I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. Where, O death, are your plagues? Where, O grave, is your destruction?

Hosea 13:14

I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem you out of the hand of the terrible.

Jeremiah 15:21

God, to redeem us at the deepest portion of our nature – the urge to love and be loved – must reveal His nature in an incredible and impossible way. He must reveal it at a cross.

E. Stanley Jones

Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.

Helen Keller

I’ve read the last page of the Bible. It’s all going to turn out all right.

Billy Graham
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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 fifth year in a row, Taylor University is the number one Midwest University in the category Best Regional Colleges in the 2012 US News & World Report survey, America’s Best Colleges.

The mission of Taylor University is to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ’s redemptive love and truth to a world in need.
A wondrous love

“I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten – the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm – my great army that I sent among you.” Joel 2:25.

It is a passage from one of the so-called minor prophets of the Old Testament. I must have skipped over it in the past because it practically leapt from the page at me. This was God’s message of judgment on the people of Judah. But it was also His promise to make all things new.

Our God, while infinitely holy, also knows the stuff of which we are made. He commands us to be holy and we fail to live up to that command because we are broken sinners. Joel’s passage both underscores His judgment as well as His compassion.

God redeems, because He loves. It was that love that sent Jesus to the cross. It was that love that raised Him from death. And it was that love that is new every morning to all of us who trust Him.

In this edition of Taylor, we tell stories of brokenness and redemption. A retired hand surgeon traveled 10,000 miles to deliver an old ambulance to people who desperately needed it. An alumna returned to campus to confront memories of her past. And an alumna turned her back on the so-called American dream to obediently follow God’s call to Darfur. We pray that your souls will be edified.

We love, because He first loved us.

In Christ alone,

James R. Garringer
Editor
Three promoted to vice presidential posts

Taylor University has promoted three longtime administrators to vice presidential posts.

Stephen Mortland ’85, Stephen Olson ’98 and Dr. Skip Trudeau, have respectively been named Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing, Vice President for Finance/Chief Financial Officer and Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students.

Mortland has served at Taylor for 22 years, the past 17 as Dean of Enrollment Management. During that time, he was responsible for admissions, student retention and financial aid. In his new role, Mortland will also direct Taylor’s marketing efforts.

Olson is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and has served at Taylor since 1999. During that period he has filled several roles, at one time serving as the CFO for the former Taylor University Fort Wayne campus and most recently as Associate Vice President for Business Development Services. In the latter role, he partnered with an investment management company to develop policy statements for a $15 million-plus portfolio of annuities and trusts, led the development of the second phase of an Upland subdivision for the purpose of increasing the quality and number of housing options for University personnel, prepared for the University’s annual audits and directly managed accounting needs for the William Taylor Foundation.

Trudeau joined the Taylor faculty in 1999 — first serving as Associate Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life Programs and then as Associate Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students. Prior to Taylor, Trudeau served at Anderson University and Houghton College.

“Steve Mortland, Skip Trudeau and Steve Olson have each served Taylor University with distinction in their respective fields of expertise,” said Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68, Taylor’s President. “They are valued members of our community and gifted leaders. My leadership team and I are excited to continue working with them in new ways that will both further the Taylor University mission and honor the Kingdom of God.”

Transition to Teaching

Taylor’s Transition to Teaching (TTT) program trains people with college degrees to teach in elementary or secondary settings. Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree (for the secondary program the degree must be in the area a person wants to teach) from an accredited college and a GPA of 3.0 or above.

Forty students are active in the program. Classes are either taken in 15-week semesters or six month terms, depending on financing. Per federal regulations, students using financial aid take semester-based classes.

Courses are taught online in an independent study format with coursework completed online. Some classes require classroom observations and experiences that are completed in the student’s local community. Each student completes a ten-week student teaching experience.

To learn more, visit: http://online.taylor.edu/transition-to-teaching/.
One for the thumb – it is a phrase that usually refers to major league and professional teams who have received a fifth championship ring. No rings were handed out this year, but there was celebration when news was received that for the fifth straight year U.S. News & World Report has named Taylor University the number one Midwest institution in its Best Regional Colleges survey, America’s Best Colleges.

But it was close. Taylor earned 100 rating points to edge a surging Ohio Northern University, who finished second with 99 points (a jump of 15 rating points from last year). Augustana (South Dakota) and Cedarville (Ohio) finished in a tie for third with 89 points. The top five was completed with Marietta College (Ohio) and Dordt College (Iowa), each with 86 points.

The survey included auxiliary rankings that also listed Taylor: A Strong Commitment to Teaching and Great Schools, Great Prices. Taylor was also ranked in a new category: A-Plus Schools for B Students.

And Taylor’s up-and-coming Engineering Physics program earned a 95th-place finish nationwide.

“This accolade is certainly very encouraging. Our Engineering Physics program was accredited only within the past four years. However, the program is growing and continuously improving; and it is receiving well-deserved external recognition,” said Dr. Mark Biermann, dean of the School of Natural and Applied Sciences at Taylor. “We continue to explore other engineering curricular areas that build on our current strengths.”

“As we look at these rankings, and we are grateful for them, we must make sure that our focus is on being the Taylor that God wants us to be,” said Taylor President Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68. “Repeated recognition of our programs, as well as Taylor’s historic commitment to teaching and affordability are the result of the dedicated, sacrificial efforts of every member of the Taylor University community from our amazing faculty to our outstanding students and alumni. To God be the glory.”

A complete list of the U.S. News and World Report rankings is available online at www.usnews.com.

Taylor ranked fourth nationally by Washington Monthly

Taylor University is ranked fourth nationally among baccalaureate colleges in Washington Monthly’s 2011 baccalaureate college rankings. The ranking comes on the heels of high rankings in U.S. News, Princeton Review and Forbes. Washington Monthly’s rankings stand in contrast to other surveys in that their system rates schools based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: Social Mobility, Research and Service.

The Forbes survey was compiled with information that included data from The Center for College Affordability and Productivity and measured criteria including student satisfaction, four-year graduation rate, postgraduate success and lack of student indebtedness.
As a running back for Coach Jim Law’s Taylor football teams, Mike Woods ’90 picked his holes, followed his blockers and found his way to the end zone more than any Trojan player before or since. Those skills and his perseverance combined to earn him induction into Taylor’s Athletic Hall of Fame during Homecoming. But it was also that ability that saved his life, and the lives of more than 20 of his colleagues on Sept. 11, 2001.

Woods was one of three inductees into Taylor’s 2011 Athletic Hall of Fame class. Joining him were Anne (Lee ’94) Boyer, volleyball; Gene Keller ’67, wrestling; and Kip Rop ’02, track and cross country.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Woods was a manager at the Solomon Brothers office in 7 World Trade Center. After two jets slammed into the complex’s 110-story towers, Woods led his coworkers down more than 40 flights of stairs to escape.

“At that point your mind just clicks in and you just get out of here,” he said. “In football, it was, ‘Find an open space and move. Don’t think, just act.’ You’ve been trained; let your body react. My mission was to get everybody away and get them to safety. We went north and got just past Greenwich Village.”

Satisfied that his colleagues were safe, Woods weaved his way through the swell of people toward the Brooklyn Bridge in an attempt to get home.

“There was no cell or public transport. At that point I started to run. (The south tower) came down as I was just getting onto the bridge. I was hit by the tail end of the smoke and dust.”

Woods is hesitant to describe what he saw that day but its images are still fresh, even after 10 years. “As I got home I remember turning the TV on. Physically and mentally, I was exhausted. I’ve run 10 marathons. I’ve done triathlons and climbed mountains. But I was just spent. It was overwhelming,” he said.

Today Woods, his wife Jennifer and the couple’s twin daughters live on Long Island, New York. He is the CEO and US Regional Head for DWS Investments, the retail asset manager for Deutsche Bank. His records for rushing yards in a game (339) career (3,594) and most rushing touchdowns in a career (34) still stand.

He returns to Upland each year to help Coach Ron Korfmancher ’83 with the current Taylor football team. “Spending a week every August is really fun for me. Just twenty years ago I was in those players’ places – just a small town farm kid trying to figure out what life was all about,” Woods said.

“Other than that awful day, life has been an awesome ride. It has been a hard ride, but an awesome and fulfilling ride.”
From Grace Olson’s hair and D.T.R.s to soccer, Nazis and old friends

Taylor’s 2011 Parents and Family Weekend and Homecoming drew an estimated 2,000 visitors to campus this fall as parents attended classes with their college-age children, student musicians worshiped with their God-given talent, hundreds of old friends gathered to reminisce, and thousands of extra meals were served in the Hodson Dining Commons.

