Spring 2014

Taylor: A Magazine for Taylor University Alumni, Parents and Friends (Spring 2014)

Taylor University

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“This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another.'”

Zechariah 7:9

“Being human, not one of us will ever have a relationship with another person that doesn’t have a wrinkle or a wart on it somewhere. The unblemished ideal exists only in ‘happily ever after’ fairy tales. I think that there is some merit to a description I once read of a married couple as ‘happily incompatible.’ Ruth likes to say, ‘If two people agree on everything, one of them is unnecessary.’ The sooner we accept that as a fact of life, the better we will be able to adjust to each other and enjoy togetherness. ‘Happily incompatible’ is a good adjustment.”

Billy Graham

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”

1 Thessalonians 5:11

“A new command I give you: Love one another.”

1 Corinthians 13:12
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Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience ...

**COLOSSIANS 3:12**

Our human compassion binds us the one to the other – not in pity or patronizingly, but as human beings who have learnt how to turn our common suffering into hope for the future.

**NELSON MANDELA**

Biblical orthodoxy without compassion is surely the ugliest thing in the world.

**FRANCIS SCHAFFER**

Then Joseph hurried out, for his compassion grew warm for his brother, and he sought a place to weep. And he entered his chamber and wept there

**GENESIS 43:30**

In Washington, the translation of E Pluribus Unum has been lost. The belief that we are one nation - united in purpose - caring about and for one another is no longer the practice.

**MADELEINE M. KUNIN**
COSTLY, PAINFUL, VICTORIOUS COMPASSION

Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

John 21:15

LeAnne (Holdman ’02) Gibbs and her husband Francis were in such an exciting, joy-filled season of life. The parents of one small child, they were eagerly anticipating the arrival of their second, but something was wrong. Francis had not felt well for some time and LeAnne encouraged him to see a doctor. The news they received was devastating—Francis had colon cancer. In the coming months, her life changed as she cared, not only for her two small children, but also for her dying husband.

The experience left such a mark on LeAnne that she created A Fresh New Start—an outreach that allows her to care for young women like herself who must walk a difficult, unimaginable journey.

Feed my lambs. The call is not always painful, however. There is also joy, illustrated in the lives of brothers Eli ’14 and Nate Nupanga ’14, who took a circuitous route to Taylor from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. There is victory against impossible odds in the story of Dr. Ron Hoekstra ’64, a physician who cares for the weakest and most frail of infants. And there is hope, written about so winsomely by Kate (Yoder ’07) Bedinghaus, who shares God’s call to her to be the hero and provider, first and foremost, for her children.

But this kind of caring is not superficial. It marks our lives, just as it has in the lives of LeAnne, Eli, Nate, Ron and Kate. God is good that way. I pray that you might be blessed and encouraged by these stories and that we all will be conformed to the image of Christ.

We love because He first loved us.

James R. Garringer
Editor
Taylor overseas study program highly ranked in Open Doors poll

Taylor University has received high national rankings for its overseas study program from Open Doors, a publication of the Institute of International Education (IIE) in association with the U.S. State Department.

Taylor was recognized in two Open Doors categories: Leading Institutions by Short-Term Duration of Study Abroad and Institutional Type, which ranked Taylor University second; and Institutions by Total Number of Study Abroad Students: Top 40 Baccalaureate Institutions, which ranked Taylor sixth.

Taylor students study and serve abroad in two dozen countries that include Australia, China, Czech Republic, Ecuador and Israel, with the highest number of students traveling to Ireland, the Bahamas and South Korea.

The rankings come on the heels of Taylor’s seventh consecutive number one ranking as a Midwest University by U.S. News & World Report. Taylor was also highly ranked by Forbes.com, The Princeton Review, and Washington Monthly.

“The increasing connectivity of countries and cultures mandates that today’s graduates have not just one, but multiple, intercultural experiences,” said Dr. Chris Bennett, Taylor’s Dean of International Programs. “The newest rankings by Open Doors and the Institute for International Education affirm that our programs remain relevant and that our graduates are prepared to live, work, and serve around the world.”

The 2013 Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange reports the number of U.S. students who studied abroad for academic credit increased by three percent to 283,332 students in 2011/12, an all-time high.

“If we are to achieve our mission of preparing graduates to minister Christ’s redemptive love and truth to a world in need, we must equip our students to operate with discernment in a world where all the pressing local issues are also major global issues that include human rights, the economy, the environment, energy, evangelization, poverty and public health,” said Bennett. “We have the institutional advantage of Taylor’s heritage in this regard, as exemplified by the timeless story of Samuel Morris, the Venture for Victory movement, and by the Lighthouse missions program. This is a strength of Taylor University that is 100 percent mission-centric.”
Mildred Loving was a young African-American woman living in the State of Virginia with her white husband Richard and the two had run amok of state laws prohibiting interracial marriage. They were convicted and sentenced to a year in prison with their sentences suspended for 25 years, but there was one condition: they were to leave the State of Virginia and never return.

