Summer 2011

Taylor: A Magazine for Taylor University Alumni, Parents and Friends (Summer 2011)

Taylor University

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Therefore say: “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again.”

**Ezekiel 11:17**

On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judaea and Samaria.

**Acts 8:1**

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations; proclaim it in distant coastslands: “He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.”

**Jeremiah 31:10**

By faithfulness we are collected and wound up into unity within ourselves, whereas we had been scattered abroad in multiplicity.

**St. Augustine**

We may have all come on different ships, but we’re in the same boat now.

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

The whole object of travel is not to set foot on foreign land; it is at last to set foot on one’s own country as a foreign land.

**G.K. Chesterton**
20 Joan’s Margaret
Joan (Lloyd ’57) Gilkison and Margaret Chasara ’11 built a unique friendship through faith, sorrow and prayer.

24 Prayers for Japan
Members of the Taylor community cope with the aftermath of the Japan earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis.

28 World-class doctor
From emergency rooms in the U.S. to clinics on the Somali border, Trina Helderman ’00 uses her medical skills to serve those who can least afford it.

32 First class lady
Postmaster, counselor and friend; During Beverly (Cauble ’66) Klepser’s 30 years in the Taylor Post Office she made an impact on the lives of thousands of Taylor students.
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.

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.
To the four winds ...

Commencement is an ending of sorts for us, but an exciting beginning for our graduates. For the past four years we have come to know them and love them and now here we are, cheering their achievements, albeit with a tear in our eye. The pilgrimage that brought them to us now has taken them to be sprinkled into the world as the salt and light that it so urgently needs.

It is part of God’s redemptive plan. The Old Testament patriarch Abraham, in faith, left his home and people to go to a land that God Himself would show him. There was uncertainty in the leaving, but obedience demanded nothing less. Years later when his great-grandsons sold their brother Joseph to Ishmaelite slave traders bound for Egypt, God was taking Joseph where he wanted him to go.

That pattern continued with the Diaspora – or dispersion – of God’s people to Babylon where they testified of their faith, gained audience with kings and shaped the course of history. And hundreds of years later it continued with the dispersion of Christian believers under the weight of persecution. Wherever they went they told the good news of Jesus Christ, leading some officials to say they were turning the world upside-down with their teaching.

It is those stories we focus upon in this edition of Taylor. Margaret Chasara ’11 left the life she knew in Zimbabwe to come to Taylor. Trina Helderman ’00 traded the security of medical practice in the States to serve those who could afford it the least. And Taylor alumnus Tim Johnson ’81 and his family are serving God’s purposes in Japan after perhaps the greatest natural disaster in history.

Each, in their coming or going, is changing the world in the place God has put them. Would to God that we, along with them, turn the world upside-down.

James R. Garringer Editor
Public health major coming to Taylor

If the future of medicine is public health, Taylor University graduates will be uniquely positioned to fit into one of healthcare's fastest-growing areas. Taylor will launch a public health major in 2012, making it one of only a handful of universities its size to offer an undergraduate degree in the field.

According to Taylor's Dean of the School of Natural and Applied Sciences Dr. Mark Biermann, the coming months will see the hiring of a program director and completion of a curriculum. The program will be interdisciplinary in nature with classes being offered within the areas of science, social work, economics, psychology and others.

"We have so many students who come to Taylor who have a heart for service and who are interested in health-related fields and interested in health care," said Biermann. "Coming out of high school they primarily know about being a physician or a nurse, but Taylor also has a tradition of having very strong programs of allied health."

Planners say there will be at least two tracks for the discipline, with one focusing on urban public health issues and the other on international issues. A strong emphasis of the program will be to serve as a gateway for students to earn a master's degree in public health and continue advancing in the field.

"Public health is a step back to look at patterns that are present, then take a preventive approach," said Isaac Voss '99, one of numerous Taylor alumni currently serving in the public health field. "I practice public health in the city in an urban context on a large-scale approach. We focus on patterns at a community level. I think it is an excellent balance to the more clinic-balanced orientation in the American healthcare system of telling them your symptoms and they treat it."

"In planning for the new program, Taylor consulted over a dozen external public health figures, many of them Taylor alumni, and received overwhelming support," Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing Steve Mortland '85 said. "Their experience and career fields — all in public health yet very different — are a prime example of the opportunities Taylor students can pursue."

"I think it is consistent with what Taylor University is," said Voss. "There is a strong value on serving other people. That is a big reason I went into healthcare and public health specifically. I think it is growing strong interest among students and emerging young Christians — I think it is great to see Taylor connecting with that."

Mandolyn Hecox '11 contributed to this story

In planning for the new program, Taylor consulted over a dozen external public health figures, many of them Taylor alumni, and received overwhelming support.
Taylor’s long athletic heritage celebrated

Since its humble beginnings 77 years ago, Taylor University’s athletic program has grown and thrived, winning 47 regular season conference titles and appearing in NAIA national tournaments 63 times. And while winning — and the Trojans have done a lot of it through the years — is a desired outcome, its greatest impact may not be measurable by any human standard.

Taylor’s Odle Arena was the site as nearly 300 current and former athletes, coaches and administrators gathered to celebrate Taylor’s athletic program. The event was part of the university’s 2011 Heritage Weekend, which this year celebrated A Heritage of Athletics.

The crowd was welcomed by Taylor administrators who shared the program’s future goals include facility upgrades and additional scholarships. But rather than cite facts and figures, the evening — and weekend — featured the stories of dozens of athletes whose lives were changed because they competed at Taylor.

One of them is Don Callan ’55, a member of Taylor’s Athletic Hall of Fame. Having never played football in his life, he wanted to attend Taylor to join the Trojans’ fledgling team. But he encountered a roadblock — a disapproving father who told him if he wanted to go to Taylor he was going to have to hitchhike there. He did, and arrived just in time for the start of practice.

He caught on quickly. In his first game, Callan nearly returned a punt for a touchdown until the punter tackled him at the goal line. “We wore leather helmets back then with no face guard and he started punching me,” Callan remembered. “A fight broke out and I thought, ‘I’m going to like this game.’”

Callan cited the impact of Taylor’s late and legendary basketball coach Don Odie ’42, a tireless worker and pioneer of the modern sports evangelism movement, who was also notorious for his stale jokes. “I told Bonnie (Weaver ’44, Odie’s widow) that I finally had forgotten all of them,” Callan quipped. “What a character he was. But I loved him and have spent my life trying to be like him.”

“Sports are so much more than winning and championships said Natalie (Steele ’98) Crane, whose accomplishments in basketball and volleyball led to multiple national tournament appearances and induction into Taylor’s Hall of Fame. Crane said it was during her time at Taylor that she was introduced to the needs of the Indianapolis inner city. For the past 13 years, she and her husband Doug ’98 have raised their family in a high crime neighborhood for a single purpose. “We have the opportunity to testify to the love and truth of Jesus Christ to a world in need.”

Additional events for the weekend included a President’s Dinner; the Echinger Aquatics Wing dedication, reunions, Grandparents Day and Taylathon.
Center for Scripture Engagement

Poe...y, lifeline, inspiration or merely a religious chore? Do you interact with your Bible or just read it? Or could the key to spiritual growth be increased Bible reading time? Those are questions being asked by the three members of Taylor's newly-formed Center for Scripture Engagement. Headed by former World Bible Society General Secretary Dr. Fergus MacDonald, the team also includes Drs. Phil Collins ’82 (coordinator) and Steve Bird (researcher).

It is Taylor’s latest Center of Excellence and became a reality after officials secured a start-up grant from friends of the university. MacDonald, who joined the effort at the invitation of Taylor President Eugene B. Habecker ’68, said while much of his service with the United Bible Societies had been geared toward worldwide Bible distribution, he and his colleagues became convinced that more was needed.”However well translated and however widely distributed Bibles may be, unless people engage with them in life-challenging ways we will fail to bring God’s Word into the lived experience of people,” he said.

“I believe that the Center could become a major diagnostic unit facilitating Taylor and other Christian colleges to discover what is happening in students’ lives rather than simply hoping or guessing,” MacDonald said. “The research design could be adapted for use with church populations and even in the wider community, so that future findings could inform and enhance the design of a range of new Scripture engagement products and programs. My vision is that the Center will help to build strong Scripture engaging communities across America and further afield.”

Bird and a team of student researchers surveyed 600 Taylor students in January to measure their interaction with Scripture in various contexts. In the coming months, test groups will be selected from various classes and Bible studies to measure additional Bible interaction techniques.