A new wrinkle on Parents and Family Weekend was a scavenger hunt during which parents and students fanned out through the Taylor campus and Upland community to gather information that included: where one could find a lock of the late Grace Olson’s hair (Archives), the number of treadmills in the Aerobics Room at KSAC (10), the message du jour on the old railroad bridge (Livin’ the Dream), the number of Macs in the Journalism Lab (20) and the makings of a delicious concoction wryly named the D.T.R. (blended latte, peppermint and two straws).

We Will Not Be Silent, a compelling play written by Indiana playwright William Gebby was staged for parents and students in the Mitchell Theatre. The play tells the true story of a band of young adults who stood in opposition to the Nazis and Adolph Hitler at the cost of their lives. Taylor’s athletic teams also took the pitch, hardwood, field and course, and Taylor President Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68 delivered a State of the University address.

“Seeing and hearing all that is happening with the school is exciting,” said Laurel Beck, Colorado Springs, Colo., the mother of Taylor volleyball player Bethany Beck ’12. “The tour of the new science building was awesome. It’s an amazing structure and will be a great place for the students to be challenged to grow.

“Of course the best part of Parents Weekend is seeing all the wonderful people,” she added. “I always enjoy the friends we have made at Taylor, new and old. I would say that you don’t have to be a student at Taylor, or have ever been a student, to enjoy the community of Taylor. There are wonderful people to meet and share your lives with.”

Homecoming weather changed the plans for an outdoor dedication of Wolgemuth Hall, an apartment building named for beloved Taylor alumnus, former Youth For Christ president, and longtime Board of Trustees visionary Sam Wolgemuth ’38 and his wife Grace (Dourte ’39). Still, there was a sense that the hand of God was at work as the crowd, which included nearly 60 members of the Wolgemuth family, took up spots in the lounge and adjoining hallway.

“There was something very unique about that spot – it was like the nave of a church in the shape of a cross,” said Ken Wolgemuth ’67, regional director for University Advancement. The crowd heard numerous stories of the couple’s love for each other, their six children (all of whom graduated from Taylor), Taylor University and Youth For Christ. And one of the program’s most stirring moments came as the family sang a rendition of the 23rd Psalm. “Down those corridors, with everyone in the center on both sides, the acoustics were really wonderful,” Wolgemuth said. “Those we have lost to Heaven – Mom and Dad and my son-in-law – are those who are not with us now. It was like they were singing along with us. It was very moving.”

“This is a great honor,” Wolgemuth said. “We did nothing to deserve it — my mom and dad would say they did nothing to deserve it. But they went about their ministry with all the drive and passion they had their whole life.”

I always enjoy the friends we have made at Taylor, new and old. I would say that you don’t have to be a student at Taylor, or have ever been a student, to enjoy the community of Taylor.
Distinguished Alumnus for Professional Achievement

Dan Gordon ’71, Chairman, Gordon Food Services (GFS)

Distinguished Young Alumnus for Professional Achievement

John Fellowes II ’01, Executive Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer, Fellowes, Inc.

Distinguished Alumni for Service to Taylor

Dave ’92 and Cassandra (Edgecombe ’88) Smith
Faculty members study crop disease, nuclear waste disposal

**Dr. Ron Benbow**, Mathematics, participated in a Mathematical Association of America study tour in Guatemala and Honduras to study the mathematics, astronomy, and culture of ancient and modern Maya.

**Drs. Jeremy Case ’87 and Mark Colgan**, Mathematics, were presenters and panelists at the Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences Biennial Conference, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, Calif., June 2011.


**Ms. Renata Kantaruk**, ESL, presented *Exam-taking through exam making* at the International TESOL conference in New Orleans in March 2011.

**Dr. Dan King**, Chemistry, was awarded a $10,000 grant extension to continue his research focused on proteins involved in a crop disease known as Pierce’s Disease, a bacterial infection, which is spread by bugs that feed on grapevines. This grant is funded through the Pierce’s Disease Control Program of the California Department of Food and Agriculture.


**Dr. Ken Kiers**, Physics, and students conducted research funded by the National Science Foundation related to theoretical particle physics last summer. He also traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina, to conduct particle physics research.

**Dr. Mary Muchiri**, English, presented *Linguistic Challenges in a Multilingual Set Up: Issues in Training Public School Teachers for TESOL in Indiana, USA* in Nairobi, Kenya during the summer.


**Dr. Edwin R Squiers**, EES, has been named chairman of the Indiana Heritage Trust Project Committee by Governor Mitch Daniels. He also delivered a professional paper, *Why Science is Undervalued in the Public Arena: Ignorance, Ignore-ance, Denialism, and Anosognosia: The New Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*, at the Third International Conference on Science in Society at Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, August 2011.

**Dr. Matthew Renfrow**, PEHP, co-authored a submission to the Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research entitled *The validity of 7-Site skinfold measurements taken by exercise science students*.

**Dr. Shederick Whipple**, Music, has been chosen president of the Marion Philharmonic Orchestra for its 2011-12 season.
The eternal wind

It is safe to say that anyone who can remember the thrill of flying their first kite remembers just as clearly the sting of loss when that flight ended as so many do—with the kite stuck hopelessly in the high branches of a tree.

A cynic might ask why dads through the ages put their sons and daughters through the cycle of excitement and loss. But Dr. Jonathan Bouw, Taylor’s art department chairperson, says it isn’t about the kite—or even the tree. It is about the wind.

Bouw is the illustrator for a new children’s book *The Boy, The Kite, And The Wind*. It is not in bookstores yet and thus far it has sold a modest 1,500 copies. But Bouw and the book’s author, Al Andrews, believe the book will accomplish more than merely sales.

The net profits from the book will be donated to nonprofit organizations including Compassion International, The Red Cross, World Vision and more. To date, the book has already funded two Child Survival Program centers through Compassion International. These centers, located in the Philippines and India, provide food and care for at-risk children, infants and mothers, and nourishment for the neediest of the needy.

“I’ve never done anything where my actual art could save someone’s life and that just blew me away,” Bouw said. “The book is in its second printing. Al is stepping out on faith—we feel pretty hopeful that God is going to do something big.”

Bouw drew inspiration for his original paintings by visiting small towns throughout East Central Indiana. He visited an old general store, which he surmised had been in operation since the 1930s, some old farms, meadows and other places that inspired his creativity.

Another source of excitement for Bouw is the opportunity for Taylor students to learn from the experience and develop their artistic talents with a Christian worldview: “Regardless of the art form, we need to have Christians in the market. We are God’s workmanship. We love elegance, grace and truth,” Bouw added. “I hope we train our students to be good artists, but ultimately help them to live lives that are elegant, graceful, beautiful and redemptive.”

To learn more, visit:
www.theboythekiteandthewind.com
www.improbablephilanthropy.com
Trojans enjoy national rankings, conference championships

Volleyball
Coach Brittany (Huyser ’00) Smith’s Trojans clinched their fifth-straight MCC championship and became the first NAIA program to win 1,100 matches. Their winning streak in conference play extended to 53 matches and the Trojans received an at-large bid to the NAIA national tournament. The team was led by Kesley Pritchard ’12 (who recorded her 2,000th kill), Betsy Brown ’12 (who recorded her 5,000th assist) and two-time MCC Libero of the Year, Courtney Herschberger ’13. The senior trio of Pritchard, Brown and Bethany Beck compiled an impressive a 49-1 record in MCC regular season match play.

Men’s Soccer
Led by eighth-year coach Gary Ross ’95, the team rolled to 16-1-1 overall and 8-0-1 MCC records, reaching 18th in the NAIA coaches poll at season’s end. The Trojans clinched an outright MCC championship with a 4-0 win over Goshen on Oct. 22 and entered the tournament as the top seed.

Men’s Tennis
The men’s tennis team’s stellar season (11-3 overall and 7-1 MCC) came to a surprising end when they were knocked out of the MCC tournament by fifth-seeded Grace. Jon Wegener ’12 and Weston Young ’14 were all-conference selections.

Women’s Tennis
The women’s tennis team finished with 9-4 and 6-2 overall and conference marks for the 2011 season. Germania Bedon ’12 finished sixth at the USTA/ITA National Small College Championships in Mobile, Ala. It was Bedon’s third trip to the tournament.

