Fall 2012

Taylor: A Magazine for Taylor University Alumni, Parents and Friends (Fall 2012)

Taylor University

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A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.

**Mahatma Gandhi**

There’s only one effectively redemptive sacrifice, the sacrifice of self-will to make room for the knowledge of God.

**Aldous Huxley**

In God’s world, for those who are in earnest, there is no failure. No work truly done, no word earnestly spoken, no sacrifice freely made, was ever made in vain.

**Frederick William Robertson**

Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love – Isaac – and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

**Genesis 22:2**

But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them.

**2 Samuel 24:24**

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**Psalm 51:17**
20  Out of control
Leanna Kelton ’07 was forced to flee from her home during last summer’s Waldo Canyon Fire in Colorado but recounts God’s faithfulness.

24  Losing my life for God
During his relatively short life, Chris Pegg ’06 overcame brain cancer and learning challenges to graduate from Taylor. But even more remarkable was the work done in his life by the Holy Spirit.

28  Wearing each other’s residue – the beautiful mess of community
Many want “community,” but what do they really mean? J.R. Briggs ’01 explains why the concept of “community” must include the messy as well as the joyful.

32  Thanksgiving in sorrow
Adolf and Bonnie (Metzger ’59) Hansen ’59 responded to the death of their daughter with trust, obedience and open hearts.
A COSTLY, LIVING SACRIFICE...

Why Sacrifice? There are many reasons why not. For beginners, the word conjures up so many negative images: blood, fire, death, injury and loss. Some could argue the concept of sacrifice is downright odious to those living in our 21st century Western culture.

Yet, we use the word “Sacrifice” because God Himself uses the word. God commanded sacrifices in the Old Testament. He sacrificed His one and only Son to restore us to Himself. And then He calls upon us to live sacrificial lives in response to His goodness and love. A scripture that has often convicted me comes from Romans 12:

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.*

In this issue of *Taylor*, we tell a few stories of members of the Taylor community whose lives reflect that living sacrifice that the Apostle Paul called us to in Romans. You will read how one family responded to the crippling loss of their daughter, how another worshipped God amidst physical ailments and learning challenges, as yet another entrusted her life and possessions to the Lord’s care during last summer’s wildfires in Colorado.

We all pray that your spirit might be touched and challenged by these stories. Most of all, it is our prayer that you might be called to an even deeper relationship with the God who loved us while we were still sinners.

We love because He first loved us.
An estimated 800 members of the Taylor University community packed the Euler Science Complex atrium for dedication ceremonies October 19, the opening day of Homecoming. The dedication marked the official end of years of anticipation and the beginning of new opportunities for generations of Taylor students.

“It is a story that has been marked with perseverance for over a decade, as people with unrelenting capacity helped keep the dream of a new science building alive,” said President Eugene B. Habecker ’68. “This complex became a priority of Taylor because the faculty and staff of this place have had, for decades, a deep love for the sciences as an integral part of God’s kingdom.”

The event was held in the Lembright Atrium, named for former Vice President for Student Development Wynn Lembright and his wife, Bonnie. The lower level was filled with chairs and attendees also lined overlooking balconies and bridges.

As well as the venerable Nussbaum Science Center had served the Taylor community, it was obvious the new Euler facility had been sorely needed for a number of years. During their remarks, speakers told stories of students forced to meet with their professors on hallway floors. Other speakers told how valuable lab time was diminished because the students constantly were setting up and tearing down their projects because the space was needed for other classes.

“The organic lab specifically offers a lot more space than the former chemistry lab,” psychology pre-med major Chris Girgis’14 said. “We’re the only class in that lab, so we can come in any time during the week and work,” biology major Elliot Day ’14 added.

“I realized how blessed we were,” biology pre-med major Kehlay Dunah ’15 said. “I was totally okay with our lab. I accepted it, and I appreciated what we had when we had it. Being in this building - we are just really blessed.”

More than 600 people contributed to the $41.4 million project. Ground was broken for the foundation May 20, 2010. The facility opened for classes this fall, rearranging academic departments campus wide, and putting students in new naturally-lit classrooms.

“We are only at the beginning chapter of what we hope will be a very long story,” Habecker said in his remarks at the dedication. “A story of new discoveries, of sustainability, of lives transformed because of what we celebrate here this afternoon.”

A DEEP LOVE FOR THE SCIENCES
HUNDREDS ATTEND EULER DEDICATION
The summertime job for Stephanie Caudle ‘13 did not involve lifeguarding, selling cutlery or turning burgers. But there was travel involved – she drove from Columbus and Dayton, Ohio, to Cincinnati and points between to ask Taylor University alumni who had not been as deeply engaged as others for their impressions of Taylor. And then she just sat back and listened.

Caudle was one of 12 Taylor students who spent their summer visiting more than 500 alumni in 12 states from locales including New York, Philadelphia and Cincinnati to Grand Rapids, Indianapolis and Chicago. Nearly 90 percent of the alumni said they felt Taylor is moving in the right direction, that they draw on what they learned at Taylor, and that a professor at Taylor had a profound impact on their lives. Over half expressed interest in becoming more involved with their alma mater. Concerns expressed by alumni included rising tuition costs and the need for greater scholarship assistance. “With the number of living alumni growing every year, Taylor has increased its efforts in recent years, introducing a number of initiatives as a part of a ‘ministry of listening’ to create a more interactive, participative community,” said Brent Rudin ’94 associate vice president for alumni and parent relations. “This is to ensure that Taylor’s decisions are informed, enriched and guided by the faith and wisdom of our alumni.”

Anna Tragesser ‘14 visited alumni in the Fort Wayne area. “Everyone has a different experience. If there was criticism, I would just apologize and tell them that we wanted to hear that too. We were interested in hearing their story. “I really expected to have more of a balance between positive and negative but it was overwhelmingly positive,” she continued. “Sometimes life gets in the way and you are just not that connected to your alma mater, and that’s totally understandable.”

“I think the best thing about doing this for me was having the privilege of being able to sit with alumni of all different ages, and getting that wisdom from people who have just come out of Taylor.”

To receive a copy of the executive summary, contact: alumni@taylor.edu.
“You talked. We listened.” The phrase has become such a fixture in the business world that a Google search of those words yielded more than 27 million results. And it was one of the guideposts for planners during preparation for the 2012 Homecoming at Taylor, held October 19-21.

Beyond the obvious dedication of Taylor’s new Euler Science Complex, Homecoming featured a revamped reunion model that moved away from the traditional sit-down dinners toward tailgating, barbecues and brunches. The new format allowed for more coming and going, and most importantly, mingling, said Brent Rudin ’94, associate vice president for Alumni and Parent Relations at Taylor.

“More than anything else, people want to talk,” Rudin said. “We responded to feedback. Our alumni told us they wanted places to gather and have those conversations without being rushed. We provided some opportunities for them to not just be stuck at a dinner table, but to mingle around at a reception or tailgate. That is definitely what people want.”

“We wanted to put an emphasis on getting young alumni to come back,” Rudin added. “We added a kids’ play zone so families could feel like they could bring their kids; the five and ten-year reunions were big groups this year.”

Additional special events included a football game between Taylor and nationally-ranked Saint Xavier University and the 100-year anniversary of Taylor’s venerable student newspaper The Echo.

Alumni award recipients included: Katie Taylor ’02 and Matt Storer ’91 for professional and personal achievement, Brian Hoover ’94 for service to Taylor, and Jerry Cramer, former parents liaison and fundraising staff member, who was named an honorary alumnus.

The 2012 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees were Eric Ford ’06 (basketball), Christel Mulder ’02 (cross country/track), Jon Jenkins ’00 (football), and Joe Romine ’70 for meritorious service. Romine served as athletic director, head golf coach and assistant football coach during his 40-year tenure at Taylor.
For the sixth straight year, Taylor University is the number one Midwest University in the Best Regional Colleges category of U.S. News & World Report survey, America’s Best Colleges. Prior to its breakthrough in 2007, Taylor had been ranked in the region’s top three for ten straight years.

To put it in context, in 1997 when Taylor began its 16-year run in the region’s top three, Dr. Jay Kesler ’58 was president, the Comet Hale-Bopp lit up the nighttime skies over Upland, and this year’s incoming freshmen were just three years old. Titanic was the year’s top grossing film, Mother Teresa died, Bill Clinton was inaugurated for his second term as U.S. President, and the space shuttle Columbia flew three of NASA’s eight shuttle missions.

Among the Midwest’s Best Regional Colleges, Taylor ranked first in peer assessment score, freshman retention rate, graduation rate, and its ability to attract freshmen from the top 25% of their high school class. Taylor’s alumni giving rate was ranked second.

“We are grateful for this latest recognition from U.S. News and express gratitude to our Lord,” said Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68, Taylor University president. “These rankings are the result of the efforts of many members of the Taylor University community. To our faculty and students, our staff and administrative colleagues, and to our alumni, parents, and friends, we offer our heartfelt thanks and congratulations for continuing classroom excellence and world-impacting achievement.”

Taylor was also recognized for its overseas study program and in a survey called Great Schools at Great Prices.

A COMPLETE LIST OF THE U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT RANKINGS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.USNEWS.COM.
Casual observers could have thought the hundreds of Taylor University students who gathered in the parking lot of a local convenience store for what was billed as, “The Biggest Polar Pop Run You’ve Ever Seen!” had a powerful thirst that could only be satisfied by an 89 cent fountain beverage. But it was never about the large soft drinks say the organizers. Situated at the corner of Berry and Main Streets, the convenience store has been known by many names: The Express, Handy Andy and most recently, Circle K. The store has been a staple for Taylor students for years because of its close proximity to the campus and the dirt-cheap price of their jumbo 32-oz fountain drinks. But all of that was threatened in mid-August when Circle K corporate officials decided to pull the plug on the outlet.

News of the store’s impending closure quickly spread and when Taylor juniors Tom Rutzen and Josh Bates heard about it, they resolved to either try to save it, or send it off with a bang. “We wanted to say thank you to the employees,” said Rutzen. “We wanted to show our appreciation for all their hard work. They’ve shown us their love through what they do. We wanted to return the favor. Also, there were tons of freshmen who had never experienced a ‘Polar Pop Run,’ and we thought it might be our last chance. So we figured, why not make the world’s largest?”