“Just reading the Bible like a biology manual or a devotional doesn’t seem to really prompt growth,” said Bird. “It is engaging in deeper ways, invoking the presence of God, reading in a different way than the way you read other books.

“I’ve done a lot of research for Taylor; I find this to be one of the most exciting research projects we’ve been involved in,” Bird added. “So little has been done on this when you consider how central the Scriptures are to Christianity and Protestantism. We say the Bible is the basis of our faith and that it is the Word of God. Yet we’ve never studied how to make this work.”

“The Biblical word ‘meditate’ means ‘to chew. It is kind of like a lion growling over a carcass. Are we focused and chewing on it? Is it giving us life?’” said Collins. “People tend to read for basic info, or they read to say they have read. Or they look for a happy thought, more as inspirational reading. None of those are really scripture engagement where you open up your heart and mind to God. There is a mysterious process here that feeds your mind and soul.”

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Beasts of burden for the Lord

If the 490 men and women who graduated from Taylor during Commencement ceremonies on May 21 forget everything else about their graduation day, it is safe to assume they will remember Commencement speaker Dr. Duane Litfin’s unique challenge to them to be “Donkeys for Christ.”

Litfin, the president emeritus of Wheaton College, was the featured speaker and was awarded the degree Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa by the Taylor Board of Trustees.

“We love Taylor University and we see Taylor as our closest sister institution,” Litfin said before reading from the New Testament passage from Matthew 21, which tells the story of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem riding a donkey.

“I want us to think this morning about that donkey. Have you ever wondered why God chose you? Why He led you to Taylor University? Why He provided for you the splendid Christian education you’ve gotten here?” Litfin asked. “The Lord typically chooses to use vehicles that are lowly and unimpressive. Jesus chose to ride a humble donkey. If we stop and think about it, that is why He chose us … in His defiance of the world’s standards, God chooses those things that are low status so that no man can boast. Jesus prefers to ride on donkeys.

“You mustn’t be insulted by that. In fact, you should be glad for it. It’s good for us to have our pretentions punctured on a day like this. You should have a healthy sense of accomplishment today,” Litfin continued. “There is a legitimate sense of pride in you graduates and your families who have come to this milestone. But it is also true that occasions like this can puff us with pride. Pridefulness means, as C.S. Lewis reminds us, that we are always looking down on things and people and if you are always looking down you can’t see something that is above you. Commencement is a profound time, a good time to look up, to look to the Lord. Remember that it is all in His grace, all in His power, all in His provision. As for us, we’re just donkeys for Christ.”

“Being challenged to be a ‘Donkey for Christ’ was certainly memorable. On my way out the door, I needed that reminder to be a humble servant for Him and submissive to whatever His will may be,” said Phillip Pinegar, ‘11, a history graduate now working on Capitol Hill in Washington.

The graduating class, which came from 34 states and 10 foreign countries included:
• 55 graduates who earned master’s degrees.
• 197 graduates who earned Summa, Magna and Cum Laude honors.
• And seven graduates who completed their Taylor degrees with 4.0 GPA.
Faculty accolades

Dr. Alexis Armstrong (Education) presented a workshop titled What Dispositions are Important to Passionate, Effective Teachers at the National Association of Teacher Educators' conference in Orlando, Fla.

Dr. Jeremy Case '87 (Mathematics) presented the lecture Do Sustainability Problems in Mathematics Really Affect Student Attitudes? during the Joint Mathematics Meetings, New Orleans, La.

Dr. Matt DeLong (Mathematics) presented the invited lecture Low-Cost, Low-Effort, Grassroots Approach to Improving Teaching at Malone University.

Dr. Rukshan '98 (Social Work) and his wife Jody (Wiley '98) Fernando (TESOL/Education) were invited speakers at the annual From Every Nation Conference at Calvin College. Rukshan was also a presenter at the Fourth International Social Work Conference at University of Southern California in Los Angeles. His subject was the effective use of social media in the classroom for theory and practice integration.

Drs. Mike Guebert, Dick Squiers, Paul Rothrock, Jan (Wallace '89) Reber (Earth and Environmental Sciences), and Dr. Ken Kiers (Physics) were accompanied by student researchers for presentations given at the Indiana Academy of Science, Indianapolis, Ind.

Dr. Erik Hayes (Physical Education and Human Performance) attended the annual Experimental Biology Conference with Drs. Dan King (Chemistry) and Tim Burkholder '63 (Biology) in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Dennis Hensley (Professional Writing) published his 52nd book, Jack London's Masterplots, along with 19 new articles, columns, features, and reviews in Christian Book Previews, Church Libraries, Writer's Journal, Military Life, Evangel, Vista, and Pathways to God.

Dr. Tim Herrmann's '75 (Master of Arts in Higher Education) book, A Parent's Guide to the Christian College: Supporting Your Child's Mind and Spirit during the College Years, co-authored with fellow MAHE faculty Drs. Todd Ream, and Skip Trudeau, was published by Abilene Christian Press.

Dr. Connie (Hall '75) Lightfoot (Dean, School of Professional and Graduate Studies) presented Challenges of Graduate Deans in Smaller Universities and Private Institutions at the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Conference in Milwaukee, Wis.

Dr. Jeff Marsee (Physical Education and Human Performance) attended the 2011 Indiana Joint National Public Health Week Conference, Indianapolis, Ind. The event was hosted by the Indiana Public Health Training Center and the IU School of Medicine.

Dr. Jeff Sherlock (Business) presented From Content Dump to Competency Development at the Midwest Scholars Conference in Indianapolis, Ind.

Dr. Carl Siler (Education) presented a workshop titled Using Historical Statistics: Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Social Studies at the National Association of Teacher Educators' conference in Orlando, Fla.

Donna Toll (Mathematics) presented two sessions at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Annual National Meeting, Indianapolis, Ind.
Dr. JoAnn (Kinghorn '71) Rediger
Distinguished Professor
In her role as a professor of music, Rediger directs two elite vocal ensembles: the Taylor Chorale and Taylor Sounds. Under her guidance, the Chorale and Sounds have performed in various international locations that include Russia, Greece, the Middle East and throughout the United States.

The Distinguished Professor Award is Taylor's oldest faculty award and is presented annually by Taylor's Alumni Association. Distinguished Professors are selected through several criteria that include: demonstrating excellence in and out of the classroom, visibility outside the college community and positive influence on students.

Dr. Scott Gaier
Dr. Joe Burnworth Teaching Award winner
In receiving the 2011 Dr. Joe Burnworth Teaching Award, Gaier was recognized as "a distinctive faculty member in his first five years of service who exhibits promise and has made noteworthy contributions to Taylor’s academic and community life."

Gaier, coordinator of Taylor's Academic Enrichment Center, oversees learning support for students with physical, mental or other challenges in a way that allows them to have equal access to education while maintaining academic integrity.

Burnworth, the award’s namesake, served Taylor University’s education department for 31 years and is remembered for his love of students and his passion for excellent teaching. Burnworth retired from the faculty in 2000 and died in 2006 after a battle with cancer.

Dr. Jim Spiegel
Franklin W. and Joan M. Forman Distinguished Faculty Scholar
The Forman Award marks Spiegel's third major faculty award during his tenure: he received the 2007 Distinguished Professor award and the 2000 Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award.

Franklin and Joan Forman established the award to honor a Taylor University academic faculty member who has exhibited significant expertise in original research, writing, or other scholarly or artistic projects, and demonstrates a vital Christian faith.


Dr. Barbara Bird
Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award Winner
Bird joined her husband Steve (Sociology) as a winner of a Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award recipient. An associate professor of English and director of the Taylor Writing Center, Bird was honored for having made "a distinct difference in the instructional environment of the university in areas including model classroom teaching, campus leadership, innovative teaching methodology and creative course development and/or instructional support."
Spring season leads to conference championships, nationals and scholar athlete honors

The 2011 spring sports season at Taylor was highlighted once again by the Trojans baseball team, which rolled through the MCC to a second straight conference championship prior to being upset in the tournament. With 16 NAIA Scholar Athletes between them, men’s and women’s track led the way as a total of 24 Trojans were honored by the NAIA for classroom excellence.