The Lovings appealed their case all the way to the United States Supreme Court, which on June 12, 1967, issued a ruling declaring invalid all, every state law prohibiting interracial marriage.

“Nineteen days later, July 1, 1967, by the will and blessing of God, I married Eva,” Israel L. Gaither, the first African-American Commissioner of the Salvation Army, said of his union to a Caucasian wife. “We became the first married interracial couple serving as Salvation Army officer ministers in the United States of America. The correcting of the unjust treatment of Mr. and Mrs. Loving meant that Eva and I would be treated fairly.”

Gaither was the featured speaker for Taylor’s annual observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday in January. No stranger to the Taylor community, Gaither was Taylor’s 2011 Commencement speaker and holds an honorary doctorate.

“We must no longer take our cue from the behavior of an increasingly morally-misguided culture. It’s time for us, for you, to rise. We must consider Biblical truth as our guiding response,” Gaither said.

“Commissioner Gaither’s comments really resonated with people—I know it resonated with me,” said Cecelia Macias, Taylor’s director of intercultural programs. “Some people see missions work as doing things for the Lord, but really, anything we do in our lives—banking and corporate America, education or wherever God has called us—we are still doing God’s work and we should do it God’s way. It was a great reminder.”

“If our love of God is limited to the sanctuary, the power realized from worship is compromised,” said Gaither. “If the ultimate outcome of worship is to bring glory and honor to God in His world, then it must be demonstrated in the way we live and the way we respond to that which dishonors and disempowers any man, any woman, any child. God, whom we are called to worship in the sanctuary, is the same God that beckons us from the pew into the world.”

Visit bit.ly/GaitherTU to hear Gaither’s chapel address in its entirety.
Growing entrepreneurship and building on an already-successful internship program—these are the goals of Promising Ventures, a new program at Taylor University that was made possible by a $1 million grant from Indianapolis-based Lilly Endowment Inc.

Taylor officials say Promising Ventures could lead to the creation of as many as 350 new jobs. Startup ventures and homegrown businesses are the primary source of “net” new jobs in the country.

“Taylor students want to launch startups,” said Dr. Ben Sells, Vice President for University Advancement at Taylor. “In past five years, the percentage of Taylor’s graduating seniors who indicate they want to start their own business has increased from 14.8% to 24.1%. Students who want to start something—for-profit and nonprofit—reflect all kinds of majors and are not limited to just business-related studies. This program is based not only on student trends but also informed by surveys with alumni.”

Sells said Taylor alumni who are entrepreneurs want to help fellow alumni and current students, and that Promising Ventures will link Taylor alumni, parents, and friends to current students who want to launch or join a new startup venture through internships, special projects, and networking relationships.

Additionally, the program adds additional internship opportunities, building on Taylor’s highly-rated internships program (ranked among the nation’s Top 10 by U.S. News).

Dr. Drew Moser ’02, Taylor’s Associate Dean of Students and Director of the Calling and Career Office, said Promising Ventures aims to help 100 graduates find employment and accelerate the launch of 50 new startups the goal that at least half of those ventures succeeding, creating new 200 jobs and as many as 350 new employment opportunities.

“Taylor University will exhibit a vibrant entrepreneurial culture that will attract and develop the next generation of job creators,” Moser said. “With this grant, Taylor University will be better able to equip students to make a difference in emerging startups, small businesses, and nonprofits within the state. This aligns well with our mission to develop servant leaders and serve as a catalyst to continue this work for years to come.”
To borrow a line from the beloved Christmas song, the weather outside was frightful. Taylor University and the rest of the Midwest endured one winter storm after another as record snowfall and cold temperatures were recorded throughout the region.

Yet, while severe weather conditions led officials to close the campus a total of three days during the winter, staying inside was not an option for members of Taylor University’s Facilities Services staff, who shoveled untold tons of snow, working in frigid conditions, many times working 60-hour weeks. And most often they did it with cheerful countenances and uncomplaining spirits.

“My guys never complained,” said Kerry Shanebrook, Taylor’s Grounds Superintendent. “They are wonderful at that. Our department has earned that reputation through the years; we are ready at the drop of a hat to help. We take pride in our campus and our guys really do have servant hearts. We have a great sense of camaraderie.”

