Winter 2008


Taylor University

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mission driven

A Bible for the Ache
Prayers for Kenya
Confronting in love
mission driven

The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christs. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became Man for no other purpose. C. S. Lewis

Go, send, or disobey.
John Piper

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
Matthew 28: 18-20

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students and alumni reflect on global engagement

with the boundaries of our world dissolving rapidly with the rise of global connectivity, the Church will be defined by unprecedented unity accomplished through members of the Church reflecting Christ’s example both in demonstration and proclamation. Loving God and loving others will be the uniting rally cry of the Church in communities across the globe—providing hope and restoration to a world with transcendent needs.

Chris Horst ’06

the summer after my freshman year at Taylor, I went to Sri Lanka to do tsunami relief work with Taylor’s math and physics departments. This experience widened my consciousness of the hurt and hopelessness in the world and how it can be redeemed by the love of Christ in us.

Rebekah Bergens ’08

Christians need to engage the world. We need to continually step out of what has become comfortable because we will find immense joy, coupled with struggle, if we would reach out to love others. We possess hope. If you look in the faces of many around the world, you will find little evidence of hope. What a privilege we have to share it.

Kyle Lantz ’07

God seeks out the poor, the widow, and the orphan and restores them to himself. It’s true that the world is broken due to sin, but God has no intention of leaving it in its miserable state. He is actively moving to restore the world, and will eventually do so at a time Jesus in Matt. 19:28 calls, “the renewal of all things” ... Until that time, we are called to join God in the restoration of His creation.

Kevin Little ’08
The conundrum of service

What causes a person to take his Taylor University education, combine it with advanced degrees from Yale University, and then go to the poorest of India's poor? Why would alumni with their whole lives in front of them spend a year rebuilding churches destroyed during Sudan's civil war? And what led one alumna to speak out on the issue of abortion while living and working in China?

The answers are both simple and complex. If the only considerations were safety, comfort or return on investment, it could be argued these acts are not noble but naïve, even foolish. But there are greater, more eternal reasons that drive these men and women to risk safety, health and prosperity.

It is the call of the cross. It has been the same since the day the disciples, cowering in a locked room, came face-to-face with the risen Christ.

And as a result, the threat of loss, sorrow, disease or even death no longer held sway in their lives. It was that encounter with the risen Lord, burning in their hearts, which drove them forward.

As you read the compendium of stories in the newest edition of Taylor magazine, you'll see how God is at work in people who, perhaps like you, had an encounter with the risen Christ while at your alma mater. And you will see the influence they are bringing to bear upon the place where God has put them.

Often the expression, "the affairs of this world" connotes the idea of having lost sight of that high calling toward which Christ has called us. For the men and women whose testimonies you are about to learn, it is in "the affairs of this world" that they see the face of Jesus and then minister His redemptive love to a world in need.

James R. Garringer
Editor
Burkholder's work as faculty athletic representative honored

It has been 45 years since Tim Burkholder '63 suited up for the Trojans' basketball or baseball teams but in the eyes of many of the coaches and athletes, he is still their MVP.

Burkholder, a professor in Taylor's biology department (he replaced the legendary Vida Wood upon her retirement when he joined the faculty in 1970), has served for the past 27 years as the faculty athletic representative (FAR). In that position, he has played a key role in the lives of nearly 7,000 student athletes, signing off on their eligibility and serving as the liaison between the faculty and athletic department.

At the end of the 2007-08 academic year, Burkholder will step down from that position. His tenure has spanned the administrations of four Taylor presidents, four athletic directors and four registrars.

"Tim is a wonderful colleague," said Taylor athletic director Dave Bireline. "He has a heart for student athletes and his impact on the lives of these young men and women is one that will be felt for years to come."

He was recently honored with a surprise presentation and reception to recognize his work.

"The fact that it was totally unexpected was such a big surprise," he said. "I appreciated the thought and the fact that they carried through with it. It is one of those things where you don't have to be recognized because I enjoyed doing it."

Although his term as FAR is ending, Burkholder said he plans to teach one more year before retiring. "My problem is I still really enjoy it," he said. "If I didn't enjoy it so much, it would be so much easier ... Lord willing, I would like to teach next year."

"I've had student athletes thank me for working with them in an effort to get them to the point where they could play," he said. "I really like the NAIA's identification of our athletes as 'student-athletes.' They are students first and athletes second. I've always bought into that idea. As the person who signs eligibility, that was always a neat thing to be able to do."

"They are students first and athletes second.

I've always bought into that idea"
Master’s carpenters

Being a first-time homeowner and moving into a new home is a big step in and of itself. Thankfully for Denise Morris, she had over 150 friends to help make that step possible.

Morris is a well-loved member of the Taylor community. A widowed mother of three boys, she works in Taylor’s Hodson Dining Commons where she serves meals to hundreds of students every day.

It was the students’ turn to serve her during fall semester. After Morris was approved for funding from Affordable Housing Corp. in Marion, over 150 Taylor students, along with Taylor faculty, staff and numerous volunteers from the Upland community, built a three-bedroom home a few blocks north of campus.

The work was coordinated by Carpenter’s Hands, part of the Taylor World Outreach student ministry at Taylor, and started with a blitz-building day in October. The project continued throughout the fall and Morris and her sons moved into the home just before Christmas. The project was completed in just 99 days.

“I love my house,” Morris exclaimed. “It was a great blessing. I enjoyed getting to know (the students) at that level.”

According to Jenny Peterson ’09, a marketing and management major from Prospect Heights, Ill., and co-chair of Carpenter’s Hands, the students and community served as God’s hands and feet.

“(A) direct connection to the hand of God in this project is all the Taylor students who were willing to wake up early on Saturday mornings and work,” Peterson said. “It is this imagery that inspired our ministry name of Carpenter’s Hands. When we give our time and ability to Christ, we become His hands and feet to the world that He loves.”

“I loved the community aspect of it,” said Mary Rayburn, director of student ministries at Taylor. “It was definitely Taylor students, faculty and staff who were involved. But also Affordable Housing and community volunteers … it became bigger than what we envisioned.”
Giving voice to the unheard

Although it was a classroom project, the plight of Darfuri refugees became real for Taylor University students who met them, learned their stories and then gave voice to their suffering during a theatrical presentation in Fort Wayne, Ind.

The students, members of Dr. Linda (Sulfridge '73) Welker's community-based drama class, met with members of a growing Darfuri community in Fort Wayne who have settled there after fleeing the violence in their homeland. A number of those Darfuri refugees were in the audience when Welker's students presented Voices Unheard, a dramatic interpretation of their stories.

"Darfur is a land of pain and sorrow," said Jason Griffin '10, a theatre arts major from Willowbrook, Ill. Griffin played a Janjaweed militia member who took great relish in killing one of his victims. "(It) filled me with such a rage and disgust that I have rarely felt before. This needs to be stopped," he exclaimed. "This play provided my classmates and me a chance to let the voices be heard. People need to know what is happening in Darfur and that they can find ways to help.

"At the end of the show, I was touched to have the Darfuri people present, thanking us again and again for this show that we did," he added. "I hope to do it again, to further spread the stories they need to tell."

"A lot were educated, upper-class people," said Elizabeth Owsley '09, an elementary education major from Madison, Wis. Owsley spoke of one Darfuri couple who did not want their names publicized because they feared retaliation.

"Her father was an advocate for Darfur and Sudan; because of that, the government was arresting him," Owsley said. "They didn't know where he was, or if he was safe. They were looked upon and segregated. Because they were Darfuri, there was a lot of racism—even with a college education."

Welker said the large number of refugees in the audience added extra meaning to the performance.

"It was overwhelming; I didn't have enough time to meet with all those who came," she said. "One man I talked to who had just gotten to Fort Wayne recently—his family was left behind."

"Right in the middle of the conversation he started to cry. He is so afraid," she related. "The whole point of doing the performance is going back into the community and demonstrating our empathy. As little as we did, it was meaningful to them."
Campus construction projects headed for completion

Two campus construction projects headed toward completion in the coming months will impact the Taylor campus on both spiritual and community levels. The Memorial Prayer Chapel (located near the Zondervan Library) and the North Village Apartments (being built west of the Freimuth Administration Building) are on target for their planned respective openings in April and August.

Work on the Memorial Prayer Chapel began in August 2007, and has proceeded through the fall and winter. According to Ron Sutherland '82, vice president for business and finance at Taylor, the chapel project is on track for completion and dedication on April 26, 2008—the two-year anniversary of the accident that claimed the lives of dining services staff member Monica Felver and students Laurel Erb, Brad Larson, Betsy Smith and Laura VanRyn.

“In the actual prayer chapel, there is a sense of volume because of the height of the space that should be conducive to worship and prayer,” he said, adding the peak of the interior chapel will reach nearly 60 feet. “There will also be areas that will memorialize those in the accident and honor others. We believe it will be a real encouragement to the community.”

When the North Village facility opens on August 1, it will provide sleeping and living areas for 60 people and accommodate growing enrollment. Sutherland said the net gain will be 30 beds because the university plans to demolish two units at the aging Fairlane Apartment complex north of campus.