Baseball
• The team won 24 games in a row — a school record — and finished 35-14 (21-1 MCC).
• Finished 21-1 in the MCC for the NAIA’s best conference winning percentage.
• Won the program’s second straight MCC regular season championship.
• MCC Player of the Year; NAIA Honorable Mention All-American: Ryne Otis ’12
• Zach Vander Laan ’11, Rhett Goodmiller ’12, Ian Nielsen ’12 and Taylor Luna ’13 joined Otis on the MCC’s all-conference team.
• MCC Coach of the Year: Kyle Gould ’02
• Gates-Howard award winner: Rhett Goodmiller ’12

Softball
• First year Head Coach Brad Bowser guided the Trojans to 19-22 overall and 9-7 MCC records. The fourth-place MCC finish is the program’s highest since 2004.
• MCC All-Conference Team: Emily Kramer ’11 and Holly Tomaszewski ’13
• MCC All-Tournament Team: Tomaszewski
• Kramer and Tomaszewski were named MCC Player and Pitcher of the Week (respectively) on March 31.

Golf
• Sixth place finish at the MCC Tournament was the best for the Trojans since 2006.

Men’s Track & Field
• Led by NAIA National Qualifiers Scott Gill ’11, Adam Schroer ’11, Josh Henson ’11, and Kyle Anderson ’13, the Trojans finished fourth in the MCC.
• All-American: Gill in the high jump
• All-Conference Team Members: Corbin Slater ’13, Anderson, Gill and Henson
• The Taylor University men’s track and field team set a new program record with nine NAIA Scholar-Athletes — second nationally.

Women’s Track & Field
• Led by NAIA Nationals qualifiers: Henrietta Carey ’13, Carlene Johnson ’14, Stephanie Kenney ’12, Lajoya Smith ’11 and Erin Price, the Trojans finished third in the MCC.
• All-Conference Team Members: Johnson, Kenney, Carey
• School records: Kenney in the 400 meter dash (57.26); Carey in the long jump (18’10.50”) and 200 meter dash (24.98); 4 x 100 meter relay team of Carey, Kenney, Smith and Johnson (47.04); 4 x 400 meter relay team of Price, Emily Perschbacher ’13, Smith and Kenney (3:57.56)
• Carey became the first sprinter in Taylor history to qualify for finals in a sprint event at the NAIA championships, running 12.12 in prelims and final for seventh nationally.
• The 4 x 100 meter relay team of Carey, Kenney, Smith, and Johnson became the first Taylor women’s sprint relay team to qualify for finals at an NAIA Championship and then became All-Americans with a sixth-place finish in finals.
• Kenney and Carey were named NAIA National Track & Field Athletes of the Week on March 30 – the first time Taylor has ever had two NAIA National Athletes of the Week for the same sport in a given week.
• Seven NAIA Scholar-Athletes
Holly Tomaszewski '13 pitched 152.2 innings this season and went 14-11 with a 2.93 earned run average. At the plate, she hit a homerun and compiled a batting average of .229 with a .333 slugging percentage.
the erosion of TRUST

by Hadley Mitchell
The impact of the recession may be old news but finger pointing as to its cause continues. Was it greedy persons in high finance or banks making mortgages that never should have been made? Was it the ability of a firm having made such a mortgage to be able to sell it, shifting the risk of default to other parties? Could it have been unwarranted ratings placed upon the securities created from bundling those mortgages, ratings subsequently wrongly relied upon by banks around the globe? Or was it the thinness of the market for those bonds, a market that when tested, caused huge losses on the securities, forcing banks to write off too much equity, undermining their viability?

As a side note, many European banks have repeated this mistake by buying Greek bonds – a mistake that could challenge euro’s viability as a unified currency. Strong European governments within the euro zone are forced once again to stabilize their banks; the alternative is unthinkable.

While the Bible is often misquoted as saying that money is the root of all evil, it correctly states that the love of money is. Wealth can be a blessing for individuals and a great tool for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God; but those who seek wealth for its own sake often find that whatever they have is not enough. Famously, John D. Rockefeller perpetually asserted that he wanted “one more dollar.” That craving we feel can never be satisfied by the next dollar, property acquisition, or even a new spouse. The truth is that we are made for eternal things – serving and glorifying our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. The idolatry of prosperity and success is as destructive as Baal worship.

Columbia economist William Baumol adds an unusual perspective to this issue. Entrepreneurs, asserts Baumol, are not just involved in business ventures, creating wealth for all. There are those to whom he refers as unproductive entrepreneurs, who seek the redistribution of wealth to themselves by various means at the expense of others. Earlier, Austrian economist Joseph Schumpeter had touted the role of the entrepreneur as the driver of the economy; the entrepreneur is one who sees a business need and finds novel ways to satiate that need. What Baumol creatively suggested was that those with entrepreneurial spirit are not just attracted to business. Seeking to maximize profits or wealth, they may enter unproductive activities such as rent seeking or crime. Certainly, Bernard Madoff was such an entrepreneur, using his skills in financial markets and leveraging his reputation in a Ponzi scheme that swindled very wealthy and prominent individuals out of tens of billions of dollars.

Baumol asserts that some unproductive entrepreneurs are even attracted to government where the potential for power and profits is greater. Other unproductive entrepreneurs enter finance, not to facilitate business through the proper and necessary raising of capital and making of loans, but to profit from leveraging the assets and reputation of a firm for a quick buck.

While I am not implying that every politician accepts or seeks bribes, many do seek and accept campaign contributions. Could it be the reason that profit-maximizing businesses and industries make huge campaign contributions is that they anticipate the potential for favorable legislation, handsome government contracts, or beneficial variances in regulations? If that is the case, it could be argued they are not altruistically supporting the best candidates for public office. They are, instead, making an investment. As we have seen in the media, there are politicians who have something to sell. The best government that money can buy is not necessarily a good government.

The rot does not start with greedy financiers on Wall Street. The rot does not start with certain politicians naively seeking to make mortgages available for everyone; after all, isn’t the American dream to own one’s own house? As pragmatism replaces the moral values of Christendom, as the desire for success replaces the integrity that leads to success, as one’s place in the community depends on material signs of financial well-being rather than reputation for integrity, the moral foundations that lead to prosperity soon are undermined.

As the cartoon character Pogo once opined, “We have met the enemy, and he is us.” Creative accounting, government missteps and the like were only symptoms. The root cause of the issue is embedded within the human heart. Consequently, we shouldn’t be surprised that people – in and outside the Christian faith community – fall into such temptations. And it underscores the need to graduate young Christian men and women from Taylor who are both productive entrepreneurs in the Baumol definition and thoroughly committed to the Lordship of Christ.

Dr. Hadley Mitchell is chair of the Economics Department at Taylor University.
We won’t ask her to write all 14,000+ thank you notes just now... she has a lifetime to pay it forward.

2010-2011

• More than 200 people returned to campus to serve on an advisory board or as a guest speaker this past school year.

• 3,000+ alumni, parents and friends participated in events sponsored by the Alumni and Parent Relations Office.

• Over 11,000 families and individuals made commitments to Taylor this fiscal year, totaling more than $18 million, including a record $1.98 million to the Taylor Fund.

“On behalf of each graduate, let me express our gratitude for your gifts of time, talent and treasure during the 2010-2011 school year. Looking back over the past six years, tens of thousands of volunteer hours and nearly $90 million has been committed toward equipping this generation at Taylor to go and serve Christ. Thank you and may God multiply your investment as these students touch lives around the globe.”

Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68, President

Laura Arnold, a Media Communication major with a public relations focus from Vernon Hills, Ill.
February 20 – March 1, 2012

ISRAEL

A guided tour of the Sea of Galilee, Caesarea, Jordan River, Bet Shean, Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Cana, Megiddo, Masada, Jericho, Bethlehem, and the Garden Tomb, led by:

Taylor University Bible Professor and Author, Larry Helyer, PhD and his wife Joyce.

For additional information and to register, visit:
www.taylor.edu/holyland2012

Everybody wins...
when you leave your legacy at Taylor.

Gifts by will, trust, or beneficiary designation, also known as bequests, are the most common way people plan their legacies.

Why consider a bequest to Taylor University?

• Give back to what is important to you.
• Plan for your future gift while keeping control of your assets during your lifetime.
• It’s easy to include a provision in your will or to complete a beneficiary designation form for an insurance plan or retirement account.
• Bequests are revocable if your circumstances or priorities change.
• Bequests are flexible and can include a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, a portion of what remains, or many other options.
• Tax benefits may result from your bequest.

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

www.taylor.edu/giftplans
Also with uplifted hand I swore to them in the wilderness that I would disperse them among the nations and scatter them through the countries.