Shanebrook said the staff’s expertise also extended to jumpstarting stalled cars and pulling vehicles from ditches. It marks the third time in the past 10 years severe winter weather has led to closure of the campus. In 2005 an ice storm paralyzed much of the Midwest and in 2007 a blizzard deposited nearly 20 inches of powdery snow on the region.

“This winter gave the rest of the campus the opportunity to experience what we have known all along, that each member of our Facilities Services crew performs at a very high level in a selfless way,” said Ron Sutherland ’82, Vice President for Business Administration. “From the guys who were out early in the mornings shoveling streets, driveways and walks, to those who shoveled out entrances and housekeepers who dealt with lots of salt that was tracked in, our team did an outstanding job. What was especially gratifying was they did this in addition to their normal responsibilities.”

“I was so impressed with our facilities and our grounds guys,” said Dr. Skip Trudeau, Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students. “If you drove around Upland the streets were almost impassible but then you’d get to campus and you’d have no problem getting around.”
#TAYLORU

One of social media’s best qualities is its ability to share instantaneous information with friends, families and loved ones via Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or various social media. Here are a few tweets and Instagram photos that we have enjoyed during the past months.

@MayTheRoad_RISE That awesome moment when you realize that even during the panic and frenzy of finals week, God is still watchin’ out for me. @tayloru

@MrBlackBowTie alumni are seriously the best. These people don’t even know me and they opened up their guest room.

@rachel_sawyer I learned a great many things from my time at @tayloru, but one I hold dear is how to [gracefully] walk on icy pavement. #winter

@Meredith_Sell Today, I finished my last @tayloru class. Not much hoopla, but my professor almost started to cry.

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#TAYLORU
FACULTY LEAD STUDENT TEAMS IN ROBOCUP, MATH COMPETITIONS

PROFESSOR DAN BOWMAN, English, authored an article Living Maps: Into the Heart of the Heartland, which was published in Books & Culture.

DR. MIKE GUEBERT, Earth and Environmental Science, initiated the Bike Share project designed to educate, advocate and motivate students in sustainable campus transportation through an on-campus bike repair shop and implementation of dozens of free, shared-use bikes repurposed from abandoned bikes. Funding was received from the Ball Foundation and the Taylor Women’s Giving Circle.


DR. PHILIP MUMMERT, Mathematics, led teams of Taylor student mathematicians to high finishes in two prestigious intercollegiate competitions. Taylor student teams achieved high finishes in the annual Michigan Area Take Home (MATH) Challenge, finishing 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 27th, and 41st. It was the sixth time in the past eight contests in which Taylor has had a team place in the top-three. Taylor teams also competed in the Virginia Tech Regional Mathematics Contest, where they scored better than 66% of all other exam participants.

DR. MIKE SEVERE, Biblical Studies Christian Education Philosophy (BSCEP), and a Taylor student researched intercultural competency in short term mission teams visiting Eastern Europe.

DR. DENNIS TWETEN, Engineering, had an article accepted for publication in the International Journal of Dynamics and Control. The piece is titled Delayed feedback control of chaos for arbitrary delays analyzed with the spectral element method.

DR. CINDY (PEARSON ’78) TYNER, Education, presented a poster session titled Teaching in an International Setting at the Kappa Delta Pi International Convocation in Dallas in October.

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION The MBA is working with Lithuania Christian College in Klaipeda, Lithuania, on a dual degree MBA program and MA in International Management to serve students from 30 countries in the Eurasia region. Expected enrollment date is August 2014.

DR. ART WHITE, Computer Science and Engineering, and his students are preparing software for entry in the international Robocup competition.

THE ZONDERVAN LIBRARY is scheduled to participate in a statewide project with approximately 35 other academic libraries to study print book collection overlap and use. The purpose is to minimize unwarranted duplication of existing and future resources and to free physical space for repurposing that is consonant with the declining use of print books. The library has also added several new digital resources including a major statistical database, Statista, the complete digital archive of National Geographic, VAST, a collection of streaming videos containing approximately 10,000 titles, and a leased collection of about 400 recent fiction and non-fiction books in an effort to promote leisure reading. More journals are being acquired in an “online only” format.

NINE EXERCISE SCIENCE MAJORS studied in Ecuador during the fall semester. This is the inaugural launch of a semester abroad for PHP majors in Ecuador. Dr. Erik Hayes facilitated the program.

THE MASTER OF ARTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT (MAHE) program will graduate its 100th student in May. MAHE graduates have been accepted into some of the best doctoral programs in the world including Notre Dame, Harvard, Michigan State, Indiana University, and Penn State; 91 percent of 2013 MAHE grads have secured full-time appointments within higher education.

