Are We There Yet?  Swimming Against the Current  Great Faith, Great Hope, Great Love
Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.

**Psalm 84:5**

Some people strengthen the society just by being the kind of people they are.

*John W. Gardner*

They were all trying to frighten us, thinking, “Their hands will get too weak for the work, and it will not be completed.” But I prayed, “Now strengthen my hands.”

**Nehemiah 6:9**

Prayer is a strong wall and fortress of the church; it is a goodly Christian weapon.

*Martin Luther*

For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

**2 Chronicles 16:9**

Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.

*Mother Teresa*

Worry does not empty the sorrow of its sorrow. It empties today of its strength.

*Corrie Ten Boom*
18  Are we there yet?  
A dozen international college students packed in a van for 70 hours – why they were there, what they experienced and the person who made it all possible.

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34  The tweet heard ‘round the world  
The power of the social network: Twitter leads to nationwide coverage of Silent Night.
Founded in 1846, Taylor University is one of America’s oldest Christian liberal arts colleges. Over 2,000 graduate and undergraduate students from 45 states and 27 foreign countries attend Taylor, where majors in 64 fields of study are available. For the fourth year in a row, Taylor University is the number one Midwest University in the category Best Regional Colleges in the 2011 US News & World Report survey, America’s Best Colleges.
Real Strength

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. He put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open and everyone’s chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!” The jailer rushed in and fell trembling before them and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” Excerpts from Acts 16

What kind of person sings hymns of praise while shackled in a darkened, smelly prison cell just hours after a severe flogging? How can someone say with any sincerity there are worse things than Lou Gerig’s disease? Who actually spends their own money to help thousands of students realize the dream of a college education? And what kind of person piles nearly a dozen people she barely knows into a van and drives more than 4,000 miles with them so they won’t be alone for the holidays?

Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But the Taylor story has never been limited by human intuitiveness or strength. For 165 years, that story has played out in the lives of ordinary men and women who relied on the love, power and keeping that comes only from a loving, heavenly Father.

This issue of Taylor contains a sampling of the stories of people doing extraordinary things because of the empowerment of an almighty God. Maybe you know some stories of your own; we would love to hear them.

Jim
Taylor University achieves historic reaccreditation

Sixty-four years ago at the old train depot in Upland, a group of Taylor University students, faculty, staff members and townspeople anxiously waited for Dr. Milo A. Rediger '39 to return from Chicago. As he stepped from the train and approached a makeshift podium, Taylor's marching band played and the gathered community cheered Taylor University; he announced, had received its first regional accreditation.

In early March when Taylor officials learned their latest bid for continued accreditation had been accepted, there were no bands or crowds, but it was no less significant. It marked the first time Taylor had received reaccreditation using the North Central Association's Academic Quality Improvement Program, or AQIP.

The new accreditation model is different from the former system that involved a site visit every seven years from a team of North Central evaluators. At the conclusion of the visit, the evaluation team would issue their findings and recommendation for either continued accreditation, or accreditation with follow up steps.

Using the alternate AQIP model, Taylor officials have been able to demonstrate how accreditation standards are already being met. North Central says AQIP is structured around quality improvement principles and processes, using a structured set of goal setting, networking and accountability activities.

Taylor's AQIP efforts led to the creation of a quality driven performance model based on accountability, transparency and stewardship/sustainability. It identified seven critical success factors: distinguished faculty and staff, stellar programs, distinctive students, viable financial policies, strategic partnerships, vibrant community and quality performance. An institutional report card and executive dashboard were created to measure performance in those areas.

According to Dr. Steve Bedi '65, Taylor's provost and the point man for the reaccreditation effort, the Academic Quality Improvement Program was a perfect fit for Taylor's institutional profile. “The new model embodies Taylor's commitment to be good stewards of the resources that have been entrusted to us and to fully live up to our mission. We have historically pursued our calling within the framework of continual quality improvement and to be accountable and transparent in all that we do.

"The other part of this is converting to the new AQIP model has resulted in greater involvement of faculty, staff and students in the improvement process," Bedi said. "And we have gained valuable input from Taylor alumni and parents' councils that has been a tremendous aid to our ongoing improvement efforts."

The new model embodies Taylor's commitment to be good stewards of the resources that have been entrusted to us and to fully live up to our mission.
Overseas study program is nationally ranked – again

It was not what one might picture as a typical overseas study experience. Dan Johnson ’12 had already seen a couple of surgeries during his time in Ecuador and it had piqued his interest. When he was asked to "scrub in" for an emergency procedure, he jumped at the opportunity and within a few minutes was holding instruments for a surgeon who performed an emergency gall bladder removal.

Johnson, an exercise science major from Ashland, Ohio, was in Ecuador with a team of Taylor students and doctors to serve with Global Health Outreach. While there, he and his Taylor classmates took rotation turns in the fields of pharmacy, optometry, orthopedics, general medicine and triage.

Johnson is one of an average of 475 Taylor University students who learn and/or serve in international settings each year. Their destinations include Australia, China and the Czech Republic, Egypt, Ireland and Ecuador. It is that institutional commitment to overseas study and service that has led to five straight rankings for Taylor in Open Doors, an annual survey of international study published by the Institute of International Education (IIE) in association with the U.S. Department of State.

Taylor was listed in three Open Doors categories: Institutions by Total Number of Study Abroad: Top 40 Baccalaureate Institutions (6th); Leading Institutions by Short-Term Duration of Study Abroad and Institutional Type (3rd); and Institutions by Undergraduate Participation in Study Abroad: Top 40 Baccalaureate Institutions (3rd).

Diana Meakem ’14 had never traveled outside the United States until Dr. Michael Harbin’s New Testament study course The Promise and The Blessing sent her and her classmates to Israel during J-Term.

Meakem and her classmates spent the first week studying Harbin’s textbook and participating in lectures. Following that, they traveled to Israel where, for the next two weeks, they were able to visit the sites they had just learned about from Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem to Jericho and Bethlehem.

"The greatest and most unexpected gift our trip gave me was the ability to visualize significant places I have only read about," Meakem said. "As I read my Bible, I realize, 'I was there!' and the passage becomes much more meaningful. Seeing where historical events I have studied actually took place was a huge reward."

"There is nothing like being able to change the way you look at the world and see how different cultures and people view things," said Johnson, the son of missionary parents in Panama. "Also seeing how brothers and sisters in Christ worship. They praise God in different ways, but you can share really neat ties with them."

As I read my Bible, I realize, 'I was there!' and the passage becomes much more meaningful. Seeing where historical events I have studied actually took place was a huge reward.

Taylor University students learn and/or serve in international settings each year. Their destinations include Australia, China and the Czech Republic, Egypt, Ireland and Ecuador.
Not just music for music’s sake

Comfort ye my people, For unto you a child is born. I know that my Redeemer liveth, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain and, of course, Hallelujah – these were just some of timeless songs of hope performed on the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium stage as five alumni returned for a sort of musical homecoming.

Conor Angell '06, Julia (Poppen '02) Cosgrove, Noah DeLong '03, Cat Randall '06 and Loralee Songer '04 were not strangers to the Rediger stage – each performed there numerous times during their four years at Taylor. Since graduating, they have continued to refine their talents through numerous performances and graduate school. Three have earned doctorate degrees.

Accompanied by the Marion Philharmonic Orchestra, the five performed selections from the beloved oratorio Messiah by composer Georg Friedrich Händel during a December concert in the Chapel/Auditorium. DeLong confessed to some jitters since he was the first singer to take the stage, but felt the performance went well, individually and collectively. “It was quite an honor to be able to perform once again with the Taylor Chorale, the Marion Philharmonic and the other alumni soloists,” he said. “Though it’s been several years since I graduated, it felt like a real homecoming to be back on the Rediger stage and to renew friendships with the music faculty and the other soloists.”

“IT WAS THRILLING FOR ME TO RETURN TO REDIGER, SINCE I HAVE NOTHING BUT GOOD MEMORIES THERE,” said Angell. “I was blessed to have talented and passionate professors like Dr. (JoAnn Kinghorn ’71) Rediger, Dr. (Patricia) Robertson, Dr. (Albert) Harrison, Dr. (Dana) Collins, and Dr. (Leon) Harshenin. I enjoyed seeing them again and observing the admirable work they continue to do at Taylor.”

Songer had a unique perspective among the group, having been the only person to attend school with each of the other four. “Returning to Taylor was a wonderful experience,” she said. “Since I grew up in Upland, attended Taylor and taught at Taylor after I finished my master’s, I have a very strong connection with the University and community at large.”

“We were singing with a very high-caliber orchestra – most cities the size of Marion do not have such a good one,” said Angell. “As soloists, we knew that we and the audience had a strong connection with the powerful music and inspired text of Messiah, and that made the act of singing it very meaningful. We shared an enthusiasm for the incarnation story with the audience, and that lent the expressive power of joy to our singing. In that sense, it was more than music for music’s sake.”

Timeless lyrics, lasting hope

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first-fruits of them that sleep.

From Job 19

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts. He is the King of Glory.