Ezekiel 20:23
How does one adequately tell the story of Margaret Chasara '72? One way might be to relate the turn of events that brought Margaret 8,000 miles from her home in Zimbabwe to Taylor University. And then there was the story of how Joan (Lloyd '57) Gilkison, who had never met Margaret, became her benefactor, friend and really a second mother. Of course, there is the unrelenting drive Margaret has displayed, graduating in only three years with two majors and two minors — and with academic honors.

Margaret's story is like her life; its main pillars are simple trust and obedience. And yet, Margaret admits there have been doubts. As a school girl, she dreamed of attending college and she had taken some courses in her homeland which led to work as a missionary teacher in China and Bangladesh. But she came home after the death of her mother, and when her younger brother reached college age, she gave him her savings in hopes he would realize the dream for both of them.
More than 8,000 miles away, however, a continuum of events had been set in motion that led to an outcome that, as the scriptures say, exceeded all Margaret could have asked or imagined. They were set in motion on a Sunday morning when Joan’s pastor asked her if she could help the daughter of a friend of his in Zimbabwe. Joan’s heart was moved in such a way that she referred the girl, Margaret, to Taylor and helped secure scholarships to pay for her education.

“It was like God had prepared everything. My minister and I would just stand back and laugh at each other and say, ‘Isn’t this wonderful how God is working all of this out?’” Joan remembers. “It was a way to honor my husband Bob ’57 because he was so involved with education and the arts. Margaret just made herself part of the family.”

“Margaret has taken everything she could possibly get and her schedule has been overloaded every semester,” says Joan. “She went to Ecuador, Ireland and she just came back from London. She did all these extra trips with the students from Taylor. She traveled, worked and maintained a high GPA. She has taken everything she can to fill up her mind. It is like she is desperate to make herself what God wants her to be.”

“People asked me,” “How did you do it? How did you balance 20 hours of class and 20 hours of work?” I think it’s just grace. That’s all I tell them. It’s God’s grace,” Margaret says. “I don’t have to work, of course, because I have a full scholarship, but I enjoy the people I’ve been working with. They have meant a lot, they are really godly people and it’s the opportunity of growth that I’ve experienced here.”

Of course, pain can also come with growth. It was while Margaret was in Cuenca, Ecuador, that she received word of the accidental drowning death of her young nephew. “She called me. We cried together,” Joan remembers. “I get very emotional about this. She knew she had to finish up at school and she couldn’t get back. She couldn’t go back to Zimbabwe until the summer. It brought up too many emotions in me because our firstborn daughter died at the age of six and it was something that we shared together.”

Joan and Margaret’s relationship has flourished over the past three years through times spent together in prayer, Bible study or the relaxing hours spent in Joan’s sewing room. “Margaret has been one of the greatest blessings in my life. You only have to meet her once to know that she is a child of God and has love in her heart for all humanity. And she is just a beautiful, beautiful person—inside and outside,” Joan relates. “My daughter Andrea, who is just a bit older than Margaret, considers Margaret her adopted sister. And my son Stuart ’90 does too. They just really love her.”

“Joan is my mom. She is a great, great mom. She is my sponsor here at Taylor. She opened her house to me,” says Margaret who then warmly related a memory of a friend at church who, when she found out who Margaret was, greeted her: “Oh, you’re Joan’s Margaret!”

Now a 33-year-old college graduate, Margaret will begin a graduate program at Duke University where she will study international development and economics. “It is a feeling of accomplishment and fulfillment at the same time. I tell people I have seen grace throughout my Taylor experience. It is because God’s grace is something that you don’t deserve, you don’t work for—the opportunity of grace that He just gives you. It is unconditional.”

“Coming here, I think God wanted me to learn to be still—to just be still and enjoy His grace and know that He is God,” she adds. “That is the greatest lesson I have learned throughout my three-year journey: just to be still and depend on God. I need to trust a day at a time, a month at a time, a year at a time, which is the hardest part for me. Where He leads, I’ll go.”

**Coming here, I think God wanted me to learn to be still—to just be still and enjoy His grace and know that He is God.**
PRAYERS FOR JAPAN
Dear Praying Friends and Family,

After a night of helicopters hovering overhead and several aftershocks, the day has dawned here in Tokyo. The sun is shining brightly as life goes on. Downstairs in our living room, we have three kindergarten and first grade students and the Japanese guidance counselor from our school (Christian Academy in Japan) who were not able to return home because of train lines being down and parents stranded in downtown Tokyo ... Our home is standing and our neighborhood appears to be largely unaffected, other than a few objects that have fallen in various houses.

But for others four hours northeast of us in Fukushima, Iwate, and Miyagi prefectures, the scenario is different. Much of what many of you have witnessed on the news coverage is what is happening 125-200 miles northeast of us. They are saying that the earthquake is 8000 times stronger than the one in Christchurch, New Zealand last week. It is difficult to imagine what people are experiencing there - it does seem very much like the scene of a disaster movie.

Please pray.

Resting on the Rock,
Tim and Jeannie

PRAY ALSO FOR ME THAT WHENEVER I SPEAK WORDS MAY BE GIVEN ME SO THAT I WILL FEARLESSLY MAKE KNOWN THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL.

EPHESIANS 6:19
Missionary educator Tim Johnson ’81 was in his office at Christian Academy in Tokyo on March 11 at 2:46 p.m. when the 9.0 earthquake hit. Even at 150 miles from the monster quake’s epicenter, the shaking was so violent that he had to hang on to a support pole to stay upright. A few yards away, his daughter Julie ’10 was teaching a classroom full of 20 first graders. Providentially, they had held an earthquake preparedness drill the day before and huddled under their desks until the shaking stopped.

Outside, Tim’s son Jared, a high school senior, along with a friend played Amazing Grace on their saxophones to soothe the anguish of their Japanese friends.

Meanwhile, Tim’s wife Jeannie (Gerig FWBC ’78) had just dropped off a friend after lunch when her van began bouncing up and down on the pavement. “The feeling I can best compare it to is that it was like being on a ship being tossed by waves,” she remembered. “It is a helpless feeling not to be able to stop the moving. I thank God that I was in my neighborhood. Had it been the day before, I would have been at a doctor’s appointment downtown and probably would have had to walk four hours to get home as thousands of others did.”

Christine Orr ’13 is a political science major at Taylor who grew up in Aizuwakamatsu, nearly 80 miles from Sendai. Unaware of what had happened in her homeland, she became unsettled as friends kept asking her if she had heard “The News.” As the questions kept coming, her anxiety mounted until she left chapel to go back to her dorm room to see what she could find on the internet.

“I tried to contact my parents but I couldn’t reach them and I was really worried,” Christine said. “My friend walked back from chapel and stayed in the room with me. We just couldn’t believe it. I contacted my brother (Daniel ’10) and he said my Dad sent an email and said they were okay ... One of my friends lives in Sendai in one of the most damaged areas. She survived but the gas and electricity, their main lifelines, are missing.”

In the coming days the news blared story after story of the catastrophe. Between the quake itself and the tsunami it spawned, more than 15,000 Japanese were confirmed dead with thousands more missing and presumed dead. As three different nuclear reactors teetered at the edge of meltdown, Japan and the entire world held their collective breath.

But then came the killing of terrorist Osama bin Laden, the Royal Wedding and killer tornadoes and flooding in the United States. As America’s attention span began to wane, Christine was still struggling with what had happened to her homeland. “The first week after the earthquake people were sending me encouraging emails,” she remembered. “But after a week, the media started shifting to other issues in the world; I was really sad to see people starting to forget about what’s happening in Japan.”

The next morning when Jeannie ventured out, she passed a small idol that had served as a “protector” for their neighborhood. But like the Philistine god Dagon, the idol had cracked at its base and was lying on the ground.

With no trains or gasoline and little food in the stores, the Johnsons and their neighbor’s shared toilet paper, rice and bread. “We learned to be grateful for what we had and live more simply,” she said. “Our church services were packed. People wanted to hear from the Lord and they had no place to go with trains not running and no gas for the car. I sometimes miss those days when life came to a standstill and we were forced to cling to Christ the Solid Rock.”

In the aftermath, the needs are mountainous and recovery is expected to take years. It would appear that beyond giving to organizations like The Red Cross, World Vision and Samaritan’s Purse, the last thing that believers can do is still the best thing.

“Definitely pray,” Christine implored. “I think it’s really a time when Japanese people are starting to be serious about their lives after experiencing that life and death situation. I think especially now the Japanese people need prayer that the seriousness about their lives will shift toward God, that they would start thinking about who made them and the purpose of their lives.”