Football
The Trojans finished the season with a 5-5 record, marking the third consecutive season during which they attained at least a .500 record. Their home opener, a night game played before a crowd of 3,650 at Jim Wheeler Memorial Stadium with Anderson, resulted in a 28-6 Taylor victory. The team started 2-0 and received votes in the Sept. 12 edition of the NAIA Coaches’ Top 25 Poll.

Women’s Cross Country
Four of Taylor’s top five runners were freshmen but it didn’t stop the Lady Trojans from posting a great year. Ranked 17th nationally, the team finished second at the Indiana Intercollegiate meet. Allison Steinbeck ’15 won the individual title at the Indiana Wesleyan invitational in a time of 18:41.

Women’s Soccer
Coach Scott Stan’s Trojans finished the season with an 8-6-4 record. Molly Drooger ’14 and Stephanie Kerstan ’14 earned All-MCC honors.

Men’s Cross Country
The team battled injuries during the 2011 season, which opened the door for four promising freshmen who led the team a second-place at the Indiana Wesleyan Invitational and in the upper division of all but one meet.
Freshman midfielder Devin Moore battles Goshen’s Jake Driver during Taylor’s two-overtime win in the opening round of the MCC Tournament.
My friend Guanhui is a publisher and successful businessperson. He is responsible for the first ever Chinese translation of Calvin’s *Institutes* and is a quiet man of incredible courage and determination. Today he sits in his flat in China, unable to leave by order of the Chinese police. He is blessed he says, able to spend considerable time with his baby daughter. That is Guanhui. Even under house arrest he refuses to admit he is persecuted for his faith.

Many suffer far worse he says. He does not count himself worthy to be named alongside them. Guanhui is an elder in a large Beijing church. Typical of many urban Chinese, his fellow church members are prosperous and well educated. Yet they have no place to worship. The Chinese authorities removed them from their rented building. When they met in public the authorities agreed to allow them to purchase a new church. But after the believers had paid handsomely for the property, the leaders are under house arrest and other senior members constantly monitored by secret police. Members have lost their jobs and been removed from their homes, but the public’s knowledge of the church prevents worse persecution. The church is suffering. I weep for them, knowing that even today they love and serve those who intimidate them and cause such pain.
How do you respond when you hear about persecuted Christians?

Do you despair that anything can be done?

In a world increasingly focused on justice and human rights, Christians are the great forgotten. Religious freedom is a universal human right, yet hundreds of millions of Christians worldwide face hostility and persecution explicitly because of their faith. State-sponsored persecution occurs in communist countries such as China, North Korea, and Vietnam; repressive Islamist states including Saudi Arabia, Iran and Sudan; and nationalist authoritarian states like Burma and Eritrea. In other countries, India being one, the state pursues policies of religious freedom but does not stop socially-driven persecution. Even Christians in liberal democracies are starting to see the signs of antagonism against their faith, a historical starting point for further hostility and persecution. Christians lose their jobs, are forced from their homes, imprisoned, raped and shot. In rare cases they are used for laboratory experiments. Yet the world is alarmingly silent. Nowhere else is this more true than in academia. That secular universities ignore the suffering of Christians is unfortunate. That the same is true of Christian universities is beyond lamentable. As a Christian university we should not be part of the silence, but should be pressing forward with an agenda for religious freedom, explicitly engaged with Christians in the belief that Christian freedom means freedom for all faiths.

This is why we are taking steps to position Taylor as a university leading in teaching and research on the persecuted church, which prepares future Christian leaders who will speak the truth in love to this great human rights injustice. We are scholars, but we are positioned to be a significant part of the solution for the persecuted church. As a department, we have created two new research programs dealing with Christian freedom across the world: an analysis of how Christians are responding to persecution, and a categorization of hostile acts against Christians in the United States.

The first is fed by our contacts within the Religious Liberty Partnership, missionaries and other sources in countries where Christians are persecuted. This research will not only highlight what is happening to Christians, but will help leaders of the persecuted church learn from each other and feed into best practice and early warning initiatives currently under development. This is, as one Taylor dean put, “research with its sleeves rolled up.” The second research project will produce the first comprehensive analysis of trends against Christians in the US – vital knowledge in the campaign for religious freedom.

In addition, we have developed a new course on Religious Freedom and Christian Persecution, in which students study religious freedom as a concept, analyze the conditions of Christians in ten countries and participate in a UK-based conference dealing with real-world issues, meeting leading international lawyers and church leaders defending Christians. Through the establishment of these innovative research projects, the publication of research findings, and raising up future students with a passion for the rights of Christians to express their faith, Taylor is following Jesus’ mandate to care for His brothers and sisters in need.

I would like to conclude by asking: How do you respond when you hear about persecuted Christians? Do you despair that anything can be done? Perhaps you are moved to action or at least to donate to one of the vital organizations that serve the persecuted church. Perhaps you thank God that you can live your faith in peace, free to attend church, worship and congregate without fear. I have certainly done all of the above. And yet the more I study the persecuted church the more I become aware that they do not deserve my pity, but rather my thanks – for their example shines a light on my faith. What the persecuted church offers us is an incredibly powerful reminder of the capability of faith. And it begs us to answer a question that is profoundly important: is our faith so active and powerful that it agitates against the systems of the world to the point that the world seeks to crush it? Take perhaps the most extreme case of persecution, North Korea. A North Korean Christian risks the lives of their children and parents through believing. Can we fathom the depth of faith that would see three generations killed for one person’s faith? When we look at our own faith, where are the trials? How do we respond to temptations and distractions? British preacher Campbell Morgan once said, “Persecution is the devil’s second-best tactic. His best tactic is materialism.” In the West, we have forgotten that a battle even exists and it is a battle that is increasingly moving into our land. This is the reason why I formed The Ephesus Initiative, a research organization committed to analyzing trends against Christians in Western countries. Hundreds of cases per month in the US alone reveal the growing animosity towards Christians yet beyond the odd newspaper article or television story, the vast majority of these cases go unnoticed. We stand against a growing tide with our eyes closed, our lack of knowledge preventing informed and focused responses to persecution.

I believe that Taylor is called to lead the way in showing that Christian rights, and the lives and faith of the persecuted, deserve our academic attention, our prayers and passion for justice. Let us do all of these, and at all times thank God for the astonishing faith that these men, women and children display.

Dr. Nicholas Kerton-Johnson is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Taylor University.
Home stretch: $1.9 million to go for Euler Science Complex

The Greg and Mary Fran Euler Science Complex construction project is on schedule. More than 60 workers are on the site daily; drywall and electrical work continues and furniture installation has begun. The projected occupancy date is next July.

Taylor officials report $1.9 million is all that remains to be raised for the building. They also expressed gratitude to God in that the site remains accident free.

To assist, contact: Dr. Ben R. Sells, vice president for University Advancement – ben.sells@taylor.edu.

New York City Trip for Women
September 13-16, 2012

Hosted by Marylou (Napolitano ’68) Habecker, Sherri Harter and Joyce Helyer

More information to come, but inquiries may be directed to Sherri Harter, Associate Vice President for Development at shharter@taylor.edu or 765.998.4956.

Inspire others. Remember.

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

In response to requests to recognize family members, friends, and mentors who have had a significant spiritual impact on their lives, there is a wall in the 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 and to see an example of how the names are presented on the wall, contact Matt Gin, Director of Scholarships, at 800-882-3456, ext. 5114, or mtgin@taylor.edu.

You can partner with Taylor at www.taylor.edu/giving
“In a nation where many foundational assumptions are coming unglued, we are very grateful that Taylor's purpose and ethos have remained true to Christian principles. In addition to contributing to Taylor now, we have included Taylor in our estate plans so students can receive an excellent Christian education while building Christ-like character, reflecting the redemptive love and truth of Jesus.” – David and Marcy (Minks) Mays ’64

The Bishop William Taylor Society honors those who have included Taylor University in their estate plans or have established one of several planned gifts that include: bequest, beneficiary designation of a retirement plan or life insurance policy, or establishing a charitable gift annuity or charitable trust that provide an income for the rest of your life.

The 365 society members have touched the lives of thousands of students and will preserve and strengthen Taylor University for God’s intended purposes – now and in the future.