The inaugural language courses in Korean and Mandarin are both well-enrolled during the fall and Taylor officials have found several potential partners among schools and churches in China that will provide opportunities for our students to continue their Mandarin studies.
Jordan Melendez ’15 has achieved a prestigious internship this summer at CERN in Geneva, Switzerland. Melendez, a double major in physics and mathematics from Elyria, Ohio, was one of just 10 students chosen nationwide for the work, which begins in June.

According to its website, CERN’s name is the acronym for the French “Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire,” or European Organization for Nuclear Research. CERN has achieved worldwide acclaim for its LHC super collider, the largest in the world, and the discovery of the Higgs boson, also known as the “God particle” in 2012.

“It is a credit to the great professors I have worked with here at Taylor,” Melendez said. “Most professors would not take the time to teach theoretical particle physics to an undergraduate. They feel like it’s a waste of time because it’s such a big learning curve. But Dr. (Ken) Kiers obviously finds it beneficial. I’m very glad he took the time to do that because having a theoretical understanding of the material is one of the things that helped me because not that many undergraduates have that experience.”

“I feel like faith definitely complements everything [that I do],” Melendez added. “Faith and science definitely complement each other. Faith gives you a better understanding of science and a way to interpret it in a Christian context. And I feel science gives you a way to better understand God’s character and who God is on a deeper level than without knowing all the intricate details of how physics works and its beauty and all of its symmetries and underlying nature.”
Getting to that 1,000 point mark can seem impossible. But when you add hard work and perseverance to determination and dedication, it doesn’t seem so far off. Kelsey Bryant ’14 is the latest Taylor women’s basketball player to accomplish the feat.

She was “welcomed to the club” Jan. 29, making her the 21st player in Taylor University women’s basketball history to score 1,000 points in a career. As a senior last year accomplishing the same feat, I know what it’s like to see hard work pay off.

While Kelsey led the Trojans in scoring with 13 points a game, she is more than a scorer averaging 6.2 rebounds, 2.6 assists and 1.3 steals a game.

Her leadership is so powerful off the court as well. From her competitive spirit on the floor to tears shared when she tells us her favorite verse: Psalm 18:19, which says,”He rescued me because He delighted in me,” Kelsey’s heart pours forth her passion for the Lord.

She has told me so many times, “Erin, God rescues us every day, even when we don’t deserve it. He is our true source of hope.” Playing basketball at Taylor has helped us grow our faith in ways we never knew because of the girls we’re with day in and day out. “We want the best for each other and are always praying for each other because of it,” Kelsey said.

“Him delighting in me is greater than any earthly thing I could ever do or accomplish,” she added. “But because of His delight and the support and encouragement from my teammates, family and friends, being able to score 1,000 points is truly such an honor.

“I can only hope to leave the same kind of legacy as those who have come before me and taught me to be the player, and even more, the woman of God I am today.”

Erin (Guarneri ’13) McGaughey was Kelsey Bryant’s teammate for three years. She also scored 1,000 points during her Taylor basketball career.
Kyle Stidom goes for a layup against Ball State on Nov. 12. Stidom averaged 17.1 points per game to lead the Trojans in scoring and was named to the Crossroads League Newcomers Team.
NEL-SON MANDELA

A LEGACY THAT DESERVES REFLECTION

by Nicholas Kerton-Johnson
A SOUTH AFRICAN IT IS HARD TO DESCRIBE THE impact of Nelson Mandela’s life and death to my colleagues in the United States, but the best explanation I can make is that we feel like we have lost a father. Tata Mandela joined the ranks of great men and women of the 20th century when he led South Africa into its birth as a new nation. He joins the likes of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. How easily we forget even the CIA was predicting hundreds of thousands of South Africans would die as a result of “tribal” violence before the fall of apartheid. Yet this horror never materialized and South Africa became known as a miracle.

I was born in 1974, which is not a particularly special year in South African history, except it meant I was old enough to cast my vote when our president, F.W. de Klerk asked all white South Africans to approve his political program of negotiating with the African National Congress (A.N.C.) and dismantling apartheid. It is with great pride I can say my first democratic act was to call for the unbanning of the A.N.C.

A few years later I was to witness the historic moment in Cape Town when President Mandela stood with Archbishop Desmond Tutu and spoke to tens of thousands of people of all races. He concluded by saying, “We speak as fellow citizens to heal the wounds of the past with the intent of constructing a new order based on justice for all.” How powerful it was to hear this man so hurt by decades of abuse, call for reconciliation and a South Africa for all its people—what would become known in Archbishop Tutu’s phrase as “the Rainbow Nation.”