“Please pray that the people of Japan will admit their inability to save themselves and confess their need of a Savior, Jesus Christ,” said Jeannie. “Please pray for relief efforts going on constantly ... Please pray for orphans – children who lost families and are starting new lives with relatives and friends.”

“Pray that people there will be more open to the Gospel,” Christine said. “Pray that Christians there will shine the love of Christ, that the Japanese people would experience the love of God through them.”

Please pray that the people of Japan will admit their inability to save themselves and confess their need of a Savior, Jesus Christ. Please pray for relief efforts going on constantly ... Please pray for orphans – children who lost families and are starting new lives with relatives and friends.
Trina Holderness examines a child in an African field clinic.
They didn’t talk about this in medical school. As she lay in the darkness of her room, Dr. Trina Helderman’s mind drifted through memories of home, her family and friends. She had gone to bed fully clothed. It wasn’t from exhaustion, although she was tired. She had to be dressed in case she needed to literally run for her life. For the past month she had stood out as a white American woman, practicing medicine in the Kenyan town of Mandera, just yards from the Somali border. She knew there could be risks. The week before her arrival in Mandera, three people had been abducted. She and the organization that sent her there had taken every precaution except the obvious one — staying away.

"There was a lot of curiosity as to when I was leaving," Helderman remembers. "The day before I left, the Kenyan military heard there were text messages from Somalia into Kenya; there were plans to abduct the international worker who was in town. That was me. I had become friends with the major in the Kenyan military and they put armed guards at my residence. They stayed with me all night; there were multiple security checks. The next day I was escorted by soldiers to the airport and flew safely to Nairobi.
As long as you are confident that you are where you are supposed to be, that makes missing home not so bad.

"I was scared. At the same time I felt like there wasn't a whole lot I could do. It was really out of my control," she adds. "From a security standpoint. I had done everything I could do. I prayed. 'God if they take me, you're going to have to come with me.' Psalm 91 says, 'I won't fear the evil in the night.' That was the Psalm I read every single night I was in Madera."

From her earliest days, Helderman had wanted to be a doctor, but her motivation was not comfort, status or riches. "Growing up, my family didn't have a lot of money," she says. "My mom's family would be considered under the poverty line. When I was growing up, I felt like the reason my mom had gotten out of those circumstances was that we needed to help people who were in need. When I was five years old, I told my mom I was going to be a doctor so I could help people who were poor. I always felt like that was what I needed to do ... A friend at Taylor convinced me to do the Latin American Studies Program. I think it really just started me in that process of not just serving the poor in the United States, but getting out of the United States and helping."

Helderman has worked in hospital emergency rooms in Chicago, New York City and Lafayette (Ind.). But she has also served overseas in nations including Tanzania, Kenya, Sudan and in Haiti, shortly after their 7.0 earthquake in January 2010. In the States she has dealt with everything from accidents and drug users to sick children. And while she is learning to cope with the myriad of situations she encounters, there are still times she realizes how vulnerable she really is.

"There are physicians who seem arrogant and don't take enough time with their patients. I can't speak for why that is," Helderman says. "I feel if I've been short, it was because of what I had to do in the room before. If the patient took a lot of work, or they came wanting drugs that I couldn't give them and had to argue with them for 15 minutes, then I need to take five minutes to remind myself why I am there."

"Sometimes I feel like I get too busy," she says. "I had a friend who inspired me with a 30-second prayer: 'God, I really need your help. Make sure you're coming with me.' It helps to just get your mind back to where it needs to be. I always pray before I have to tell a family that a loved one has died. I won't go in there alone. That is the hardest thing I do. It is one of those times that I'm going to be weak."

Today she is part of a multi-member emergency response team comprised of physicians and nurses serving in Southern Sudan. Given what happened, or almost happened in Kenya, does her family have reservations? "Of course they have," Helderman admits. "I have been to Southern Sudan before, so it helps that I went and came back okay. They also recognize that it is something I've been called to do. They will give their warnings and then they are pretty quiet – we just don't talk about the dangerous part."

"The thing that struck me when I got there was the extent of the need in that population. There are a lot of poor in the world, but in Southern Sudan they really have nothing," she adds. "Everything has to be brought in – even vegetables. I have described it as a giant cow pasture; it's green and there are lots of cows. I thought, 'If I'm going to go somewhere, I would rather go where there is a lot of need and it is a place where people don't want to go.'"

"God takes care of you wherever you are," she says. "As long as you are confident that you are where you are supposed to be, that makes missing home not so bad."
It is a place where things move a little slower, perhaps more deliberately. It is where the people who come through the door aren't objects simply to be hustled through the system; they are there to be served. In fact, it is a place where time, for the most part, has stood still. Row upon row of silver mailbox doors greet visitors as they walk through the door. And there, on the left, is the window where you could find much more than stamps and envelopes. Much more.
For more than 31 years Beverly (Cauble '66) Klepsner – affectionately known as Bev to countless Taylor students, faculty and staff members and retirees – was the smiling face at the window. She retired just a few weeks ago from the Post Office where her responsibilities varied from selling stamps and weighing packages to searching for the occasional lost parcel. But her mission extended much further.

She has seen her share of changes. Thanks to the digital tsunami that brought email to the masses, the Taylor Post Office, like most others, doesn’t handle anywhere near the volume of letters it once did. But, at least for the time being, a plate of cookies, a sweater from home or a package of books still can’t be emailed. But beyond even that, it has been a great place to meet and be with people.

"Even as a student, to go get my mail at the old Post Office on the corner of Main and Reade – that was the highlight of the day after chapel," she states. "It definitely still is for the retirees. They just like to come back on campus, to know what is going on and feel like they are still a part of Taylor."

When Taylor retiree Marian Kendall stops by for her daily visit to the Post Office, Bev greets her with a smile and hug. The comfort with which the two old friends embrace each other is obvious. The same could be said for other retirees like Elaine Luthy ’50, Herb Nygren ’51 or George Harrison. Then there are the students.

Some are cheerful while others are anxious. A student might be fretting over a package that was supposed to arrive but sometimes that anxiousness is an outward symptom of something bigger. It was during those times Bev would stop what she was doing and pray with the student on the spot. She has no idea how many there were, but they remember her and she holds a special place in their hearts.

"Bev was special," explains Alison Grunden ’11, who worked for Bev at the Post Office during her student days. "She wasn’t a professor. Chances are not many students really knew her by name because she was behind the scenes, but she always cared about every student … every single time I stopped in to see her during the week she stopped what she was doing to talk to me. It didn’t matter if it was for five minutes or 50; she always listened and always asked how I was doing. It didn’t matter what kind of day she was having, she always asked how I was and what was happening in my life.

"There were many occasions I would be at the Post Office visiting and a student would show up with a complicated situation pertaining to mailing or receiving a package. Alisa continues. "She always went above and beyond what she was supposed to do to help the student and it was always done with a cheerful heart. There isn’t a time I visited with Bev that I didn’t leave happier than when I arrived."

And that story belongs to hundreds of other students as well, many of whom make it a point to stop by the Post Office to see Bev one more time before they graduate. In that same manner, they have made an impact on her. Their love and prayers sustained her through numerous trials including the loss of her stepdaughter and the months she spent recovering from injuries received in a car crash several years ago. And words cannot express the depth of her gratitude to students and colleagues who enfolded her following the death of her husband Dan just a year-and-a-half ago.

"I had contemplated retiring before Dan died," Bev reflects. "Looking back on it now, I’m glad I didn’t because I needed the support and love of peers and students to get through that time in my life."

"When Dan her husband died, she was in such great pain that even if she had said nothing you could have read it on her face," remembers Zach McAffee ’11. "Yet she relied on Christ to get her through that time of great hardship and she drew upon His strength for her strength. I spoke with her many times over those next few weeks and every time I walked away amazed at how strong she is and how strong her faith is."

"Many people, myself included, find it easy to trust in God’s plans for our lives when things are going well, but when things get tough we start to question where He’s heading with this plan of His. Not Bev; through good times and bad she trusts in God and that – more than any of the many times she helped me when I was down - ministered to me and impacted my life in such a great way," adds Zach.

Beg is moving from one ministry to another – this one at her church where she will lead up outreach to senior members of the congregation. It seemed rhetorical to ask Bev what she would miss the most. Her answer was immediate. "The people – the friendships that have been built through the years," she said. And then her voice began to waver. "I would like for it to go on record that anything that I ever accomplished at Taylor was because of the Lord, and nothing I’ve done. I want Him to get all the praise and the glory for it all."
The Euler Science Complex atrium roof has been completed and installation of the glass walls is expected within days. University officials say only $2.5 million of the $41.4 original cost for the facility remains to be raised and say their goal is to complete fundraising by the building’s opening next year.
1930
Lillian Morrison, 106, died March 24, 2011, at Heritage Village in Gerry, N.Y. She was a missionary for the National Holiness Association and also taught high school special education.