“Each apartment will have its own bathroom and kitchen unit,” he explained, adding that the design is essentially for two buildings with a common space between them. “It is designed to promote community and how we enjoy each other and live with each other. It incorporates design elements of Sickler Hall and Swallow-Robin, which are two of our historic buildings on that end of campus.”
MBA program growing in numbers, internationally

Growth, global outreach and impact. Those associated with Taylor’s master of business administration (MBA) program say that the enterprise is not only healthy and growing, it is also filling a much-needed niche in the business world.

Following the program’s 2003 launch in Fort Wayne, it expanded to Indianapolis in 2007, and will host its first classes in Taiwan beginning in April 2008. After a modest initial cohort of 15 students, nearly 65 students in four cohorts are enrolled in the program today. In addition to distance learning, the program features periodic intensive seminars and an overseas travel requirement that takes Taylor MBA students to Europe and Asia. An accreditation request for fully-online program delivery is pending.

“There was market space for Taylor University as we looked at MBA programs with an emphasis in global business development,” said program director Larry Rottmeyer ’78. “Our research showed less than five percent of MBA programs required global travel or offered it as an elective. It is one of the unique things we continue to do with our program that puts us out there on the cutting edge.”

“It has been one of the highlights of the MBA program. If you talk to students about what has been the defining thinking for them they would say that trip has changed their view of the world,” said Larry Linamen, dean of Taylor’s graduate school of business.

Linamen added the planned startup of classes in Taiwan this spring will give the program a valuable foothold in Asia.

Ray Hilbert, the founder and CEO of Truth@Work, an author and current MBA student, will accompany Linamen on a 10-day fact-finding trip to South Korea in March. There, he will assess future possibilities for the Taylor MBA program and fulfill course requirements ahead of his April graduation.

“A significant portion of the work that I’ve done has not been theory; they have actually been real projects that have impacted my organization,” he said. “That has been meaningful.”

“God is blessing us in ways we would never have imagined in this MBA program,” said Rottmeyer. “It is exciting to be a part of that and live out our faith in such a great calling.”

For more information, visit www.taylor.edu/mba.
Faculty accolades

Win Corduan, philosophy professor, authored *The Cosmological Argument*, published in *Reasons for Faith: Making a Case for the Christian Faith*. He also wrote a chapter entitled *Bottled Water from the Fragrant Harbor: The Diluted Spiritual Element of Hong Kong Films* in *Faith, Film and Philosophy*.

Rukshan Fernando ’98, social work instructor, made a presentation at the 2007 Indiana Association of Social Work Education Conference in Anderson, entitled *Rebuilding after the Tsunami: The “Soil Block” Housing Development Program in Sri Lanka*.


Cathy Harner, social work professor and department chair, and Rukshan Fernando ’98 gave a presentation at the Second International Symposium on Service-Learning in Indianapolis entitled *International Service-Learning: Professional Application of Classroom Learning*.


Joe Lund, psychology professor, wrote *Successful Faculty Mentoring Relationships at Evangelical Christian Colleges*, for volume six of *Christian Higher Education*.

Paul Rothrock, professor and department chair of earth and environmental science, coauthored *Development, Calibration, and Validation of a Littoral Zone Plant Index of Biotic Integrity (PIBI) for Lacustrine Wetlands* in *Ecological Indicators*.

Carl Siler, professor of education, has been elected president of the Association of Teacher Educators-Indiana (ATE-I) for 2007-2009. He also served on a national reaccreditation team for NCATE at Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C.

Jim Spiegel, philosophy professor, wrote a chapter entitled *What Would Have Been and What Could Be: Counterfactuals in It’s a Wonderful Life and Run Lola Run* published in *Faith, Film and Philosophy*. He also presented the topic at the Evangelical Philosophical Society meeting.

Dick Squiers, professor of earth and environmental science and director of the master of environmental studies (MES) program, presented a paper entitled *Confined Animal Feeding Operations: Local Challenges and Global Perspectives* at the annual meeting of the Indiana Academy of Science held at the University of Indianapolis.

Linda (Sulfridge ’73) Welker, associate professor of communication studies, presented *The Word Became Flesh: Theorizing an Incarnational Paradigm of Performance Studies* at the Performance Studies Division of the National Communication Association Convention in Chicago, Ill.

Alan Winquist, history professor, presented *William Taylor’s Controversial Methods in West and Central Africa and Their Impact on Methodism in Modern Angola* at the Evangelical Theological Society.
Moore elected president of National Association of Biology Teachers

Dr. John Moore ’72 has been elected president of the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT). A member of the Taylor University faculty since 1983, Moore will serve a three-year term; the first year as president elect, the second as president and the third as past president. He began his term as president elect on Jan. 1.

Moore is chairman of the biology department at Taylor and coordinator of the Ecuador Global Engagement Centre in Cuenca, Ecuador. His activities for NABT include director and coordinator of the board of directors, Region III coordinator and chair of the International Committee. He has also served as chairman of the Four-Year College Section and has been a presenter at many NABT professional development conferences.

Based in Reston, Va., the NABT has 9,000 members around the world. According to its Web site, the organization “empowers educators to provide the best possible biology and life science education for all students,” through best practices, professional opportunities and creating benchmark teaching standards.

“The National Association of Biology Teachers is the leader in life science education,” said Moore. “I love this organization for its dedication to teaching excellence. It is an honor, yet a daunting task to lead this esteemed group, and I covet prayers that I may serve the organization and my Lord well.”

In addition to his Taylor degree, Moore earned M.A. (1978) and Ed.D. (1989) degrees from Ball State University. His teaching career spans 34 years. He was a biology teacher for 20 years at Marion High School (Ind.). Moore joined the Taylor faculty as an adjunct instructor in 1983 and became an associate professor in 1992. He achieved the rank of professor in 2000. During his doctoral work, he was a doctoral fellow at Ball State University from 1985-86.

“As national attention grows to improve the quality of science teaching across all levels, Dr. Moore’s passion for teaching excellence and equipping teachers with scientific principles and reasoning abilities to solve real-world problems will advance the NABT agenda,” said Dr. Steve Bedi ’65, Taylor provost. “John is an exceptional scientist and an esteemed colleague; it is gratifying to know his leadership will honor the Lord and Taylor University.”
Basketball teams weather injuries, reach high points

Taylor’s women’s basketball team entered the season with high hopes, talented returners and promising recruits after last year’s Elite Eight appearance. But after injuries to key players, including all-conference and third team all-American Katie Madden ‘08, the Lady Trojans battled to 17-14 and 10-6 overall and MCC records for the 2007-08 season.

The team was led in scoring by Paige Rudolph ‘09, who averaged 16.8 points a game, and rebounding by Alison Heesch ‘10, who averaged 6.4 rebounds a game.

There were a number of high points during the campaign that included a win over defending national champion Indiana Wesleyan and a 19-point MCC tournament victory over St. Francis. Coach Tena Krause’s Lady Trojans also led the NAIA Div. II in free throw shooting with a .788 average. Rudolph became the 14th Lady Trojan to score 1,000 career points and was named a member of the MCC’s first team; Heesch was a second team selection.

Although a late-season skid dropped the men’s basketball team from the NAIA’s Top 20, the Trojans finished with 20-12 overall and 8-6 league records.

Coach Paul Patterson’s Trojans went 7-3 against ranked competition and were among the nation’s leaders in scoring defense, giving up less than 55 points per game. The team defeated conference champion Bethel twice and notched impressive road wins at Huntington and St. Francis.

Chad Reynolds ‘09 led the Trojans in scoring, averaging 16.3 points a game and rebounding with nearly five rebounds a game; he was also named to the MCC’s second team. Daniel Cox ‘09 was a MCC honorable mention.

For scores, player bios and game podcasts, visit www.taylor.edu/athletics.
Taking it to the hoop

The Kesler Student Activities Center was the venue for over 500 athletes who dribbled, passed and shot their way to a special kind of basketball glory on January 12, as Taylor Disability Outreach (TDO) hosted Take it to the Hoop—a state-wide basketball tournament for Special Olympics athletes.

A total of 31 teams from throughout the State of Indiana played in a double-elimination tournament. An individual skills competition was held for 33 athletes whose physical or mental challenges precluded them from team competition.

TDO co-chair Dave Adams ‘08, an elementary education major from Doylestown, Pa., said working with the visiting athletes was both rewarding and convicting. “Obviously, God has blessed us with fully-functional working bodies,” he said. “I like it and they are always honest with you. There is no cover... It makes us realize how fortunate we really are.”

Over 50 Taylor students assisted with the event. One of those students was Bret Burchard ‘08, a sport management major from Colombia, Mo., and member of the men’s basketball team. He brought Trojan teammates Daniel Cox ’09 and Drew Tower ’11 to help referee some of the games.

“The enthusiasm the athletes have makes it so much fun,” he said. “I refereed a game with a kid probably only ten years old, and he high-fived me after their team scored. He didn’t touch the ball too many times but obviously had a lot of fun playing.”

“I refereed (another) game with a 51-year-old man who harassed me after every call and then winked at me just to let me know he was kidding,” he continued. “There was one guy who cheered harder for his teammates’ success than his own. That’s the essence of unselfishness.”

“For most of our athletes, Special Olympics is their main recreational and social outlet,” said Tim Faust, county coordinator of Special Olympics Indiana-Grant County. “It gives them a feeling of being more included in the community. Coming to Taylor is such a big thing for our athletes. Everybody in the state talks about the event. They love the setting at Taylor and the college atmosphere.”
The study of science as a logical imperative of Taylor’s mission

By Matt DeLong Ph.D.