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

In Him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

Ephesians 1:7
A DRINK FROM THE WELL

BY WHITNEY FRY ’03
“If you take away from your midst yokes of oppression wherever you find them, the finger pointed in scorn toward the oppressed or the godly, and every form of false, harsh, unjust, and wicked speaking, and if you pour out that with which you sustain your own life for the hungry and satisfy the need of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in darkness, and your obscurity and gloom become like the noonday. And the Lord shall guide you continually and satisfy you in drought and in dry places and make strong your bones. And you shall be like a watered garden and like a spring of water whose waters fail not.” Isaiah 58:9b-11 (AMP)

In 21st century America, we have come to believe that living in comfort produces unmatched happiness. But the Old Testament prophet Isaiah says living in sacrifice brings ultimate satisfaction, like a spring of water whose waters fail not. In my personal quest for Christ’s living water, and because of my desire that others could also taste it, I’ve experienced firsthand the beauty behind these words of truth.

Having spent time as a youth walking through crowded streets of Beijing, former Soviet hospitals in St. Petersburg, and back alleys in Calcutta, I increasingly came to realize that the world was in pain. But my tears alone could not change the plight of the Egyptian slum dwellers or the Palestinian refugees I sorrowfully left behind in the Middle East after studying abroad while at Taylor. Nor was I prepared for the devastation I would personally endure upon my return from tsunami-ravaged Sri Lanka in the summer of 2005, when Hurricane Katrina left me a homeless IDP (internally displaced person) in my own country.
Life as an international in Darfur is a simple existence, confined to a compound with razor wire and the inability to walk outside its walls, early curfews, short convoy drives to the office for work and homes of Sudanese staff for leisure, and occasional field trips to village clinics. I’m amazed at the overwhelming welcome of hospitality that was extended to us in lavish ways. Despite people’s circumstances, histories and tribe, there is always an open door into one’s dirt clad floor home. The poor selflessly give, the sorrowful rise to serve, and the hurting think of others. Isn’t this the Kingdom? And yet they speak not of Jesus. Surely He must be in this place, living among the broken and the afflicted. This marks my heart to pray.

The people of Darfur know how to laugh! Their resiliency is unlike anything I could have expected. I often struggle with sorrow, yet the people who have suffered the most are teaching me about joy!

Not all are called to the Middle Eastern desert, but that is where I was led: to love, serve, and intercede on behalf of society’s oppressed populations, in order to peacefully counter injustice, facilitate wellness, and restore hope.

Obviously, my personal suffering did not compare with what I had seen elsewhere, yet I simply sensed the Lord teaching me a new way to empathize with others in their suffering. At this point I found myself in the midst of a calling: don’t just feel, respond; don’t just talk, engage; don’t just sit there, go!

Not all are called to the Middle Eastern desert, but that is where I was led: to love, serve, and intercede on behalf of society’s oppressed populations, in order to peacefully counter injustice, facilitate wellness, and restore hope. I’ve found that Water flows freely in the desert of sacrifice, more freely than I ever experienced while living in comfort.

In June 2010, I began working with Medair in one of those places where most parents would never approve of sending their child: Darfur. Darfur, though, is like most other places: the outside is ugly and the inside is filled with beauty. The key to my calling is not to make the outside pretty, but to love the inside.

Life as an international in Darfur is a simple existence, confined to a compound with razor wire and the inability to walk outside its walls, early curfews, short convoy drives to the office for work and homes of Sudanese staff for leisure, and occasional field trips to village clinics. I’m amazed at the overwhelming welcome of hospitality that was extended to us in lavish ways. Despite people’s circumstances, histories and tribe, there is always an open door into one’s dirt clad floor home. The poor selflessly give, the sorrowful rise to serve, and the hurting think of others. Isn’t this the Kingdom? And yet they speak not of Jesus. Surely He must be in this place, living among the broken and the afflicted. This marks my heart to pray.

The people of Darfur know how to laugh! Their resiliency is unlike anything I could have expected. I often struggle with sorrow, yet the people who have suffered the most are teaching me about joy!

I smile inside when I think of Taylor, reliving the richness that filled my mind, soul and body while there. It was a time of intellectual challenge as a student of biology, spiritual stretching in coming to own my faith after trial and doubt, and personal fulfillment through intentional community — the Body of Christ. Taylor offered an environment that fostered growth and encouraged depth. I was tasked with a search, not given answers. At Taylor it was possible to think outside the box and to dream the unimaginable, and if I spent my days dreaming about God restoring hope in places of despair, that was not unreasonable. Contrarily, it was the norm.

It was because of Dr. Jan (Wallace ’89) Reber, my academic advisor, that I heard of public health in the first place. At that time, it seemed a mysterious, yet intriguing master’s program that I felt compelled to pursue post graduation. I appreciate the encouragement and high academic standards that prepared me for my next steps.

If public health is functioning properly, and individuals are responding to its messages, initiatives and systems, then the overall need for health care reduces. Public health, at its core, is prevention. Rather than focusing on health response, public health looks at root issues that allow a community to thrive in health.

If a community, or subset of a community, has poor health habits, its need for health response is
great. In West Darfur, Sudan, immunization rates are far below the ideal. Consequently, we find ourselves responding to community outbreaks of disease – such as whooping cough, polio and measles. The public health response to this community problem, then, is to focus on increasing immunization rates among children under one year. If children are immunized, their chances of acquiring communicable diseases are prevented.

Internationally, public health can be seen in various institutions addressing the needs of the most vulnerable worldwide. One may choose to work in an emergency or a development context, either with an NGO or a government agency. Public health in emergencies primarily looks at short-term, big-impact responses that reduce morbidity and mortality. There are literally thousands of NGOs worldwide that respond to public health needs, and they are hungry for qualified and experienced public health professionals.

I am excited that Taylor recognizes the value in this profession. Additionally – and probably with more fervor – I am excited because I recognize the need for followers of Jesus working this field. Service professions are indeed filled with highly motivated people who long to promote “good” in the world. They work hard and, generally speaking, truly care for the betterment of people and societies. With that said, however, no motivation is greater than the call of Jesus to serve the poor, to love our enemy, and to pick up our cross.

The world cannot be saved by public health efforts, or by good-meaning people. The world does not need another person filling a role who wishes to feel good about himself/herself for all that he/she has accomplished for the sake of others. And public health in itself is not the career choice that will perfect our health systems. We recognize Jesus as the answer to our world’s ills, which is why this field needs the perspective of Christ to permeate its initiatives. Public health is a clear way for followers of Jesus Christ to step out of the world’s systems and into Kingdom systems, should one choose to approach it as such. I’m eager to work alongside Taylor’s new graduates in this field and to serve together the least of these in our neighborhoods and abroad.

We recognize Jesus as the answer to our world’s ills, which is why this field needs the perspective of Christ to permeate its initiatives.

Whitney Fry ’03 is a public health professional who served a year in Darfur before returning to the United States.
Cassandra (Edgecombe ’88) and Dave Smith ’92 had never experienced snow prior to coming to Upland and Taylor University in 1984. The thought they knew what wind was until they made the sojourn from English Hall to the Reade Center. And if they had any doubts about the reception awaiting them in Central Indiana, they were dispelled over and over. Today they are dedicated Taylor advocates – having introduced more than 40 students to the Taylor community. And they hope even more Bahamians will be able to experience a Taylor education.

The Smiths are recipients of Taylor’s 2011 Distinguished Alumni for Professional Service Award. They were honored during Homecoming activities in October and during that time shared their personal stories about Taylor, life and calling.
It was very, very cold in the winter of 1984-85. It was blowing like crazy.
What was your first winter like at Taylor?

**Cassandra:** Awful. It was very, very cold in the winter of 1984-85. It was blowing like crazy; we came from English and waited at Wengatz for football players to come out. We would link arms with them and they helped us get across campus.

I always wanted to come where it was different. I wanted a different experience. I didn’t know what that was. The girls on my wing would drag me out of my room and we would make snow angels on the ground. I would stick my tongue out and let it fall on my tongue. It was just a new experience for me and I embraced it as part of the adventure.

**Dave:** Winter was everything they promised and more. I enjoy the winter because it is a change of pace from the normal. I had never actually seen snow before. I did some of the same silly things that Cassandra did. I think you have to let yourself be silly at some point.

Was Upland a welcoming place?

**Dave:** I would say yes. The whole Taylor community maybe spills over a little bit. In terms of going to the supermarket, it was always welcoming. One winter we rang the bell for the Salvation Army in front of the supermarket here. People were generally welcoming and I think a lot of it has to do with the perspective you bring. If you come with an open mind and you are self-confident in terms of who you are and what you bring to the table, I don’t think anyone would have a difficulty in the Taylor community.

