Miller Oeveris
Dr. and Mrs. M. Arthur Grant

Bob Pitts
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Hoffmann

Juanita Pomante
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi
Mrs. M. Jane Hodson

Dr. and Mrs. Milo Rediger
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Kerlin

Newton Sparks
Mrs. Helen Jones
Mr. Rick Jones

Ada Stafford
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Bedi

Albert Terhune
Mrs. Elizabeth Freese

Donald H. Vernier
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Rediger

Lois Weed
Dr. and Mrs. John Kisswitz
Mr. and Mrs. William Robinson

Robert H. Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dubber

Joenita Yost
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Hoffmann

Honorary Members

(Honorees in bold)

Hazel Butz Carruth Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Breneman

Jean Berst
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Kerlin
Magdi Ghali
Dr. and Mrs. Magdi Ghali
Marcia Ghali
Dr. and Mrs. Magdi Ghali

Mark Ghali
Dr. and Mrs. Magdi Ghali

Monica Ghali
Dr. and Mrs. Magdi Ghali
atic and Marylou Habecker
Mrs. Judith Kamen
Ice Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Turner

Nathaniel Hamlin
Mr. and Mrs. David L. Fry

Bret Hanson
Dr. and Mrs. Magdi Ghali

David and Mary Lee
Dr. and Mrs. N. Arthur Eshum

Tony Kijango
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Neely

Bobbi Kroll
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Thomas

Jenny Lee
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Kerlin

Jim and Mary Rosema
Ms. Jule E. Rosema

Gene Rupp
Copa. Douglas N. Wolfe
And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God.

Zechariah 13:9
Loving neighbors

It may not have been the first sign. It was not the only sign. But it was the one I saw that morning as the dawn revealed not only a campus’ broken heart, but a community’s.

Someone at the Friends church just a few blocks north of campus had been awake during the nighttime hours of April 26th and 27th as well. It was such a simple message, but it touched the deepest part of my soul. It had been a dark night for our neighbors too. Our grief and loss was also their grief and loss. And by God’s rich grace and mercy, we would come through all of this together.

We are proud of our Upland and Grant County heritage. We love our neighbors. Their joys have been our joys. On that most difficult day, we were reassured of those things we’ve always known - that our neighbors love and care about us too.
Melissa Munn didn't expect to have to learn the meaning of terms like pulmonary embolism, RVAD or Coumadin. But after a close brush with death, she and her family have gained a firsthand knowledge of a malady that can kill with little or no warning, and a God who is faithful beyond human understanding.

Melissa, who graduated from Taylor in May, was married on July 8th to fellow Taylor grad Brad Moser - this following a bout with a pulmonary embolism, a large blood clot that worked its way into her heart's arterial system and nearly killed her on April 24th.

She had been on antibiotics for a presumed case of pneumonia, but that morning began passing out and having breathing difficulty. If not for a roommate who had overslept and was there to call 911, she would have died. "The paramedics and doctors said if it had been 10 more minutes," Melissa paused, "they don't know how I made it in the first place. Any more time would have been bad, I think."

It was bad as it was. Her heart stopped and she had to be resuscitated before being flown to Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. But her mother Pam says today that even when she and her husband Don learned Melissa faced only a 1-in-10 chance for survival, they trusted the Lord.

"The peace that passes all understanding ... you hear that," Pam said. "In the midst of all that, we truly experienced what that felt like. A nurse in the hospital commented on how calm we were; I said, 'This isn't me, this is God's hand.'"

Melissa endured three open-heart surgeries as doctors worked to save her life, and try to get the damaged right side of her heart beating again. During the first operation, surgeons found a saddle pulmonary embolism had partially blocked two of her heart's major arteries; doctors later determined that she suffers from Type II Prothrombin, a condition that can lead to above-average blood clotting. She is currently taking the blood thinner Coumadin to counter it.

Still, Melissa's heart was "insulted" and "stunned," in the same manner as an arm or leg muscle after too much exercise. An RVAD (Right Ventricular Assist Device) kept her heart beating properly, but doctors told the family they would need to install a longer-working device, and even that had its limits. Melissa faced possible heart transplant surgery before her heart began to beat normally again.

"Lutheran is an amazing heart hospital (but) there aren't many cases like mine," Melissa said. "(Before) the third surgery, the surgeons told my parents they didn't expect the heart to work; but when they weaned me off (the RVAD) the heart started working, which was amazing."

"Doctors and surgeons came from all over the hospital (to observe). A nurse said she had never seen an operating room where everyone had tears in their eyes."

Melissa's appearance at Taylor's commencement on May 20th buoyed a community that had held an all-night prayer vigil for her on April 24th, and was still badly shaken by the April 26th van accident that killed four students and a dining services staff member.

"I've been given such an amazing blessing. I got to experience something that most people never do - the way that family and friends come together when a loved one is dying," she said, "I have so much confidence and peace that I'm supported and loved, not just by people, but by God."

"What I can use this for in the future to further His kingdom, I definitely don't know," she added. "I'm waiting to find out."
Vomit Comet

See page 6 for the full story.