The Taylor University mission states that we are “a Christ-centered educational institution, and an evangelical, interdenominational covenant community committed to advancing life-long learning and ministering the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need.” This definition can be broken into five components, each of which argue for the study of science at Taylor.

Taylor University is a Christ-centered...

Romans 1:20 teaches that God’s eternal power and divine nature are clearly seen in creation. Since the natural sciences are the chief tool for studying creation, they are an effective (though not sufficient) means for learning about God’s character.

As a Christ-centered institution, we can refine this argument, “for by Him (Christ) all things were created..., and in Him all things hold together” (Col. 1:16-17). Thus, by studying the natural sciences, we are by extension learning about the One who created, and is sustaining, that which we study.

...educational institution,...

Paul’s exhortation, “finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things” (Phil. 4:8), could be the motto of a Christian liberal arts university.

From the quadrivium of medieval universities to today’s general education programs, institutions of liberal education have, in their historical and modern conceptions, included science and mathematics as worthy of study. Likewise, we are heeding Paul’s exhortation, in part, when we too pursue these disciplines at Taylor.

...and an evangelical, interdenominational covenant community...

Following Jay Kesler, a significant aspect of Taylor’s community is its “great cloud of witnesses,” who are an encouragement to us to “run with perseverance the race marked out for us” (Heb. 12:1). This cloud of witnesses includes Olive Mae Draper, Elmer Nussbaum, Dave Neuhouser, and others who have delineated the race to include the study of science and mathematics. We honor our community heritage by continuing in their path.

More recently, Hank Voss, Don Takehara, and others have invigorated research in the sciences at Taylor. The fifty students and faculty who regularly attended research lunches this summer attest that science and mathematics are not only significant parts of our heritage, but vital to our present community as well.

...committed to advancing life-long learning...

Solomon encouraged the wise readers of his proverbs to “listen and add to their learning” (Prov. 1:5). Indeed, Daniel was elevated in the Babylonian court in part because he showed “aptitude for every kind of learning...” (Dan. 1:4). Taylor is likewise committed to advancing life-long learning—of the Word and of the culture in which we apply it.

Responsible citizenship and leadership in this century require a scientific literacy unfathomable just a few decades ago. Life at the time of Taylor’s founding, just 162 years ago, had more in common with life in the days of Jesus than it has with our culture of GPSs, iPods *, and 787s. Thus, the study of science is an essential component of Taylor’s ongoing commitment to advancing life-long learning.

*Pronounced " Ipods " in modern speech
“for by Him all things were created..., and in Him all things hold together.” (Col. 1:16-17)

...and ministering the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need.

Like all centuries, the 21st century is rife with signs of the fall. Many people lack access to clean water, nutritional food and other basic resources. The death toll from AIDS has reached breathtaking levels. Ethnic, religious and other forms of hatred breed violence that spills rivers of blood. Many believe that global warming will soon exacerbate these calamities, as well as bring about new ones.

Jesus made it clear that His people will respond to those in need.

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me’" (Matt. 25:40). Although science alone is not sufficient for healing the deep wounds of our day, it can be a powerful tool for bringing hope and help to those who are suffering. If Taylor is serious about ministering Christ’s redemptive love to a needy world, one essential component is the study of science, both for immediate application and for preparation for future service.

Conclusion

Taylor University should be proactive in the research and teaching of the sciences in order that her members may better know Christ, her students may be liberally educated, her heritage may be honored, her graduates may be prepared for citizenship and leadership in the 21st century, and her world service in Christ’s name may be more effectively employed to His glory. Why should Taylor be involved in the study of science? In short, because her mission compels her to be so.

Almighty God, who created humanity after your image and gave them living souls that they may seek you and rule your creation, teach us so to investigate the works of your hand that we may subdue the earth to our use, and strengthen our intelligence for your service. And grant that we may so receive your Word as to believe in Him whom you sent to give us the science of salvation and the forgiveness of our sins. All this we ask in the name of the same Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

James Clerk Maxwell (1831-1879)
Inspire others. Remember.

Honoring and memorializing friends and family in the new Memorial Prayer Chapel

In response to requests from people to recognize family members, friends, and mentors who have had a significant spiritual impact on their lives, there will be a wall in the new Memorial Prayer Chapel entitled A Great Cloud of Witnesses. Your gift of $1,000 over the course of one, two or three years will allow you to honor or memorialize an individual or couple on this wall. The contributions sustain both the Memorial Prayer Chapel as well as the ongoing commitment to prayer at Taylor University.

For more information about this opportunity or about the April 26, 2008, dedication of the Memorial Prayer Chapel during Heritage Weekend, contact Brad Yordy, director of stewardship and scholarships, at 800-882-3456, ext .5114, or bryordy@taylor.edu.

Alumnus to fill regional director role in Michigan

Taylor University has named Norm Guillaume ’66 regional director of advancement; he will serve Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and states throughout the eastern United States.

Following his Taylor graduation, he earned a master’s degree from Michigan State University. He went on to a 30-year career as a high school science teacher during which he won several awards for teaching excellence. Guillaume later served as an instructor of human anatomy and physiology in the nursing department of Grand Rapids Community College and taught summer and winter classes to area teachers on science enrichment and methodology.

For the past 13 years he has served as director of congregational care and small groups, Christ (PCA) Church in Grand Rapids, Mich. He has also served as a ruling elder in the PCA for 41 years.

"Having attended and graduated from Taylor, I have always held the highest regard for her part in the ‘awakening’ of my spirit and leadership skills,” Guillaume said. "In subsequent years I have continued to appreciate more fully those years that have molded me into a servant of God and of those with whom I have come in contact.

"The possibility of building bridges to alumni who can be encouraged to do more in supporting the exciting new vision of Dr. Habecker excites me," he added.

"We are excited to have Norm Guillaume join our advancement team," said Dr. Ben Sells, vice president for university advancement. "Norm’s career has been characterized by his passionate and distinguished service to education and the Kingdom of God. He has been a dedicated alumnus, parent and friend and we look forward to co-laboring with Norm in the coming years.”

Guillaume and his wife Molly live in Grand Rapids, Mich. They are the parents of two daughters, Lori and Amy (Guillaume x91) Aldrich.
“My experience at Taylor University has been marked by life-changing opportunities, including my time in Ethiopia through Taylor’s Lighthouse program. The unforgettable encounters with these people grew a desire in me to use the science background that I am receiving at Taylor to promote health around the world.” - Tala Alhajj ’08, biology

Your gifts to the Taylor Fund help provide critical support for student programs that enhance a globally engaged education at Taylor University. Thank you!
Call 1-800-882-3456, ext. 5397, or visit www.taylor.edu/giving.
Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”

Acts 8:26

Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus.

Acts 9:8
Going to a digital mission field
Before they begin their careers working for Fortune 500 companies such as AT&T, Hewlett-Packard, Motorola, IBM and Xerox, a number of students in Taylor University’s computing and systems sciences (CSS) department hone their skills meeting the needs of Christian missionaries and mission organizations through classroom projects.

CSS students and faculty members have worked with organizations that include HCJB Global on the development of a Radio Planting and Development Database (RPADD), New Tribes Mission and Crescent Project, an Indianapolis, Ind.-based outreach to Muslims living in North America.

Beyond that, students have continued to revise and update WordSurv, a tool that allows missionaries in the field to survey indigenous languages to begin the process of scripture translation. And in 2005, a group of CSS students and faculty participated in a Lighthouse trip to Honduras where they helped with system needs for a boys’ school and helped develop updated systems for a growing organization.

"Initially I was drawn here by the strength of the computer science program," said Jordan Beck '08, a CSS major from Russell, Pa. Beck was part of a team that designed a new information system for Crescent Project.

"We have entire weeks focused on the (mission-related) opportunities we have," he said of annual World Opportunities Week events held each fall. "That is something unique about Taylor... Taylor has given me a much more firm foundation in my faith. It has been a huge blessing to me and has shaped a lot of who I am."

Beck took part in a pair of classes taught by Dr. Felix Aguilar—the first centered on systems analysis, during which the needs of Crescent Project were assessed, and the second on systems design, where they took those things learned during the earlier semester and worked to build a solution. He also made his Crescent Project work part of a senior project.

"Along with Dave Heath '08, we worked side-by-side to find out what they needed and what their requirements were," said Beck. "As we went there and got onsite and started learning from them, we found out they are very mission-minded.

"That was where we came along," he added. "We could give them the tools they needed to do their jobs more effectively."

"For our students, it raises awareness of what missions organizations do. That is really, really important," said Aguilar. "Not all of our students have that background; having them meet these people is a tremendous opportunity."

"I've learned a lot just about Islam in general through working with Crescent Project, and it's made what we have done seem even more important," Heath said. "I am praying that this system will help the staff at Crescent Project to be able to spend less time on the mundane details in the office, and more time focusing on their passion of reaching Muslims... They do a great job of teaching Christians how to befriend Muslims, and this system is built to enable them to do even more. I am looking forward to seeing the effect of the system after it has been completely put into place."