Africa is a beautiful continent, with wonderful people and incredible natural resources yet its potential has been rent by colonialism, corruption, inept leadership and war. Nelson Mandela could certainly have followed the terrible example of so many post-colonial leaders. He had the political and moral power to bring great pain to South Africa. And having seen the quarry where he labored or his small cell on Robben Island, (smaller than the police dogs’ cages), who could not understand the natural act for Mandela might be revenge against his and his peoples’ oppressors. But he chose a different path. He chose forgiveness; and decades of pain in his life gave him the moral authority to call others to do the same.

Mandela’s act of humility and forgiveness in the face of evil reached across generations of hatred and led a country into a post-Apartheid peace. How petty our differences in the U.S. appear in the light of what Mandela overcame. Perhaps many of you have watched the movie Invictus, which tells the story of Mandela, Francois Pienaar and the 1995 Rugby World Cup. Mandela believed sport could reconcile people and he choose to support rugby, which had been the white oppressors’ game. When he walked onto the field before the championship game wearing the green and gold Springbok jersey, I gasped, then cheered. The enormity of this moment was not lost on any South Africans and in a moment we were reminded of the heart of this man who would wear a symbol of oppression and redeem it—demonstrating that day, as South Africa played to become world champions, that we were neither white nor black, but South Africans. By the way, who are the redeemers in the United States? Who is willing to do the unimaginable and find commonality across the political divide?

It is easy, when remembering a great man, to look over his failures. It seems to me a particularly problematic nature of politics in this media-driven culture that we either try to find no faults in those who lead us—as if perfection was possible—or we attempt to ruin our leaders through overemphasis of their failures. Nelson Mandela did not initially follow the peaceful lead of the great Walter Sisulu and other fathers of the A.N.C., but in his later years he saw the power and wisdom of forgiveness and peace. He was willing to fight apartheid, but not willing to make an enemy of any person who would work for a just South Africa. Nelson Mandela was by no means perfect, but I believe this not only proves his humanity, but elevates the greatness of his achievements. Perhaps we, in the U.S., could recognize that our own leaders will never be perfect and must look to the substance of their ideas, treating difference with the civility that Mandela modeled for us.

I was a university student when Nelson Mandela was my president and during his presidency and after it I would argue that his greatest mistake was the way in which he privileged the A.N.C. over South Africa. This is of course completely understandable. He had dedicated his life to this organization and saw it as the only way that all South Africans could find liberty. Yet, in privileging the party, he established the party in many peoples’ eyes, as above and beyond the nation, and when those who followed him lacked the humility and experience that had shaped his life, the stage was set for corruption and the abuse of power.

In seeing this error, I am cautioned when examining the nature of American politics and the place of the Democrat and Republican parties, who appear determined to diminish the other, whose visions for the future are becoming so distant that it is no longer common to see them working together for the benefit of the country that their members promised to serve. Grace is lacking, as is humility; and from this lack, there can be no vision of cooperation across differences and a willingness to compromise in order to find justice for all. Mandela showed that a man, unjustly imprisoned and kept in atrocious conditions for decades, could still find peace and work with those who had hated him. How petty our political differences appear in comparison.

Nelson Mandela’s legacy looms over the land. He left power as he had taken it, graciously, and in this he again stood apart from so many post-colonial leaders who moved from European colonialism to African despotism. And even without his presidential power, it is hard to describe why South Africans still felt a measure of safety in his presence—our hearts telling us that he would never allow the miracle that was South Africa to be betrayed. His moral authority together with Archbishop Tutu’s remained present. But now he is gone and we have lost a father. We hope and pray that the new generation of leaders will honor his legacy.

Dr. Nicholas Kerton-Johnson serves as Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Taylor University.
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Trip hosts: Sherri Harter, associate vice president for development; and Joyce Helyer, former vice president for university advancement.

More information can be found at taylor.edu/nashville. You may also contact Sherri for more information at shharter@taylor.edu or 765.998.4956.

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WE ALL COME TOGETHER. CHAPEL IMPACT IS EXTENDED. NOW IS OUR TIME TO LEAVE A LEGACY.

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To learn more about the LaRita R. Boren Campus Center go to www.taylor.edu/campuscenter or contact Amy Wilson, coordinator of Alumni Engagement, at amy_wilson@taylor.edu or 765-998-4887.
Coming from a family of modest means, and feeling God’s call on my life for pastoral ministry, I knew a college degree would require work from myself and help from others. Now 55 years later and having been blessed in more ways than I can enumerate, I need to extend those blessings into the lives of today’s students. We were able to make our gift using stock, which provides additional tax advantages. Hopefully other alumni will consider joining us, and as we say today, “pay it forward.” Thanks be to God!