From Psalm 24.
The beautiful foot of a bird

The title of the book is Chengyycha Djawu Gatu.
In the language of the Ache people of Paraguay, Chengyycha means foot of a bird; Djawu means word; and Gatu means good or beautiful.
A beautiful word about the foot of a bird? Not quite. The chengy is a bird that has four talons on each foot. So the implied heart language meaning conveyed by the title is The Four Good or Beautiful Words — a perfect description of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Puerto Barra, the home of the Ache, has been the destination of Taylor Lighthouse trips for several years. After the completion of a multi-year fundraising effort undertaken by Taylor students, the first installment of an Ache language Bible has been delivered to the village. Translation work will continue with a target date of 2015 for completion of the entire Bible.

Some might believe it marks the successful end of the project, but Taylor’s students have now begun a new effort to raise funds to translate the Bible for another Paraguayan tribe — the Toba.

“To me the goal is perpetual,” says Cindy (Marrelli ’83) Watko, who matched the funds raised by Taylor’s students to complete the Ache project. “The fact that they are done and they are excited and we have other people who want to pick up the leadership ball — that is so exciting because they get the vision. That, to me, is a testimony that it is not Taylor students, it is not me as a donor; it is not the alumni. It is God working.”

Victor A. Gomez, who has served as Taylor’s contact in Puerto Barra, has been able to watch firsthand as the new Bibles were distributed. "We have (had) different responses," he relates. "The first one that makes us know that the Bible is going to be used is that the local pastors and leaders are reading the four Gospels in the services and also they encourage people to learn it by heart."

“We had a memorizing contest in November and December that surprised us with many people in the communities that had learned 15 verses of the Gospels,” Gomez continued. “Another response is from young people. They really like to sing and learn choreographies to show in the services. After one Ache festival, they began to create Ache songs taken from the Gospel verses. John 3:16 was the first one.”

Gomez said that after the dedication of Chengyycha Djawu Gatu, a pastor told him, “It is incredible that now we do not need to translate from other languages to ours. Now we understand directly, so now we don’t have any excuses for not obeying God’s Word.”

“Another response is from young people. They really like to sing and learn choreographies to show in the services. After one Ache festival, they began to create Ache songs taken from the Gospel verses. John 3:16 was the first one.”

According to the oneverse.org website, of the 7,000 languages spoken throughout the world, only 438 have a complete copy of the scriptures. Among the remaining language groups, 2,200 have no translation of the Bible.
First plunge

There was not a lot of fanfare, just splashing — lots and lots of splashing — as the two-lane lap pool in the newly-constructed Eichling Aquatics Wing opened on Feb. 1.

In addition to the lap pool, the 8,655 square-foot facility houses a new research laboratory, classrooms and office space. It marks the latest step in the growth of the exercise science major, the fifth largest major at Taylor and one of the University’s fast growing areas of study. For the past four years, 100% of the graduates from exercise science who applied were accepted into graduate school for physical therapy, occupational therapy and cardiac rehabilitation.

It also is the first time in Taylor’s history there has been an indoor swimming facility on campus. In the 1930s when the former Maytag Gymnasium — now Rediger Chapel/Auditorium — was built, original plans called for a pool in the building’s basement. But after the death of the project’s benefactor, T.H. Maytag, the funding stopped and the building was completed without the pool.

David Pulliam ’11 was one of several students who were first in the pool. Several Taylor friends, including his parents, were contributors. The addition is named in memory of his mother’s parents, William and Cornelia Eichling.

“I really enjoyed the swim. The water wasn’t too cold or warm,” said Pulliam, an avid swimmer and triathlete. “I’m excited that my grandparents’ names are on the facility ... my grandpa was always a swimmer; to the day he died. At family reunions he would come down to the pool and swim a few laps every day. He was a great example to us in so many ways.”

Taylor administrators say the pool will open new possibilities for Taylor athletes for low-impact cardiovascular training and rehabilitation. Swimming and lifeguarding classes are also scheduled and members of the Taylor and surrounding community may swim during designated hours with a membership.

The Eichling Aquatics Wing will be dedicated on April 29 during 2011 Heritage Weekend.
Faculty accolades

**Dr. David Boyajian**, associate professor of physics and engineering, had several papers published in respected technical journals that included Geotechnical and Geological Engineering, Experimental Techniques and Materials Evaluation.

**Dr. Mark L. Biermann**, dean, School of Natural and Applied Sciences, served as a facilitator at Beginning a Research Program in the Natural Sciences at a Predominantly Undergraduate Institution during the Council on Undergraduate Research Institute, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich.


**Dr. Lee Erickson**, professor of economics, presented a paper at the American Economic Association conference in Denver, Colo.

**Dr. Leon Harshenin**, professor of music, presented a session The Artful Genius of Chopin at the 100th Conference of the Music Teachers Association of California.

**Dr. Scott Adams**, associate professor of business, presented Classroom Technology and Student Endowment Accounts at the Financial Education Association (FEA) annual conference in San Antonio, Texas.

**Dr. Lawrence Ressler**, professor of social work, was an invited speaker at the NASCW convention in Pittsburgh, Pa., for a plenary session honoring Dr. Allen Keith-Lucas. He also served as a panelist for the presentation Diminishing Diversity in Social Work and Growing Pressures on Christian Professionals.

**Dr. James Spiegel**, professor of philosophy and religion, had an article Unreasonable Doubt published in Christianity Today.


**Dr. Phil Collins ’82**, professor of Christian education, attended the Lausanne Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, while on his sabbatical and working on the Center for Scripture Engagement project.

**Dr. Kevin Diller ’93**, associate professor of philosophy and religion, represented the U.S. at a meeting in the United Kingdom, UK Launch of an Early Career Society in Theology.

**Dr. Nicholas Kerton-Johnson**, associate professor of political science, participated in the Christian Leadership Forum (sponsored by the Academic Ministry Opportunities and the Falls Church — D.C.) in Nairobi, Kenya.

**Dr. Tim Herrmann ’75**, graduate chair, associate professor of higher education and student development, represented the Master of Arts in Higher Education (MAHE) program at the annual meeting of the Society for Research in Higher Education (SRHE) in Newport, Wales.
Searching for a lost society

He didn’t wear a brown fedora or use a whip to fight gun-toting Nazis, and yet a Peruvian expedition taken by Dr. John Moore ’72 brings to mind the adventures of swashbuckling motion picture hero Indiana Jones.

While in South America last summer, Moore and a team of researchers investigated a mystery that began more than 1,000 years ago when an entire civilization vanished. All that is left today is artifacts and ruins – a belt that appears to have been used to track financial transactions; an impenetrable mountaintop fortress that was not a fortress after all; the skeletal remains of dozens of men and children found at the bottom of a well, all of whom appeared to have died from a head wound inflicted by their own countrymen; and the mummified remains of people who lived in the first millennia.

They were known as the Chachapoyans. They lived in the forests and mountains of Peru before the Incans and Spaniards came. As advanced as they seem to have been, the Chachapoyans left behind no written record of their civilization or history.

As the Peruvians continue to reclaim pieces of this lost civilization from the forest, they have invited dozens of researchers, scientists and explorers to help unravel the mystery. Moore was invited to co-lead an expedition by the Peruvian government because he was a past president of the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) and had previous experiences in Latin America.

The sights were unforgettable – from the Catarata Gocta, the world’s third tallest waterfall, to the majestic Andes Mountains. And it was no small thing to witness mummies being unwrapped for the first time in over 1,000 years.

“You can see the ache in that society that goes on for the loss of their loved ones,” Moore said. “That was impacting to me – to see that people had such respect at that time for their loved ones.”

He adds Taylor students and faculty could visit the area in the future to participate in research. At the same time, a debate is growing about how to make the site more accessible to visitors but keep it from becoming a tourist summit like Machu Picchu, an ancient Incan city several hundred miles to the north that attracts thousands of visitors each year.

“It is changing the culture there,” Moore said. “I spoke with a woman who said when they were getting ready to open a site with ruins, the locals went in and destroyed them – they didn’t want the area to become a tourism area because it would change their life. Instead of talking, they destroyed a source of income in that impoverished country. So how do you do that? They don’t want it to be Machu Picchu. They want it to be something that maintains their culture or brings change in positive ways.”

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Men’s basketball reaches .500; women reload

Men’s Basketball (15-15, 5-11)

693 – The number of career victories for Head Coach Paul Patterson.

4 – The number of wins over top 25 opponents this season – including a 76-74 road victory over defending NAIA D-II National Champion and No. I I-ranked Saint Francis.

89.5% - The percentage of offense contributed by members of Taylor’s freshman, sophomore and junior classes this season. Drew Tower ‘11 (7.1 points per game) was the team’s lone senior.

965 – Points scored by guard and MCC All-Conference selection Casey Coons ’13 through his first 59 games as a Trojan, the most by a Taylor player during his freshman and sophomore seasons in the last 30 years.

3 – Taylor’s NAIA national ranking in team free throw shooting percentage (77.0%).

11 – the ranking of MCC foe St. Francis when the Trojans defeated them on their home court. St. Francis finished as the national runner up.

Women’s Basketball (15-16, 6-10)

2,171 – Combined number of career points scored by seniors Allison Reece ’11 and Becca Morris ’11. The two team captains each surpassed the 1,000 career point mark earlier this season.