"I have learned a lot through this experience and I feel much more prepared to enter the work force after spending so much time learning the details of building a system like this," Heath stated. "I think that the internship is definitely a key component of the computer science curriculum; and being able to work with a missions organization helped me to learn how I can combine my faith with my field of work."

"It is definitely a great experience," Beck said. "It is great practical experience that I would not have gotten otherwise. Also seeing ministry work and furthering the kingdom—here I am helping an organization to reach one of the biggest people groups out there, to come alongside them to give them the tools they need to do their work more effectively."

"The Lord needs all kinds of people in missions, even 'tech' people," Aguilar said. "A person may not be able to preach but he or she can work on a computer. It opens up doors of awareness for students to say, 'I have these 'tech' skills and they are needed in missions.'"

For more information, visit http://www.css.taylor.edu/.

"For our students, it raises awareness of what missions organizations do. That is really, really important."
mission driven

A Bible for the Aché
“God doesn’t call me or you or any of the team members to do it all. He does want us to find out where we fit in His global purposes. I don’t think enough of us as Christians do that.”

During their trip to Paraguay, a team from Taylor University led worship services, played soccer and established a relationship with a tribe of people who have yet to receive their first-ever copy of the Bible.

The Paraguay mission was a result of Taylor’s involvement with the Wycliffe Bible Translators project, called OneVerse. During the 2006-07 school year, Taylor adopted the Aché people of Paraguay and, aided by a matching gift by Cindy (Spencer ’84) Marrelli, began the fundraising process to create the first Aché language translation of the New Testament.

The Gospel of Luke was started first so the door could be opened for an Aché language version of the Jesus film. Versions of Matthew, Mark and John are in various stages of production by a six-member team of translators working in Paraguay.

“It felt like three mission trips because we did so much,” said Meredith Anderson ’08, a business management major from Western Springs, Ill. In addition to their work with the Aché, the 18-member team ministered in AIDS orphanages and a youth center, presented drama and gave their testimonies during stops in Paraguay’s capitol city of Asunción and Encarnación. “It was all seeing what the church looked like in Paraguay,” she said.

The three-week mission was one of six Lighthouse trips to destinations that included India, Ethiopia and the Czech Republic taken by 90 Taylor students in January.

The Aché people were a nomadic, forest-dwelling tribe until the 1970s when deforestation forced them into open society. According to team member Jenny Collins ’89, director of Lighthouse and assistant professor of missions, the Aché have been forced to change several significant societal paradigms in one generation because they had to leave the forest, change from a hunting culture to an agrarian one, and begin participation in an educational system that includes the more universal languages of Spanish and Guarani.
"They are fun and loving and very affectionate. It was fun getting to know them and building relationships with them."
It has been a harsh transition. The Aché face discrimination, kidnapping and violence at the hands of Paraguayans and Brazilians who have settled in that area. The tribe has gravitated to six different villages throughout eastern and northern Paraguay. The Taylor group visited two of those villages: Puerta Barra and Ypetimi.

Puerta Barra, home to about 90 families, is the smallest of the Aché villages. But it is also the most cohesive. The last to come out of the forest, an estimated 70% of the villagers there are Christians. Anderson said the contrast between them and the Aché they encountered in Ypetimi was noticeable—at first.

Ypetimi was larger, more populous and spread out. With less Christian influence and sense of community, the Aché there do little to help their neighbors. Ypetimi served as home to the Taylor group for nine days.

"I enjoyed being with the Aché people the most," said Ellen Koch '09, an elementary education major from Indianapolis, Ind. "They are fun and loving and very affectionate. It was fun getting to know them and building relationships with them."

Koch became ill one night while the team was in Ypetimi and spent the evening lying on one of several mattresses in the schoolhouse where the Taylor team stayed. A group of curious Aché children lined up outside the building to peer through the windows—and then did something unexpected.

They came in and began singing some of the songs they had learned from Koch and other students in an effort to help her feel better. "That was a really cool thing," she said. "You never know if the communication is lost in the translation. It was cool to see them remember the verses and the translation."

Collins told of a unique characteristic the Aché possess. "They like to tickle, but none of us got tickled," she related. "The kids will have tickling battles; they will roll on the ground laughing. It is funny."

As the team prepared to leave, the villagers in Ypetimi killed a cow and served it to them in an act of generosity that surprised and humbled the Taylor group.

"I think they are still wondering if this Taylor thing is for real and if we will ever come back," Collins said. "God doesn’t call me or you or any of the team members to do it all. He does want us to find out where we fit in His global purposes. I don’t think enough of us as Christians do that."

"I learned so much," said Anderson, who related a story about how the Aché in Puerta Barra prayed for them while they were in Ypetimi. "We need to be doing our part as Taylor University to pray for the Aché people. It is a relationship," she said. "It got me more excited to see what God was doing among the Aché."

To sponsor one or more verses for the Aché people of Paraguay, please visit http://www.oneverse.org/taylor.
"We serve a God who loves us no matter what we are.
We can love others no matter who they are."

Although the African nation of Kenya is nearly 8,000 miles away, problems and unrest there have impacted a number of students, faculty and staff members in the Taylor University community.

Once a haven for refugees from the warring nations surrounding it, Kenya now finds itself in upheaval following a hotly-contested election after which President Mwai Kibaki of the Kikuyu Tribe claimed victory over opposition leader Raila Odinga of the Luo Tribe. According to a Reuters news story, violence following the Dec. 27 election has left more than 1,000 people dead and 300,000 homeless.

Made up of seven provinces and one area, Kenya is home to nearly 37 million people, according to the CIA's World Factbook. Christianity is the predominant religion of Kenya—78% of the Kenyan populace is either Protestant or Roman Catholic, while the remainder adheres to Islam, indigenous and other beliefs.

The son of missionaries, Nate Miller '08 attended boarding school two hours from Nairobi as a youth. After visiting his parents, now stationed in Sudan, for Christmas, Miller was in Nairobi for his return to Upland when the initial violence broke out. His family was enjoying a meal in an upscale restaurant when it abruptly closed and diners were asked to leave.

"Things started heating up; the roads were closing," Miller said. "We decided to leave before they closed the roads and we couldn't get there."

As a result, Miller spent 10 hours at the airport waiting for his flight to leave. Although he was not eyewitness to any of the rioting, he said several flights into Nairobi were cancelled.

"Kenya and South Africa are the two countries that are known as stable," he said. "If I were to think anything would happen during my trip, I would have thought it would happen in Sudan. It was kind of disturbing. I was really worried for my parents; they were stuck in downtown Nairobi for a week."

Dereck Kamwesa '06, Taylor's coordinator of ethnic and international recruitment, grew up in the Western portion of Kenya and was introduced to Taylor by TU students who visited his church while attending Daystar University. He echoed Miller's sentiments while reflecting on Kenya's history of peace and stability.

"It is surprising. I don't want to say 'shameful,' but we have been ethnocentric. Kenya was a model of peace amidst numerous ethnic groups and tribes," he said. "We all intermingle as tribes. We come from different backgrounds. You can see a physical difference in some cases. We have been able to live together. We rejoiced in the differences."

But no more. Kamwesa said Kenya's social structure is comprised first of immediate family members, then extended family followed by clans and then tribes. He added tribal tensions and violence personified by Kibaki's rule and Odinga's opposition could worsen unless a solution is reached.

"The two political leaders have to understand there is more at stake than their pride. Lives are being lost. We are racing backwards. Since we achieved independence, this is the worst it has ever been," Kamwesa stated. "It will take a long time to heal. People will not be able to trust each other."

"My hope and belief is that not only the politicians, but also those who are rioting, will be wise enough to realize that they are going to destroy a Kenya that so many have put their sweat and blood into to build to what it is today," said Norah Langat '09, a junior biology major. "Already, we have suffered a huge setback to our economy due to obvious reasons and this is not going to be easy to recover."

Langat, whose older sister Anne is also a junior at Taylor, joined other Kenyans for a worldwide day of prayer on January 25 to ask God to bring peace to her homeland.

"I know for sure that there are a lot of prayers that are being said," she said. "I think that it is very encouraging and is something that Kenya could really use right now ... We know that God will hear us."

"We are praying that the violence will stop. It is sad to see how the thing that is happening is based on tribal prejudices," said Miller. "My parents and I prayed for peace and that the hearts of the people would change and they could overcome the tribal prejudice."

"I'm thankful for my Kenyan background. Even more, I'm thankful for my life as a Christian," said Kamwesa. "We serve a God who loves us no matter what we are. We can love others no matter who they are."
Hamad, my friend
By Aaron Shapiro '05
When people ask what I remember the most about my time in Sudan, most often they expect me to reflect on the devastation of war, or how difficult life is there. But in reality, what I remember the most about Sudan, is how challenged and inspired I have been by the people there. The first person who comes to mind is a man named Hamad.

Hamad lived in the Nuba Mountains in the center of the country. He was in his 60s, I think, and drove a truck for us during my time there. He was forced into the army and fought for the government in the war, but they kicked him out when they realized he was shooting his gun over everyone’s heads because he didn’t want to kill anybody.

I met Hamad while working for Samaritan’s Purse. My friend and fellow Taylor alumnus Jeff Mills ’03 also served Samaritan’s Purse in Sudan. He was primarily in Yei and southern Sudan while I was mostly in the Nuba Mountains towards the middle. We were both involved in a program to rebuild churches that were destroyed in Sudan’s north-south civil war. Jeff was a logistician/mobilizer who worked with churches to prepare them for construction teams. I was a researcher and visited over 100 of the churches that had been destroyed.