Ray ’59 and Sue Merz

All gifts to Taylor make a difference in the lives of students. Some gifts are more tax advantaged than others. Appreciated assets given directly to Taylor University provide a fair-market value income tax deduction, and since they are given to a public charity, are not subject to capital gains tax. Many Taylor alumni and friends have found gifts of publicly traded stock and real estate to have a great impact.

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LUKE 15:20
AND HE AROSE AND CAME TO HIS FATHER. BUT WHILE HE WAS STILL A LONG WAY OFF, HIS FATHER SAW HIM AND FELT COMPASSION, AND RAN AND EMBRACED HIM AND KISSED HIM.
The baby was born after only 23 weeks gestation, 17 weeks earlier than the 40 week norm.

Within a week, he had a brain hemorrhage and a perforated intestine. His mother, a 17-year-old taking high school classes online, was handling the hardest thought of motherhood: the possibility of losing her child.
“As she sat there on the fourteenth day of her baby’s life, she said, ‘I cannot believe how I’ve grown this last week,’” said Dr. Ronald Hoekstra ’64, lead neonatologist at the Children’s Hospital of Minnesota in Minneapolis. “That’s everything to me.”

Hoekstra has been working in neonatology since its emergence as a specialty in 1975. The branch of pediatric medicine concerned with the care of newborns, neonatology deals heavily with premature infants and the babies of at-risk pregnancies.

Much of Hoekstra’s work has centered around micro preemies, infants born before 26 weeks of gestation at the edge of viability. At this point in development, infants don’t have fully developed lungs or immune systems, and they lack the body fat necessary to keep warm. Neonatologists provide assistance in each of these areas, using ventilators and incubators, and making sure the babies aren’t exposed to sickness.

Since Hoekstra first entered the field, neonatology has advanced significantly in ways of treatment and understanding the functions and needs of premature infants. Now, as Hoekstra continues treating micro preemies, he has the encouragement of those he treated more than 20 years ago, many of whom are full-grown, healthy and independently functioning.

One 24-week infant, weighing one pound and three ounces, was put on a ventilator for two months to keep him breathing despite very sick lungs. This was before the advent of surfactant, a lung treatment that eases breathing for preemies, and before laser eye surgery. His lungs collapsed multiple times, and he lost sight completely in one eye.

But he is alive today. Although he was in special education until sixth grade, he later excelled academically and gained induction into the National Honors Society in high school. After stellar performance in college where he made the Dean’s List, he earned a Master's Degree in geographic information systems.

“This was a kid people thought would not amount to anything,” Hoekstra said. And this case was not an anomaly.

Another of Hoekstra’s former micro preemies earned a 4.0 in college and is currently on a full ride to Harvard Divinity School. Yet another earned a perfect ACT score, graduated with two degrees in four years, and is now studying law at Georgetown University while working nights on computer security in the Defense Department.

“[The successes] reaffirm that you shouldn’t give up if they have a bad day—or two or four or ten,” Hoekstra said. “You can be awfully sick and turn out awfully good.”

Many improvements have been made in neonatology since those babies were born. Survival rates rose from 53 percent in 1986 to 89 percent in 2000. The biggest improvement was in the lowest gestational age: 23 week gestational survival rates went from 40 percent in 1990 to 73 percent in 2009.

Even with these improvements, the percentage of babies with physical and developmental problems—from blindness to cerebral palsy—has not changed. Many of those who live to adulthood require significant intervention and educational assistance. But even these stories are not without redemption.

“A lot of the babies who the world or the medical establishment would not consider success stories have had the biggest impact,” Hoekstra said. One baby, now 16 years old, was born at 22 weeks gestation, before the lungs’ air sacs normally develop. He spent his first year of life in the hospital; his first two years, he was fed through a tube. When he was three, his parents went to Kenya.

“As soon as they got to Nairobi, his mom saw babies being hidden because they were considered a curse from God on these families,” Hoekstra said. The hidden babies were developmentally disabled.

The preemie’s mother, seeing this, went door-to-door through a slum, found the “curse” babies, and started a care center for them. She...
hired physical therapists from England, talked surgeons into operating on certain infants, and established a jewelry business to provide employment for the “curse” babies’ mothers.

“All of this happened because she had this baby,” Hoekstra said.

The impact of these special children on Hoekstra is real as well. On September 24, 2013, a baby died who had spent seven months in the hospital, fighting pulmonary hypertension, high blood pressure in the lung arteries which stresses the right side of the heart.