Though Rutzen and Bates were hoping for a modest turnout of 100 students, more than 400 committed to the Facebook event on the first day. By August 26, just hours before the store’s impending closure, nearly a thousand students said they planned to attend. That evening, a line of hundreds of students stretched out the door and down the street. “The students let us know ahead of time about the run so we were ready,” said store employee Jason Hollingsworth. “It was busy, but very uplifting. We had a dozen people less than twelve hours from losing their jobs, so they’re very appreciative.”

As it happened, publicity generated by the event piqued the interest of a Grant County businessman, who bought the business, thus saving the jobs of the store’s employees. The renamed store is now The Upland Pit Stop.

“Taylor … We want to thank every one of you… our jobs have been saved!” wrote employee Justina Wallace on the event’s Facebook page. “You don’t know how much we appreciate the statement you all made with the Polar Pop Run!”

MORE THAN POLAR POPS

Dr. Erik Hayes, Physical Education and Human Performance, co-authored a paper in review in the Journal of Applied Physiology: New Records in Aerobic Power Among Lifelong Endurance Trained Octogenarians.

Dr. Dennis E. Hensley, Professional Writing, signed a three-book contract with AMG Publishers. The first in the series, Jesus in the 9 to 5, will be released at Christmas with an initial press run of 50,000 copies.

Dr. Stephen King, Political Science, had an article Judicial Integrity and Budget Cuts in the States: Is the Devil in the Details accepted for publication in Justice System Journal, Winter 2013.


Dr. Richard Min, Computer Science and Engineering, presented Biblical Paradox and "I Am" sayings in the Johannine Literature and A Critical Method toward the Analysis of Biblical Paradox of Circularity at the Society of Biblical Literature’s International Meeting in Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 2012.

Dr. John Moore ’72, Biology, was elected president of the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers.


Dr. Stephen Snyder directed 10 students in summer research projects focused on topics including: critical thinking; intercultural issues; mind/body; fit in health; corruption in leadership; intrinsic motivation; and CRAM assessment.

Dr. Don Takehara, Chemistry, completed research on wind turbine reliability and optimization with engineering physics student Tom Sargent ’13. The project was funded by NASA through the Indiana Space Grant Consortium.

Dr. Hank Voss, Physics, presented at two national conferences on the topic of teaching the introductory astronomy course by integrating statements from the Genesis account of creation with observed cosmological data and processes.

Dr. Art White, Computer Science and Engineering, revised and released Wordsurv 7 Beta, summer 2012. Wordsurv is software that aids missionaries in language and Bible translation.

Dr. Tom Nurkkala, Computer Science and Engineering, and his students are creating Verse Minder – an iPhone application for Bible memory for The Navigators (Software Studio project) and 5Fish – an application to distribute gospel audio recordings for Global Recordings Network using Android mobile devices.
His official title had been Professor, Athletic Director and Coach, but it was in the unwritten portions of his job description that Dr. Joe Romine ’70 touched as many, if not more lives. During his Taylor Athletic Hall of Fame induction Oct. 19, Romine was lauded for the unseen things: driving vans filled with student athletes, counseling one of his athletes to date only one girl because to do otherwise was “playing with fire,” or once even getting down on his hands and knees to apply masking tape to Taylor’s old Tartan floor in the Odle Arena.

It was for meritorious service that Romine was honored that morning. Just three hours later, he died.

“Dr. Joe Romine, my coach, was a great, great educator,” remembered Trent Bowers ’95, one of hundreds of students whose lives Romine touched during his tenure. “I wouldn’t be who I am today without Coach’s tough love and influence in my life.”

“I was saddened for the Romine family when I heard the news of Joe’s passing,” said fellow inductee Christel (Deal ’02) Mulder. “I can only imagine the glorious induction he received on Saturday afternoon. That morning’s honor had only been a warm-up for a faithful servant.”

Romine is survived by his wife of 43 years Carol (Luginbill ’70), two children Kelli ’97 (Childs), Kyle ’00, and three grandchildren.
HOME IMPROVEMENT

The fall 2012 season was the inaugural season for the new soccer/football stadium and volleyball fans were greeted with new state-of-the-art bleachers in Odle Arena. The season also brought a change to the Mid-Central Collegiate Conference (MCC) name – it is now the Crossroads League.

Putting a bow on the 2011-2012 academic year, 20 Taylor Trojan student-athletes earned prestigious Capital One Academic All-America awards. Taylor’s 20 Academic All-Americans was the most in the country at any level – more than traditional academic powerhouses Harvard, Stanford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Capital One Academic All-Americans must be varsity starters or key reserves, maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.30 on a 4.00 scale, and have reached sophomore athletic and academic standings at their universities.

MEN’S SOCCER 10-9-1 (4-4-1)
• Ranked in the Top 25 for three consecutive weeks
• Ryan Beachler ’14 was named Crossroads League Defensive Player of the Week in October
• Danny Cawley ’15 is tied for second in the Crossroads League with seven assists

MEN’S TENNIS 4-9 (2-5)
• Kenny Cassidy ’14 and Michael Reynolds ’15 went 8-5 in No. 2 and No. 3 doubles play

MEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
• Zach Warner ’15 qualified for nationals.
• Placed four runners in the top 50 at the Indiana Intercollegiate Championships
• Took second at the Indiana Wesleyan Invitational

VOLLEYBALL 20-17 (13-5)
• Ranked in the Top 25 coaches poll for seven straight weeks
• Ali Swart ’13 won both Crossroads League Hitter of the Week and Player of the Week in October
• Casey Allen ’16 leads the Crossroads League with 131 blocks

WOMEN’S SOCCER 13-5-1 (5-3-1)
• Emily Von Raesfeld ’13 had a hat-trick (three goals) in Taylor’s 8-0 win over St. Mary of the Woods and was named the Crossroads League Offensive Player of the Week
• Molly Drooger ’14 leads the Crossroads League with 51 shots on goal and is second with 17 goals

WOMEN’S TENNIS 5-8 (4-4)
• Won four straight Crossroads League matches for the third straight season
• Got first sweep of the year by defeating Cornerstone 9-0 to end the regular season

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
• Elaine Schmeltz ’15 and Allison Steinbeck ’15 were named Crossroads League Runner of the Week in back-to-back weeks to start October
• Took first place at the Indiana Wesleyan Invitational
• Ranked as high as 21st nationally, ranked in every coaches poll
• Schmeltz, Steinbeck, Jenna Norris ’15 and Jane Hawks ’16 earned All-Indiana honors at the Indiana Intercollegiate Championships; Hawks also qualified for nationals.

Visit athletics.taylor.edu for current athletic news
FOOTBALL
3-6 (1-4)

Kept the Wagon Wheel for the fifth straight year with a 46-0 win at Anderson.

Opened the new stadium with a 41-14 win over Iowa Wesleyan College.

A 70-yard, multiple tackle-breaking touchdown run by Robbie Robbins ’14 was featured on ESPN SportsCenter’s Top Ten Plays.

Taylor quarterback Nick Freeman scrambles during Taylor’s first football game at the new facility. The Trojans defeated Iowa Wesleyan College 41-14.
The Puritans who founded Harvard University understood the right goals for education. One of the rules of their new college was this: “let every student be plainly instructed, and earnestly pressed to consider well, [that] the main end of his life and studies is, to know God and Jesus Christ ... and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom, as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning.”

I myself attended a Christian College – a sister institution of Taylor’s – and had high aspirations to serve God and humankind as a medical doctor. It was not until my senior year that I came to understand God was more interested in the person I was becoming than in what I planned to do for Him, and that knowing becoming like Christ in my inner being had to be the priorities of my life. If that became the foundation of my “knowing” and “being,” He would actively guide my future “doing.”

At Taylor University, we offer an intentionally designed program of study grounded upon the Christian liberal arts philosophy of education. Despite the fact we have one School specifically called the School of the Liberal Arts and we offer other academic disciplines that may be called applied or professional, those disciplines of study and the entirety of Taylor’s academic and co-curricular programs are established upon and thoroughly imbued with Christian liberal arts ideals.

As I see it, there are three major goals of Taylor’s Christian liberal arts program. First, the goal of a Christ-centered liberal arts education is not indoctrination but rather liberation. The philosopher, Arthur F. Holmes wrote, “Christian education ... should open [student’s eyes] to truth wherever it may be found, truth that is ultimately unified in and derived from God. It should be a liberating experience that enlarges horizons, deepens insight, sharpens the mind, exposes new areas of inquiry, and sensitizes our ability to appreciate the good and beautiful as well as the true.”

I grew up in a church that was blatantly anti-intellectual and based almost entirely on emotional experiences. It was in college that I discovered for the first time that there is an intellectual dimension to Christianity. I cannot tell you how liberating it was to realize that the key to maturing in Christ is through the life of the mind. Healthy emotions and
righteous behavior are the end products of the mind renewed or transformed by the Holy Spirit in synergy with our self-directed efforts to learn and apply that learning to our lives. I also found it almost intoxicating to discover and connect with the intellectual life of God not only through a better understanding of His work through Christ but also His work in creation.

Our rigorous academic and co-curricular programs are intentionally designed to nurture the cultivation and refinement of “intellectual virtues.” These include the refinement of one’s abilities to calculate, measure, hypothesize, reason, question, imagine, discern, organize, invent, design, problem solve, create and synthesize among many others. These are invaluable tools that our students draw upon and hone for the rest of their lives.

Our second goal is the cultivation of Christ-like character in each student. I witnessed firsthand throughout my career the inability of education alone to transform a person’s character. From the time I left college in the mid-70’s until the year 2001, I was supervised in my work at three different institutions by five supervisors. Each of them had doctoral degrees from places like Harvard, Yale, Johns Hopkins, and Cambridge. And yet each of them ended up being charged with violating federal laws or regulations and subsequently was punished for their crimes.

At Taylor University we are committed to helping students apply the maturing life of the mind to the formation of Christ-like character and behavior through academic and co-curricular educational programs. Space allows me to single out one particular instrument of God’s grace that is available at Taylor for spiritual formation – that is the grace of living in Christian community.

Living in a Christian community does not mean we should expect to live in perfect harmony with one another. Nor does it mean that the grace of community is stymied or absent when human failings inevitably manifest themselves among us. Rather, these are the times when the community of grace is most effective in our spiritual formation.