**Cassandra:** Because of my major I had an opportunity to do my student teaching with Jackie Hubbard at the Upland Elementary School. It was so interesting because they had open house three weeks or six weeks after the school started and one of the parents came to me and said, “You’re Miss Edgecombe?” and I said, “Yes, ma’am.” And she said, “Really? My daughter never said you were black.” And I said, “Really? I guess it doesn’t really matter.” And she said, “I guess it doesn’t.”

That was a kind of refreshing thing for me that the children in the class didn’t care. They went home and said, “We have this lady from the Bahamas,” and the mom knew that but she didn’t know I was black. That did not matter to them. I found when I went to the grocery store or when I went to the bank or even to the restaurants, I never felt inferior or any reason to question anything. I just took it for what it was. If the person smiled at me, I smiled back. If they said, “Hello,” I said, “Hello,” and that was it. I never felt put off.

How did the TU community embrace you?

**Cassandra:** I found the girls on my floor just wanted to know about the Bahamas. They didn’t have a whole lot of knowledge about anything really outside of Indiana and in some cases outside of the United States, even to understand the concept of flying. Some would say, “You flew here? On a plane?” because in the states you drive everywhere and so they didn’t know that but they were welcome to learn about it. They learned about the Pirates and the Buccaneers in the Bahamas. Anything I wanted share they sat and they listened to. We talked about the music. We shared food, all the pictures of my family in our home. I found that many of them would welcome me into their homes, so Thanksgiving Break or any break we had, I went with somebody somewhere. Their parents welcomed me. I brought packages for their children and they gave me a package too.

**Dave:** I would say yes. The whole Taylor community would embrace you.

Where do you see the relationship with Taylor and the Bahamas going in the future?

**Cassandra:** I can only think it’s going to get better; stronger. It is exciting to look at something as simple as Airband and being able to speak to the Bahamians after their performance and see their enthusiasm and excitement. I can only see God continuing what we had in 1988 and making it stronger because we have a bigger group of students now who are graduating and are going back to tell their family members, their friends and in their high schools. I can only see that snowballing and getting bigger and bigger. I would like to see more Bahamians here.

**What has led to your helping so many Bahamian students come to Taylor?**

**Dave:** I believe word of mouth is the best way to communicate anything. The Taylor experience provided the opportunity to encourage others to have that similar experience. The openness of the Taylor community, the fun that you had here, the quality of education are all factors, because education for someone coming from outside the United States is very expensive and you want to make sure you’re getting value for your money. Taylor had a very strong education program and a very strong business program as well as a very strong pre-med program. So it was easy to talk about not only the academic opportunities, but also the experience that you had and the integrating of faith and learning. And so talking to students, we would go a little bit beyond the students because the real decision maker is the parent so once you have a parent looped in and they can see the excitement and that it’s a real, tangible experience, not just someone selling you product. Once you see people who have attended and graduated, then you see how Taylor’s impact in their lives is continuing to share that.

I think Taylor has got it right in that the focus is on purpose. I think that once the purpose is right and properly aligned – the purpose of being servant leaders in whatever vocation you find yourself as opposed to just a product where we are educating you to be successful – you’re going to have an impact on the world where success is measured by wealth and what you have.
HEALING FOR RAMA
A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more. Matthew 2:18

One never recovers from the loss of a child. Logic might dictate that while the parents are the first to die, from time to time the child will die first. But logic alone cannot fill the void or remove the ache. The birthdays that might have been are among the hardest times for Sydna (Hawthorne ’82) Masse.

Sydna was 11 when her life spun out of control. As a child growing up in a small Michigan town, she lived the idyllic life of a pastor’s daughter. Respected and admired, her father was a pillar of his church and community – until the day he left Sydna and her mother for another woman. In a single stroke, Sydna’s underpinnings of church, friends and family were swept away.

She arrived at Taylor seven years later. Outwardly, Sydna was a typical college freshman. But her inner being was a jumbled mess. Beyond the betrayal she felt from her father, she felt her small hometown had turned on her family. Now, right or wrong, she began to perceive a similar sense of condemnation from some of the people she encountered at Taylor.

“God has taken me back and allowed me to realize why I made some of these choices,” she reflects. “I was the preacher’s kid; I was used to everyone liking me. When I stopped being the preacher’s kid, some of the people said some pretty horrific things to me. The body of Christ was very wounding. When I went to Taylor I was wounded.”

It had been 14 years since Sydna had last seen the Taylor University campus. She nervously parked her car and walked toward the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium. She whispered a short prayer to God for strength and wisdom, even as the sad, painful memories came flooding back. Had Taylor changed since she was last here? Had she? Why did she even come back?
I was the type of girl you would never think of as wild.
I thought I had done the worst thing I could do.
I let them take the life of my unborn baby.
She would have had the baby and married him if he had just asked her. But he didn’t. Sydna’s head was swirling as she descended the clinic steps. For the past three days she sensed the Holy Spirit’s pleadings. It was a boy. But that was all behind her now. Up to that day, abortion was something that happened to other people. This was a new low — even worse than the night she swallowed all those aspirin in a half-hearted suicide attempt. “How could I?” she wondered. “How could it have come to this?” When he saw her, her boyfriend rushed to her and hugged her. But she didn’t feel loved. She certainly didn’t feel secure. If anything, she felt the deepest sense of betrayal.

Sydna admits today that her two years at Taylor were the toughest she had ever encountered. In fairness, the traumas she was experiencing were increasingly self-inflicted. She began to drink and experiment with marijuana. “I think the starkest reality was I refused to go to chapel after that. I was a completely different person. I was like, ‘Throw me out. Come on,’” Sydna remembers. “I used to sit in English Hall, relishing the fact that I was breaking the rules. Those were literally the wildest days of my life — after I got the abortion.”

“My sin was always before me. God was trying to call me back and I wouldn’t go,” Sydna confesses. “I was the type of girl you would never think of as wild. I thought I had done the worst thing I could do. I let them take the life of my unborn baby.”

Sydna mounted the chapel steps. As she looked over the crowd of Taylor students, she couldn’t help but wonder if any of them were post-abortive — like she was. She would not have returned at all if it had not been for Dr. Dobson’s insistence. She had dreaded this moment. But as she looked through the glare of the stage lights into the crowd, something was clearly different. The students seemed happy and embracing.

Sydna’s life was transformed. The professors she remembered from her time at Taylor were all glad to see her. She began to tell her story to the hundreds gathered in the auditorium that day. It was so liberating, so healing to be able to tell the truth.

A year later Sydna transferred to Michigan State, thinking there, she could live the life she wanted without fear of being discovered or ostracized. Her life began to level off. She graduated with a degree in communications and a week later she met and eventually married a wonderful, godly man named Tom. He loved her for who she really was and introduced her to, what Sydna calls, “The Real Jesus.” For the first time in many, many years, Sydna was experiencing healing.

But with the healing came more pain. She and Tom would have three boys together. But along with the excitement and joy of having children came a more profound realization of what she had lost. “I needed to grieve that loss,” Sydna explains. “That was one thing I didn’t even know existed. It was even worse when our own kids were born because I really knew what I lost.”

The irony was not lost on Sydna the day she began work at Focus on the Family’s headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo. “God must have a sense of humor,” she thought to herself, being certain she would never have been hired had her Focus colleagues known she was post-abortive.

And yet the judgmental scorn she expected didn’t materialize. Seated in a darkened theater as an introductory video with Focus’ founder James Dobson began to play, her defenses were in place. But as the famed pro-life advocate spoke, he told the gathering that he believed there were people sitting in that room who had gone through the trauma of abortion. He said he was not their judge. It was as if he himself understood her pain and the depth of loss Sydna had felt all of those years. He offered empathy saying, “There is no sin that God cannot forgive. The problem may be you don’t forgive yourself and you need help in coming to that point.” For Sydna, that was when the tears came.

In the coming months Dobson became her mentor. He encouraged her to use her experience to help other women who were considering terminating their pregnancies. Out of that friendship and encouragement, Sydna founded Ramah International, an outreach to post-abortive women that offers hope and healing. But Dr. Dobson was not finished. He also got on the phone to his old friend Jay Kesler ’58 to encourage him to have Sydna back for a chapel presentation at Taylor.