77% – Taylor’s team free throw shooting percentage, which ranks third in the nation among NAIA D-II institutions.

84.9% – Reece’s career free throw percentage, a new Taylor record.

2 – Number of major career shooting records that sophomore Tess Rudolph ‘13 is on pace to break. The sharpshooter has hit 41.3% from 3-point range and 91.7 % from the free throw line during her first two seasons.

.590 – Winning percentage of head coach Tena Krause and the Lady Trojans over the last five seasons.

164 – Points scored during the season by Kelsey Bryant ’14, who was named to the MCC All-Freshmen Team. Reece and Rudolph were also honored by the league as honorable mention All-Conference selections.

New athletics website

Taylor Athletics has been delivering stories, updates and real-time stats to Trojan fans for years. We are excited to continue this legacy through a new website, launching Spring 2011. In addition to team announcements, schedules, profiles and game recaps, the new site will offer fans an enhanced experience through:

• live audio and on-demand video
• mobile compliant site design
• dynamic scoreboard
• enhanced live game stats
• leading social media channels
• photo galleries
• game updates sent to your mobile device

Visit the new site this spring at athletics.taylor.edu
Taylor’s talented sophomore guard Casey Coons has scored 965 points through his first 59 games as a Trojan. Coons has also earned MCC All-Conference honors over the last two seasons.
Media communication reaps $1 million benefit

Taylor officials successfully met a $500,000 challenge from longtime friends Leland and LaRita Boren, resulting in $1 million for the purchase of high-definition digital equipment for Taylor’s media communication program and renovation of the control room.

John Bruner, assistant professor of media communication at Taylor, said the new technology and equipment will result in increased learning opportunities for Taylor students and increased promise of their impact on culture.

“We are first and foremost about storytelling, and the technology we use is woven right into the storytelling process. Excellent equipment has a direct impact on the quality of those stories and how well students are prepared for careers or graduate school,” he said.

“I can’t overstate how incredibly encouraging it has been to have donors come alongside us, catch the vision for what we’re up to and give so generously. They’ve given our students incredible professional tools that have already made a huge difference in the stories they are able to tell, while at the same time helping to prepare them for the future.”

Taylor honored by CASE V

The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Region Five has awarded Taylor University three Awards for Excellence. The Taylor alumni magazine earned a Silver Award; a fundraising entry titled Donor materials: Simple, focused, and effective earned a Bronze Award; and a photograph taken during 2009 Commencement titled A proud moment earned a Bronze Award.

It marked the fourth straight year for fundraising efforts and the third straight year for the magazine to be honored. Headquartered in Washington, DC, CASE is the professional organization for advancement professionals at all levels who work in alumni relations, communications and development for more than 3,000 colleges and universities throughout the U.S. and Canada.

CASE’s American member institutions are organized into eight geographic districts. District Five, the Great Lakes District, encompasses Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin and includes more than 450 member institutions.
"As we try to be good stewards, Janie and I love that we can make a gift to TU and also provide a guaranteed stream of income for the rest of our lives. The charitable gift annuity does both.” -Jay ’58 and Janie (Smith ’59) Kesler

Immediate-Payment Annuity Rates

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Charitable Gift Annuities at Taylor University have a very long history of faithful stewardship and have many benefits:

- Support of Taylor’s mission and students.
- Guaranteed stream of retirement income for life.
- Charitable income-tax deduction.
- Partially tax-free income at a rate higher than CDs.

Contact Michael Falder or Nelson Rediger in the Office of Planned Giving at 765.998.5538, or email mcfaldor@taylor.edu or nlrediger@taylor.edu.

www.taylor.edu/giftplans
STRENGTHENED

Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:12
It was an unplanned, yet providential detour that led them to the edge of the cliff where they now stood in silent awe. The Grand Canyon dropped sharply before them, its jagged rocks and deep crevices accented with brilliant reds, greens and purples. The rugged beauty defied description, even for this group of college language students. It was just one of the things that made the 70 hours they spent in a rented van so worth it.
Welcome to NEW MEXICO
The Land of Enchantment
The Grand Canyon was really amazing. Just to be there and actually look into the place and stand there was powerful. I felt really small.

They were ESL (English as a Second Language) students who came to Taylor from South Korea, Taiwan and Venezuela. Their host for this odyssey was Annie Dimond 'I I, a philosophy major with a warm, inclusive personality who wanted to make the holidays special for this group of newfound friends. They were not traveling, however, just to see the sights. They were going to Annie's home in Ladera Ranch, California, one of the Los Angeles area's southernmost towns, to spend Christmas with her family—a round trip of more than 4,000 miles.

As word of the trip began to get out, more and more ESL students expressed an interest in going until Annie found herself with a vanload of houseguests. "I didn't want to stay on campus for Christmas," remembered Ye Eun Lee '13. "It would have been sad. First I tried to go to New York with one of my friends ... but the New York trip was going to be pretty expensive."

"I got to know some of the Koreans through international orientation; they introduced me to Annie," said Taiwanese student Pei-Chen Chang '13. "She was really friendly and she asked if I wanted to go on the road trip. I thought, 'This is an all-Korean group,' and I didn't know if I would fit in. She said we would all fit in regardless of what nationality we are."

"It's one of my favorite things to bring friends home from college," Annie said. "It was great to see each and every person sitting on the big L-couch in the living room. My parents knew they bought that large couch for a reason."

And so they set out. Prior to the trip, the only thing these international students knew about the United States was Taylor University and Upland. But from the Mississippi River and Gateway Arch in St. Louis to the Grand Canyon and movie stars' handprints outside Mann's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, they got a two-week tutorial on the breadth of the continental U.S.

"The Grand Canyon was really amazing," said Pei-Chen, while mentally searching for even more English superlatives to describe it. "Just to be there and actually look into the place and stand there was powerful. I felt really small."

Pei-Chen is the daughter of missionaries in Thailand, and has taken long bus rides in the past, so she thought she might be ready for a van ride of this duration. But as she soon found out, her earlier bus trips were like comparing the 110 meter dash to a marathon. "I didn't expect that," she exclaimed. "It was much longer — 12 people squashed in a 15-person van. You have to be really close to the person next to you."

Personal space notwithstanding, Pei-Chen said the closeness resulted in rich fellowship and many happy memories. They spent their hours napping, singing along with American and Korean pop songs and along the way ate more than their fill of sandwiches until they decided to stop late one night at a restaurant. As the predominantly Asian, pajama-clad college students lined up at the doorway, it caused the befuddled server to ask, "Are you together?"

"When we stayed at Annie's house, her parents were just wonderful. Her mom reminded me of my mom. We spent a lot of time talking — I had a great time with her," she remembered. "The time we shared together, no matter what we were, the van part is the part that most stands out to me ... it was an awesome experience."

From relying on the hospitality of Taylor alumni and the unplanned detour to meeting Taylor graduates in some unexpected places, the two weeks were a series of faith tests and rewards for Annie. "On New Year's Eve, we were downtown in St. Louis when all of a sudden, I heard someone yell my name. We had run into four Taylor alumni who graduated last year. It was so fun to introduce my old friends to my new friends, and completely random that we would run into them," she said.

"It was an enriching experience to meet TU alumni in Tulsa and Albuquerque. Time is such an odd thing that separates us. The conversations we were able to have with knowledge of at least four common years of experience were wonderfully encouraging.

"The time we spent together was precious," Annie added. "I think that our faith allows us to offer up really absurd things and trust the Lord that He will work it out, or won't let it happen. There was one point at which I thought, 'No way, this isn't going to happen,' but then, it did. Pushing the envelope on the possible, or practical, is an exciting part of our faith."
SWIMMING AGAINST THE CURRENT

intentional community at Taylor University
Thoughts on what is intentional community at Taylor University – and how it came about – are likely as diverse as the number of people who have observed and experienced it over the decades. It is a concept difficult to describe, and even more difficult to understand, yet its presence is a Taylor distinctive that is widely acknowledged by both Taylor and non-Taylor folks alike. Taylor’s brand of intentional community is as unique to Taylor as are the Samuel Morris story, Taylathon, the servant’s towel, and the fun-filled melodies of Nostalgia Night.

So then, what has contributed to the creation of intentional community at Taylor? These are the reflections of two rapidly graying student development veterans and faculty members who, over the last several decades, have been privileged to participate with many other members of the faculty, staff, and student body in the intentional effort to develop Christian community at Taylor University. We simply and respectfully add our thoughts to the discussion.
The unique fabric of the Taylor experience

First consider the paradox presented by the Taylor community. In a culture that rewards busyness, encourages our desire for immediate gratification, and allows friendship to be defined by a number on one’s Facebook page, how can a sanctuary in the middle of Indiana’s rich farmlands encourage young people to live lives that are countercultural for their emphasis on thoughtfulness, faithfulness, and engagement in deep, meaningful relationships? In a world that tries to convince young people that they are the center of the universe, how can students from diverse backgrounds and experiences come together in one place to learn to live “in humility consider[ing] others better than [themselves]” (Philippians 2:3b)? These questions are not simple and there are no easy solutions to these challenges, but scripture may help unlock the mystery when it reminds us:

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!
It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron’s beard, down upon the collar of his robes.
It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.
For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore. (Psalm 133)

Perhaps the answers are captured in the word community. What is it that attracts almost 2,000 students each year to this rural campus where for four years they devote themselves together to the pursuit of truth and knowledge, to growth in Christ, and to one another? The answer is, of course, complex and, no doubt, includes such indispensable characterstics as excellent, highly rated academic programs and faculty and an outstanding reputation for offering Christ-centered education. Most who know this institution would agree, however, that at least part of the answer (and arguably a significant part) lies in the quality of Life Together for which Taylor is distinctively known; this idea commonly described as “intentional community.”