Hamad and I shared a tent for a few nights. We prayed together; and he shared in his broken English of how the people had maintained their faith throughout the war despite their situation. He praised God for saving them. Hamad has very little, but when his wife sent a small package of food for him, he brought it out for all of us and said, “This food is for us!” He was full of joy and I never saw him without receiving a beaming smile and a hug. Hamad always worked hard and stepped up to help, often before men 40 years younger, and he never complained about doing it.

Everyone I met suffered greatly during the war, though in differing degrees. The lucky ones only lost their homes before going to live in the ghettos outside Khartoum. Others fled into the mountains after their villages were burned down, but faced extreme hunger and sickness. I believe the hunger and sickness killed more of them than the violence.

The people who were captured lived under government control. Sometimes Christians were restricted from meeting or praying together, although there were times the government permitted them to meet. Many young men were forced into the army. Many young women were raped or forced to marry soldiers.

Life is still very hard there. The people are at the mercy of the weather, and too much or not enough rain can ruin a year’s sorghum crop. This year will be a very tough one, at least in certain areas. There is very little medical care available, and only some of it is free. In the rainy season the roads cannot support vehicles, so if you become ill, you must either walk or be carried for hours to a clinic. On many occasions, I stopped my work to take people to the hospital. At least twice, I was too late and two women died after arriving at the hospital.

But the horrible things that happened to my Sudanese friends did not diminish their faith in God. Beyond that, many churches grew during the war, in the midst of unbelievable hardship. Now, even as people talk about a poor harvest and possible famine, they will smile and invite you to dinner, their joy undiminished.

That brings me back to Hamad. He exemplified the character of Christ better than anyone I have ever known. He probably did not finish grade school, let alone secondary school. He couldn’t give an intellectual defense of his faith or debate the finer points of Calvinism and Arminianism.

But without all the benefits of education and wealth, Hamad showed me what a man of God should truly look like. His positive attitude never faltered and the fruits of the spirit were always on display. Clearly Hamad’s life transcended the temporal things that can rust or be eaten by moths. It even transcended the ravages of war and famine.

Aaron Shapiro ’05 worked in Sudan for Samaritan’s Purse for one year. He now lives in Toledo, Ohio.
Joining Christ outside the camp

Andi '92, Shaa, Asha and Enich Eicher
"I was fascinated with the idea of using science to help people ... the opportunities for impacting huge numbers, or whole communities."

On the surface, Hebrews 13 may seem like a grab bag of instructions calling believers to everything from brotherly love, hospitality and sexual purity to worship and prayer. But Andi Eicher '92 found a new perspective in that passage that led to a ministry to some of the neediest members of India's society.

Eicher and his wife Sheba, a medical doctor, operate Jeevan Sahara Kendra, a community HIV home-care program that ministers to people suffering from HIV/AIDS in Thane, India—part of the sprawling Mumbai megalopolis.

The outreach's genesis came in 2001 when the Eichers, who were working in a rural mission hospital, sensed God calling them to be involved with HIV care and serving the local church in urban Mumbai. During the subsequent period of prayer and Bible study, the words of Hebrews 13 took on new meaning.

"It seemed such an odd list of things that Paul is saying, but it seemed to focus on the issue of HIV. Remembering those in prison—we should remember them not with pity from outside, but as if we ourselves were in that situation," Eicher said.

"The key for us was when it talked about how the blood of the animals was taken into the holy place, but the bodies were taken outside the camp. In that same way, Christ was taken outside the camp to be sacrificed and we are called to join Him there in His disgrace."

"We were very strongly moved," he said. "HIV is disease of shame. It is a disease of disgrace. We are called to be with Christ, bearing the shame that He bore."

Along with his brother Stefan '94, Eicher represents the fourth generation of his family to minister among the Indian people. Stefan and their father Ray '64 live and work nearly a thousand kilometers away near Delhi. Eicher's grandfather Elmore '25 was born in India and became a citizen of free India after the nation gained its independence in 1947.
After earning his Taylor degree in biology and environmental science, Eicher became the first member of his family to complete graduate school when he earned master’s degrees in public health and forestry at Yale. But rather than pursue a high-profile international career, he put his education to work in his home country, among some of the most marginalized in the Indian society.

“My intention was to come back the whole time,” Eicher said. “At one point I had to make a decision whether I was going to be involved in academics or management. That was a hard choice. It finally boiled down to the fact that if I had done academics, I would have been in the U.S. at a research university for 90% of my time.

“But I felt that really wasn’t the call. God had given me so much; I had lived such a blessed life. The opportunities here in India are so great,” he continued. “I was fascinated with the idea of using science to help people ... the opportunities for impacting huge numbers, or whole communities, and the destinies of so many people were so much greater. It was really not that difficult of a task to come back.”

In their work, the Eichers juggle the physical needs of 190 people who live with and will eventually die from the disease, as well as their spiritual needs. In the five years since Jeevan Sahara’s founding, over 100 of their clients have died. “We are very upfront about our hope in Christ; we are not offensive, but are passionate,” he said. “Our HIV-positive friends are at the edge of eternity. We have to keep reminding ourselves to be Christ-focused.”

“One of the real challenges is that many of the people we work with are quite poor, with HIV driving many to destitution. Our desire is to see people linked up with local churches,” added Eicher. “We do training for local churches to link them with people with HIV in order to care for them... In the long run, it has to be the local church.”

“HIV is a lifelong state,” he reflected. “So we need people who are able to help in the long haul. The church must be involved not only for the sake of those who are suffering—but also for its own renewal and growth. Today in India we can say that, ‘If you don’t have someone with HIV in your church, there is something wrong.’”

Eicher said in the face of human crises, sorrow and need, God continues to supply an overcoming sense of hope and strength.

“Sure, almost daily—it is crazy,” he said when asked if he was ever overwhelmed. “But I guess it causes us to call on the Lord. We can’t do this but God can.”

To learn more about Andi and Sheba Eicher’s work, visit http://andi-sheba.blogspot.com/.
Confronting in love
"Does it measure up with God's standard, and how can God use us to help justice happen where it isn't?"

The images on the screen were unforgettable. The message was blunt. Dozens of women squirmed in their seats as three different films detailed the steps that take place during an abortion procedure. In the darkened room, Katie Baglien '05 shifted her gaze from the screen to the college-age women watching with her as the films depicted the faceless, nameless unborn children who writhed in pain as their lives ended.

Around her there were a few gasps and muffled sobs. Some women left the room; others diverted their eyes from the screen. But others sat transfixed. They had never thought of abortion in this way.

The films weren't screened in Chicago, Los Angeles or New York. They were shown on a university campus an hour north of Zhengzhou, the capital of China's Henan Province. China, with its limited resources and a population of over 1.3 billion people, has enforced a strict one-child policy that has led in some cases to arrest, forced abortions and sterilization procedures performed on women who defy governmental mandates. It has also led to protests from some human rights groups.

"There was no hostile reaction to it," Baglien said. "We asked the administration for a room to rent to prepare for the lecture. All they asked for was the itinerary. It came in steps."

Baglien teaches oral English at a private university where some 14,000 students are enrolled, making it comparatively small by Chinese standards. She was instrumental in setting up the films' screening and daylong seminar during which they were presented. The process started last summer when a Chinese friend named Vivian told Baglien about moral questions she had concerning the issue. Some estimates have placed the number of abortions performed in China as high as 11 million since the end of World War II.

"We told (the school officials) it was a lecture on making healthy choices. We did not want to just tell them it was about abortion. We didn't want to lie, either, and go behind them," Baglien added. " Eventually I gave them the schedule of topics of the exact things we would be talking about.

The seminar, conducted in November 2007, was titled, The Culture of Life and the Culture of Death. "We talked about abortion procedures (and) post-traumatic syndrome," she said. "They had the information. They knew what we were talking about prior to our doing it. I was warned though a chain of people not to bring up any topics such as spirituality or God. They said, 'Just give the lecture.'"

Such emotionally-charged discussions and the showing of controversial films tread a fine line between having a dialogue about a controversial subject and creating a stir that might attract government attention among a Chinese populace where the rule of thumb is to blend in, not stand out.

During the seminar, Baglien said she was able to tactfully challenge the Chinese to question what is just and true in their culture. "Does it measure up with God's standard, and how can God use us to help justice happen where it isn't?" she reflected. "It's a broad question, but a beginning that will keep from stirring up unwise confrontations."

"It is a gentle, delicate subject," she added. "I remind them that it happens in America too—and all over the world."

Baglien said that over the past few years, especially during her senior year at Taylor, her heart has been moved by struggles and issues facing women in Asia from abortion to sex trafficking.

"I have been seeing things falling into place that will allow me to work with young women; especially young women who are troubled or stuck in these situations," she said. And while she is not sure what she will do when her commitment at the university ends, Baglien said she is leaning toward staying longer.

"I want to offer them the hope of Christ, but also practical hope of teaching them skills to live and not just selling their bodies to live. There is so much that I have come to dearly love about them and their culture. I have some very, very dear brothers and sisters whom I would risk my life for over there."
The 60-foot spire of the Memorial Prayer Chapel is seen as it stands against the January sunrise. Campus officials say the project will be completed in time for dedication services on April 26 during Taylor's Heritage Weekend.