Sydna often looks back on that day she returned to the Taylor chapel as a milestone of her healing. Her work continues with appearances on television and radio programs, writing opportunities and from time to time the opportunity to sit down with a young girl who, like her all those years before, found herself in the untenable position of being pregnant and not knowing where to turn.

“God had a real plan for my life. I learned things the hard way,” Sydna reflects. “That is the magnificence of God. He just puts you where he wants to. He wanted me to go to Taylor. I didn’t want to go. I couldn’t imagine Taylor welcoming me. When they did it was a really strong part of my healing. That was one of my building blocks — to go back to tell these students, this is what can happen to you. If you keep down this sexual trail, this is where you can wind up.

“He used Taylor in my life many, many times,” she adds. “What God did in my life through it is magnificent. Whether it is a pleasant topic or not, He is still using it to bring people to Him.”
Dr. Robert Schenck (left) and his friend Norbert Errol drove 10,000 miles over the Silk Road through Central Asia to deliver an ambulance to a hospital in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
Sandstorms, robbers, engine problems, roads with no pavement and towns that you might be able to drive through but where you should never stop. It sounds like the setting for an adventure movie. And it was an adventure. But the explorers were not young, chiseled daredevils. They were the oldest travelers to ever attempt the journey.

His nameplate reads Dr. Robert R. Schenck, M.D., but everyone calls him Bob. Schenck, a 1951 graduate of Taylor University, may have traveled the farthest of any of his reunion classmates to get to this year’s Homecoming if you add the 10,000 miles he drove from London, England, to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, last summer.

With more than 20,000 procedures, Schenck enjoyed a long career as a hand surgeon and professor at the Rush University Medical Center. Since his retirement in 2008, he and his wife Marcia have volunteered in third-world nations including Armenia, Cameroon, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Mongolia and Uganda where he mentored future hand surgeons and she taught English.

But this mission did not call for his intellect or surgical skills. It called for his perseverance. Schenck, along with a retired Chicago-area businessman, Norbert Ertel, purchased a used ambulance in London and drove it all the way to Ulaanbaatar, where it was donated to a hospital he and Marcia had visited just a year ago.

Known as the Windy City team, Bob, at the age of 79, and Norbert, who was 65, were the oldest to have ever accomplished the challenge. “I was told by this friend that Norbert could repair the Hubble space telescope with a can opener. He was that talented in repairs. I only met him three times before we left, but we had many talks on the trip, and now know each other better than anyone else on earth — except our wives.”
Those who remember him from his Taylor days would readily admit his avid conversational skills were developed in the 60-plus years since he graduated. Schenck’s perceived calling originally was not hand surgery. He wanted to be a pastor. But there was one big problem: he was excruciatingly shy. “I thought it would be funny if on Sunday mornings the only noise you heard coming out of the pulpit was my knees knocking together,” he now reflects.

Seeing his dilemma, a roommate asked him to think about what his skills and gifts were. It was his natural understanding of science that propelled Bob through the remainder of his college career and on to medical college. But those communication skills, all in English, were little use to him during the journey and the whole enterprise nearly crumbled because of that barrier.

“The most difficult thing was getting through customs in Azerbaijan – they knew one word in English, and that was, ‘Problem,’” Bob relates. “I said, ‘I don’t have a problem.’ But it just so happened that, being an English vehicle, the ambulance had the steering wheel on the right side instead of the left side. They said the Ministry of Transportation said, ‘This is illegal to drive in my country,’ and I thought our trip was over. They said, ‘You must put it on a salvage vehicle,’ and I said, ‘What is that?’ They just said, ‘Salvage vehicle.’”

The misunderstanding was eventually cleared up, but only after six frustrating hours of attempts to communicate. Bob and Norbert were able to drive for three days in Azerbaijan before the government would levy a $2,000 fine, which they avoided by parking the ambulance to wait for a ferry to take them across the Caspian Sea to Turkmenistan.

The sights they saw and the people they met while driving the route known through the ages as the Silk Road left as much an impression as the length of the trip. And how many places in the United States does one encounter a warning sign for camel crossing? It was as they neared the small town of Ayouz the locals warned the two not to get out of their ambulance. “Why?” Bob asked. “Would they rob us?” “No,” they answered. “They (will) kill you.”

In one of the cities the two parked their ambulance in the city square, only to be chased away by Russian security forces. Russian President Vladimir Putin was in town for high-level meetings and the two were parked uncomfortably close to the building the Russian dignitary was visiting. As they drove the famed Trans Siberian Highway, the adventurers found lots of potholes and mud – so much in fact that they were slowed to 35 mph. But as the two became more comfortable with the trip and their surroundings, they found new ways to communicate with the people they met.

In fact, Bob says there were many people along the way who befriended and helped him. There was the Azeri family that took them into their home after the border misunderstanding because it was too late for them to continue. And it seemed in just about each city and town the locals were more than willing to point the travelers in the right direction.

“I was asked why I did it. I said, ‘One, it was a challenge.’ I wanted to see if I could still do it. Secondly, it was for a good cause. There was no evangelism on the way and no practice of medicine on the way. It was a working ambulance – the idea was not to do medical care but to deliver the ambulance.”

“It started at Taylor during my third and fourth years,” Bob remembers. “There was an opportunity for youth teams to go to Europe for Youth For Christ. I organized it; I got Dave Le Shana ’53 to go with me. I was 18 he was 17. We went to Belgium and Sweden – that changed my life.”
When it was dedicated 25 years ago, the Rice Bell Tower dwarfed the nearby saplings. Today they have grown to frame and add character to the symbol of faith and learning.
1934
Rev. Marvin Schilling celebrated his 100th birthday on Sept. 8, 2011. After graduating from Taylor he earned a degree from New York Biblical Seminary in 1937 and spent the next three years teaching at Pyengyang Foreign School in Korea. Upon returning to the U.S., he served as a United Methodist pastor in the Wisconsin conference from 1940 until he retired in 1978. He had a rich and meaningful ministry as a local pastor and served as a district superintendent several times. Marvin was also on the conference staff where he was responsible for key areas including evangelism, stewardship, worship and Christian social concerns. Marvin continues to be active in the Trinity United Methodist Church in Beaver Dam, Wis., where a major celebration of his life and ministry was held.

1945
01 Reverend Warren R. Tropf died Aug. 2011, following a brief illness.

1949

1950
02 Timothy Warner and Eileen Lageer ’49 were married on July 16, 2011. They reside in Fort Wayne, Ind.

1952
Ruth (Zimmerman) Bowers died on April 21, 2011. Ruth taught school in Ohio for over 30 years and was very active in her local church, singing in the senior choir and serving as treasurer and president of the Trinity United Methodist women in Gibsonburg, Ohio. She also served in the Sandusky County Salvation Army Service Unit and the local food pantry. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, William, three children, ten grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

1954
Junior (Oral) Ross died July 30, 2011. Junior retired in 1980 from education after having been a teacher for many years, then a principal in Butler, Ohio, and Eaton, Ind. Coaching basketball was a great joy for Junior. He also owned and operated Quick Clean Laundry in Portland, Ind.

1961
Thomas Webb passed away on July 24, 2011, in Lansing, Mich. He taught high school for 35 years and also coached football and baseball at the high school level. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force. Survivors include his loving wife of 51 years, Marilyn (Zimmerman), and children Susan (Webb ’90) Moe, Paul x’88, David ’85 and four others. Marilyn lives in DeWitt, Mich.

1964
03 Carol Sue (Haught) Headland and her husband Paul are recipients of the 2011Spirit of Salem Award, presented by the Salem (Ore.) High School Athletic Hall of Fame. This award was established in 2009 to
recognize residents whose hard work and efforts have positively impacted area youth. The Headlands have served their community through Heritage Church, which they started in 1968. It has been a source of inspiration, a place to learn about religion, a home for kids who needed it, and, most importantly, it has been a way for the Headlands to give back to the community.

Dr. Thomas Housley recently retired from Purdue University (Ind.) where he was a professor in the agronomy department for 35 years. Dr. Housley is renowned for his research in partitioning of carbon into and out of fructans, a polymer or fructose stored by many cool season grasses. He plans to travel and enjoy his grandchildren.