Results from the Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI), a national college survey that Taylor administers as part of a cooperative assessment program of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) indicate that Taylor students feel a sense of belonging and are made to feel welcome on the campus at much higher levels than students from other CCCU participant institutions. What is interesting is that Taylor students are not just more satisfied with these elements than other CCCU students, but that they indicate that these elements are more important to them than the comparison group. In other words, either students are drawn to Taylor because this characteristic, this sense of belonging, is important to them, or while they are here this characteristic becomes more important to them.

Of course we know that Christian community is not just about feeling comfortable and at home; it also must challenge its members “as iron sharpens iron” (Proverbs 27:17a). In keeping with this, results from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) reveal that Taylor students, at significantly higher levels than their CCCU counterparts, believe that:

- faculty interact with students outside of class in ways that help them to clarify personal values,
- the campus environment encourages students to develop values which reflect their faith in Jesus Christ,
- Taylor helps students to critically evaluate whether or not their behavior is consistent with Christian values,
- [students] are encouraged to worship God in meaningful ways,
- as a result of their Taylor experience, [student] values are more consistent with a Christian world-view and lifestyle.

While we might assume that everyone feels this way about their alma mater; these results are strong evidence that there is something unusual about the Taylor experience. Something is present here, something different from what occurs on the campuses of most other Christian and secular colleges and universities. It is a paradox, but perhaps the secret of this place is that while it may not resonate with the rhythms of the world, it does resonate with the manner in which we have been created.

Clearly this strong sense of community is an element that distinguishes Taylor; draws students to the University; contributes to a very strong retention rate, and creates the environment necessary to facilitate the accomplishment of its mission. This sense of community is unique and is the result of many practices, programs and traditions that have been embedded into the fabric of the place throughout its history. Here, in our view, are some of the practices and programs that have contributed significantly to the rich community that is experienced at Taylor University.
A long-standing institutional commitment to whole person education

Taylor has long had a commitment to whole person education: that is the offering of an educational program that focuses not just on providing a most excellent academic experience, but also on providing numerous opportunities for social, emotional, physical, and spiritual growth beyond the classroom's walls. As evidence of this, Taylor was one of the first institutions in the country to recognize student development professionals as educators. Taylor's student development professionals have earned faculty rank and status for more than forty years. Moreover, Taylor's student development program, which has primary responsibility for the out-of-classroom environment at the University, has enjoyed a direct reporting relationship to the President through most of the last half century.

Although this whole person commitment resides deep in the institution's DNA and has been evidenced throughout its history, it received special emphasis during the presidency of Dr. Milt Rediger '38 and has been embraced since then by all of his successors to varying degrees. Without a doubt, this commitment and the conditions that result create a fertile environment in which intentional community has germinated and grown.

The shared commitment of academic and student development faculty to excellent experiences inside and outside the classroom

Together, Taylor's academic and student development faculty have a long history of seeking out every opportunity to maximize growth and learning. The result is a churning caldron of potential that is tended to in a manner that results in flourishing community life. Rather than promoting a culture in which the academic and out-of-class experiences are seen as distinct, Taylor has committed itself to a model in which the two realms work together for the ultimate good of students. Student development educators are seen as faculty members whose "classrooms" are the residence halls, student leadership offices, the campus chapel, the counseling center, and even informal meetings between students, faculty, and staff at the campus grill.

This approach is not just a quaint idea, but rather an approach now supported by significant research that is recognized by the rest of the academy as an educational "best-practice."

The University's dedication to and focus on residence life

Taylor has made residence life a priority throughout its history, and has used the word "residential" to describe its program for decades. The fact that 85% of Taylor's students typically live on-campus residence halls, and that the vast majority of the rest live in off-campus locations within a quarter mile of campus, means that students are physically close enough to study together, attend activities together, eat meals together and just "hang out" together.

For most Taylor students, the residence hall becomes the center of college life, not a place to flee from, but a place to go to and in which to invest themselves. Throughout much of the last half century, Taylor's firm commitment to a strong residence life philosophy has been evidenced by the placement of professional, masters degree-level directors in each residence hall, the offering of a demanding and active program of hall-oriented student leadership opportunities, and hall programming that supports Taylor's whole person philosophy. The result is that Taylor's residence halls have become incubators of community life at Taylor. They serve as the glue that initially binds students to the Taylor community and experience.

When thinking about residence life, one also must consider a very unusual practice in which Taylor engages. Instead of adhering to the norm of placing new students in freshmen halls where they are protected from the potentially negative influence of upperclassmen, Taylor integrates students from all classes within each residence hall. This practice is fueled by the belief that in a community, the younger, more novice students should be nurtured and cared for by the older, more experienced upperclassmen. While one would have to be pretty naive to believe that this always works according to plan, nevertheless, the benefits are clear and observable. As residence hall director's many years ago, and now parents of Taylor students, witnessing this phenomena first hand has been impressive. On move-in day one cannot help but contrast the initial "deer-in-the-headlights" look of freshmen with the observable sense of relief exhibited as upperclassmen walk room to room introducing themselves, welcoming new students, and letting them know that if they need anything they'll be glad to help out. Such normal, daily-life occurrences provide an endearing glimpse into community life at Taylor.
Chapel is typically filled, even though attendance is "expected" rather than required or monitored, is strong evidence of the importance of this experience.
The chapel experience

Three times each week the entire Taylor community draws together for an hour of corporate worship. Through student-led music, personal sharing, and messages from some of the world's most renowned Christian speakers, the Taylor community retreats for a few minutes from daily responsibilities, focuses on the Christ who forms the substance of campus unity, and celebrates Life Together. Long ago, the administration recognized the value of such a shared experience to the creation and sustenance of Christian community and committed to making the program one of value. That the chapel is typically filled, even though attendance is "expected" rather than required or monitored, is strong evidence of the importance of this experience to community members.

Programs that emphasize campus-wide participation

Perhaps due to Taylor's relatively remote location, students under the intentional guidance of student development staff members, and with the full support and participation of the Taylor administration, faculty, and staff, have a long history of developing original, creative, large-scale productions which require the participation of hundreds (even thousands, when including the fully participating audiences) of community members. Whether one considers long-standing traditions such as Air Band, My Generation Night, Silent Night, Holipalooza, Nostalgia Night, Taylathon or many other creative activities, each can be thought of as an opportunity for students, faculty and administrators to join in and to participate in the creation of lifetime memories and in the deepening of meaningful relationships. Thousands of hours are spent together in creatively attacking a significant task and, in the process, creating a shared experience of community.

What is evidenced on the stage is also evidenced on the athletic field and the gym floor. High percentages of Taylor students, faculty, and staff participate in intramural programs in most every sport imaginable. Although competition is honored, the program's chief goal is involvement. Intramural teams are organized primarily by residence hall wing or floor and every student, no matter what the skill level, is encouraged to participate. Through practices, competition, and even late night sessions reliving "great moments," students once again build relationships and partake in community. Many other colleges and universities simply sit back and marvel at the level of student involvement in these unique aspects of Taylor life – so much so, in fact, that they come to Upland to observe and to learn, and to hire Taylor graduates to serve on their campuses.

Life together

In the early 1980s, Charles "Chip" Jaggers '69, then vice president for student development, initiated a review of Taylor's student life standards. Under his guidance, a group of student development and academic faculty, administrators and students wrote the initial draft of what has become known as Taylor's Life Together Covenant. This statement has been borrowed and used by Christian colleges across the country to address their own community life concerns. Original to Taylor, the document has been affirmed and adopted (in occasionally updated form) by all community members for the last three decades, and has become the Taylor community's aspirational "roadmap" for its life together. It brings clarity and focus, and puts into writing, this community's hopes, dreams and expectations for itself.

Conclusion

So, there you have it, the thoughts of two old friends and participants in the process regarding what, in our opinions, are the key ingredients in the recipe for "intentional community" at Taylor University. This account, surely incomplete due to inadvertent oversights and real space constraints, can and should be examined, critiqued, and challenged. But in the final analysis, whatever the ingredients that have created Life Together at Taylor University, it has blessed and enriched the lives of countless students, those they have served after graduation, and ultimately the Kingdom of God.

Lowell Haines is a member of the Taylor Board of Trustees and a partner in the law firm of Baker & Daniels, Indianapolis, Ind., where he leads the firm's higher education practice and exempt organizations group. He served previously at Taylor for ten years, in the positions of vice president for student development, dean of students, director of student programs, and residence hall director.