“We were getting to the point where we were doing things to the baby, rather than for the baby,” Hoekstra said. The baby was on morphine and fentanyl for the last two months of his life. “We knew he was not going to survive, but it took the mom two months to realize this on her own.”

It was then Hoekstra got a call from the baby’s 22-year-old mother, asking him to pray for her baby. “I did, but it wasn’t easy,” he said.

The mother came into the hospital in a black dress and heels. She dressed her child in a tuxedo she’d made for him, played music from her iPod, and picked him up to dance.

“She said, ‘I can’t dance at your wedding, but I’m going to dance with you tonight.’”

Then, she and the baby’s father took the child out to the hall where the windows face west and, sitting on the windowsill with the baby in their arms, watched the sunset until he passed.

“In God’s eyes, every one of these babies has tremendous value,” Hoekstra said. “They don’t always turn out the way that we would like them to turn out, but we know that they have purpose.”
Kate Bedinghaus and son Liam, age 3 ½.
THE INVISIBLE GRADUATES

by Kate (Yoder ’07) Bedinghaus and Heather (Bayly ’98) Ummel

FILL IN THE BLANK:
More Taylor grads work as _____ than in any other vocation.

A Teachers  
B Missionaries  
C Youth Pastors  
D Business Professionals

Answer: It’s a trick question. We didn’t do a statistical survey, but we’re willing to bet the answer is mothers.
As young women at Taylor, our minds were consumed with endless tests, friendships, wing events, and cute boys. There were deeper spiritual questions to ponder. There were decisions about the future to be made. These thoughts left little room for the seemingly faraway possibility of motherhood. The idea of children was filed away under “Someday,” after mission work, world travel, and a rewarding career.

For some of us, years passed, some dreams were realized, and suddenly motherhood arrived—ready or not. The calling of motherhood was upon us and we had a choice: would we continue in our careers or would we choose to stay home and give our lives over to this needy child? We felt unprepared—scared, even—to care for this little one, much less raise him in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

Taylor offers no degree in motherhood, and frankly, no one ever really is ready. But motherhood is a blessing God has bestowed on many of us, whether biologically or through adoption. Many of us then chose to ignore the world’s conventional wisdom and sacrifice our careers—partially or completely—to the honorable calling of motherhood.

The world around us will never applaud this choice. It was already deriding the career path of motherhood in the day of G.K. Chesterton. Be encouraged by his response to such a view:

[A woman is] surrounded … with very young children, who require to be taught not so much anything as everything. Babies need … to be introduced to a world. To put the matter shortly, [a mother] is generally shut up in a house with a human being at the time when he asks all the questions that there are, and some that there aren’t … Now if anyone says that this duty … is in itself too exacting and oppressive, I can understand the view … But when people begin to talk about this domestic duty as not merely difficult but trivial and dreary, I simply give up the question … How can it be a large career to tell other people’s children about the Rule of Three, and a small career to tell one’s own children about the universe? How can it be broad to be the same thing to everyone, and narrow to be everything to someone? No; a woman’s function is laborious, but because it is gigantic, not because it is minute. I will pity Mrs. Jones for the hugeness of her task; I will never pity her for its smallness.

From What’s Wrong with the World by G.K. Chesterton

We’re rarely encouraged to sacrifice our career and become a mother, and it’s easy to doubt the value of wiping noses when we read about alumni awards honoring others for Important Kingdom Work. It’s easy to crave validation from others when our work is not apparent in the public sphere. We are the invisible graduates.

If we aren’t using our degree in a conventional manner, does this negate its value? No. Our Savior, husbands and children know exactly how we serve. The best thing Taylor did to prepare us for motherhood was to teach us to be a servant. The servant’s towel we received at graduation is not an empty symbol for a mother. It represents stretch marks, sleepless nights, and endless self-sacrifice. It stands for wiping away tears, cleaning skinned knees, and laughing at silly jokes.

Motherhood fits perfectly into Taylor’s mission statement: “to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ’s redemptive love and truth to a world in need.” Is there any greater mission field for us than our own homes and children? Mothers don’t have to travel to Africa to teach the gospel—many little ears are waiting right at our feet. Our children desperately need to hear the truth of the gospel every time they sin, every time we sin in front of them, and every time they have
questions about the world around them. This is the good work God has prepared for us. When we look at staying home with children from this perspective we can clearly see the great work set before us and the faith and joy it requires.

You might agree that motherhood is good work yet wonder, "How can I continue on this journey? I am tired. I feel isolated and invisible. No one around me sees motherhood that way." Who understands motherhood better than other mothers? Remember something else you learned at Taylor—the importance of intentional community. Should that stop when you graduate? Isolation as a mother—especially if you stay home—might be one of our greatest challenges, but it’s also one of our greatest opportunities.