It is through the grace of community that we begin to learn the truth about ourselves. God knows that we will never commit ourselves to the collaborative work of spiritual transformation until we stop living in denial about sin in each of our lives. God uses people in this Christian community to teach and model for us how to give and receive forgiveness and acceptance, to help heal our wounds, to comfort us in our grief, to befriend us after betrayal, to bring about justice when we are weak, to help carry our burden and to keep us focused on Him when we are discouraged. Thus community and conflict may rightly be seen as opportunities to identify areas in our lives that God wants to work on, to train ourselves by acting in God-pleasing ways, and to learn from those He puts in our path.

The final goal of Taylor’s Christian liberal arts program is the cultivation of servant leadership in our students. From the beginning, one of the highest goals or most valued outcomes of a liberal arts education has been the equipping of people to be good citizens. So too a Christian liberal arts education equips students to effectively serve both a global society and God’s Kingdom in the 21st century.

This is why Taylor stresses in its mission the development of servant leadership. I believe a servant’s heart is evidence of the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in a Christ following believer. A servant leader in this context is not one who wields clout but one who brings positive change to any situation as an agent of Christ’s grace. Such leadership is not confined to either a corporate board or to a church board, but it is leadership that can and must be exercised in every role God calls us to fill.

I believe the only worthy goal for higher education is to prepare students for a life-long journey of progressively renewing their minds and transforming their lives so that they may know Christ intimately, exhibit His character genuinely, obey Him joyfully, serve Him effectively, make Him known liberally, represent Him authentically, and glorify Him eternally. I came here because I believe the Taylor University community is committed to these higher, Christ-centered educational goals and because I am convinced that the Christian liberal arts philosophy, upon which all Taylor programs are designed, provides the very best foundation for students to realize these lofty goals. My wife Peggy and I are delighted that God has led us to serve with you as co-laborers for Christ.

Soli deo Gloria!
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.

**Women’s Giving Circle growing**

“The Giving Circle is a special group of women who are truly making a positive difference in the minds, hearts and souls of Taylor faculty. They have ignited creative fire throughout the University. May the Lord continue to bless them and their efforts to inspire Taylor faculty and encourage Taylor students.”

Dr. Tom Jones ’71, Dean of School of Liberal Arts

- 40 members (compared to 19 in first year)
- $73,000 raised from the membership (compared to $32,500 in first year)
- $18,000 given to the Taylor Fund to support scholarships; $55,000 awarded to support 22 out of 32 proposals submitted by faculty
- Grants ranged from $1,000 to $5,000

Get involved!

For more information, contact Sherri Harter, Associate Vice President for Development, shharter@taylor.edu, or 800-882-3456. Or visit www.taylor.edu/giving.
“We were excited when our daughter Heidi chose to attend Taylor. After she began her freshman year, it was satisfying to discover that Taylor was true to its mission. Heidi graduated with life-long Christian friendships, a great education, and a deeper heart for learning. This came from dedicated professors who feel called to minister through higher education and find ways to engage their students personally.

“Because we want to see an excellent Christian college education like that at Taylor University become accessible to the next generation of students and prepare for our retirement--it made good sense to utilize the Charitable Gift Annuity.”

Peggy (Douglas’75) and John Hirt

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

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

Contact Mike Falder or Nelson Rediger in the Office of Planned Giving: 765-998-5538, or email mcfalder@taylor.edu or nlrediger@taylor.edu.
Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.
out of control

by Leanna Kelton
It was really, really hot in Colorado Springs and my thermostat read 92 degrees (air conditioning isn’t a necessity most summers in Colorado Springs; the elevation and arid climate usually account for cool evenings). I am the type of person who likes to unpack as soon as I return from a trip, but due to exhaustion, I left my suitcases unopened on the floor. I stayed current on the fire evacuations while at work the next day, although nobody could have predicted how the evening of Tuesday, June 26, would unfold. Deadlines kept me at work later than usual and I, like many others, just wanted to get home.

It was late when my fiancé and I returned home to Colorado Springs from a weekend trip to visit my family. I had heard radio reports and seen photos of the Waldo Canyon Fire that had erupted just west of the city.
I learned that ultimately, I am in control of nothing. This was an opportunity for my faith and perseverance to be displayed for God’s glory.
The glow of the fire turned the sky a dark orange, and I kept hearing on the radio that this fire was displaying extreme and unpredictable behavior. I drove quickly and strategically to get home; I called my fiancé and hearing the panic in my voice he rushed over to help me evacuate. I grabbed my unopened suitcases and a few important items and documents and rushed out the door. The panic I was feeling was confirmed by the gridlock of traffic and the announcement of “mandatory evacuation” on the radio. It took me an hour to go a quarter-of-a-mile. Moments of very real fear came upon me, and to combat them, I sang hymns, recited Scripture or whispered a frantic prayer.

Once we made it to safety, I stood paralyzed, watching fire ravaging the mountainside and Colorado Springs neighborhoods. From our vantage point a few miles away we could see the fire engulfing house after house shooting flames higher and higher into the air. We could hear the explosions as the fire reached each propane tank. It truly felt like a scene from a war zone. Two people died and 346 homes were lost that evening. The Waldo Canyon Fire was the most devastating fire in Colorado history. I was very grateful I had a place to return; I know many families who lost everything.

In the weeks that followed, much time was spent reflecting on the magnitude of this catastrophic event. I attend Woodmen Valley Chapel, which serves the west side of Colorado Springs, and we learned one-third of the families who lost homes attended our church. I’ve driven in the burn area three times, each time trying to wrap my mind around the magnitude of it all. Some homes appeared untouched, while neighbors’ homes were reduced to ashes. The community responded with an outpouring of love and resources and it has unified our city. The burn scar from the Waldo Canyon Fire will be visible to the residents of Colorado Springs for many years, serving as a reminder of the heat, the fire, the pain and the devastation. But it will also remind us of hope, growth and regeneration.

As I have continued to grow in my relationship with the Lord, there have been many times of intense fire and heat while the dross is burned away. Through a season this past spring of debilitating migraine-like headaches, I learned that ultimately, I am in control of nothing. This was an opportunity for my faith and perseverance to be displayed for God’s glory. I have felt the pain and confusion of loss with the passing of two grandparents whose deaths last summer came within a month of each other. The pain of death is real and makes me keenly aware that we weren’t made for this. It is a reality in our lives as a consequence of sin.

1 Peter 1:6-7 says, “In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith — more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” We won’t always have an answer for the painful events in our lives, but there is hope in knowing that if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come (2 Corinthians 5:17). The Lord is still at work and we know He will ultimately give Himself glory.

Reflecting on those difficult days can serve as a reminder to all of us that God is in control, regardless of the situation, that He loves us, and is rich in mercy and love. “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.” (Psalm 91:1)
LOSING MY LIFE FOR GOD

by CHRISTOPHER M. PEGG ’06

EDITOR’S NOTE: Chris Pegg ’06 was only three-years-old when he was diagnosed with Ependymoblastoma, a rare brain cancer. His doctors initially told his family that he had, maybe, a year to live. Chris lived not one year, but 27 more years before his unexpected death last summer.

His life was not easy, but it was good. While the cancer left him with challenges, namely learning disabilities and a shortness of stature, he loved fishing, golfing and being an uncle. But the thing that drew those who knew him closer was his infectious smile and love of Jesus.

Only days before the Lord called him home, Chris was moved to write his testimony for a Facebook post. We have reprinted it here, as he wrote it. May God give each of us the joy that was so obvious in Chris Pegg’s life.

JRG
Some things are harder for me in this world, God has been teaching me to be thankful for what gifts I do have as a person and therefore I have been trying to focus on the strengths and blessings that He has given me.
Most of my life I have dealt with the fact that I was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor (Ependymoblastoma) at the age of three years old. I do not remember much of this incident in this time of my life, but my parents remind me often of the tragedy that they went through as I battled against this form of cancer.

When I was diagnosed with brain cancer, my parents were told that the type of treatment I was going to have would not been available a year ago. After surgery and a series of radiation and chemotherapy, I had a stroke and developed Spinal meningitis. After a remarkable recovery I was able to go home. The doctors wanted to give me one good year of life for they were afraid that the cancerous cells would return. To day I am 30 years old and living strong!

All that remains of this cancer is lack of height in appearance due to the brain tumor, and a learning disability known as Aphasia due to the stroke. As for now I thank God for my life, and I enjoy living life to the fullest!

Putting together the pieces of my life and who I am as a person for the longest time I did not care to much about knowing about my tumor, something that I vaguely remember but as life goes on you began to wonder more about yourself. I began finding links to people with brain cancer. Days would go by where I search the web and see many stories of people who are suffering from brain tumors or have lost a loved one who has died from this cancer, and this blows my mind! I often come back to my story, to remind myself that I am not my own but rather God’s, for He is the one who has saved me, and to Him I owe my life.

Sometimes I thank God for my learning disability, I feel like it slows things down, allowing me to think before reacting to a situation, like saying something that does not need to be said. Other times I would rather just be normal, it is never easy to explain to someone my disability once it comes to reading and how it takes me longer to read though a sentence. Although some things are harder for me in this world, God has been teaching me to be thankful for what gifts I do have as a person and there for I have been trying to focus on the strengths and blessings that He has given me.

Be thankful for who you are! We all are beautiful in God’s eyes! We all are made differently, some smarter than others, some small some tall. It does not matter, we are just skin and bones as Coldplay puts it “Look at the stars, look how they shine for you.” The stars in the sky are just a glimpse of the blessings God has giving me and there for shall continue to praise for what He is doing in my life. Losing my life for God so I may gain it.

Note: The Pegg family hopes to establish a scholarship at Taylor University in Chris’ memory for future students who, like Chris, overcame their challenges to complete a college education.
WEARING EACH OTHER’s RESIDUE

by J.R. Briggs ’01

AMBER AND PAUL ARE A YOUNG COUPLE IN OUR CHURCH. They have been married for a few years and have an infant son. They are part of a small group within our church body and from all appearances have a wonderful life. But unbeknownst to their friends, Amber struggles with deep depression – the result of childhood issues and the recent birth of their son. One day, during a small group meeting, Amber courageously spoke up: “I need help. When Paul is at work, I drink. I drink a lot. And it’s not healthy. Will you help me?”