Tim Herrmann is a professor of higher education and director of Taylor's Master of Arts in Higher Education (MAHE) program. He served previously, for twenty-two years, in Taylor's student development program, serving first as a residence hall director and then in several leadership positions.
The parlor in Upland's Jones-Smith Funeral Home, large by any other standard, was crowded with mourners. Tears and hugs mingled with wistful reflection. Each of the visitors made their way through the crowd to Leland Boren. They hugged him. Some asked awkwardly, "How are you doing?" They knew how he was doing—as much as their hearts ached, they could only imagine the magnitude of the pain that enveloped his.

"Yet, he wasn't put off. "I'm fine," he declared with a confident, reassuring tone, "how are you?" And then he would call them by name and pull from his mind some distant memory that reassured them how deeply he appreciated their presence. It was that shared sense of loss following his beloved wife LaRita's death on Feb. 10 that brought nearly 1,000 people out on this cold February day. Their hope was that they might somehow lighten his burden, if only for a few minutes. Instead, it was he who comforted them.

Fifty-two years: That was how long LaRita Gibbs and Leland Boren were married until her death parted them. She was an attractive stewardess for the former Trans World Airlines (TWA) when she first met Leland. LaRita would later laugh and admit that it had not been love at first sight—she left him a little cold. But that coolness became a flame in the coming months and within a year, the two were married.

Leland and LaRita's children, Lori, Landrew and Lael, along with their six grandchildren, moved throughout the crowd, thanking people for coming, embracing them and crying with them. Leland repeatedly stood to greet his guests. They shared a hug, a firm handshake and numerous remembrances. And then at the end of most of the conversations he would say: "Have you seen LaRita yet? She looks beautiful."
The couple moved to Upland in the mid-1960s where they raised their family and began to impact the Town of Upland, Taylor University and much of Indiana. It became her home, although she did miss the way the light from the setting sun used to reflect off the red dirt of her Oklahoma farm, causing the barns to assume a pinkish glow. Sometime afterward, Leland had their barns painted pink. It served as a constant reminder of her childhood and his enduring love for her.

After LaRita joined Taylor's Board of Trustees in 1975, she was introduced to hundreds of students with whom she could share her life, her home and the resources God had blessed her and Leland with. Her passions were Leland's; whether it was assisting literally thousands of college students, supporting the arts, or anything else that captured LaRita's imagination.

"(LaRita) loved her adopted state of Indiana, and particularly, this rolling countryside of Upland," reminisced author, beloved gospel artist, and LaRita's close friend Gloria Gaither. "She loved Taylor University, and especially, she loved students. She was a champion for their education and loved removing the obstacles that might keep a worthy young person from the opportunity to access it."

One of those students was Cassandra (Edgecombe '84) Smith, who first met LaRita 30 years ago. "I remember riding out to her home and thinking that she had to be Bahamian because only a Bahamian would have a pink house," Cassandra said with a smile. "I was further convinced that both she and Leland were Bahamians because they knew so much about Bahamian politics and physical layout of New Providence.

"She knew everyone's name and a little about our families. She always made sure that guests left her home with their hearts filled with love and joy at having been with her; and their hands full of treats – exotic candy or fresh baked cookies or something from one of her travels.

"I loved the way she interacted with Mr. Boren." Cassandra continued. "I used to watch Mr. Boren watch LaRita as she gave her speeches and it was plain to see the respect, admiration and love in his eyes. She had some 'wild' ideas, but he trusted her and gave her free rein. After every, 'Oh Leland,' or 'Now LaRita,' onlookers knew that much more love was gained than lost. They were a great model for marriage.

"Mrs. Boren was a godly woman of tremendous influence. I also saw her as God's hand extended to many people – young and old, rich and poor, black and white," Cassandra remembered. "She was a strong and powerful advocate for thousands of Bahamians to be given the opportunity for college education."

In the last 36 years, LaRita was involved in every major Taylor fundraising initiative, yet none bear her name because she did not want the recognition. The Euler Science Complex and Randall Environmental Center – both were made possible by her leadership gifts. She also believed in and supported scholarships for Bahamian students, the Milo A. Rediger Scholarship, the media communication and athletic programs, as well as the C.S. Lewis and Friends Collection. And it was not limited to those.

That is because her great love was college students. Dozens of students stayed in or were hosted by the Borens in their home; as many as 500 more worked for the Borens during or after their college careers either on their LeLaLo Farm or the Borens' company, Avis Industrial. When one of the callers at the funeral home asked Leland how many students LaRita had supported, his answer was, "46." "Since 1965?" asked the friend.

"No," answered Leland. "This year." As LaRita said on so many occasions, they were merely stewards of the resources with which God had entrusted them.

"She was the reason a girl like me could come to Taylor and afford such an outstanding American, Christian, liberal arts education," remembered Rhona Murungi '10. "She became a friend and role model. I remember her being the first person to be concerned for my winter wardrobe in my freshman year, and she subsequently paid to get me jackets and boots and mittens that eventually lasted me all four years. She was even so concerned that about my transition to the American lifestyle, that she found an African hair braiding salon in Indianapolis and insisted on paying me to have my hair braided.

"I owe a great deal to her love and commitment in lending a hand to those, like myself, who crossed her path and needed her help," added Rhona, who is in the first year of a master's program at Vanderbilt. "I woke up this morning with a renewed ambition to let her investment in me be in vain, to be after the things that will honor her memory and commitment."

Calling hours had ended, but a dozen or so people still remained. Some embraced Leland; some cried. Each told him of some way in which LaRita had blessed them. And again, he would reply, "Have you seen LaRita yet? She looks beautiful."
As they have for nearly 20 years, more than 1,500 alumni, faculty, staff and pajama-clad students packed Odele Arena for the annual Silent Night game. Like a python ready to strike, the huge crowd sat silently along the ends and sidelines as Taylor and Ohio State Marion men’s basketball teams were introduced.

At the opening tip, the crowd was so quiet one could hear the players on the floor talking to each other. The OSM coach called out to his players, “We know what they are doing. Just play your game.” There was an occasional shushing sound punctuated by the chirping of shoes and the ripping sound a ball makes as it flies through the net. Still, the behemoth remained silent. That is, until Taylor scored the tenth point.

The roar that came from the crowd was more like an eruption. When the rattled OSM players called timeout, the roar got louder. Out of the timeout, OSM missed a shot and the din rose higher. When Drew Tower ‘11, Taylor’s lone senior, stroked a 3-point shot, it seemed like the walls themselves were throbbing.

On the sidelines, sports information assistant Cameron Andry was busily shooting video of the action for use on the Taylor website and YouTube channel. In the quiet of his office, he edited, narrated and posted the piece online.

What happened next was the digital communications equivalent to Silent Night. After Taylor Sports Information Director Eric Smith ’00 sent a link to the video to CNBC sports business reporter Darren Rovell via the social network/microblogging platform Twitter, Rovell retweeted it to his 50,000 followers. Within hours, Rovell’s tweet had been retweeted hundreds of times. Then the video surfaced on the Yahoo! Sports website. Next it was on ESPN. And within a couple of weeks, a story had been published in Sports Illustrated. When all was said and done, more than 25 million people knew what Taylor University’s Silent Night tradition was.

“Of all the incredible traditions in college basketball, Taylor University’s annual Silent Night has to be one of the most original,” said Rivals.com author Jeff Eisenberg. Andrew Sharp of sbnation.com said Silent Night is, “maybe the most awesome holiday tradition in college sports.”

As impressed as he was by the roar, he equally loved the Taylor students’ singing the beloved Christmas carol Silent Night as the clock wound down on a 112-67 Trojans win.

“Pretty simple concept, but the execution is just about flawless, and really, who doesn’t like singing Christmas Carols?” Sharp commented. “Why hasn’t anyone else thought to sing them at a basketball game? It’s a Lessons and Carols service with ten times more awesomeness.”

During his high school career in New Castle, Ind., just 35 miles down the road from Taylor, Tower played in New Castle Fieldhouse, a massive venue known as the world’s largest high school gym with nearly 10,000 seats. Playing in the smaller Odele Arena before decidedly smaller crowds, Tower admitted to being somewhat overwhelmed by the impact of Silent Night.

“It’s a great tradition Taylor has carried on,” he said. “We all enjoy it – being able to feed off the energy. Once you hit that tenth point it is a shock no matter how much you’ve been through it – it really amps you up.”

Of all the incredible traditions in college basketball, Taylor University’s annual ‘Silent Night’ has to be one of the most original.
Construction workers place the final steel of beam for the Euler Science Complex during a campus-wide ceremony in February. Taylor officials report the project is on-time and on-budget for opening in Fall 2012. The University is in the final phase of fundraising for the $41.4 million project with $3.3 million remaining for equipment and furnishings.
1942
Rev. O. Carl Brown passed away on November 12, 2010. He earned a PhD in anthropology and linguistics from Indiana University and taught at Nyack Bible Institute, Fort Wayne Bible College and Ecole Biblique in Haiti. He founded the Learning Center for Haitian Language and Culture for new missionaries and was a founding board member of Quisqueya Christian School in Port-au-Prince. Carl served in Haiti for 21 years and retired in Fort Wayne, Ind., where he continued to serve in several churches. In 2000, Taylor honored him as the Distinguished Alumnus for Professional Achievement. He was preceded in death by an infant son Jared Paul. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Martha (Gerber x'43) and sons David TUFW'68 and Darryl TUFW '68. His sister Martha (Brown x'42) Michel also survives. • 01 Rev. Dr. Howard Lyman died on October 24, 2010. He was a Methodist minister in the West Michigan Conference throughout his lifetime. He had just completed a book on Christian theology titled, *The Bigger Picture*. In 2008 his family established The Howard and Janice Lyman Scholarship Fund. Survivors include his wife Rosemary and five children. Preceding him in death were his first wife Janice (Swearingen '44), uncles Dr. Edwin Briggs '24, Dr. Arland Briggs '39 and brother-in-law Noble Swearingen '41.