1934
Dr. Arthur Howard died May 16, 2011, in North Manchester, Ind. A star basketball and world-class tennis player, he helped put Taylor University on the athletic map. After teaching high school math, coaching and playing basketball professionally, Art taught and coached at Taylor, then became athletic director of Huntington University. After a series of unique events, he was called in 1944 to serve as a missionary educator in India. There he coached athletics all over India and served as the Indian national coach from 1948-1962. He became a founding member of India’s National Institute of Sports. Art was named the Distinguished Alumnus for Professional Achievement in 1982 by Taylor University, and the highest award given to undergraduate male athletics each year is named in part after him. Among those who preceded him in death were his wife Esta (Herrmann ‘36) and his daughter Judy (Howard ‘64) Crandall.

1940
Dr. C. Melvin Blake of Travelers Rest, S.C., died March 7, 2011. Melvin was president of the Philalethean Literary Society, a member of the Varsity Quartet, Choral Society and English Club—all while working his way through Taylor. He was selected for Who’s Who Among American Colleges and Universities (1940). In 1960, Taylor awarded him an honorary doctorate for distinguished service at home and abroad. Melvin served many years as a Methodist minister in Africa, and later in life he embarked on a new career of private practice in psychology and counseling.

1941
Ruth (Boller) Grant passed away January 31, 2011. After graduation from Taylor she worked for both the Grant and Marion County (Ind.) welfare departments. She later served as a social worker in Indianapolis, Chicago, Boston and South Bend. Ruth was an avid reader, and she enjoyed sewing, gardening and travel. She was preceded in death by her husband Dr. Merlyn Arthur Grant ’42. Her survivors include her son Douglas ’74.

1946
June (Meredith) Ross died January 21, 2011, in Winter Park, Fla. June taught home economics in New York, Indiana and Oregon. She also worked for attorneys, banks, individuals, the Florida Bar and the FBI. She was a guest lecturer on Handwriting Analysis and Questioned Document Examination. June was president of the Independent Association of Question Document Examiners, a member of the World Association of Document Examiners and the Graphoanalysis Association. June enjoyed playing the violin, piano and organ. Surviving family members include her brother, Dr. Clyde Meredith II ’50.

1952
Pauline (Breed) Dewey entered her heavenly home on February 15, 2010. Pauline was a retired school teacher from New York and was active in Christian Women’s Club for many years. Pauline is survived by her husband Robert to whom she was married for 52 years.

1953
William Pickering has moved to 2024 Canyon Drive, Fullerton, CA 92833. On January 31, 2011, he remarried Virginia (Balk) Pickering who he met at Taylor during their senior year and was divorced from for many years. William thanks God for His goodness and mercy.

1956
You’ll See Jesus on My Face is the most recent publication by Dr. Riley Case. This is a first person account of Cynthia Burch (as told to Dr. Case), a girl who suffered a life of abuse and addiction before God used a dramatic series of events to change her into a radiant woman of God. For an excerpt of this book and other writing, visit www.rileycase.com. • Jarvis Steiner passed away on March 20, 2011, in Pekin, Ill. He was a teacher in the Pekin Grade School District 108 for 43 years and served as the district’s physical education coordinator for 10 years. He was a past president of the Illinois Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. His wife Barbara preceded him in death.
Ron Valutis died suddenly on July 17, 2010. A faithful Taylor alumnus, Ron earned an M.A. from the University of Detroit and completed all but the dissertation for his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. At age 73, he was working toward an M.A. in theology. Tyndale Biblical Institute of Fort Worth, Texas, posthumously conferred upon Ron the honorary master of ministry degree in August, 2010. Only one other person, Dr. Charles Ryrie, holds this honorary degree from Tyndale. After graduation from Taylor, Ron taught and was an administrator in the Detroit Public Schools for 30 years, with an absence of three years for military service. His greatest passion in the field of education, however, was to learn and faithfully teach the Scriptures in four churches where he served during his life. Survivors include his wife Rosalie (Closson ’60), two adult children, seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Ron and Rosalie
Precious in the eyes of the Lord

Those who knew and loved Derek Taatjes ’99 best say he lived his life with such urgency and passion that the impact he had on their lives will never be forgotten.

Taatjes and his infant son Dylan died in April when smoke filled their Grand Rapids, Mich., home during a late-night fire. Taatjes’ survivors include his wife Charity (Carpenter ’99) and two young daughters, all of whom were in Florida at the time visiting family. He also left behind a large community of friends and fellow believers in the Cornerstone Bible Church of Grand Rapids, a rapidly growing congregation that Taatjes served as a youth pastor.

“He was my best friend,” remembered Charity. “Before kids, we traveled together, lived life in Chicago, played tennis, worked out together and ate together. (We love food.) We met at Taylor University and got married in 2000. We lived 11 full, fulfilling years together.

“The number one word to describe Derek is ‘passionate,’ she continued. “He was extremely passionate about the things he loved – from March Madness to his desire for people to grasp the truth of God’s Word that we are desperate, broken people in need of a Savior. Derek taught with such urgency that his listeners knew they had a choice to make.”

“Derek was really focused on God and extremely passionate about everything he did,” said Taatjes’ friend Jonathan Beukelman ’99, senior vice president at UBS and member of the Taylor Board of Trustees. Beukelman and Taatjes were Taylor men’s basketball teammates in the late 1990s. “It stemmed back to when we played basketball at Taylor. Whenever you played for (Coach Paul Patterson) you pushed. We would meet each other going through that process. We worked harder than we had ever worked. One of us would say, ’I’m going to quit,’ and the other would say, ”No, we are in this together. We are going to make it work.’ That experience is a big part of how we were built.”

“These last three years for Derek, everything was immediate. All these students he worked with, he didn’t want them to have one foot in the world and one foot with God. He was so intense about it. It was almost as if he was trying to get all of this work done as fast as he could.”

“I came to know the Lord at the young age of seven but it was not until my college years that the lights turned on and I understood the commitment and continual heart change that must occur to following God on the straight and narrow path,” Taatjes said in his bio on the Crossroads Bible Church website. “By God’s grace I am a work in progress and am trying to discover each day how to be more like Jesus.”

“He was inspirational – a unique guy whom God just used,” said Beukelman. “I think the thing that Derek would want everyone to know is that God uses people who aren’t perfect. He uses misfits. He would say he had his own issues. But when we are weak, He is strong.”

To learn more, visit: livelikederek.blogspot.com.
celebrated 50 years of marriage on July 2, 2010, at a reunion hosted by nephew Chip Valutis ’84 in Elma, N.Y.

1961
Dr. Duane Houser of Greenfield, Ind., died May 10, 2011. He was known for the compassion and quality of care he gave over 40 years of private and clinical practice and teaching. His first wife, Ruth Ann (Rock), died of cancer and he felt fortunate to have found the second love of his life, April (Walker-Neal), who survives him. After graduating from the Indiana University School of Medicine, Duane completed his internship and medicine residency at Methodist Hospital. He then finished an allergy/asthma/immunology fellowship at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Duane served in the Air Force during the Vietnam conflict, practicing at Andrews Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Dan ’88 & Rebecca (Archdeacon ’86) Houser.

1962
Melvin Claassen x died February 2, 2011, in Mountain Lake, Minn. He originally attended Taylor while on furlough from ministry in Africa where he served for 16 years. In 1974, after returning to the U.S. with his wife Martha, he worked for Balzer Manufacturing and served in the pastorate for many years.

1963
Dr. Dorothy (Baker x) Mettee recently became a flight attendant for Frontier Airlines and was featured in the January/February 2011 issue of AARP Magazine. Dorothy is a retired communications professor from California State University, San Bernardino. • 01 Gloria (Griffin x) Reading sadly reports that Paul, her husband of 27 years, died April 10, 2011, from Alzheimer’s disease. She can be contacted at gloriareading@yahoo.com.

1967
02 Ruth (Scraper) Bromley passed away March 23, 2011, following a prolonged pulmonary illness. She worked for 3M Company in Hartford City until her retirement in 1993. Ruth was preceded in death by her husband Charles Bromley, who was a professor in the education department at Taylor from 1961-1971. Ruth was an active member of the Upland United Methodist Church, involved with choir, handbells and the administrative board. She is survived by four children including Jim ’74 (wife Judy Martin ’75) and Ellen ’75 (husband Rick Adams ’74).