Community is a beautiful concept, but I sense that it is grossly misunderstood. Over the years, many people in our church have told me they “just want community.” When I press them for more, asking them what they mean by community, few are able to articulate it well. But those who do usually possess one of two main convictions:

1. Community is a strong and emotional experience, and,
2. Community is knowing others and being known.
LOVE IS CHOOSING TO WASH THE FEET OF THOSE WHO YOU KNOW WILL BETRAY YOU. THIS IS TRUE COMMUNITY LOVE.
Certainly, these convictions can be, and many times are, welcomed byproducts of lives lived in healthy, biblically-shaped community. But it is not the end goal. I can find no evidence Jesus ever called his followers to search for warm, fuzzy feelings. It’s more than just being known. It’s more than giving someone permission to look in the junk drawer of your life. If we only possess a cardboard cutout perspective of community, what happens when that cardboard gets soaked in a thunderstorm? It becomes flimsy and wilts because it lacks the strength to stand against the elements.

Long after graduating from Taylor in 2001, I realized the towel I received during commencement wasn’t just a nice memento from the school to stick in my closet next to my cap and gown. The towel is one of the central symbols in understanding the reality of community as Jesus intended it to be understood. Although I’ve read the passage in John 13 more times than I am able to count, and even preached on the passage a handful of times, recently I have been struck by the passage in fresh ways.

Jesus knew his Father had put everything under his control. Knowing that, he got up and exhibited the most radical act of love the disciples had ever experienced. He loved them to the end and washed and dried their feet. They must have been rendered speechless by this reversal of cultural expectations - the Master doing the work of the Servant. The residue from their feet was now literally on Jesus. He wears their residue.

Undoubtedly, the disciples were stunned by what they saw. Jesus then challenged his students, “Now that I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you should also wash one another’s feet.” He sets the example, and then tells them they will be blessed if they do what he did (verse 17).

I am struck by the depth of Jesus’ love, especially as he washed the feet of Judas. What might Judas have been thinking as his feet were being washed by the same man he would betray in a few hours? And what might Jesus have been thinking as he humbly held Judas’ calloused, dirty feet? Love is choosing to wash the feet of those who you know will betray you. This is true community love.

SO WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF HEALTHY, BIBLICALLY-INFORMED CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY?

First, it is only when we are vulnerable that we will experience growth. It is impossible to grow deeper and closer in our journey with God and others until we have courageously opened ourselves up. Yes, we may get hurt (and we may hurt others in the process) but life’s highest highs and lowest lows are found in the midst of relationship - but it’s worth it.

Second, community is not the absence of conflict, but the presence of Jesus in the midst of the conflict. If we think a conflict-free environment is the basis for all Christian community, we have missed the point. Conflict, in fact, may be the catalyst in strengthening our commitment to God and to others. It is a reality I have lived in my Taylor residence hall, my ministry, and even my marriage. Ironically, the times we want to pull our hair out and throw our hands up in the air and say, “God, unless you help me, I can’t love this person!” may be when we truly experience Christian community as it was intended to be experienced: in messiness and utter dependence upon and faith in God. Like Jesus, we wear the residue of each other.

Finally, God-honoring discipleship cannot occur outside of community. We cannot possibly follow Jesus’ clear two-pronged approach to life - love God and love others - when it is devoid of community. One of Satan’s most effective tools is to convince us that we are all alone. Christ combats this initiative by giving us the gift of the Church, where we share our lives with others who can challenge, support, guide, encourage and teach us what Christian community actually looks like.

Returning to my friend Amber, her courage and transparency mobilized the members of her small group. Several women called every day to check in with her. One of the leaders connected regularly with Paul to find out how he was doing. Group members went along to doctor’s appointments and even babysat their son, allowing Amber and Paul to have date nights.

That is a picture of biblical community in all its messiness, vulnerability and heartbreak. And yet, it is circumstances like these when we can do no more or less than to pause and say, “Thank you, God.” This true biblical community allows us to groan and wail and cry and cheer and hug one another in a way that makes us look around and say, “I think this is what Jesus had in mind when he created the Church.” In other words, we wear each other’s residue.

What happens in times like this is more than just a noteworthy, goose bump-inducing experience. The collective faith of people is stretched, people’s walks with God are deepened, the Holy Spirit is present and life is lived deeply and richly as people choose to follow the example of Jesus by wearing the residue of others.

The towel is much more than a piece of cloth. It is a call to come and die together with others in the name of Jesus, the One who modeled that for us in such a dramatic way.

J.R. Briggs is a husband, daddy, friend, author, shepherd, teacher, follower of Jesus, church planter, peace-maker, rule-breaker and dreamer who lives near Philadelphia, Pa.

To hear more, visit www.taylor.edu/thetowel.
THANKSGIVING IN SORROW
A wistful smile drifts across the faces of Adolf and Naomi (Metzger ’59) Hansen ’59 when they talk about their daughter Bonnie. The couple still laughs about the number of times she changed majors during her college years at DePauw University. Then there was this self-confidence she possessed that wasn’t arrogant, just honest. And Bonnie had this delightful sense of humor that they still see today in their grandson, her nephew. Perhaps most of all, their hearts are filled as they remember Bonnie’s relentless pursuit of tough questions and her deep trust relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
For Bonnie, no question was out of bounds. One needs only pick up a newspaper to realize there is incredible evil in the world. Yet, her heartfelt conviction was that God was omniscient and good. Yet she could ask with a sincere heart, how could God be moral and not intervene? It is a question that Adolf and Naomi have wrestled with over and over again in the 16 years since an accident claimed the life of their daughter.

Bonnie was struck by an Indianapolis city bus on May 9, 1996, on her way home from her place of work as an attorney. She died the next day, Adolf’s birthday, and the day before Mother’s Day. Bonnie’s sudden loss left grieving family members and colleagues, as well as a husband whom she had married only 10 months before. The Hansens still remember the words of one of her close college friends who greeted them with the words, “This really sucks.” And it did.

“I remember talking with Adolf after Bonnie’s death about a verse in Thessalonians (5:17). ‘Did it say give thanks for everything? Or in everything?’” Naomi remembers. “I couldn’t thank God for this, but I could thank God for helping us in this very difficult situation.”

In the days after their daughter’s death the two were going through her belongings when they found four Bibles – each a different translation, but with a common thread: Bonnie had underlined Proverbs 3:5-6, writing in the margin of one, “My favorite verses.”

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

“Trust is at the very core of who Naomi and I are,” Adolf says. “We met at Taylor as students and we’ve been married a long time – 53 years – and we have such a deep trust between us. This experience increased our trust toward each other. It also increased our trust toward God, though it certainly shook it as well.”

As the Hansens learned, grief was not an event, but a journey. And as they traveled further down that road, the question of “Why?” began to fade. “Stuff happens,” Adolf says, paraphrasing a baser and more commonly used commentary on life. “And when stuff happens, God is present, trying to bring good out of that situation. I don’t think God caused Bonnie’s death. I don’t think it was in God’s intentional will that Bonnie would die in that way at that time. But it did happen. And so we ask, ‘Where was God?’ God was very much with us in all the anguish and pain. God loved us in this situation. God never let go of us. And God was seeking to bring good out of this tragedy.”

As time passed, Adolf would begin meeting with a group of bereaved fathers on a regular basis, an experience he and other dads summarized in the book Tuesdays Mornings with the Dads: Stories by Fathers Who Have Lost a Son or a Daughter. Naomi and Adolf also found they were in a unique position to come alongside parents who, as they had, found themselves in the maelstrom of losing a child. Even if they might not lighten the burdens others carried, they could share life with them and let them know they were not alone.

“We try to work with others, when it is appropriate in their grieving process, to think about good coming out of a situation, because I don’t feel that is the question to raise with people when they are going through grief. Sometimes it’s a month later, sometimes it’s a year later, and sometimes it’s five years later,” says Adolf. “For many moms and dads with whom we have worked, scholarships have been established, fundraising events have been organized to help others, railroad arms have been erected on railroad crossings in the community where two sons of one of the dads were killed. The good coming out of tragedy in a variety of ways makes sense to us. Moreover, we believe this is also one of the ways God works.”

“I had angry feelings toward God at first. But Adolf and I realized God could take it and we worked through these feelings. I finally got to a point where I said, ‘Where else can one turn?’” Naomi reflects. “I see God as a loving Parent. None of us as parents would want ill to come to our children, or for them to be hurt, or for them to develop a disease.”

“The perspective of author Viktor Frankl is at the core of my thinking,” says Adolf. After his survival through the holocaust, he wrote his autobiography, Man’s Search for Meaning. He explained that all of his freedoms were taken away when he was in the concentration camp except one. And when he realized what that one was, it gave him a whole new perspective on life. He had the freedom to respond to his situation and no one could take that away. The guards could yell at him and hurt him. They could take food away; they could do anything. But he could respond to the guard with a smile, with a sneer, with a curse, or with silence. That was in his control.”

“We have an opportunity to respond to stuff that happened,” Adolf relates. “God is very much with us in our response to that, and gives us the strength, the insight, the wisdom, and the energy to go on and to all those things that God provides and knowing we are loved by God so unconditionally as all people are.”
More than 800 members of the Taylor University community gathered in the Lembright Atrium on October 19 to dedicate the Euler Science Complex. Afterward, they toured the facility, enjoyed food and music, and reveled in the warmth of an evening so long anticipated.
1942
Warne C. Holcombe passed away at the age of 91 in his Decatur, Ind., home Feb. 13, 2012. Warne taught for over 40 years as a Professor of Humanities at the University of Michigan where he was Professor Emeritus. He was preceded in death by his wife Harriet E. (Davis ’45) Holcombe, a brother, Rev. George Holcombe ’45, and a sister, Esther Jean Holcombe ’45. He is survived by his sister Alice K. Holcombe ’39, who celebrated her 95th birthday in September 2012.

1946
Joyce (Wentz) Bailey passed into the presence of her Lord and Savior July 29, 2012. Joyce was active in her community of Nyack, N.Y., serving as a board member for the Nyack Community Ambulance. She also worked as a volunteer for the local branch of the American Red Cross and taught CPR and first aid. She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Thomas P. Bailey, Sr. ’44.