For more information, visit www.taylor.edu/heritage.
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Rev. Charles Cookingham passed away on Sept. 9, 2007. He served the United Methodist Church as a pastor for most of his life, retiring twice from the ministry. His first wife Gladys (Longenecker) preceded him in death in 1994. His second wife Vernelle survives.

1942
Dorothy (Hislop) Miller passed into eternal rest on Nov. 19, 2007, due to complications from a stroke. Dorothy was a service representative with PT&T, AT&T and the American Red Cross. She was a dedicated volunteer who tutored native Spanish speakers in English, recorded books for the blind, served on the grand jury and worked for the American Cancer Society. She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Gavin "Wee" Vern Miller '43, three daughters and seven grandchildren. Vern continues to live in Sacramento, Calif.

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Rev. Bruce Charles, husband of Betty (Cole '51), passed away on Feb. 13, 2007. Bruce was a minister in the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church where he served for 39 years. He will be well remembered as a good-natured man with a deep faith and strong work ethic who loved being with family and friends. Bruce is also survived by three children, Loyal, Barbara and Curtis, as well as three brothers, four grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family.

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Dora Dene "Dee" Phillippe passed away on May 25, 2007. Known for her courage in the face of adversity, Dee was an inspiration to all who knew her. She had total paralysis from polio at age 13 and was told she would never walk again. Yet, during a Youth for Christ revival she heard that Jesus healed the lame, believed, and handed her crutches to her cousin Muriel (Culver '53) Cook and began to walk. Dee became a master teacher in the LA United School District. She is survived by husband David Phillippe '53, two children and four grandchildren.

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David Karl has moved back to Hawaii and lives in a village about seven miles from a lava flow. This has given him inspiration for his stained glass and fused stained glass hobby—active lava flows, tropical flowers and beautiful vistas. E-mail is kawika50@hawaiiantel.net. • David Voris joined Home Federal Bank as manager of commercial deposits, treasury management and merchant services. This represents a capstone opportunity to create the strategy and lead the tactical buildup of sales, service and product management.

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Galen Dolby passed away Oct 3, 2007, after battling kidney cancer since Feb. 2002. He spent his life in ministry through Youth for Christ, beginning in Elkhart County, then became the first full-time YFC executive director in Bloomington, Ind. In 1996 he became a national field associate for YFC/USA, overseeing local YFC ministry centers and staff in portions of Ind. and Ky. He later served as the regional communities ministry coordinator for the YFC Great Lakes Region, supporting local ministry staff who worked with at-risk and urban youth in Ind., Ill., Ky., Ohio and Mich. Galen also served as a volunteer chaplain for the Indiana University men's basketball team from 2000-2006. Surviving is wife Laura (Short '79), daughters Elizabeth and Adrienne, son Isaac, two grandsons, his parents, siblings and many extended family members. • Stephen Smithley x is vice president of Old National Bank in Marion, Ind. E-mail is ssmithley@totalsinc.com.

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Tom Lough received a 2007 National Teacher of Excellence Award from the National Council of Teachers of English at its convention in NYC. Tom is English department chair at Columbia City HS. Tom & Sue (Eckstrom '79) live in Fort Wayne, Ind. E-mail is ts79lough@verizon.net.

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with children Adrian (17) and Dana (12). He is a director for Advocate Health Care in Oak Brook, Ill.

1983
Paul Branks is assistant vice president of corporate communications for OneAmerica Financial Partners in Indianapolis. He & wife Ann have four daughters: Lauren (22), Ellen (18), Meredith (14) and Lillian (4).
- Clint & Dawn (Laibly '85) Holden reside in Brookfield, Wis., with three sons. They recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Clint is assistant to the president for Promise Keepers, overseeing a 13-state region. Dawn is a stay-at-home mom. E-mail is clint@clintholden.com. • Dr. Scott Preissler is executive director of the Center for Biblical Stewardship at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and has recently been installed as the first professor of the Bobby L. and Janis Eklund Chair of Stewardship. Scott & wife Andrea (Price '84) live in Flower Mound, Texas.

1984
Clark Cowden is executive presbyter of the Presbytery of San Diego. E-mail is Clark.Cowden@PresbyterySD.org. • Jay & Laura Laffoon have co-authored the recently published book, The Spark: Igniting the Passion, Mystery, and Romance in your Marriage (Baker Books). They are frequent speakers who have ministered to many couples through their Celebrate Your Marriage conference. They live in Alma, Mich.
- Suzanne (Geney) McIntyre is a kindergarten teacher at Tuckahoe Elementary School in Richmond, Va. E-mail is suzziecanozie@gmail.com.
- Steve & Ramona (Couch '82) Ogle lost their daughter Megan (22) in a tragic car accident on Sept. 5, 2007. She was a professional nanny living and working in Indianapolis, Ind. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. E-mail is sdoyle@hotmail.com. • Troy & Jo (Cockrell '81) Spencer live in Olathe, Kan. Jo teaches 4th grade and is an adjunct professor at a nearby university. Troy works for GEHA insurance as an administrator. Children are Jaelynn (11) and Bailey (6). They would love to hear from TU friends! E-mail is troyjojos@embarqmail.com.

1986
David & Melinda Fisher welcome Abigail Grace born Nov. 8, 2007. The family lives in Columbus, Ind.

1987
Dan & Cindi (Diener) Wilmot live in Hanover, Pa., with their six children. Cindi is a counselor at Christian Counseling and Educational Services and Dan is an alternative education teacher at Three Cord Youth Services. Cindi also continues in sales management for Partyline Gifts. E-mail is cindiscandles@comcast.net.

1988
Tom & Cindy Flanagan are the proud parents of Emily Grace born Sept. 7, 2007. Sister Kaitlyn is 3. They live in Pasadena, Calif.

1989
Eric & Beverly (Stoops '88) Graham and children Eli (9), Madeline (8), Carson (6) and Aliza (2) reside in Hickory, N.C., where Eric is senior director of Century Furniture. E-mail is grahamcrackers@embarqmail.com. • Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell x'89 was featured on The Today Show for the completion of the “Skinny on Sacrifice” Campaign. An anonymous benefactor to the Village Lutheran Church and the Chapel School in Bronxville agreed to donate $5,000 per pound lost by Hartwell if at least 70 pounds were lost between Nov. 30, 2006, and Jan. 1, 2008. With matching gifts from congregants and school families, the final total was nearly $400,000. Pictured (L-R) are today host Hoda Kotb, nationally-known nutritionist Joy Bauer, Rob Hartwell and Roy Piedmont, a teen member of the church who also lost over 80 pounds. • Sue Ann Kahlenbeck married Craig Carter on Sept. 16, 2007. Sue Ann is a licensed real estate broker in New York. E-mail is sueannrealtor@yahoo.com.

1990
BJ & Lisa (LeMasters '91) Thomsen returned to Southeast Asia in 2007 after adopting daughter Brianna at birth in the U.S. They continue to serve the Lord at a mission hospital.

1991
Jody & Tracy Fausnight welcomed Faith Ann on Sept. 4, 2006. Brothers are T.J. (2) and Larry (7). Jody continues to serve as primary caregiver for their children and in his part-time professional endeavors as a consultant assisting non-profit organizations and ministries with relationship building and fund development programs. He recently gained a Certified Development Professional (CDP) status. The family lives in Harrisburg, Pa. E-mail is jfausnight597@comcast.net. • Tim & Terre (Trejo '92) Grable are the thankful parents of Kate born June 1, 2007. Sister Courtney is 5. The family lives in Franklin, Tenn. • David & Kirsten (Fox '90) Laing joyfully welcomed Caden Taylor born Dec. 28, 2007. Brother Jordan is 8. Kirsten continues as a social worker with the Tri County Office on Aging and Dave is with Greater Lansing Youth for Christ.

alumni notes
alumni notes

1992
Michael & Emma (Suter) Ahlersmeyer are the proud parents of Abigail Grace born Jan. 9, 2007. Emma is an LPN at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home. She completed her BS in general studies at IPFW in Fort Wayne, Ind. and in practical nursing from Ivy Tech in 2006. • Bryan & Kelly (Klopfenstein '93) Goossen and big brother Nathan (4) joyfully celebrated the birth of Fiona Claire on Nov. 29, 2006. They reside in Indianapolis where Bryan is a software architect for Stericycle, Inc. Kelly stays home with the children. Contact them at basenjix2@comcast.net. • Bonnie Houser married Jeff Eggers on Sept. 15, 2007. E-mail is pmozbach@hotmail.com. • Lt. Col. Dan Selibel was promoted to his present rank on Oct. 1, 2007. He is aviation budget coordinator for the Department of Aviation, Headquarters Marine Corps. Dan earned a master’s of military studies in 2005 from Marine Corps University in Quantico, Va. E-mail is selib@hotmail.com. • Jason & Ali (Stark) Stellman welcomed Maddoc John on March 23, 2007. Sister Ainsley is 3. Ali is a stay-at-home mom and Jason pastors a new PCA church. They live in Woodinville, Wash.