1969
Dr. Roger Smitter has been appointed dean of arts and sciences at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, Md.

1970
John Yantiss was inducted into the Triton (Ind.) Athletic Hall of Fame at the inaugural banquet in February, 2011. John was recognized as one of the greatest track stars at Triton High School; he was a state finalist in the 880-yard run in his senior year and went on to have a distinguished career at Taylor.

1971
03 Suzan (Scott) Gonser married Edward Teeters on January 22, 2011, in LaBelle, Fla. She retired in June, 2011, after a long and rewarding teaching career. Ed is a retired minister and educator. Their lives together will embrace family, friends, church ministries and travel. They divide their time between homes in LaBelle and in McCaysville, Ga., and can be reached at deyhere@yahoo.com. • Tom Norris died February 7, 2011, in Chicago.
Ill. He was a longtime mathematics teacher for schools in Indiana and Illinois. Survivors include his wife Patty (Blue).

1972
Dr. Jerry Soen has been named a Fellow of the American College of Radiology. He has worked for 36 years in both diagnostic imaging and radiation oncology.

1973
01 Dr. Donald Williams, professor of English at Toccoa Falls College (Ga.), was recently named R. A. Forrest Scholar by the Toccoa Falls faculty. Williams was recognized for his exceptional work in writing and teaching, as well as ministering and speaking at the international level. An ordained minister in the Evangelical Free Church of America with many years of pastoral experience, he has spent several summers in Africa training local pastors for Church Planting International.

1974
02 Faye Chechowich and Tom Schroeder were married March 19, 2011, in the Memorial Prayer Chapel on Taylor's campus. Tom is a long time Muncie, Ind., resident and chairs the elementary education department in the Teachers College at Ball State University. Faye is dean of faculty development and professor of Christian educational ministries at Taylor University. She can be contacted at fychechow@taylor.edu.
• Janet (Collings) Drayton died July 7, 2010, in La Porte, Ind. She was a 3rd grade teacher at Kingsbury Elementary School for 36 years and was a member of the La Porte Hospital Foundation and the La Porte County Symphony. Her husband V. Michael survives, as do her parents, two sons and two brothers, one of whom is Richard Collings ’83 and his wife Lynn (Smith x’86).

1977
03 Robert Mitchell has been named vice president of Beacon Application Services Corp., an integrator of Oracle PeopleSoft Enterprise applications specializing in the financial services industry, located in Framingham, Mass. • Dr. Gordon Pritz has been named to Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal’s Education Advisory Board. This board will meet quarterly to discuss how to improve education outcomes for Georgia students.

1980
Jeannie (Swift) Wilgus and her husband Al are pursuing God’s call on their lives. They started language school in Guadalajara, Mexico, in June, 2011. It is their goal to become tentmakers, using their employment to share the love of Jesus with the middle and business professionals of the community. Jeannie has a degree in elementary and preschool education, as well as a certificate in ESL. Al is a computer systems analyst. They can be reached at jeanniewilgus@gmail.com.

1982
Mike and Cathy (Behmer x) Larson joyfully announce the adoption of 6-year-old Tesfanesh Lydia from Ethiopia. Cathy is eager to hear from anyone willing to consider the adoption of an older child. She can be reached at honeyrock23@frontier.com. • Kayleen (Brewer x) Reusser released a children’s book, Celebrities Giving Back. It contains stories of celebrities including Bono, Jonas Brothers, Bill Gates, Paul Newman, Marlo Thomas, Oprah and Peyton Manning who have given time and effort to help others. It is a 47-page book written for students in grades 4-8 and is published by Mitchell Lane. Kayleen has published nine books for middle schoolers and has spoken to children’s groups about writing and other subjects. She is also founder of Stitches of Hope, a group that crochets, knits and sews caps for distribution to cancer facilities in Fort Wayne, Ind., and around the country. For information about Kayleen’s books, visit www.KayleenR.com.

1983
Dr. David Adams’ x new book, Lifestyle Worship: The Worship God Intended Then and Now, was recently published by Resource Publications with a forward by Grammy Nominee and Dove Award winner Margaret Becker. • Duane Beeson received Northwestern College’s Staff Award for Inspirational Service in May, 2011. He has been director of public relations at the college in Orange City, Iowa, for 25 years.

1984
Bert Chapman’s book, Geopolitics: A Guide to the Issues, has been published by Praeger. Bert is a professor of library science at Purdue University (Ind.)

1992
Jeffrey and Bonnie (Houser) Eggers are the proud parents of Brennan Lucas born September 8, 2010. Bonnie concluded 10 years as a reference librarian at the Cleveland Institute of Music to care for Brennan. He was born with an extra chromosome (Down syndrome) and is thriving. Bonnie can be reached at pmozbach@gmail.com.

1993
Theresa Wagler, executive vice president and chief financial officer
for Steel Dynamics, Inc., has been appointed a new board member for Trine University in Angola, Ind.

1994

Travis Vanest has been a teacher in the United States and several other countries since he graduated from Taylor. He traveled with his wife, Amy, since 2002 as they lived and taught in Kazakhstan, Albania and Saudi Arabia. However, in the summer of 2010, Travis was diagnosed with Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), a rare genetic disease that produces debilitating neurological effects. The only currently known way to stop the progression of this disease is for Travis to undergo a bone marrow transplant. Travis is now scheduled to begin this transplant on June 29th at St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove, Indiana. To find out more about 'Travis' story, please visit www.cotafortravis.com.

1995

Erik Hotmire is director of the international strategic communications consulting firm Brunswick Group. Prior to this position, Erik was a senior adviser at the Securities and Exchange Commission. Todd and Amy (Smith) Miller joyfully announce the adoption of daughter Aliyah from China. She joined the family on December 24, 2010, and was welcomed by big brother Josiah, 4.

1996

Lt. Jared Smith was commissioned as a United States Navy chaplain on October 16, 2010. He graduated from officer development school in February, 2011, and then from Navy chaplaincy school the following month. He and his wife Tammy (Upton '96) moved to their first duty station at Naval Air Facility El Centro (Calif.) where Jared serves as the base chaplain.

08 Jenni Kruithof married Robert Smyth on February 2, 2011, in Grand Rapids, Mich. In the wedding was Molly (Kruithof '98) Keen. They live in Northern Ireland. Jenni can be contacted at JenniKruithof@hotmail.com. Eric Moyen, has been published by The University Press of Kentucky. This biography not only details an important period in the history of the university and the commonwealth, but also tells the story of the advancement of education reform in early-twentieth-century America. Eric is an associate professor of education at Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn.
1999

Ben and Rebekah Eisner, along with their three daughters Elizabeth, 14, Abigail, 12, and Emma, 11, live in Cedarburg, Wis. Ben owns Knitted Heart, a video production company. He was the original owner of the Jumping Bean, the coffee shop in the Taylor University Student Union.

Several alumnae gathered for their 8th vacation together in Glen Arbor, Mich. They were Julie (Holdiman) Romero, Kristy (Tumas) Lay, Lisa Hamlin, Cara Hopkins, Jen (Stark) Lovelace, Meredith Scott, Danielle (Lugbill) Black, Libby (Crawford) Spotts, Brooke (Swanson) Tower and Amber (Perkins) Blackburn. Not pictured is Liana (Eulberg) Mangan.

2003

Brad Almond married Katie Loomis August 7, 2010. Christie (Almond ’99) Negley participated in the wedding. The couple lives in Wilmington, Del., where Brad works as a graphic artist for Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc. Andrew and Michelle (Brate) Hoffman joyfully welcomed Avery Grace, born May 6, 2010. Proud uncle and aunt are Austin ’05 and Linda (Brate ’05) Kirchhoff. Michelle works part-time as a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) at Lutheran Children’s Hospital, and Andrew is the executive director of NeighborLink Fort Wayne (Ind.).

William and Laurabelle Winner are the proud parents of Erianna Noel born November 11, 2010. Also, William was recently promoted to lieutenant in the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). He served three tours in the Gulf of Mexico during the oil spill, and was awarded the NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers (ACO) Engineering Medal.