1950
Paul and Ruth (Henry ’51) Steiner celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their family August 27, 2012. Paul was chairman of the board and president of the Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company in Fort Wayne, Ind. for 23 years. He is an emeritus member of the Taylor Board of Trustees and was chairman of the board of Fort Wayne Bible College/Summit Christian College when it merged with Taylor. Ruth taught high school home economics. Thirty-six members of the Steiner family have attended Taylor, while nine more family members attended Fort Wayne Bible College/Summit/TUFW. Front row: Sharon Connor ’67, Ruth (Henry ’51) Steiner, Paul Steiner ’50 Middle row: Marilyn Steiner FWBC ’63, Mary Heather Connor ’02, Wilma Petersen ’47, Nancy Keller ’77, Ruth Keller ’11 Back row: Richard Steiner ’54, Jonathan Steiner ’84, Janet Steiner ’84, Daniel Keller ’13, Beth Steiner ’87, David Steiner ’86. • Dr. J. Robert “Bob” Coughenour died August 11, 2011, in St. Petersburg, Fla. Before his 2006 retirement, he was team physician for Taylor’s football team and had a successful medical practice in the Indianapolis, Ind., area for more than 50 years. Dr. Coughenour is survived by his wife of 60 years, Beulah (Meier ’52); four sons: James Coughenour ’76, Richard (Debi), John ’85, and Tom (Gina); a daughter, Colleen ’80 (Mark Gibson); two sisters, Ruth ’47 Cox, and Eleanor Hunt; and seven granddaughters.

1951
Nancy Elizabeth Cato died peacefully in her home surrounded by her loved ones July 24, 2012. Nancy graduated from Taylor with a degree in education and taught at Hillside College (Mich.). She later taught physical education at the University of Minnesota until her retirement in 1983. Nancy was an athlete and public speaker at many women’s athletics events. • Norm and Eunice (Berg) Wilhelm celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary July 15 in Montreat, N.C., with a “Fix your own baked potato” supper hosted by their five children and attended by many friends.

1952
Taylor athletic director Angie Fincannon recently visited Beulah (Meier) Coughenour at her home in St. Petersburg, Fla. to present the Athletic Hall of Fame plaque in memory of her late husband Bob ’50. • Rev. Alfred C. Thompson died June 25, 2012, at the Colonial Poplin Nursing Home in Fremont, N.H. He served in the US Navy during WWII and later joined the US Naval Reserves, serving as a chaplain for more than 25 years before retiring as captain. Alfred also ministered to five churches within the United Methodist Conference, was a New York City Fire Department chaplain for more than 30 years, and ministered in the days following the 9/11 attacks. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Louise (Penner ’54) Thompson. He is survived by his children, Alfred C. Thompson, II ’75, Keith Thompson ’76, Carolyn Thompson ’80, as well as his stepson, Leonard Robbins ’87, and grandchildren Jared Thompson ’03, Kirsten (Thompson ’05) Brew and Matthew Thompson ’13.

1955
Dr. Don Callan was inducted into the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame May 19, 2012. Prior to his retirement in 1995, Coach Callan led the Cedarville University Yellow Jackets men’s basketball team to 578 victories – a mark that is the 19th highest-ranking career of all time in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). He also founded the Missions Involvement service at Cedarville as part of his 50-year commitment to worldwide sports evangelism.

1957
Joan (Lloyd) Gilkison recently printed her
second book of poems. She was excited to see her class of 1957 friends during the 55th reunion at Homecoming. • Sandra (Brannon) Lomax passed away on July 5, 2012, in her Albuquerque home with her family by her side. Sandra was born May 27, 1934, in Anderson, Ind. After graduating from Taylor, she worked in human resources at General Motors. She was later a secretary at First Alliance Church and worked in the President’s office at the University of New Mexico.

1958
Stanley Beach, a former Naval Reserve and active duty chaplain, was honored in a June 2012 ceremony at the Naval Chaplaincy School and Center, during which the building was named Stanley J. Beach Hall. Stanley served as a combat chaplain in Vietnam, receiving a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for his service after surviving a severe injury under artillery fire. He became the director of the Naval Chaplains School before retiring in 1987. This unusual naming honor required the endorsement of both the Navy and Army.

1961
Dr. William (Bill) Russell Klinger died September 18, 2012, after a sudden illness. Bill was emeritus professor of mathematics and former associate dean of natural sciences. Before joining the Taylor faculty, Dr. Klinger taught math and held administrative roles at McCulloch Jr. High, Marion High School (both in Marion, Ind.), The Ohio State University, and Marion College (now Indiana Wesleyan University). At Taylor, he was a mathematics professor and served as associate dean of natural and applied sciences. Dr. Klinger served on numerous Taylor committees and was instrumental in the early development and planning of the Euler Science Complex. In addition to his wife Joanne, to whom he was married for 52 years, Dr. Klinger is survived by his daughter, Dr. Nancy (Stephen) Dayton and his grandchildren, Catherine, Grace and Samuel.

1962
Marilyn (Smith) Biddle went home to be with her Lord and Savior July 16, 2012, after a yearlong battle with cancer. After earning her degree in education from Taylor, she earned a master’s degree from Loyola University (Chicago) and certificates of advanced graduate studies in counseling gerontology from the University of Alabama-Birmingham and University of Nebraska. She was employed as a counselor and associate dean of students at Moody Bible Institute, and was director of counseling at Alabama School of Fine Arts. • Suthy and Rodina MacLean celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and their 50th year as missionaries to Australia, New Guinea, France and the Ukraine. The anniversary celebration was hosted in France by their children in June 2012. The couple plans to move to the French West Indies to continue their ministry as church planters. • Anita L. Rice passed away on June 13, 2012, at the age of 88 at the Hospice of South Central Indiana Inpatient Facility. Anita taught school in the Eastbrook and Marion (Ind.) school systems from 1962 until her retirement in 1985. She was preceded in death by her husband, Carl W. Rice ’49. Memorial contributions can be made to Hospice of South Central Indiana.

1965
Julie Renee (Thorne) Drozda died March 19, 2012, after battling pancreatic cancer. Julie lived in Dixon, Ill., and is survived by her husband, Gerald.

1967
While visiting several Taylor alumni in northern California, Nelson Rediger also visited the gravesite of Bishop William Taylor, Taylor University’s namesake, at the Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, Calif.

1969
Ted Bitner was recently named the Hampton and Esther Boswell Distinguished University Professor of Psychology at DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind. Ted also coached the DePauw University bioethics team, winning the national championship at the National Undergraduate Bioethics Conference in Denver, Colo., earlier this year.

1972
Cindy (Jean) Wilson’s debut novel, Here’s an Apple, Sweet Adam, and her second novel, A Time to Celebrate, were both released in 2012. Cindy and her husband Doug have four children and nine grandchildren. She lives in the Washington D.C. area and enjoys storytelling, oil painting and scuba diving. • John Youngblood is the pastor at New Beginnings Church of Paris, Ill. His address is 414 E. Wood St, Paris, IL 61944.
Donald T. Williams spoke at the C.S. Lewis and Friends Colloquium at Taylor in June 2012. He also published two new books, Reflections from Plato's Cave: Essay and Evangelical Philosophy, and Inklings of Reality: Essays toward a Christian Philosophy of Letters, 2nd edition revised and expanded. Dr. Williams is an R.A. Forrest Scholar and professor of English at Toccoa Falls College in northeast Georgia.

Bonnie Brotherton recently retired from 31 years of service as a Christian counselor. She is now answering God’s call through work with orphans and leadership coaching to those seeking God’s purpose for their lives. Bonnie lives in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Craig Bugno recently assumed command of the U.S. Army Reserve’s 807th Medical Command and was promoted to major general. He was also awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptional contributions to the U.S. Army Reserve’s 3rd Medical Command, where he served as deputy commander. Dr. Bugno now oversees a medical command that includes five brigades, 11,500 soldiers, and 116 field medical units in 26 states from Ohio to California. He is married to Sue (Bechtel) Bugno, and has four children, Stephanie ’00, Heather, Kaitlyn and Cameron.

Roy Finkenbine is the interim dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Education at the University of Detroit Mercy. A lover of history and cultural studies, Roy’s job will allow him to represent members of the academic community while preserving and promoting the legacy of the Underground Railroad’s Freedom Trail in Michigan.

Dave Yerkie went home to be with the Lord on Nov. 2, 2011, only six weeks after his diagnosis with brain cancer. A celebration of his life was held and a wonderful testimony of faith shared with all who attended. He leaves behind his wife, Karen (Dykstra ’74) Yerkie, and daughter Joy. They live in Spring Lake, Mich.

Steve Gradeless hosted a reunion at his lake house in Indian Lake, Ohio, in July 2012. Tim Reusser, Coach George Glass ’58 and Dave Lewis, Roger Tullis and Kurt Jaderholm ’78 attended. They were cross-country team members who ran for Coach Glass in the mid ’70s.

Tom Ayers is vice president for the administration and finance at Kettering University in Flint, Mich. His appointment began July 1, 2012. His previous positions include executive vice president for operations and treasurer at Huntington University (Huntington, Ind.), and director of financial aid at Taylor.

Linda (Stewart) Caldwell recently established a private outpatient therapy practice in Erie, Pa., for children and adults. Linda’s treatment method involves Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) for patients who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Linda’s complete profile can be seen at www.psychologytoday.com.

Janelle Marie (Clausen) Hayes passed away at her residence May 10, 2012, in the presence of her husband and children after a nine-month battle with brain cancer. Janelle was a teacher on staff at the Sharon Baptist Weekday School from 1995-1998 before becoming the school’s director of curriculum, a position she held until January 2012. She is survived by her husband of 31 years, Ken Hayes. Contributions can be made to Sharon Baptist Church or Steele Creek Church of Charlotte.

Neil Gordon Smith passed away at his home on Aug. 31, 2012, after a long illness. Neil was a founding member of Woodland Shores Baptist Church in Michigan. He also began a ministry that provided dental missions in Russia while it was still part of the Soviet Union. He is survived by his loving wife and partner, Patricia (Dial) Smith and children, Britton ’05 and Michelle (Morrison ’05) Smith, Grant ’05 and Jenni (Shanebrook ’05) Smith, Tyler ’09 and Whitney (Smith ’08) Luther, Karsten ’14 and Collin.

Dirk Case moved into a position of national service with Youth for Christ after spending 26 years serving as the organization’s executive director in East Michigan. His position will be that of associate field director for the Great Lakes, serving all YFC chapters in the region, but with the specific responsibility to serve the executive directors and boards of 18 chapters in Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky.