1994
Rob & Jessamy Bright have moved to Middleport, Ohio. Rob practices law in Ohio and W. Va. for Story Law Office and will be arguing a medical malpractice case before the Supreme Court of W. Va. E-mail is robwbright@yahoo.com. • Clif & Shelley (Greenawalt) Hickok have relocated to Verona, N.J., with children Jillian (5), Brianna (3) and Austin (1). Clif was promoted to project manager with Avon Products, Inc. and Shelley is a full-time mom. They reside at 35 Grove Ave., Verona, NJ 07044. They'd love to hear from TU friends! • Steve & Jennifer (Griffin) Mozingo joyfully announce the birth of Aleya Hope on Nov. 5, 2007. Siblings are Avery (8), Isaac (6), Erin (4) and Evan (1).

1995
Aaron Davidson became partner in the law firm Baker Botts, LLP on Jan. 1, 2008. His legal concentration focuses on complex professional malpractice, securities and intellectual property disputes. • Carlos & Jessica (Whittaker) Torres are the proud parents of Elena Isabel born Nov. 17, 2007. Siblings are Olivia Botts (13), Alexander (6) and Aiden (3). They reside in McDonough, Ga.

1996
Jenni Kruithof served for a year with Campus Crusade in Nigeria. She returned home to finish a master's degree in education and has now gone to Taiwan with Overseas Missionary Fellowship (OMF) to teach in a mission school in Chiai. Her term is for two years. E-mail is jennikruithof@hotmail.com.

1997
Justin x & Debby (Dvorak) Williams live in Greenwood, Ind. Justin is a ramp agent at FedEx while Debby enjoys staying home with their two children. • Elizabeth Wise and Joseph Joseph & Elizabeth (Wise '97) Gilliam were wed on Nov. 17, 2007. Elizabeth is a 1st grade teacher for Wake County Public Schools. The couple lives in Wake Forest, N.C.

1998
Amy Barnhart married Ermias Kash (Kaur '94) Richmonds and Scott Hughett '87. The couple resides in Bellevue, Wash. • Jared & Andrea (Hoffner) Hook joyfully announce the birth of Kaitlyn Jean on April 16, 2007. Sister Brianna is 3. The family lives in Oregon, Wis. and can be reached at andrealhook@hotmail.com. • Molly Kruithof married Brad & Molly (Kruithof '98) Keen Brad Keen on Feb. 10, 2007. They live in Grand Rapids where Molly is a kindergarten teacher. E-mail is 18mkeen@heritageacademies.com. • Curtis & Jessica (Wilson) Owens are the proud parents of Zachary Wilson born Aug. 11, 2007. The family lives in Westland, Mich. • Brent & Jodi (Petroelje) Rieger joyfully announce the birth of Teya Lanae on July 2, 2007. Sister Sierra is 3. They live in LaGrange Park, Ill. • Lara Shank Scott & Lara (Shank '98) Blomberg
and Scott Blomberg were married on June 23, 2007 in Indianapolis. TU participants were Amanda Shank ‘00, Elizabeth (Diffenderfer) Mendenhall, Brad Shank ‘02, Van Shank ‘72 and Lee ’93 & Stephanie (James ’94) Douma. The couple teaches for Wayne Township Schools and lives on the west side of Indianapolis. E-mail is laruf@juno.com. • James & Sarah (Krause) Webster are the proud parents of

1999

Todd Hall married Kristen O’Connor on June 30, 2007. In the wedding party were Andrew Dickey ‘98, Joel Martin and Neal Stamper. They live in Philadelphia, Pa. • Nick & Molly (Pangborn ‘00) Pastermack live in Annapolis, Md. with children Ineka (3) and Jonathan (2). They are both managers at Kilwin’s Chocolate.

2000

Jamie & Joanna (Castro) Alvis announce the arrival of Addison Natalia born Feb. 5, 2007. Joey is working on her master’s degree in speech-language pathology at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. E-mail is jcastro@bsu.edu. • Stuart Hobbs married Vanessa Jankelska on Nov. 3, 2007. Stuart is a postdoctoral fellow at Vanderbilt. • Jeff & Jacqui (Cates) Huxford welcomed Jenna on June 15, 2007. Brother Brice is 3. They reside in Hanover, Minn. E-mails are adam_fennig@yahoo.com and abby_fennig@yahoo.com.

2001

Alumnae record CD projects

Two alumnae from the 1990s who have forged singing and recording careers released CD projects last year.

Angela (Childs ’95) Sheikholeslami, who comprises one half of the singing duo Ange&Ris, released her first CD project Not Me, while Sarah Kaiser ’99 released her third CD project, titled Geistesgegenwart.

“It is a pun,” said Kaiser of the title. “It means ‘presence of the spirit.’ It also can mean ‘being present, being aware, (and) being there.’”

After graduating from Taylor with a major in English writing and minor in music, Kaiser returned to her hometown of Berlin, Germany, where she studied at the Hanns Eisler Music Conservatory. She later founded and led a gospel choir in Berlin for six years, hearkening to her days as a regular in the Taylor gospel choir.

“The Christian scene in Germany is not as big as the Christian music scene in the States but I’m totally blessed,” she said. “I’m trying to straddle the balance between concerts in churches and wanting to reach out to the jazz scene.”

Sheikholeslami, who graduated with a degree in music education, lives in Wilmington, Del. She first met her musical partner Larisa Forest, a Messiah College graduate, at church where the two sang in their church choir. They became friends and developed a sound that has been popular at weddings and clubs throughout Dover, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and points in-between.

“We shared poetry and musical ideas. One night we were talking about how passionate we were getting about this,” said Sheikholeslami. “My husband had a chance to go to Germany for six months. During that time, all we did was write, read, practice and tour Germany.

“We put on a concert at a church in Germany; it was a packed house,” she added. “We came back to the U.S. ready to make it work to make it our livelihood.”

Sheikholeslami said her music, while not overtly Christian, is written from a heart of worship. “In the CD we just put out... Ris and I have put a number of psalms to music and a passage from Zephaniah,” she said.

“That is still our passion: to sing whatever is on our hearts. The psalms echo our hearts a lot of times. We don’t have to write a praise song. They start out in a similar bent—asking a question and ending up rejoicing because of the hope we have.”

For more information, visit: www.angeandris.com
www.sarahkaiser.de
• Matt & Sheryl (Thrush) Hodson

are the proud parents of Anna Grace born Feb. 21, 2007. E-mail is sheryl@mshodson.com. • Laura Rosenwinkel married Keith Keigher on April 22, 2006. They live in Sandwich, Ill. • Christopher & Robin (Miller ’02) Seash live in Elkins Park, Pa. Chris is in his final year of the ThM program at Westminster Theological Seminary and is director of Tenth Intl. Fellowship for Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. • Kimberly Shumaker wed Capt. Derek

2002

Josh & Bethany (Lasater ’03) Dennis

announce the birth of Eli Robert on May 17, 2007. Brother Noah is 2. Bethany is thankful to be home with the boys. Josh is creative director for Crossway Books and Bibles. • Jennifer (Mangarten) Miedema is a 3rd grade teacher at Santiago Christian School in the Dominican Republic. E-mail is jennmiedema@yahoo.com.

2003

Megan Johnson x earned a BS in Spanish and management from Charter Oak State University in July 2007. She is in sales for the Expo Design Center in Arizona. • Drew & Jammie (Carretta) Shafer live in

the Minneapolis area with sons Will (3) and Cal (1). They can be reached at drewandjammie@hotmail.com. • Seth & Renee (Black) Wilson

2004

Jonathan Bachet x and Mieke Sarneel

were married on June 20, 2006. They live in The Netherlands. • Chris & Kristi (Sechrist) Monesmith live in

Bourbon, Ind., with daughter Julie (2). E-mail is kristi_monesmith@hotmail.com. • In Sept. 2007, 15 alumni representing the four corners of Taylor (English, Bergwall, Morris and Wengatz Halls) gathered for their 4th annual Labor Day reunion

2005

Nate Bates has been named an assistant coach of the men’s lacrosse team for Messiah College. He was a founder, player and coach for Taylor’s club lacrosse program. • Linda Brate married Austin Kirchhoff

in Minnesota. Pictured are: Dave “Shabotz” Turner, Austin ’05 & Linda (Brate ’05) Kirchhoff, Hilary Whitaker, Matt & Rachel (Barr) Hoppe, Kevin Sparks, Jeremy Otten, Andrew & Susan (Steiner) Stohrer, Eric Spaulding, Shelley Fetchero, Grant Hollis, Krystal Jelich and Dawnielle Miller.

Austin ’05 & Linda (Brate ’05) Kirchhoff

on May 26, 2007, in Oxford, Ohio. The couple lives in Indianapolis. Linda is a project manager at Grace Community Church and Austin is a software engineer at InDesign. • Ann Essenburg and Billy Clark began their

lives together on March 24, 2007. They live in Suwanee, Ga. Ann is a personal trainer at a wellness studio while Billy is lieutenant firefighter for Gwinnett County. • Russell & Rosemary (Huntley) Gibson are the

alumni notes
Veterans group forming

A newly-formed alumni group will support Taylor University military veterans and their family members and bolster their connections to Taylor University.

The Taylor Veterans Alumni Group's goal is to strengthen ties to Taylor by recognizing the unique bond of those who serve in the military. The group also seeks to embrace alumni who have served in the Armed Forces as well as their families, to raise awareness of and commemorate their sacrifices, and to advance the mission and purpose of Taylor University.