1945
Mable (Busch) Bontrager died January 19, 2010, in Lewisburg, Pa., after battling Alzheimer's disease. She weathered the Great Depression through farm living and Methodist faith and was the first child in her family to earn a college degree. She earned a master's degree in religious education from New York Theological Seminary in 1948. She and her husband served for 15 years with the Congo Inland Mission, a Mennonite organization. After their departure from the Congo due to unrest, they lived and taught for nearly 20 years in Manhattan, Kansas. Survivors include her husband, Robert, two sons and daughters-in-law, two grandchildren, a brother and a sister Alice (Busch '52) Hanson.

1951
Dr. Robert Schenck retired in June 2008 after 36 years at Rush University in Chicago where he was director, section of hand surgery, department of plastic surgery. Recently Robert and his wife Marcia Whitney-Schenck volunteered for nine months in the Republic of Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (both at mission hospitals), and at Mulago Hospital, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. He taught hand surgery to African doctors and Marcia taught English. They just completed another tour as volunteers at Mulago Hospital in its orthopedic residency program, where Robert taught hand surgery and Marcia volunteered in a mission-sponsored elementary school in a slum area of Kampala. In September 2010 they left for Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, where Robert serves at the National Trauma Hospital. In November 2010 he was a symposiast for two one-hour symposia and a guest lecturer at the 11th Trienniel Meeting of the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH) in Seoul, Korea. In April 2011 they plan to volunteer in Armenia.

1955
Faith (Dodge x) Wheeler died on January 4, 2011. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, David Wheeler '53, as well as their children David, Celeste (Wheeler x'79) Archer, John '82 and Dulcie Marler. Faith also had 13 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Taylor was a common destination for Faith and Dave, and she enjoyed many reunions on campus with friends and family over the years.

1956
02 Margaret Bash has written an autobiography titled, *Shh! Don't be Conspicuous*. The book chronicles her work as a Child Evangelism Fellowship missionary for over 30 years in communist Europe. It also
Register for Heritage Weekend 2011 at www.taylor.edu/heritage-registration

Friday, April 29
- Grandparents Day
- Heritage Chapel – Don Beebe
- Current Parent and six-time Super Bowl Player
- Distinguished Faculty Lecture in the School of Natural and Applied Sciences
- Dedication of the Eichling Aquatics Wing
- Athletic Banquet (6:00 p.m.)
- Basketball Scrimmage

Saturday, April 30
- Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Brunch
- Taylathon Bike Races
- Athletic Alumni & Team Scrimmages
- Heritage Program - Donor and Scholarship Recognition (4:30 p.m.)
- President’s Dinner (6:00 p.m.)

Whether you’re here or here... you will want to be here...

Chicagoland Alumni Golf Outing
Monday, September 19, 2011
Seven Bridges Golf Club
Woodridge, IL

Proceeds to benefit the Taylor Fund.
Log onto www.taylorconnect.org for more details or call the Alumni Office at (765) 998-5115.

shares what God is doing through 14
national workers in Hungary today. To
purchase this book, contact Margaret
at cefmab@aol.com. All proceeds go
to benefit CEF of Hungary.

1958
John Louthain and Bob Wolfe,
with their wives Blanche (Burwell
'57) Louthain and Rosanne (Shippy
'59) Wolfe, recently visited Hazel
Yoder in Goshen, Ind. Mrs. Yoder,
the widow of Dr. Paton Yoder, former
head of Taylor’s history department,
is 98 years old. Dr. Yoder died in 2008.
John and Bob were roommates in the
Yoders’ home while at Taylor.

1962
Rebecca (Parrish) Stevens passed
away on November 17, 2010. She was
actively involved with her church and
the Woman’s Christian Temperance
Union (WCTU). She also was a
Christian education director for a
number of different schools. Becky
is survived by her husband John
Stevens ’62, five children and many
grandchildren.
Dr. Beverly Brightly

Alumna and longtime Taylor University Board of Trustees member Dr. Beverly (Jacobus ‘64) Brightly died February 6, 2011, following an extended illness.

Dr. Brightly graduated with Magna Cum Laude honors from Taylor, then earned master’s and doctoral degrees from New York University and Boston College. She held a JD from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, in Washington D.C. She had a distinguished career in the educational field, including service as director of the Princeton School for Exceptional Children and the senior program associate in the Rehabilitation Service Administration in the U.S. Department of Education. Additionally, Dr. Brightly was a consultant to the National Consortium of Child Mental Health Services and established the Jacobus Foundation for Children Incorporated for Developing Programs to Serve Children with Special Needs.

After joining Taylor’s Board of Trustees in 1983, Dr. Brightly served on the Executive, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Long Range committees. She was also a member of the National Alumni Association and Taylor Clubs. A President’s Associate and student recruiter; Dr. Brightly was also a donor to Taylor’s Warren Bennett Jacobus Memorial Endowed Scholarship.

Her survivors include two grown children, Brian and Brooke, and two brothers.

Dr. Wally Roth

Dr. Wally Roth ’59, who pioneered Taylor’s Computer Science and Engineering department, died January 20 after a lengthy battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease.

During his college years, Dr. Roth was student body president and earned All-Conference honors as a lineman on the Taylor Trojans football team, which finished with a then-school-record 7-1-1 mark. As a faculty member, he played an instrumental role in the introduction of computer technology to Taylor, as both an academic discipline and for faculty/staff uses, and the growth of the department.

Shortly after his diagnosis, Dr. Roth once said he drew comfort from the New Testament passage 2 Corinthians 1:2-10 that reads in part, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness…that is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

“I have a list of plusses,” he said. “If you are going to get something, this is not the worst.”

He is survived by his wife Marlene (Wilcox ’60) and three sons Keith ’88, Kevin ’90 and Ken, and their families.

Harlan Kerlin

Longtime Taylor friend Harlan Tracy Kerlin, 94, died November 26, 2010. Although he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Indiana Central and Ball State University, he was actively involved in Taylor University through his financial support and referral of students to Taylor.

Mr. Kerlin was a veteran of WWII and afterward served for many years as a mathematics and music teacher in the Hartford City and Blackford Schools Corporations and lived in nearby Hartford City.

He was the brother of Dr. Joe Kerlin ’55 (wife Rosie Baugh ’55).

Dwight Mikkelson

Dr. Dwight L. Mikkelson, 82, died January 12, 2011, in Muncie, Ind. In addition to a distinguished 25-year teaching tenure, he served as Taylor’s archivist and took several Wabunigan Wheel’s bicycle trips.

His bachelor's degree was from Asbury University; his master's and doctorate degrees were from the University of Kentucky. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War; railroad enthusiast, Blackford County historian and member of the B-Western Movies Society.

Dr. Mikkelson was preceded in death by his first wife, Jane, and infant son, Stephen. His survivors include his wife, Mary; son, Lawrence (Lisa); daughter, Linda J. (Gary) Umphreyville; three step-children; 13 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

David Odle

David Odle ’68 died March 7, 2011. He was the son of Don and Bonnie (Weaver ’41) Odle ’42. His death came on the nine-year anniversary of his father’s homegoing.

An active civil servant, Mr. Odle was also a teacher; basketball coach and businessman. He assisted his father with Taylor University Basketball Camp for many years.

Survivors include his wife, Rosie; mother, Bonnie; sons Chad and Brooks ’03; daughter’s Nicole Fleming of Charleston, S.C., and Olivia (Odle ’07) Litwiller of Austin, Texas; stepsons Justin Laxen and Jeremiah Bowden; five grandchildren; and sister, Susan (Odle ’78) Belcher.

Gordon Krueger

Retired Taylor Professor Gordon M. Krueger, 96, went to be with his Lord February 20, 2011, in Warren, Ind.

He earned AB and MA degrees in chemistry from the University of Kansas. Professor Krueger was a professor and department chair in chemistry at Taylor for 24 years until his retirement in 1979. During his retirement years he continued to be active in the Upland community and frequently attended Taylor functions and events.

He was preceded in death by his wife Ruth (2006). Survivors include a son, Dr. Gordon (Nancy) Krueger; a daughter, Juanita (Dr. Gary) Exman; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.
1969
Tom x & Julie (Ringenberg x ’73) Essenburg live in the Atlanta area where Tom is a donor relations director for Open Doors, an organization that serves persecuted Christians worldwide. Their grandchildren are the joy of their lives. Son Ben ’02 & Erin (Johnson ’03) have Claire, 4, and Landon, 1, and live in St. Louis, Mo. Daughter Ann ’05 & Billy Clark have Elliana, 2, and Emersyn Rose, 9 months, and live in Georgia.