Tracy Sibley has been named assistant strength and conditioning coach at Limestone University in Gaffney, S.C. Tracy brings 24 years of professional and collegiate strength and conditioning experience to Limestone, and joins the Saints from Division I Gardner-Webb, where he was the director of strength and conditioning from 2006-2011. He and his wife, Jackie, currently reside in Boiling Springs, N.C., with their four children.

Sharon K. (Cuttinger) Favazza is currently employed as director of entry-level master’s program at the Azusa Pacific University School of Nursing. Sharon is also a fourth year doctoral student, pursuing her Ph.D. in nursing from the University of Hawaii.

Elizabeth (Knudsen) Shevlot recently earned her CPA license and is employed at ITT in Indianapolis as assistant controller. Her husband Tom was recently elected to the City of Lawrence Council and is vice chair of the finance committee. He works for AT&T managing their retail stores in central Indiana.

A group of Taylor friends who have met every year during the last week for July for a reunion
gathered in Atlanta, Ga. They are: Lisa (Boyd) Campbell, Lois (Kiehlbauch) Larsen, Sue (Vinton) Stone, Nancy (Norman) Rizzo, Cathy (Deeter) Trout, Beth (Gabrielsen) Williams and Holly (Egner) Walker. Amy (Mitchell) Young could not attend.

1986
03 George E. Jackson, III began service as director of Multicultural Student Affairs at Illinois Wesleyan University July 1, 2012. George worked previously as the coordinator of diversity affairs at Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas, and also served in diversity leadership positions at Butler University in Indianapolis, Ind., and Messiah College in Grantham, Pa.

1987
04 Dr. Rochelle Manor won the 2012 Lipinski Professional Award, one of four awards presented annually by the Autism Society of Michigan. Rochelle dedicates much of her time to volunteering with students on the autism spectrum.

1988
05 Tammy L. (DeBoer) Bennardo, passed away at the age of 46 surrounded by her family and friends on June 21, 2012 after a courageous 12 year battle with brain cancer. Tammy earned her bachelor’s degree in social work from Taylor and went on to work as a staff member of Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Ill., where she was also a member of the congregation. She is survived by her sister, Suzanne (DeBoer ’90) Roldan. 06 Todd Uggen recently led Northfield High School to the 2012 class 2A Indiana state baseball title. They also won the title in 2001 with Todd as their coach. He is currently in his 10th year as athletic director and 21st year at Northfield, where he also serves as head football coach. He and his wife, Lisa, live in Wabash, Ind., and have five children.

1989
Nancy (Herman) Hadley is returning to the classroom after taking many years off to be with her young children. She has accepted a teaching position to work with 7th grade students. 07 Dave Horne has been appointed to be the Europe area director for Global Partners. He will oversee Wesleyan missionaries and local churches in the region. Dave and his wife, Dina (King) Horne ’88 will move to their new post in December 2012. Their oldest two children will remain in the United States for college, while their youngest will complete high school in Vienna, Austria.

1990
After taking time off to be home with young children, Jill (Herman) Hadley has accepted a position teaching 7th grade in Indianapolis Public Schools.

1991
Mark Schenkel recently began working at Huntington University as director of community relations and major gifts officer.

1992
Jody (Erdman) Hedlund is the bestselling author of The Doctor’s Lady and The Preacher’s Bride. She won the 2011 Inspirational Reader’s Choice Award, the 2011 Award of Excellence from the Colorado Romance Writers and was a finalist for Best Debut Novel in the 2011 American Christian Fiction Writers Carol Awards. Her newest book, Unending Devotion, was released this fall. Currently, she makes her home in central Michigan with her husband, Jeff Hedlund and five busy children. She loves hearing from readers on Facebook and her blog at JodyHedlund.com. • Paul Keller serves on staff with the Crescent Project, an Indianapolis-based ministry to Muslims. Paul worked 16 years previously as a software developer. He and his wife, Kate, are the parents of Ben (2). 08 Brad Oliver is now the commander of the 55th Flying Training Squadron at the United States Air Force Academy. Brad’s responsibilities involve working to develop leaders of character through powered flight training. • Rob Wegner serves as pastor of life mission at

EXECUTIVE SPEAKER SERIES

The Executive Speaker Series is part of a required capstone class that addresses strategic management issues for all senior business majors. It is an initiative to further infuse the Taylor business program with executives bringing real-time and real-world strategic management experiences. The program is now in its fourth semester and plans are in place to continue to host Taylor alumni and friends who are senior-level business executives to interact with Taylor business students.

During the 2011-12 academic year, the following alumni participated as Executive Speakers:

- Dan Benson ’87
- COO, American Senior Communities
- Mike Birch ’80
- COO, Ping
- Rollin Ford ’84
- CIO, Walmart
- Ben ’05 and Laura (Metzger ’05) Harrison
- Founders, Harrison Studio, Folio Websites, H2O Creative
- Justin Norman ’98
- CEO, JD Norman Industries
- Ryan Ott ’04
- TLC Management/Integra Specialty Hospital
- Jon Rudolph ’92
- President, Action Fabricators
- Shawna (Palmateer ’94) Soule
- Director, Customer Business Unit NAFTA, Benecke-Kaliko Division of ContiTech/Continental AG
- Mike Wills ’85
- CEO, Waypoint Enterprises

Taylor looks forward to hosting additional alumni speakers in 2012-13.
Granger Community Church in Granger, Ind. He is also working alongside Alan Hirsch in an innovative coaching program called Future Travelers, helping mega-churches become missional movements, and has co-written a book titled, *Missional Moves*. Rob and his wife, Michelle, have three girls, Madeline, Whitney and Belle, who are quickly becoming Kingdom revolutionaries.

1995

01 **Eric Anderson** and his wife, Carrie, welcomed daughter Naomi Danielle to their family on Leap Day, Feb. 29, 2012. She joins Nathan (5) and Natalie (3). The family lives in Orange City, Iowa, where Eric is the director of financial aid at Northwestern College. 02 **David Bell** completed his doctor of ministry degree in missional church leadership from Biblical Seminary in Hatfield, Pa. David's dissertation was entitled *The Missional Megachurch*. He and his wife, **Betsie (Kim ’97)**, live in Noblesville, Ind., where he serves as associate pastor of young adults at Grace Community Church. Betsie spends her days homeschooling their two boys, John David (9) and Hudson (7). Youngest daughter Janie (2) is a joy to the entire family.

1996

03 **Steve Knudsen** and his wife Corrine moved to Fort Collins, Colo. to begin a ministry in church
planting. Steve was a high school teacher for seven years before the move, and is currently manager at a ServiceMaster. They live happily with Sonja (2) and 7-month old son Josiah Steven, who was born on the couple's eighth wedding anniversary.

1997

**Jason Borowicz** and his wife Shannon welcomed their baby, Ava Janae, into the world on Jan. 7, 2012. The family lives in New Zealand, and recently made a trip back to the U.S. to visit family and introduce Ava to the states. Jason and Shannon are eager for their daughter to know and love the Lord as she grows into a little girl. *Chad Carpenter* was named varsity football coach at Rockford Christian School (Ill.). Chad was previously an assistant coach at the University of Virginia, Emory & Henry College and Bristol Tennessee High School. Chad was a four-year letter winner and three-year starter for Taylor University. He lives with his wife of 13 years, Jen (Belden ’97), and their two-year-old son. **Lisa (Huber) Toney** and her husband Carl welcomed Paxton Thaddaeus into the world on May 5, 2012. Pax joins big sister Zoe (4) and big brother Gus (3). Lisa serves as the associate executive pastor, and as pastor of spiritual formation at Pomona First Baptist Church in Pomona, Calif. **Steve and Abby Walsman** live in the Atlanta suburb of Dacula, Ga., with their children Isaac (14), Micah (9), Andrew (7), Benjamin (3), and Samuel (18 months). Steve is a senior technical consultant for EMC Corporation. You can tell by the picture that Abby loves books! They can be reached at smwalsman@gmail.com.

1998

**Ellen Bugler** runs her own photography business, Ellen Joy Photography. She lives in Plainfield, Ind. with her husband, Brian, and their three daughters, Emily (9), Madeline (7) and Kate (4). *Justin and Veronica (Allanach) Norman* welcomed James Dennis into their family on June 1, 2012. The new baby joins siblings Kylie (8), Juliana (7) and Luke (4) making for a full but fun house. **Stephen and Kari (Knudsen) Olson** are excited to announce the birth of Isaiah Daniel on April 12. He joins older siblings Samuel (7), Jonathan (5), and Anna (3). Isaiah was born five weeks early but is doing great. The family lives in Upland, Ind. **Rochelle (Stokka) and Bryan Shannon** welcomed Katherine Leigh Anne to their family June 1, 2012. She joins big brothers Cameron (5) and twins Evan and Nathan (3). After spending almost a year in Singapore, they have returned to Colorado. They have guest bedrooms now, so if you are in the Colorado Springs area, they would love for you to visit.

1999

**Shannon (Swineburne) Faust** and her husband Mike are blessed with miracle twin daughters, born Dec. 17, 2011. The girls, Emily Kathryn and Nicole Addison, were delivered prematurely and spent almost two months in the NICU. The happy, healthy family now lives in Alpharetta, Ga., where Mike works as director of national accounts for Bard Medical, and Shannon is a stay-at-home mom. **Cheri (Vander Ploeg) Stein** and her husband Craig live in Grand Rapids, Mich., with their two sons, Will and Tyler. Cheri is a relationship manager at Plante Moran Financial Advisors and Craig owns his own electrical company, Stein Electric.

2000

2001

01 Tom Chandler completed a double ironman triathlon in October 2012. The race consisted of a 4.8-mile swim, 224-mile bike ride and a 52.4-mile run. Tom was involved in the competition to raise awareness for a disaster recovery organization in Henryville, Ind.

02 Bill and Jessica (Peil ’02) Claybrook and son Liam reside in Carmel, Ind., where Bill works at Dow AgroSciences. Ed Cyzewski is the co-author of a discipleship book called Hazardous: Committing to the Cost of Following Jesus. Ed is also the author of Coffeehouse Theology: Reflecting on God in Everyday Life, as well as two accompanying study guides. He has self-published A Path to Publishing: What I Learned by Publishing a Nonfiction Book, and Divided We Unite: Practical Christian Unity. Ed blogs on both writing and the Christian walk, and enjoys writing fake e-books as April Fool’s Day jokes.