1965

Carolyn Lee (Saxton) Peerman has been a photojournalist for The Lynchburg Ledger, a community service newspaper, for the past ten years. Her classmates may recall that she wrote columns for the ECHO. She says working in the media has

Since 2006, the class of 1964 leadership team has raised $1.15 million of their 50th reunion goal of $4.2 million. The gift will be presented at Homecoming 2014 and will be split between the Legacy ’64 Commons (left) in the Euler Science Complex and the Legacy ’64 Endowed Student Scholarship.

For more information, contact Michael Falder, AVP for Major and Planned Gifts at mcfalder@taylor.edu or (765) 998-5538 or class coordinator, Ron Scott, at RonBevScott@aol.com.
This fall 120 new students arrived in Upland to continue a Taylor family legacy. Below are just some of the families that represent generations of Taylor alumni.
been fascinating and allowed her to photograph governors, senators, representatives, city council members and the mayor. Carollyn credits her husband Jack as a source of great help and joy. (She is pictured with Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell.)

1966  
**Nelson Rediger** (left) was joined by three Taylor friends for a round of golf on Father’s Day in Nebraska City, Neb. They were: **Glenn McCroskery ’68, Gary Harmon ’68** and **Dick Petersen ’68**.

1967  
**Ben** and **Linda Lester** have moved to 1575 Hess Lake Dr., Grant, MI 49327. Ben has retired from the West Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church.

1969  
**Lowell Barnes** sadly reports the death of his wife Marjorie on Aug. 20, 2011, after 40 years of marriage. Her death was sudden and unexpected. She had been a school teacher for five years, a hospital administrator for 15 years and a realtor for the past 25 years. They were looking forward to retirement in Florida. Lowell’s e-mail is LowellB677@aol.com.

1970  
**Robert Keller** passed away on April 21, 2011. He had been a resident of Florida since 1970 where he worked for over 35 years at various automotive stores in the Tampa Bay area. Rob sang in the choir and served in leadership positions at the First United Methodist Church of Seffner (Fla.). Ellen, his wife of 30 years, survives.

1976  
**Fr. David (Brad) Moser** and his wife **Rebekah (Kathy Pfniester ’77)** celebrated the 20th anniversary of the founding of St. Seraphim Russian Orthodox Church in Boise, Idaho, and the 30th anniversary of his ordination from the diaconate. Fr. David is the founding rector of the parish.

1978  
**Bonnie (Weimer) Bennett** of Albion, Ind., passed away May 6, 2011. She had many interests and passions including gardening, art, photography, baking, antiquing, sewing, traveling and animals. Many will remember Bonnie for her ministry with the Crisis Pregnancy Center, dedication to the church, childcare at the Kendallville YMCA, a year helping disadvantaged children in Kentucky, and her work at the Sweet Church. Bonnie is survived by her husband of 31 years, **George**, and their three children. George can be reached at gdbbjb@ligtel.com.

1984  
**Sydna (Hawthorne) Masse’s** book, *Her Choice to Heal: Finding Spiritual and Emotional Peace After Abortion*, was published by David C. Cook publishing. Synda is president of Ramah International, a national organization that offers hope and healing to women wounded by abortion. (See story on page 28)

1985  
**David S. Moore**, owner of ServiceMaster Commercial Cleaning Services, has been awarded the Marion E. Wade Master Award, the highest honor given by ServiceMaster. David also serves as a Sunday school teacher, soccer coach, and is active on various boards.

1986  
**Steven Loft** is the new pastor at the Brazil First United Methodist Church (Ind.). Steve has an M.Div. from Anderson University (Ind.) and has served four other congregations in Indiana.

1988  
**Marty Bailey** has a new position at Do It Best Corp., and will lead the co-op’s new strategic initiative to create a world class commerce center, a single best-in-class online merchandise and sales catalog for members and customers. He will also be responsible for strategic oversight of doitbest.com.
1989


1990

Jackie (McClure) Crist is an associate at David P. Gilliam & Assoc. Jackie holds FINRA Series 6 and 63 securities registrations through LPL Financial, and previously spent 19 years working for Northwestern Mutual as an associate representative. Jackie assists in the day-to-day operations, including account maintenance and order entry, brokerage and advisory account review and managing marketing efforts. She and husband Richard ’90 live in Muncie, Ind., with their two daughters.

1991

02 Jack and Elisabeth (VarnHagen ’92) Lugar live in Fishers, Ind., where Jack is an attorney for The Foster Group and principal broker for Lugar Real Estate, LLC, a company he and Elisabeth co-own. Recently, Jack announced his bid to run for the U.S. House of Representatives in Indiana’s 5th congressional district (www.lugarforcongress.com). His first book, *The Starving Artist’s Diet*, was published January, 2011. Elisabeth is a realtor and marketing strategist and recently had the honor of planning the inaugural Back-to-School Bash for the non-profit Henry’s Hope. They are actively involved in the community and are blessed with three children, Cali, 12, Ethan, 9, and Conrad, 3.

1992

03 Kenyon and Ginger Knapp reside in Dacula, Ga., where Kenyon works for Mercer University and Ginger is a teacher at Dominion Classical Christian Academy. They have three sons and one daughter and thank God for the many blessings in their lives.

1993

Chris Theule-VanDam is a Regional Director for Young Life. He lives in Allendale, Mich. He can be reached via email at: theule1@gmail.com.

1994

04 Cynthia Bennett married Martin Brown on March 30, 2010. Cynthia earned an M.C.S. from Regent College in 2004 and a Ph.D. from Queen’s University in Belfast in 2009. Cynthia is a lecturer in systematic theology at Belfast Bible College in Northern Ireland.

1995

Erik Hotmire is a director for the Brunswick Group, an international corporate communications partnership. He advises clients on
Longtime Taylor friend
Dr. J. Robert “Bob” Coughenour ’50
died on August 11, 2011
at the age of 83.

Before retiring in 2006 to St. Petersburg, Fla., he was team
physician for Taylor’s football team and was a family doctor
and emergency room physician in the Indianapolis area for
more than 50 years.

Bob is survived by his wife Beulah (Meier ’52) (to whom he
was married for 60 years), four sons, a daughter, two sisters
and seven granddaughters. Sons James ’76 and John ’85
attended Taylor as did daughter Colleen ’80.

financial sector, corporate reputation, litigation and media matters. Erik
lives in Falls Church, Va., with his wife Erica and their four children.

1999

In July 2011, Third Center English
wingmates and their families held a
mini reunion in Bristol, Ind. Pictured
are: 03 Kellie (O’Connell) Alvarez,
Christie (Almond) Negley, Sara
(Henley) Baarendse, Lori (Nye ’00)
Cramer and Leslie (Clarke) Royer.

2001

06 Justin and Chris (Skorburg) Michels welcomed home their son
Crew Abenezer-Kirkos from Ethiopia in March, 2011. Crew was nine
months old and was also greeted by brother Parker, 6, and sister Hayley, 3.

2002

07 Tab and Kristin Bamford
welcome son Bobby who was born
Formerly a business officer with a
major national bank, Tab is now a
full-time author and popular sports
glider. He writes for a number
of websites and is also a columnist
and featured writer for The Fourth
Period Magazine, the top hockey-
lifestyle magazine in North America.
He has frequently been featured on
WGN Radio and Comcast SportsNet
television as a special guest and
expert panelist. His first book, 100
Things Blackhawks Fans Should Know
or Do Before They Die, was published
in November, 2011. • 08 Nate and
Jessica Becker proudly announce
the birth of Luke Robert on May 27,
2011. Big brothers are Elijah, 3, and
Malachi, 2. The Beckers are teachers
and missionaries with Wycliffe
Bible Translators in southern
Philippines. Read about them at
www.jessicanatebecker.blogspot.
com. • Elizabeth Davies lives in
Batam, Indonesia, working with
school groups on leadership training
and team building development.
She also serves as a translator to
surrounding islands. Elizabeth can
alumni notes

be reached at eldavies24@gmail.com.