1970
Ruth (Mikaelson) Gee had a life-size bronze sculpture exhibited in the Grand Rapids Art Prize event in September 2010. First Flight took over two years to complete. Ruth and her husband Bruce ’68 live in Hastings, Mich., near their three sons and families. She can be contacted at ruth@ruthgee.com. • Carol Vega is enjoying retirement and plans to volunteer at nursing homes.

1971
Richard Myers was recently named a recipient of the Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership in Brevard Public Schools (Fla.). This award honors principals for contributions to their schools and communities. It also recognizes their efforts to increase student performance, promote safe learning environments and establish partnerships with parents and community members. Richard is now in his 38th year as an educator. • Kermit Welty is now general manager at the Lancaster Campground (Ohio). Previously he was a pastor with the Free Methodist Church, serving the last 19 years in Columbus, Ohio. Kermit and his wife Kathy (Grimm ’73) will be moving to Lancaster.

1976
Kent Engle was elected family court judge in Ottawa County, Mich., in November 2010. He will oversee cases involving divorce, child custody, juvenile delinquency and other matters relating to children and families.

1978
Michael Haynes retired as head football coach at Pardeeville High School (Wis.). During his 14 years as head coach he amassed a record of 104-35 with eight conference championships and 12 straight playoff appearances. Prior to that, he served 12 years as offensive coordinator. He is also the founder and president of a local foundation that has raised over $1 million for local youth clubs, high school athletic facilities and fine arts programs. Recently construction was completed on an athletic complex that included a track/football stadium, baseball/softball complex and youth competition fields. Fundraising for a new fine arts facility will begin in 2011. Michael continues to serve as guidance counselor at Pardeeville.

1979
Brian Buroker x ’79 died on November 2, 2010. He was a police officer with the gaming control division of the gaming commission and had been employed with the Indiana State Police for 24 years. Brian was the son of Bob and Del Buroker, a long-time secretary in the athletic and alumni offices at Taylor. Among his survivors are his wife Brenda and brother Brad ’78. His brother Dennis ’78 preceded him in death.

1983
Beth (Granger) Farwell has been named to the board of the Educational Foundation of Alfred, Inc. This private foundation represents faculty, staff and friends of Alfred State College (Alfred, NY). Beth serves as support magistrate for Allegany County (NY). She is a member of the Allegany County Bar Association and a former member of the David A. Howe Library and Allegany County United Way boards. • Ken & Betzi (Bliss ’94) Meyer have relocated to Orlando, Fla., from Naperville, Ill. Betzi is now the director of online admissions for Benedictine University.
graduate programs. Ken has joined Keller Williams Realty as a realtor in the Orlando/Lake Nona/Medical City area. They have two daughters who have graduated from college and are beginning their own careers.

1989

Dr. Jenny (Dickinson) Skaggs is Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation director and research associate at the University of Kentucky. She recently earned her Ph.D. in higher education focusing on gender and engineering; she continues her research with an appointment in the college of engineering. Jenny and her family live in Wilmore, Ky.

1990

01 Mark & Sheri (Russell) Daubenmeier have joined Africa Inland Mission and are heading to Kenya to teach at Rift Valley Academy. They hope to move this summer to start teaching at the beginning of the 2011-12 school year. You can connect with the Daubenmeier family through their blog at welovebigfamilies.blogspot.com.

1992

Brad Ash died on October 10, 2010, after being hit by a car while riding his bicycle. He was an avid cyclist and had taught math at Pasco Middle School (Fla.) for nearly two years. Before that he taught at Pasco High School. He sponsored the National Junior Honor Society and rock band club. He is survived by his son Chandler.

1993

02 Chris & Arika Theule-VanDam are the proud parents of Ezekiel Jon born November 23, 2010. Chris is the regional director for Youth for Christ in Michigan and Northwest Indiana. The family lives in Allendale, Mich.

1995

Greg Siefert is chief technology officer at ChaCha, an online real-time answers service. Previously he was vice president of solutions and formation at Ambassador Solutions.

1996

03 Stephan & Wendy (Loney) Dechert welcome their newest member of the family, Brock Henry, born May 27, 2010. He joins siblings Olivia, 7, and Logan, 2. They can be reached at wdechert@comcast.net.

04 William & Becky Ensinger announce the birth of their daughter Laura on June 30, 2010. The family lives in Dayton, Tenn., where they operate Dixie-Soaps, a home business that makes goat milk soap.

05 Warren & Beth (Ockers) Esdale welcomed Emily Kate who was born June 13, 2010. They live in
Throughout the years, the percentage of Taylor University alumni who have supported their alma mater has been among the nation’s highest. We are grateful for your trust and support that makes the Taylor experience possible for future generations.

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Sydney, Australia, where Warren is an assistant pastor. • **Jason Falck** married Audrey Domboy in Minneapolis, Minn., on July 25, 2010. The couple serves with Campus Crusade and lives in Minneapolis while preparing to serve long-term in France. Jason is finishing work on a master’s in church history from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. They can be reached at jcfalck@gmail.com. • **Rebecca Grandi** has been named administrative director for a bipartisan government relations firm in Washington, D.C. She can be contacted at rgrandi1@gmail.com.

**1998**

*07* Rajeev and Karen (Boltz) Karki live in Muncie, Ind., with children Ayra, 5, and Alexander, 2. Karen is owner/photographer of Karen Karki Photography and Rajeev is a consultant for Ontario Systems. In addition, they, along with Rajeev’s parents, are opening an Indian restaurant in Muncie called Sitara. • **08** Chaplain Rob Olson was reunited with his wife Katie (Peterson ’00) and children, Nat, Beth and Danny, after a one-year deployment to Iraq. Rob has served as a battalion chaplain with the 3rd Infantry Division since September, 2008. Katie is a stay-at-home mom and volunteers in women’s ministry through the local post chapel. Rob was recently selected for the Army’s Clinical Pastoral Education program. After almost three years at Fort Stewart, Ga., the Olson family will be moving this summer.

**1999**

*09* Kenny & Joanna (Cicero) Pepper welcomed their first daughter, Claire Aileen, to the family on July 14, 2010. She joins brothers (from L): Tim, 17, Josh, 6, Zach, 3, and Ben, 3. Joanna can be contacted at kennyandjoanna@gmail.com.

**2000**

Dr. Ben & Leigh (VanHarn) Flagel live in Tasmania, Australia, where Ben is a consultant physician at Launceston General Hospital. Ben earned his M.D. from Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine in 2005. Ben can be reached at flagleb@yahoo.com.

**2002**

Jonathan & Katy (Gustafson) Eisfeld are the proud parents of Kalea Ann born June 12, 2010. Katy recently completed an M.A. in Christian formation and ministry from Wheaton College. • **10** Heather Gillespie married Rodney Miles April 24, 2010, in Lido Beach, Fla. Her sister Lisa Gillespie ’04 participated. The bride is the daughter of Jan and Nancy Gillespie (School of Business). Heather is employed as a recruiter for Adecco located in Sarasota and Rodney is in sales with Honda Motors of Brandon, Fla. The couple resides in Sarasota. • **Alan Jones** has been named assistant principal for North Side High School in Fort Wayne, Ind. Previously he was assistant principal.
Jesse & Sarah (Borgwardt) Joyner joyfully welcome Keziah Grace born September 30, 2010. The family lives in Richmond, Va., where Jesse is children’s pastor at Commonwealth Chapel. Alicia McConnell married John Sparks on October 16, 2010. TU participants included (L-R): Ruth Della-Croce '06, Shawn Burford '05 and Jennifer Bolin. John is a high school calculus teacher at Lakeside Christian School and Alicia is a children’s librarian in the Pinellas County School system. The couple lives at 11892 67th Ave., Seminole, FL 33772. Ryan Peterson was named a Rising Star by Super Lawyers magazine. Ryan was recognized as one of Wisconsin’s top lawyers under the age of 40 and was one of 15 lawyers to be selected in the Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights category. Ryan has been an associate attorney with Rausch, Sturm, Israel, Enerson & Hornik since graduating from Marquette University Law School in 2005.

2003

02 Jenna Pashley married Vance Smith on June 18, 2010, in League City, Texas. Taylor participants included Ben Miller ’77, Jason ’01 & Kerry (Peifer ’03) Hillier and the bride’s parents Eugene ’77 & Laureen (Smith ’78) Pashley. Vance & Jenna make their home in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where Vance works with Newpark Drilling Fluids do Brasil and Jenna is a freelance writer and translator. Jenna completed a CBA in marketing from IMBEC (Rio de Janeiro) in 2009.

03 Jordan & Amie (Snow ’07) Kasper welcomed their daughter Evangeline Ray, who was born May 18, 2010. They can be contacted at amiekasper@gmail.com.