"Having served in the United States Marine Corps for nine years following my graduation from Taylor University, I am aware of the unique needs, challenges and blessings associated with life in the armed forces," said Doug Wolfe '97, who served in Iraq with the 1st Marine Division and is heading up the group.

"I have also witnessed the generosity, kinship, and mutual understanding that develops between individuals and families who have served. I am proud of my service and of my relationship with Taylor, and felt moved to do something to serve Taylor veterans and their families. It is important to honor their sacrifices and support each other however we can."

For more information, call the Taylor alumni office at 800-882-3456 or e-mail alumni@taylor.edu.

Hold the date:

Parents and Family Weekend – Sept. 19-21, 2008
Homecoming – Oct. 10-12, 2008

Have info for Alumni Notes?

Taylor welcomes all submissions to the alumni notes. Due to space limitations, not all news items or photographs may be published. We will make every effort to print as many timely news items and photographs as possible. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space and content.

You can send updates to us via e-mail at alumni@taylor.edu, or by regular mail 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. Thanks for keeping in touch with your alma mater!
Are the high school students in your family receiving mail from Taylor?

If not...
Send their information to the Admissions office today.
www.taylor.edu/admissions

Do you know other students that you think would be a good Taylor fit? Feel free to recommend them to us...

www.taylor.edu/recommend
Climbing the toughest mountain

Some people run marathons. Some are into cycling. Bob Summer '81 climbs mountains. He has summited Rainier (Washington), McKinley (Alaska) and a host of lesser-known mountains. But the highest mountain Summer has ever climbed is one he is climbing even today.

Summer has battled cancer twice during the past 27 years. The first time came as he was graduating from Taylor when he was diagnosed with nodular histiocytic lymphoma. The second came in 2004 when he was diagnosed with Burkitt's lymphoma—a rare but deadly form of cancer.

An outdoorsman in every sense of the word (he once missed a final exam during his Taylor years when he ran into an unexpected ice jam while canoeing on the Mississinewa River), Summer is a married father of three living in Soldotna, Alaska, about 150 miles southwest of Anchorage. During the summer when he isn't teaching history to 8th graders, he works as a commercial salmon fisherman. His lymphoma is in remission.

It was during the early years of his teaching career that he discovered something nearly as vital as chemotherapy and radiation treatments—a camp setting where children who are cancer patients join other children who find themselves in a life-or-death struggle.

"When I was going in for tests and radiation treatments in '81, I had gone to Taylor and had such great guys to run such difficult questions by, like Jim Mathis '64 and Tom Beers '55, about suffering," he said. "I could fathom the idea of my own existence.

"But the one thing I could never get was all these kids (in the hospitals); sharing the elevator with a little guy who had no hair and couldn't keep his head up. I could never really get that," he added.

"Helping with tuition for these children to attend these special camps—it was what we were looking for; getting them out of the hospital for canoeing, being as close to normal as you could be with kids who had the same history. Some of the adult problems these kids have—and they could all be with really good people who would take care of them. That is what we decided to do."

So over and above his teaching and fishing work, Summer and his wife, Mary Ellen, launched Cancer Survivors on Mount Aspiring: 2007—a non-profit organization that recently took a group of cancer survivors and their family members up the slopes of New Zealand's Mount Aspiring.

Even though weather forced Summer and the climbing party to turn back 2,000 feet short of the 10,000-foot summit, he said the team's disappointment was put in perspective by a visit to Camp Quality in New Zealand, one of a chain of camps created as a retreat for children with cancer.

When Summer was invited to address the children, he struggled for words. "I was terrified. This was a group that means a lot to me; they are in a volatile, vulnerable spot and I didn't want to say anything stupid," he confessed.

"I said, 'Three years ago, I was sick-bald. I didn't have eyebrows or a mustache. Within three years I'm here trying one of your toughest mountains. Due to the conditions, we couldn't get to the top,'" he started.

"It was kind of frustrating. What would be great would be, if some of you can get to the top of Aspiring, if you would take a picture, e-mail me and tell me what it is like, I would really appreciate it."

Summer's eyes focused on a little girl with a beaming face, whose friends began to tell her, "Grace, that can be you."

"It put everything where it should be," he said. "You didn't get to the top of the mountain. Wow. It is no big deal. Visiting those little kids was what the whole climb was about anyway."

For more information, visit

"When I was going in for tests and radiation treatments in '81, I had gone to Taylor and had such great guys to run such difficult questions by, like Jim Mathis '64 and Tom Beers '55, about suffering."
Selk Summer '01 (right) poses with his climbing party during their attempt to climb New Zealand's Mount Aspiring.
Going where He leads

An alumnus, Aaron Shapiro ’05, forms a life-changing bond with a Sudanese man named Hamad. Taylor students Meredith Anderson ’08 and Ellen Koch ’09 travel to Paraguay to work among the Aché people. And unrest in the African nation of Kenya has had an impact upon Taylor University alumnus Dereck Kamwesa ’06 and students Nora Langat ’09 and Nate Miller ’08.

By now you hopefully have had a chance to read some of these stories in the this issue of Taylor magazine. With the increasing interconnectivity rendered by communication, travel, the financial markets and other factors, events overseas are felt more and more right here at home and offer growing evidence that the world has become seemingly smaller, or “flat,” as author Tom Friedman has described it.

A bank failure in Paris, Stockholm or Tokyo can impact stock values here in America. Global competition for precious natural resources such as oil comes from China, India and other nations, resulting in rising costs of heating oil and gasoline worldwide. And as Marylou and I saw with our own eyes on 9/11, the intrigue that grips a seemingly small nation such as Afghanistan does have consequences here in the United States.

But rather than take an alarmist point of view and retreat into the “fortress America” that some have advocated, I believe the time has never been better or more appropriate to engage the world with the knowledge and love of our Lord Jesus.

This is not a new idea. We have a history of global engagement that is part of Taylor’s DNA. Our namesake, Bishop William Taylor, was known as the “St. Paul of the 19th century.” It is estimated he amassed over 250,000 miles of ocean voyages in steamers and sailing ships and spent months upon months at a time away from his home.

The Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU), U.S. News and World Report as well as the Open Doors organization have all honored Taylor University for our overseas travel and study programs in the past year. During a meeting I attended recently, Ron Tschetter, director of the Peace Corps, noted from the stage during his keynote address that Taylor University is one of four CCCU universities that has sent over 2,000 volunteers to the Peace Corps.

There are many reasons for this. But in short, we go because of our Lord’s command. In Mark 16, as He was bidding His disciples and followers farewell, Jesus commanded them to “go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.” People with Taylor roots such as John Wengatz and Don Odle did that. And God has allowed Marylou and me to travel to over 90 countries—as part of our previous service to the United Bible Society and now at Taylor University.

Still another rationale for our global engagement efforts is the emerging trend that reveals the most rapid growth of the evangelical church in the 21st century will occur in the Southern Hemisphere where a burgeoning evangelical movement continues to reshape the historic church.

In some of these countries, both in the Southern Hemisphere as well the Northern Hemisphere, believers cannot gather for worship without the fear of government intervention or reprisals. And yet they meet. They sing of the Savior who has redeemed them. They pray to the God who is faithful. And they tell their friends and loved ones of the God who became a Man so that they would one day have everlasting life.

As part of our historic mission statement, we are called to minister the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need. For some, the call is not to international mission or vocational work, but rather to the service of our Lord here in the United States where they can support those whom God has called to go.

But for others, like Aaron, Meredith and Ellen, Christ’s call meant to follow God to places like Sudan, where there was no guarantee of safety, and Paraguay, where a people who have never heard God’s Word in their own language are waiting.

We are called to go into that world in some way. In 2008, God is calling each one of us to respond to His voice, wherever that might lead, and then ask Him to grant us the wisdom and the resolve to follow.

“God is calling each one of us to respond to His voice, wherever that might lead.”

Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68 serves as president of Taylor University.
Some people and some gifts keep on giving

Dr. Halfast served Taylor as a team physician and on the Board of Trustees from 1959 to 1980. They had been married for nearly 64 years when Clarice passed away in 2006.

In addition to annual support, the Halfasts have created a Charitable Gift Annuity and a Charitable Remainder Unitrust with Taylor University. Are you interested in guaranteed lifetime income, a large income tax deduction, bypassing capital gains tax and advancing the Kingdom of God through the mission of Taylor University? One of these instruments may well fit your needs.

For more information, call 800-882-3456, and ask for Al Rupp ’68 or Nelson Rediger ’66; or e-mail alrupp@taylor.edu or nlrediger@taylor.edu and ask how we can help you accomplish your goals through charitable gift planning.

“Clarice and I developed our love for Taylor in 1934 when we entered as freshmen. Our friendship began at that time, and we were married in 1942, the day I graduated from medical school. Our love for God, for each other and for Taylor has grown in many ways. We are happy to have served in hands-on ways as well as financially. We have been blessed, enabling us to continue our support.”
Hayley Floren '09 interacts with school children during a Lighthouse trip to India in January. She was one of 90 Taylor students who traveled to locations that included not only India but Ecuador, Czechoslovakia and Paraguay. For more about Lighthouse trips in January, see p. 22.