• 01 Ben and Heather (Howard TUFW ’02) Merrill joyfully announce the birth of Margaret (Greta) Jean on April 8, 2011. Siblings are Grace, 4, and William, 2. Ben earned an M.Div. from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Ill.) and is administrative manager at The Greenhouse. • Nick Runyon is outreach director for Global Media Outreach, an organization dedicated to reaching people for Christ through communications technology. Currently about 7,000 online missionaries are involved in this ministry. • 02 Amanda Schaffer and Jesse Wilson were married June 11, 2011, in Fort Wayne, Ind. Taylor attendants included Rebecca (McDougall ’98) Schaffer, Amy (Simon ’01) Hanna, Lynn (Sievert) Courter, Mel (Domsten) Barrett, Kendra Cunningham, Kenny Miller ’04, Chad Schaffer ’94 and Brian Schaffer ’97. Father and mother of the bride were Don ’68 and Jean (Gates ’66) Schaffer. Amanda is the director of parent and family programs at Taylor. Jesse is an attorney for CNO Financial. They live in Fishers, Ind. • 03 Friends of Amanda (Schaffer) Wilson enjoyed an evening together at her wedding. Front to Back/Left to Right: Amy (Simon ’01) Hanna, Adria Lambert ’03, Amanda (Schaffer) Wilson, Mel (Domsten) Barrett (holding son Sam), Tonya (Nuzahov) Corrente, Mary (Bolhuis) Peterson, Mindy (Rupp) Bland, Emily (Andrews) Coon, Kimberley (Barve ’03) Best, Sara (Secttor) James, Rebecca (Rumsey) Nolley, Annemarie (Postma) Rillama, Michelle (Catt) Pegg, Bethany Hodge ’01, Lynn (Sievert) Courter and Kendra Cunningham.

2003

• 04 Don & Amy (Young ’03) Savona, along with daughter Emma, 16 months, welcomed Addison Claire into their family on Feb. 8, 2011. They live in Allen Park, Mich.

2004

• 05 Emily (McPeak) Brooks and Emily (Caine) Carabello, along with their husbands, went to Nicaragua for ten days in June, 2011 to use their art skills at the Jardin del ninos (Garden of Children) orphanage. All 25 children
Heritage Weekend 2012
APRIL 27-28, 2012

Celebrating Taylor University’s
HERITAGE OF MISSIONS

have been rescued out of living in a nearby dump picking through for food. They taught art classes and painted a mural on the orphanage bus with the children. • Becky George married Kemper Beasley III on June 18, 2011, at Duke Chapel in Durham, N.C. Taylor participants in the wedding were Lauren (Walton ’06) George, Abigail (Johnson) Fennig, Megan (Herrmann) Kraftson, Kristel Bailin and Marisa Gratson. The couple resides in Buckingham, Va., where Kemper attends law school and Becky teaches 4th grade. They can be reached at becky.g.beasley@gmail.com. • Carrie Rohr married Kyle Strong July 8, 2011. They live in Kalamazoo, Mich., and hope to serve on the mission field in France in the future.

2005
Alyssa Mueller married Caleb Elliott on March 19, 2010. Alyssa is a group facilitator at an adolescent treatment center. The couple lives in Portland, Ore. Alyssa can be reached at alyssarachelle@gmail.com. • Justin and Jen (Ostendorf ’06) Noelle are the proud parents of Maxwell Alexander (Max) born Feb. 22, 2011. Proud uncle is David Ostendorf ’12. Justin is an IT consultant at Sogeti, and Jen is taking a year off from teaching 6th grade to be home with Max.

2006
Rose Carkett and Scott Thornbury were married July 3, 2011, in Seattle, Wash. TU friends who celebrated with them were Paula (Hartzler ’96) Mustin and Sarah (Poelstra ’07) Wilson. The couple now resides in Manhattan, Kan., where Cpt. Thornbury is a U.S. Army Company Commander at Ft. Riley. • Nate and Katie (Wofford)
OF THIS YEAR’S FRESHMAN CLASS is now attending the alma mater of at least one of their parents or siblings. This group photo, taken in front of the Memorial Prayer Chapel, includes freshman students and their parents, who previously attended Taylor.

See additional photos on page 40.
Miley are the proud parents of Mary-Genieve born Nov. 30, 2010. They live in Noblesville, Ind. Joe and Rachael (Cusack '07) Ringenberg joyfully welcomed Lux Amelia into the world on July 10, 2011. They live in downtown Boston where Joe works as a designer for Wistia.com.

2007

Meghan Hand and Christopher Brock were married on June 25, 2011, in Alexandria, Ind. TU participants were Victoria Flood ’03, Sarah Danylak ’05, Rachael (McIntire x’05) Lanning and Ruth Della-Croce ’06. The Brocks live in Lafayette, Ind., where Chris pursues a master’s in aerospace management. • Inspired by their involvement with Wandering Wheels cycling ministry, Jesse x’07 and Kelly (Hibschman x’08) Hibbs founded Saddle Lights, a cycling ministry for college students that focuses on intense discipleship and spiritual growth on coast-to-coast tours across America in the tradition of Wandering Wheels. Their mission is to establish the tours on God’s Word and to develop cyclists; their vision is to then see these students living exemplary lives as followers of Christ. They have partnered with Precept Ministries to provide tour curriculum. The couple lives in Flagstaff, Ariz. Kyle Lantz married Kelsey Travis on Dec. 30, 2010 in Colorado Springs, Colo. Taylor alumni participating in the wedding included: Pastor Alan Briggs (’05), Ben Taylor (’07), Eric Gingerich (’10), Ben Knisely (’07), Drew Hamer (’07), Philip Byers (’08), Dave Downey (’08), Scott Barrett (’07), Jonathan Chacko (’07), Kalyn Lantz (’11), and Ryan Anderson (’10). Kyle and Kelsey live in Spokane, Wash., where Kyle is a Resident Director at Whitworth University.

2009

Joshua Greenman is in the Peace Corps serving in Guatemala for the next 24 months. He is focusing on providing food security within rural Mayan communities. His website is joshgreenman.com. Andrew Marston recently finished an end-to-end tour of Japan by bicycle. He and two other team members spent 43 days cycling over 3,500 kilometers to raise $13,000 for tsunami relief aid for Japan. Andrew blogged with photos, commentary and video while on the trip at www.unframedworld.com/japan-by-bicycle.
One of the aspects of the Bible that makes it so trustworthy is that it shows its central figures in their humanity—warts and all. Moses, the deliverer of the Israelites from the Egyptians, initially did not want to go to Pharaoh and in fact asked God to send someone else. The Apostle Peter was impulsive, prone to outbursts and denied knowing Jesus. And King David, a man described by God as being after His own heart, sinned with Bathsheba and then orchestrated the murder of her husband, a most loyal soldier.

And yet, God was not content to merely leave these people in their sin. Moses ultimately did confront Pharaoh and was instrumental in displaying God’s wonders as God delivered Israel. Peter was restored by Jesus after His resurrection and became a bold proclaimer of the gospel message. And considering King David, I’ve drawn both comfort and challenge from the end of Psalm 78 when the writer, through the impulse of God’s Holy Spirit, describes the reign of King David in this way: “And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them.”

Like each of us, their triumphs were punctuated by failure. But those failures were never permanent. God, who is rich in mercy and love toward all He has made, redeemed them for purposes that would outlive each of them.

David understood both the price and purpose of his redemption as he cried out in Psalm 51, “Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.”

Taylor University is the story of God’s work in the lives of imperfect people—people whom He called to the Indiana heartland to learn and serve. And God loved each and every one of them. In fact, He continues to do so. Bill Ringenberg, in his excellent book Taylor University – the First 150 Years, tells their stories—stories about how God worked in their lives to strengthen Taylor’s ability to respond to His calling.

Taylor University is a place where we, in our brokenness, can be engaged in and be prepared for restorative and redemptive work: the ministry of sharing Christ’s redeeming love and truth of Christ to a world in need. It is moving as I read the stories of some of our alumni, faculty, staff and students who might have been “works in progress” while they were here, but who later went on to fulfill God’s call in miraculous ways through repentance, obedience, trust and a joyful reliance on God’s Holy Spirit. And that work, thankfully, still continues.

As Ephesians 3:10, 11 says, “(God’s) intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

It is my prayer that we will in obedience allow that same God who calls and redeems us to continue to strengthen all of us to be persons who both lead and serve with the integrity of heart and skilled hands that David possessed. Christ’s redemption calls for no less.

O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.
— George Matheson
As we strive to anchor students with values to guide a lifetime, the Taylor community is committed to scriptural engagement. Our responsibility is to equip students to minister Christ's redemptive love to a world in need. Many students come to Taylor with great financial need. Gifts to the Taylor Fund enable 700 students each year to receive financial assistance through Taylor Fund Grants. Thank you for your investment in Taylor students.

www.taylor.edu/giving
The turbines, installed last summer, are already powering the Euler Science Complex construction. See details on page 16.