2004

04 Alan & Julie Briggs adopted Betti, 7, and Manny, 2, who were born in Ethiopia. Alan is pastor of apprenticeships and church planting at Vanguard Church. They live in Colorado Springs, Colo. Billy & Ann (Essenburg) Clark, along with daughter Elliana, 2, welcomed Emersyn Rose into their family on June 11, 2010. They live in Suwanee, Ga. Billy is a captain with the Gwinnett Fire Department and Ann is a full-time mom and a part-time personal trainer.

05 Dave Watson grew a mustache to raise funds for children’s cancer research for New York City’s Kettering-Sloan Hospital (mustachesvscancer.org). He challenges others to do the same.

2005

06 Dave and Nicole (Moore ’06) live in Portland, Ore.

2006

07 Ben & Rachel (Clemens) Cuthbert are the proud parents of Jonah Allen born October 14, 2009. They live in Lansing, Mich. Andrew & Rashel (Cary) Harris live in Palestine, Texas, where Rashel manages their ranch that produces homemade cheeses and other dairy products. Tyler & Brooke Sellhorn announce the arrival of sons.
Bradley Tyler (held by Brooke) and Timothy James (held by Tyler), born September 22, 2010. The family lives in Fort Wayne, Ind.

2007

10 Dan & Mia (Wales) Blocher celebrated the birth of Chloe Grace on August 3, 2010. They reside in Huntington, Ind., where Mia works as a homemaker and freelance writer. Dan works nearby in North Manchester, Ind., as the office manager for Manchester Tool and Die. You can contact them at mia.blocher@gmail.com and dan.blocher@gmail.com. • Julie Fishbein earned a master’s in counseling from Covenant Theological Seminary in May 2010. She is now an associate substance abuse counselor for Bridgeway Behavioral Health. • Alison Orpurt earned master of divinity degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in December 2010, and is now a dorm dean at the Oakdale Christian Academy in Jackson, Ky. Alison can be reached at alison.elaine85@gmail.com. • 11 Kerrie Schene and Ben Taylor were married July 3, 2010, in Indianapolis, Ind. TU participants included Allie Burbrink, Michelle Hewitt, Sara Hightower, Kyle Lantz, Rachel Martinez, Jay McCann, Laura Rodeheaver, Katie Rousopoulos, Rob Bedinghaus ’08, Philip Byers ’08, Steve Conn ’08, Dave Downey ’08, Michael Farnsley ’08, Andrew Smith ’08, Hugh White ’08, Caleb Farmer ’06, Katie Baglen ’05, Matt ’05 & Miriam (White ’06) Gin, Travis Yoder ’05, Whitney (Gabrielsen ’04) Drake, Matt ’03 & Polly (Forrester ’03) Graham, Deanna Ingerham ’03, Zach ’10 & Janelle (Eastman ’10) Taylor, Rachel (Dodge ’09) Peterson and Jon Cavanagh ’98. The couple lives in Grantham, Pa., where Ben is a residence director and Kerrie is administrative assistant for the Agape Center for Service & Learning at Messiah College.

2008

12 Rob & Kate (Yoder ’07) Bedinghaus announce the birth of William “Liam” James born October 10, 2010. They live in Bloomington, Ind., where Rob is studying Hispanic linguistics at Indiana University. • Cam Brennan is youth pastor at the Fellowship Bible Church in Gardner, Kan. • Mark Heydlauff is city manager of Bronson, Mich. Prior to assuming his duties in November, 2010, Mark received his
Taylor remains committed to biblical teaching and Christ-centered learning. While there is a strong focus on the whole person, Taylor is also committed to serving the world. As a result of these commitments, the Taylor community has remained an undeniable constant, from the University's earliest days to today.

THE TAYLOR COMMUNITY

Outside of firsthand experience, the Taylor community can only be explained one story at a time. It is something built by the collective voice of those who have experienced Taylor throughout the years and have unique stories to share.

Will you share your story with us?

Tell us your Taylor community story at www.taylor.edu/stories.
master's of public administration from Western Michigan University. • 01 Lindsay Will and Ben Glynn were married January 2, 2010. Alumni in the wedding included Leigh Anne Butcher, Britt Kroll, Caitlin Staples, Jeremy & Aubrey (Wright) Jordan, Olivia (Odle '07) Litwiller, Jessica (Beck '07) Lugbill, Quentin McCaffrey '09 and Joel Donnell '09. Lindsay is the daughter of Brad Rupp '86. Lindsay is in her final semester of a master's program in counseling psychology at Palm Beach Atlantic University. Ben is completing the Police Academy in West Palm Beach, Fla., where the couple lives. • Aubrey Wright and Jeremy Jordan were married May 9, 2009, in Alexandria, Ind. Taylor alumni in the wedding included Ben '09 & Lindsay (Will) Glynn, Paul VanDemark, Whitney (McKevitt '09) Ramsland, Quentin McCaffrey '09 and Stacie (Frey '06) Smith. The couple resides in Connecticut, where they are both residential counselors at a therapeutic boarding school.

**2009**

02 Whitney Cerak married Matt Wheeler, her best friend from high school, on March 6, 2010, in Gaylord, Mich. Matt is serving in the army as an officer and, while he is in Afghanistan, Whitney is living with her sister Carly Cerak '07 and assisting with her ministry in Mombasa, Kenya. In their wedding party were sister Carly, Amy (Dykstra '09) Scholten, Emily (Gerard '09) Meibeyer and Annie (Archibald) Horton. The couple lives in Clarksville, Tenn.

**2010**

03 Ben Blake x and Amber Tink were married on May 23, 2010. Ben completed his undergraduate degree at Mount Vernon Nazarene University where he now works as a development associate. They live in Mount Vernon, Ohio. • 04 Kelsey Warren married Nathan Mitchener x on September 18, 2010. Kelsey is an editorial assistant for Brethren Missionary Herald Co.
It does not seem possible, but it has been nearly six years since Marylou and I returned to Taylor University. I sometimes reflect on those early days as first, we rejoiced in God's leading that had brought us back to Taylor, and then, set about the work God had called us to do. Who could have known in those days what was ahead? There has been joy and sorrow, laughter and tears. And in every case, God has shown Himself strong.

For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. — Psalm 147:5

Throughout the Old Testament, God's children set up stones of remembrance so they would never forget God's faithfulness and power. In similar fashion, there is physical evidence all around our campus of God's work among us. What an exciting thing it has been to watch the Euler Science Complex rise from the ground during the past 10 months. God willing, when it opens next year, it will be one of the finest science facilities on any Christian college campus in the United States.

Yet, the excitement about that facility is dampened by the homegoing of our beloved friend and neighbor, LaRita Boren. LaRita was deeply invested in the lives of our students and she was a passionate advocate for our new science building. I could not help but think of LaRita as we held our steel topping ceremony on February 17. During the 36 years she served on our Board of Trustees, she and her husband Leland supported literally thousands of students through scholarship assistance, jobs and numerous other ways that were never announced to the world, but yet made substantial impact in countless lives. As LaRita said on so many occasions, it is all about the students.

In February, we opened the new Eichling Aquatics Wing, which houses classrooms, offices and Taylor's first-ever human performance laboratory and swimming facility. When our new student apartment complex, Wolgemuth Hall, opens this fall, it will allow even more students to participate in vital student life opportunities. Additionally our new entryway and Memorial Prayer chapel give added evidence of progress and growth. To God be the glory, indeed!

Beyond brick and mortar, God has strengthened Taylor through the establishment of four well-defined schools within the university structure: The School of Business, The School of Liberal Arts, the School of Natural and Applied Sciences, and the School of Professional and Graduate Studies. Each has its own dean, which allows enhanced focus on curriculum development, faculty retention and program improvements. We believe the result will be the strengthening of our efforts to be excellent in what we do for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

This year we celebrated Taylor's fourth straight #1 ranking by U.S. News & World Report, as well as other high national rankings from Princeton Review, Forbes.com, Washington Monthly and Open Doors. Each of these recognizes a different facet of the work God has been doing here. And all are external validations from editors and publishers who are in no way connected to Taylor University. This reminds me of the third verse in our beloved alma mater that says, "Far and wide her fame is spreading, 'Til in every land, Men shall hear the name of Taylor, And her purpose grand."

Yes, amazing things are happening at Taylor. But whatever good has been accomplished, we fail in all that we do if we do not recognize and acknowledge with gratitude the hand of our Lord behind it all. The scripture reminds us in Psalm 127:1 that it is He who builds the house and this university — not us. To God alone be the glory!

Dr. Eugene B. Habeker '68 serves as president of Taylor University.
“Like a lot of students at Taylor, I originally decided to attend Taylor over other Christian colleges because of the community I felt as a prospective student. There was a family atmosphere that made me feel accepted and loved by the girls on the wing. Now, looking back over my time at Taylor, I am most thankful for the spiritual and academic training I have received. I have been prepared in many ways to follow God’s calling for my life.”

Laura Gustafson, ’11

Laura is a senior communication studies major with a public relations minor. Her financial assistance has included the Taylor Fund Grant, which has been made available because of the generous gifts of alumni, parents and friends of the University.

Your gift to the Taylor Fund helps Laura and hundreds of other students attend Taylor. Thank you for your investment in Taylor students.
Taylor's new swimming pool was christened with a ceremonial “First Plunge.”
See the story on P.9