2004

Matt Traylor is the new head boys basketball coach at Shawe Memorial High School in Madison, Ind. Kylee Turner married Adam McMurray on October 10, 2010, in Cicero, Ind. Taylor participants included: Zeke Turner ’00, Jessa (Turner ’02) Stults, Courtney Turner ’11, Amanda (Cupp ’04) Zook and Brandy (Thornburgh ’04) Horn.

Father of the bride is P. Eric Turner ’74. Kylee is an accounting manager for Mainstreet. Adam is a corrections officer at the Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility and a full-time student.

2005

Michael Cox is a motorsports consultant with KHP Consulting.
They had their bags packed and ready to go to the hospital when the time came for the blessed event but Miles had other ideas. On their way out the door on a cool April morning, Whitney realized Miles was coming so fast that they would not make it to the hospital. So they went back inside where their midwife delivered the baby right there in the student lounge. Later that day, mother and child were fine—no word on the father.

During chapel a few days later, Campus Pastor Randy Gruendyke and other campus dignitaries presented the family with a Board of Trustees resolution naming Miles a True Son of Taylor. Miles joins mom, dad and older sister Lucy, as well as hundreds of adoring big brothers and sisters.

Based in London, England, and Abu Dhabi, UAE, KHP is a sports marketing firm specializing in circuit consultancy, sponsorship acquisition, event management and hospitality in Formula One. Michael completed a master’s degree in organization, strategy and change management at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, in 2010. Michael can be reached at msc917@gmail.com.

- **08 Kerri Pegelow and Conor Angell '06** were married July 25, 2009, in Northfield, Minn. Wedding participants included: **Grant Anderson '06, Mike Bollinger '04, Jake Edgerton '07, Lia (Angell '04) Johnson, Dereck Kamwesa '06, Bryan McCart '06, Kara (Nichols '04) Barrett and Anne Tilton '04. The couple resides in Bloomington, Ind., where Kerri works at the Kelley School of Business and Conor is finishing his doctorate at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University.

**2006**

**09 Matthew Carmichael** married Emily Mott on September 5, 2010, in Tulsa, Okla. Taylor alumni in the wedding included: Seth Pietrini, Nathan Miley, Brett Shafer, Ryan Powell '07 and Kevin Nielsen '08. Matthew is in his first year of residency in emergency medicine at Metro Health Hospital, Grand Rapids, Mich. - **10 Nathan and Kate (Wofford) Miley** are the proud parents of Mary-Genieve (Nieva) born November 30, 2010. Nate teaches 5th grade and Kate left her art teaching position to stay at home. They live in Noblesville, Ind. Nieva is
THEIR NEED OUR MISSION IS IT YOURS?

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Eleven Taylor graduates are working at Black Forest Academy in Germany as missionaries. Front row (L-R): Susan Steele ’94, Joshua Nathan, Sharon (Cutsinger x’82) Favazza. Back row (L-R): Becky Beeh ’07, Dan Kastelein ’66, Judy (Englund ’66) Kastelein, Bonnie Spallinger TUFW ’98, Alyssa Smith ’07, Phil Smyrl ’08 and Isaac Micheals ’02. Not pictured is Greg Storrs ’00. • 02 Justin Zimmerman married Sarah Stieglitz on May 28, 2010, in Morton, Ill. In the wedding from Taylor were Adam Zimmerman TUFW ’08, Stephan Leman ’07 and Tom Smillie ’07.

2007
A film by Tim Sutherland and Jason North was accepted by the Heartland Film Festival in Indianapolis, Ind. The piece, Walk of Redemption, is the story of fellow Taylor graduate Mark Beckford ’09 and his ministry in The Bahamas. • 03 Katrina Thomas and Mark Roeseer were married in Western Springs, Ill., on March 26, 2011. Participating were Emily Johnson, Kelly (McCann) Casanova, Chris Miller ’05, Kasie (Abnet) Miller, Megan (Fisher) Dear and Katie Ames. Katrina is a 4th grade teacher in the Chicago suburbs and Mark is a sales supervisor for the higher education division at DCW in downtown Chicago. They live in Western Springs and can be reached at Mark.KatrinaRoeser@gmail.com. •

2008
Bradley Wood works at Liferay, Inc., as a front-end UI software engineer. Liferay delivers open source enterprise solutions for portals, publishing, content and collaboration.

2009
Upendra MBA ’09 and Sathy Kumar joyfully announce the arrival of Caleb David on February 10, 2011.

2010
04 Kimberly Rupp married Andrew Heffner on March 5, 2011, in Wauseon, Ohio. Taylor participants included: Beth Garrity, Kirk Schweitzer, Nathan Ringenberg and Brent Corbett ’11. Andrew is the athletic director for the Lebanon Boys and Girls Club and a high school football coach. Kim is a marketing specialist at Dr. Tavel Optical Group. The couple resides near Indianapolis, Ind.
Wrangling and being the Diaspora

During the series of interviews with the Taylor Board of Trustees prior to Marylou’s and my introduction as Taylor’s first lady and president, of all the thought-provoking questions the Board asked us, one question has continued to stand out in our memories.

What was our greatest fear about returning to Upland?

At that time, Marylou and I were completing 14 years of service with the American Bible Society. We had lived in New York City and traveled around the world. I can only assume the anticipated answer was related to the dramatic shift from one of the world’s largest cities to Upland, Indiana.

Rather, our fear as Marylou so articulately stated it, was that we might settle into that white, Anglo-Saxon comfort zone that we remembered from our student days more than 40 years ago. We needn’t have worried. The Taylor University we found when we returned in 2005 had come a long way from where it had been, and was just as committed as we were to growing even more into a welcoming place where students of different ethnicities, nationalities and backgrounds could assemble to receive an outstanding education in a Christ-centered atmosphere.

The theme of this issue of the Taylor magazine is Diaspora. So often the word is understood to describe only the scattering of people of similar values, ethnicity and belief systems throughout the world. As you consider it, Diaspora is not merely an outbound journey. Within the bond of a shared sense of mission and purpose, not only do we become the Diaspora as we spread throughout the world, others become our Diaspora as they come to Taylor.

I am convinced Taylor has embraced a renewed spirit of Diaspora. It starts with the people we hire to serve with us. As we continue to grow the number of ethnic and international members of our faculty and staff, each new member continues to demonstrate not only excellence in their field, but also a vibrant faith in Christ. In that same vein, it continues with each student who must meet the standards for admission to Taylor University in terms of academic ability and a commitment to grow in the knowledge and understanding of Christ.

Today the numbers of international and ethnic students at Taylor have more than doubled, climbing from 105 in 2005 to 235 this year. When combined with missionary (MK) and third culture (TCK) students, they comprise nearly 15 percent of our student body. Just as encouraging is the way our community has embraced them. A few weeks ago, when our international, ethnic, MK and TCK students presented the Annual Mosaic Night, it was a wonderful evening of music, costumes and sharing. But even better, these students shared their gifts with a packed house of their fellow students who celebrated and embraced them.

Within the more traditional understanding of Diaspora, the numbers of Taylor students, faculty and staff who study and serve abroad have also continued to rise. On average, 475 Taylor University students learn and/or serve in international settings each year. For five consecutive years, Open Doors, an annual survey published by the Institute of International Education and the U.S. Department of State, has ranked Taylor’s overseas study program on a nationwide scale. This year, 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).

Those figures were brought home for Marylou and me several weeks ago as we dined with three graduating students. While they came from different hometowns and backgrounds and were headed in different directions after graduation, each had experienced changed perspectives and lives during overseas study and service opportunities during their four years at Taylor.

It is with joy I can report to you, our alumni and friends, that the John 3:16 world which God loves is becoming more real to our students, faculty and staff with each passing year. And while we rejoice in the growth we have seen, much more is needed.

I am persuaded that this kind of growth will continue only if we remain authentically committed to this idea of intentional community. If we can do that, our students will continue to experience the reality of God’s love and calling in their classrooms, residence halls, chapel and dining hall. And they will be more thoroughly equipped to minister Christ’s redemptive love and truth to a world in need.
Kyle and Laura, two of the 490 graduates from the Class of 2011, are ready for the next chapter in life. They were married this summer and are living in Colorado Springs where Kyle will work for an accounting firm and Laura will be employed in the non-profit sector. Both Laura and Kyle benefitted from Taylor Fund Grants during their four years at Taylor.

Your gift to the Taylor Fund helps Laura and hundreds of other students attend Taylor. Thank you for your investment in Taylor students.
Taylor seniors Kate Kennedy, Charlynn Knighton and Bree (Holmberg) Cook have fun with the camera at the 100 Days 'Till Graduation Party in February. Commencement recap is on p.9.