03 Cheryl (Neuhaus) Davidson and her husband Chris joyfully welcomed their third son, Brendan Vern, June 8, 2012. Brendan joins big brothers Kevin (8) and Ryan (6). The family lives in Chicago, Ill.

04 Adam Gee and his wife Danae celebrated the birth of their daughter, Gracelyn Hope, April 24, 2012. The family lives in Belmont, Mich., where Adam is senior project manager at Michigan Health Connect.

05 Tiffany (Klud) Johnson and her husband Blake are thrilled to announce the birth of their first child, daughter Emery Annabelle Feb. 27, 2012. The couple lives in Springfield, Va.

06 Jeremy and Amber (Brauchler ’04) Roberts welcomed Avery Leigh into their family on June 5, 2011. Big sister Kensi Elise is 3. The Roberts live in Fishers, Ind. Jeremy is an attorney in downtown Indianapolis and Amber works part-time for a corporate meeting planning company.

2002

07 Shawn Alspaugh and wife Lauren announce the birth of Heidi Kathleen August 29, 2012. Shawn and Lauren live in Clayton, Ind. Shawn is a math teacher and boys varsity basketball coach at Eminence High School in Eminence, Ind.

08 Jason and Lynn (Sievert) Courter welcomed their daughter, Anna, into the world March 11, 2012. They live in Upland, Ind., while Jason fills a one-year position as assistant professor of earth and environmental sciences in the Environmental Science department at Taylor.

09 Ben and Nikki (Schulz ’03) Reed live in Indianapolis, Ind., with their two daughters, Vivian and Sylvia June. Ben is an administrator at Redeemer Presbyterian Church, and Nikki pursues a career in freelance public relations.

2003

Nathan Elwell was recently promoted to director of development for Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. Nate has been with RZIM for nine years and resides with his wife, Brittany (Jensen ’04), and son and daughter in Atlanta, Ga.

Jabin Newhouse and his wife Ann welcomed their son Zeke Anthony into the world Jan. 3, 2012. He joins his three siblings, Quinn (5), Nora (4) and Greta (2).

Ginny (Clough) Yang and her husband Frank live in Fort Wayne, Ind., with their son Levi Lichun Yang, born Oct. 10, 2011.

Kristel (Bailin) married John Hanslip May 26, 2012, in Naperville, Ill. Other Taylor graduates in attendance were Becky (George) Beasley, Marisa Gratson, and Abby (Johnson) Fennig. Andrew Bryant was the wedding photographer.

Kristel works as a market research analyst for a CPG marketing company, and John is a purchasing manager at West Corporation. The couple lives in Omaha, Neb.

Stephen Paul “Chip” and Dani (Jorg ’07) Brown praise the Lord for the blessing of Brinley Elizabeth Brown, who was born March 13, 2012. Brinley joins four siblings, Mackenzie (5), Ryken (3) and twins Emerson and Carson (2). Emily (Caine) Carabello and her husband Justin recently opened a philanthropic coffee roasting business in northern Kentucky that donates its profits to projects of compassion in Third World coffee-producing nations. To follow their story, visit...
www.carabellocoffee.com. **Lindsey (Broadfoot) Flemming** and her husband Andrew welcomed a baby boy, August Charles Flemming II, Nov. 5, 2011. Also pictured here is the couple with friends **Preston and Jennifer (Kamps) Cosgrove.** **Jen (Meekma) Yerks** and her husband Dan are pleased to announce the arrival of their baby boy, Andrew Edward, born July 18, 2012. The couple lives in Chesterton, Ind.

**2005**

**Nathan Brooks** serves as pastor of First Baptist Church in Bloomfield, Ind. You can reach Nathan and **Liz (Linch ’06)** at: 145 Dogwood Lane, Bloomfield, IN 47424. Visit Liz’s blog at lizbrooks.blog.com. **Chris and Mandy (Woods ’03) Cloud** are the proud parents of baby Elizabeth Grace and her two-year-old brother Camden. They live in Fort Wayne, Ind. **Austin and Linda (Brate) Kirchoff** live in Fishers, Ind., with their daughter Blaire Elise, born Nov. 13, 2011. Blaire’s aunt is **Michelle (Brate ’03) Hoffman.**

**Chris and Kasey (Abnet) Miller (’07)** welcomed baby Holden Christopher into their family June 11, 2011. Chris is a Senior Consultant at Ontario Systems in Muncie, Ind., and Kasey stays home with their son. The family lives in Fishers, Ind. **Andrew Slate** and his wife Cristi are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Elyse Gabrielle, born April 7, 2012. The couple lives in Charlotte, N.C.

On Sept. 13, 2012, nearly 30 young alumni gathered at Portillo’s in Downers Grove, Ill. This was the first official gathering to kick off a new initiative designed for alumni who have graduated within the past ten years.

Look for more “Taylor Ten” opportunities in the future.
**Update:**

**GOLF FUNDRAISER**

Twelve teams of golfers gathered for a round of golf and to support the Taylor Fund at the annual Chicagoland Golf Outing in Woodridge, Ill., in September. Golfers competed for prizes and bragging rights while supporting Taylor.

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**Michelle (Morrison) Smith** welcomed baby Caleb into the family July 26, 2012. Caleb joins big brother Eli (2). **Grant and Jenni (Shanebrook) Smith** reside in Muncie, Ind. with Corbin William (1) and his big brother Lane (3).

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**2006**

**Jordan and Rerella (Reeh ’07) Hawkins** were married in July 2012. The couple now resides in Long Island City, N.Y. • **Chris Horst** was recently appointed director of development for HOPE International. In his new role, Chris will guide the creation and implementation of a fundraising program that will continue to share HOPE’s story of Christ-centered poverty alleviation with new audiences and existing supporters. He currently resides in Denver, Colo. with his wife, **Allie (Wolgemuth ’08).** 02 **Andy Long** and his wife Beth live in Bloomington, Ind. Andy is a manager at the Royal Automotive Group and Beth stays home to care for their children, Charlotte Rae (1) and big sister Edie (2). 03 **Devan (McLean) Minor** and her husband Paul welcomed twin baby girls Charleigh Grace and Logan Addison Oct. 26, 2011. The family lives in Charlotte, N.C. 04 **Kristie (Villescas) married Brian Schnell on July 9, 2011, in Avon, Ind. Attendants included Ashley (Gale) Black, Kristin (Wong) Boggs, Heather (Armstrong) Klompmaker, and Lindsey (Davis) Wood. Kristie teaches third grade and Brian is a financial advisor. The couple resides in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. 05 **Brittany (Harty) Webb** and her husband Luke welcomed Callum Emmaus on Aug. 28, 2012. They live in Indianapolis where Brittany is a family nurse practitioner for the underserved in the inner-city.

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**2007**

06 **Ben and Jennifer (Miller) Billman** are the proud parents of Derrick Henry, born April 19, 2012. The couple resides in Circleville, Ohio. **Christine Goslin** is teaching biblical studies at Santa Cruz Christian Learning Center in Bolivia. She looks back on her time at Taylor with joy and is excited for the great faith-building adventure that God has planned for her. 07 **Matthew Hall** recently joined the offices of Hall, Render, Heath & Lyman, the largest healthcare-focused law firm in the nation. Hall focuses on assisting healthcare clients in the areas of litigation and risk management. Prior to joining the firm he worked at The Advisory Board Company, a Washington, D.C. healthcare research and consulting company. • **Matt Helmholz** is working at a youth-advocacy agency, The LeaderShop, as program coordinator. Matt previously worked at a residential facility and therapeutic day school with children who were victims of traumatic experiences. 08 **Anna (Clough) Macke** and her husband Josh joined the ranks of parenthood with the
Erica (Tappenden) Pence and her husband Paul welcomed their son, Benjamin Christian, June 1, 2011. Colleen (Ramsey) and Cason Wittig adopted their son, Cashel Ambrose, who was born Aug. 28, 2012. After living overseas the family now resides in Danville, Ky., near Colleen’s family and a few Taylor friends. You can peruse their blog at casonandcolleen.blogspot.com.

2008
Leann Ashby is pleased to announce her new position as a full-time music teacher with the Indianapolis Children’s Choir. She completed her Master of Music in Choral Conducting at Butler University in 2012. She lives in Brownsburg, Ind. Chris and Hannah (Haur ’09) Jetter are proud to introduce their sons, Paxson (2) and Boden, who joined the family July 13, 2012. The family recently moved to Evansville, Ind., where Chris is a podiatric resident at St. Mary’s Hospital. Meggie Lyzenga married Andrew Triggs May 26, 2012, in St. Louis, Mo. Jack and Blake’s siblings served as their wedding party, which included Paul Bachman ’11. Jack is a senior auditor at Saint Louis University and Blake works as collegians director at Eagle Forum. The couple resides in St. Louis. Julianne Beadner and Andrew Dusendang were married June 2, 2012, at Calvary Baptist Church in Grand Rapids, Mich. Taylor alumni in attendance included Kara Takagi, Allie Gil, Sharon (Rousseau) Mangum, Lindsey (Arnold) Daulton and JP Robles ’10. Julianne works at West Brook Recovery in Grand Rapids, Mich., as an addiction therapist. Lydia Crenshaw married David Stearns May 28, 2011, at Faith Temple in Portland, Maine. They were surrounded by family and friends, including Abigail Crenshaw ’06, Benjamin Crenshaw ’11, Sarah Holzrichter ’12 and Kayla Plosz, who served as photographer for the wedding. The couple resides in Westbrook, Maine, where Lydia works as a medical assistant at Maine Medical Partners Cardiothoracic Surgery and David is an attorney at Ainsworth, Thelin & Raftice, P.A. Nick and Amber (Everson ’10) Estelle welcomed baby Helen Jane into their family July 26, 2012. They live in New Castle, Ind. Nick and Amber (Everson ’10) Estelle welcomed baby Helen Jane into their family July 26, 2012. They live in New Castle, Ind. Tabitha (Grubb) Fultz and her husband Ryan live in Independence, Ky., with their two children, Daniel and Annabelle. Erin (Shinabarger) Geyer and her husband Jonathan welcomed their baby daughter, Brinley Taylor, born June 11, 2012, in Olympia, Wash. Nikki Kassebaum and Landon Hobson were married July 6, 2012, in Forest Park in St. Louis, Mo. Taylor alumni in the wedding party included Amanda (Bond’07) Stockton and Mallory Hawkins ’06. Traci (Tiberi ’96) Falder was the wedding photographer. Several other Taylor alumni attended the wedding. The couple lives in New York City where Nikki is a clinical research coordinator at the Hospital for Special Surgery. Gretchen Richards married Branden Kooiman June 2, 2012, at High Street United Methodist Church in Muncie, Ind. Attending as maid of honor was the bride’s sister Jennifer (Richards ’10) Zigler. Sarah Froggatt and Audrey (English) Spencer also
Event:

CELEBRATING TAYLOR’S FAMILY LEGACIES

This fall 70 new students arrived in Upland to continue a Taylor family legacy. These 70 students represent 101 Alumni from the classes of 1976 to 1999. Thank you Alumni for your faithfulness to Taylor’s mission “to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ’s redemptive love and truth to a world in need.”
DO YOU KNOW A STUDENT, WHO IS SUBMITTED TO CHRIST, WHO MIGHT BE A GOOD FIT FOR TAYLOR’S DISTINCT DISCIPLESHIP COMMUNITY? Put Taylor’s Admissions office in touch with your student today. admissions@taylor.edu 800.882.3456

WITHIN TAYLOR’S COMMUNITY THE GREATEST EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP AND THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLE FOR RELATIONSHIPS IS LOVE. CONSEQUENTLY, TAYLOR GRADUATES RECEIVE A TOWEL AS A REMINDER THAT WHILE THEIR YEARS AT TAYLOR HAVE EQUIPPED THEM… IT IS IN SUBMISSION THAT THEY FIND MEANING.

“DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I HAVE DONE FOR YOU?...NOW THAT I, YOUR LORD AND TEACHER, HAVE WASHED YOUR FEET, YOU ALSO SHOULD WASH ONE ANOTHER’S FEET. I HAVE SET YOU AN EXAMPLE THAT YOU SHOULD DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU.”

THE WAY OF THE TOWEL DOES NOT BEGIN WITH OUR COMMITMENT, IT BEGINS WITH HIS...
served as bridesmaids. Gretchen is a middle and high school Spanish teacher at Central Wisconsin Christian School and Branden is a registered nurse in the ICU at the hospital in Watertown, Wis.

**2010**

01 Emily (Wolgemuth) Bryan joined eight other Second West Olson alumnae for a reunion in Green Lake, Wisc. Top row: Emily (Wolgemuth) Bryan, Andrea (Elsman) Robertson, Rebecca Helmeke, Katie Fore. Bottom row: Mary K. Smith, Sara Duncan, Ellie Hawkins, Emily Hermann ’11, Natalie (Nunes) Dawdy. • Andrew and Kim (Rupp) Heffner reside in Lebanon, Ind., where Kim is employed as press secretary for the Indiana House of Representatives. Andrew is employed as a senior vacation specialist at Bluegreen Travel Corporation. 02 Kent Ives married Erin Hein May 26, 2012, in Adrian, Mich. Kent works for Accenture in Columbus, Ohio. The couple lives in nearby Worthington. 03 Corrie Winslow and Jake Bourdon ’11 were married August 6, 2011, in Indianapolis. Taylor alumni in the wedding party were Erica (Trier) Baker, Kelli Conners and David Bloom ’12. Other alumni who took part in the wedding were Ross Springman ’11, Maggie Burns ’11, Bryce Winslow ’12, Suzanna Davis ’11, Joanna McCann ’11 and Rachel (Kiely ’11) Wong. Jake is a financial advisor at Waddell & Reed.

04 Isaac and Emily (Wolgemuth ’10) Bryan welcomed their son, Benjamin (Benji) Cole, born May 24, 2012. Both Isaac and Emily are in their second year of Taylor’s Master’s of Higher Education (MAHE) program. 05 Tracey Buwalda and her husband Kai welcomed a baby boy, Milo Reed, April 27, 2012. Milo joins big brother Cory (2). The family lives in Fort Wayne, Ind. • Ryan Graydon is on an 11 month mission trip to 11 countries around the world in a program called the World Race, also affiliated with Adventures in Mission. He invites the Taylor community to follow his ministry blog: ryangradon.theworldrace.org. 06 Amanda Pierce and Bedru Hassen ’12 were married July 7, 2012 in Bedford, Ind. Bridesmaids were Hannah Haines, Keri Harbold, Sarah (Lukhard) Click. Reid Dodge ’12 served as best man and Joe Ruehlmann ’12, Steve Etheridge ’10 and Yosef Tekle-Wold ’14 were groomsmen. 07 Allison Reece married Brice Darling on August 6, 2011, at the New Castle Arts Park in New Castle, Ind. Also in attendance was LaJoya Smith ’12. Allison teaches math at Mississinewa High School in Gas City, Ind., and coaches the 7th grade girls basketball team for RJ Baskett Middle School, also in Gas City. Brice is completing his degree in math education at the University of Saint Francis and will graduate in December.

**2011**

04 Isaac and Emily (Wolgemuth ’10) Bryan welcomed their son, Benjamin (Benji) Cole, born May 24, 2012. Both Isaac and Emily are in their second year of Taylor’s Master’s of Higher Education (MAHE) program. 05 Tracey Buwalda and her husband Kai welcomed a baby boy, Milo Reed, April 27, 2012. Milo joins big brother Cory (2). The family lives in Fort Wayne, Ind. • Ryan Graydon is on an 11 month mission trip to 11 countries around the world in a program called the World Race, also affiliated with Adventures in Mission. He invites the Taylor community to follow his ministry blog: ryangradon.theworldrace.org. 06 Amanda Pierce and Bedru Hassen ’12 were married July 7, 2012 in Bedford, Ind. Bridesmaids were Hannah Haines, Keri Harbold, Sarah (Lukhard) Click. Reid Dodge ’12 served as best man and Joe Ruehlmann ’12, Steve Etheridge ’10 and Yosef Tekle-Wold ’14 were groomsmen. 07 Allison Reece married Brice Darling on August 6, 2011, at the New Castle Arts Park in New Castle, Ind. Also in attendance was LaJoya Smith ’12. Allison teaches math at Mississinewa High School in Gas City, Ind., and coaches the 7th grade girls basketball team for RJ Baskett Middle School, also in Gas City. Brice is completing his degree in math education at the University of Saint Francis and will graduate in December.

**2012**

Caroline Chow is one of 54 fellows selected for this year’s Woodrow Wilson Indiana Teaching Fellowship. Caroline is an undergraduate researcher in muscle chemistry during exercise, and will receive a $30,000 stipend to complete a special intensive master’s program at Ball State University. Following completion of her graduate work, she will commit to three years of teaching in a high-need or urban school in the state of Indiana. 08 Anna Marie Fulton and Tyler Sahly were married June 10, 2012, in Wheaton, Ill. They now make their home in Wheaton, where Tyler works full-time for Invesco PowerShares and Anna is a full-time nanny.
What a wonderful time of celebration and thanksgiving we enjoyed last month during our dedication ceremonies for the Euler Science Complex. The speakers, the music, the program itself and even the surroundings combined to create a palpable sense of the Holy Spirit’s presence in our midst. In fact, we all lingered after the program ended, basking in the warm afterglow of the event.

It was God who prompted more than 600 friends, alumni, parents, and members of the Taylor University community to give to the project. And it was God who blessed and approved that shared sacrifice which made this building a reality.

Sacrificial giving is not new to Taylor. Consider the work of one of my predecessors, Thaddeus Reade, whose impact continues to be felt today. President Reade was God’s chosen leader for Taylor during a time of financial uncertainty. It was he who made the difficult decision to uproot the school from its Fort Wayne foundations and move it to Upland. And it was Reade who admitted a young Liberian student, Samuel Morris, who had not distinguished himself academically, had no visible means to pay for his education, and who walked with the Lord in a way that Reade had not seen before.

When Morris died a little less than two years later, it was Reade who determined this story must not be lost to future generations. So he wrote a book about Morris’ life and with the proceeds, Reade supported Taylor, taking none of the book’s profits for himself.

Reade’s health failed and his financial coffers emptied. He was staying in his sister’s home near campus when he died. He was later buried on the grounds of the school he loved. To the world, Reade was a tragic figure who died a pauper’s death. But from a kingdom perspective, Thaddeus Reade was a wealthy man.

Some remember a time in Taylor’s history when faculty and staff accepted produce from the university-owned farm instead of a paycheck. Many could have worked in other places, made more money and lived more comfortably. Yet they sacrificed those creature comforts because of God’s gentle prompting and His call to Taylor.

That tradition continues today. While our employees are no longer paid with eggs or milk, most work well beyond the traditional 8:00-5:00 workday to serve our students. Walk through the Zondervan Library some evening and you will see a faculty member who left his or her home to help a student who was struggling with a paper or homework assignment. Come to campus on a Saturday and you’ll see dozens of current and retired faculty and staff members sitting in the stands to cheer for student athletes or to attend plays or recitals.

Add to that the hundreds of parents throughout the years who passed up a preferred lifestyle or took a second mortgage or even a second and third job so their son or daughter could have a Taylor education.

Each sacrificed their own agenda for a different one, and yet there was joy in their giving. Those at the Euler dedication marveled at the work God had blessed and made possible. And it was God who blessed and approved that shared sacrifice which made this building a reality.

We enjoy these blessings today from the hand of God and as a result of the sacrifice of those who have gone before us. It is my prayer that each of us in the Taylor community will continue to faithfully answer God’s call to give of ourselves so that His purposes on earth might be fulfilled, here at Taylor, and elsewhere.

Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68 serves as president of Taylor University.
Senior Joey Yanaitis, a social studies education major, truly exemplifies Taylor’s commitment to whole person development. During his time at Taylor, Joey has played football for the Trojans, sang in the Gospel Choir, and served his fellow students as a personnel assistant in Morris Hall. Since becoming a Christian in high school, he knew he wanted to follow Christ’s will for his life, but wasn’t sure how to do that until he came to Taylor. He appreciates the Christ-centered approach of all aspects of campus life and looks forward to using this model as he serves others in his life after Taylor.

Like Joey, many students come to campus in need of scholarship assistance. Gifts to the Taylor Fund enable 700 students each year to receive financial aid through Taylor Fund Grants.

Thank you for your investment in Taylor students.
Taylor sophomore Dani Goecke attacks the goal during Taylor’s game with Virginia Intermont. For fall sports scores and stats, see pages 12-13.

www.taylor.edu