Isolation becomes an opportunity when we step out in faith and reach out to other mothers. You are not alone. We guarantee there is another Taylor mom, a neighbor, or a woman from your church struggling in the same areas. Now is the time to learn, grow, and share experiences. Motherhood itself is your bond with other mothers, whether they are beside you on a park bench or on the other side of the world.

There are many ways to reach out. You could start an email group with other moms. Even better, step out and join a moms group. Be vulnerable about mistakes you make. Childrearing is messy and humbling work, nothing like those picture-perfect mommy blogs. We need the kind of community that will come alongside us and hold up our arms when we are weary. We need the gospel as much as our children do. If you need someone to walk alongside you in the journey, the mom next door does too. Thank God for His many blessings and freely share what He has given you—both in your home and in your community.
I am 34 years old, and I am a widow. Over the last two years I desperately needed God to care for me in ways that I never planned or imagined. I didn’t expect God’s care would include a calling.
One typical Saturday in March 2012, my husband, Francis (39), and I were running errands with our 18-month-old son. I was six months pregnant and feeling great. Francis was not. He had complained of flu-like symptoms for several days and I encouraged him to get it checked out. There would surely be an answer.

Thus began the journey of tests, ER visits, and hospitalizations. Weeks of unknowns preceded a crushing blow—cancer.

Over the next nine months Francis (and I) endured eight chemo treatments, countless tests and appointments, and two major abdominal surgeries. Our souls were repeatedly shaken.

But, God met us in the depths of our despair. Our second child, a daughter, was born just nineteen days after Francis’s diagnosis. Her birth gave us reason for spilling tears of joy, not sadness. She was an additional reason to cling to our badly damaged hope.

Nine months after his diagnosis, a white-coated surgeon greeted me in a small consultation room. He had opened Francis’s abdomen with hopes for a cure before discovering the truth. The cancer was going to kill Francis, and the doctor’s best guess was Francis had three to six months to live.

I was devastated. Maybe I even questioned. But thankfully, the cancer didn’t kill my faith. God was sustaining me through the care of my friends during my living nightmare. In countless ways, relief came by practical acts of kindness.

At Taylor, balancing academics, social events, and extracurricular activities was difficult. As students in that community, we learned that invitations to dinner or coffee, knocks on dorm room doors, walks around the loop, and prayers in small groups provided much needed encouragement.

I am grateful that those same encouragements were present during our cancer experience. God used the dinners and coffees, visits, walks, and prayers to sustain me. Just as I was caring for Francis, my friends were caring for me.

Francis and I spent the final three months of his life sharing our hopes for our children, and our painful longings for moments missed. There was much laughter and many tears.

God’s hand was moving, but we couldn’t see it. Francis knew I’d need a break to refresh from my
caregiving duties and he implored me to take a vacation with friends. I assured him I would, even as I wondered what that would look like.

Just as the surgeon speculated, Francis was near death three months later. I held him, kissing him and telling him how much I loved him and would miss him as he breathed his final breath and found rest in the arms of Jesus.

I take comfort in the promise that Francis is in the presence of Jesus, and his body that was destroyed and his soul that was shaken by cancer is redeemed. I am reminded of that precious promise from 1 Corinthians 4:16, which reads, “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.”

Francis is enjoying the streets of heaven and is celebrating in the wedding feast along with the many saints that went before him. After the nightmare that was cancer—in Heaven, Francis has a fresh new start.

Francis realized that cancer was my nightmare too. It scarred my body, stole my dreams, and shook my soul. When he urged me to take a vacation from caregiving, I didn’t truly understand his intentions. But four months after his death, I honored his request.

As I knew Francis was walking the streets of Heaven, I found myself meandering through the streets of Florence, Italy. During my cancer journey, everything was regimented—medications, appointments, bandage changes. In Florence, I rediscovered freedom from the bondage of medical schedules.

As I knew Francis was enjoying Christ’s wedding feast, we were enjoying an admittedly indulgent Tuscan chocolate feast. While sitting around tables in open-air restaurants overlooking the splendors of history, I re-embraced and re-cultivated the joy that survived the tumult.

As I knew Francis was discovering the beauty of Christ and His Church, I was rediscovering beauty in the details of God’s Creation.

What cancer ripped away—dreams, time, joys and beauty—rekindled. I knew this trip would be good, but never imagined how good. It’s where I received my fresh new start.

A seed was planted by Francis, watered and fed by experience and caring friends, and nurtured by me into an organization to support young cancer widows. Fresh New Start will allow others to share in the wealth of love God’s shown me through the incredible individuals who were his hands.

I’m sure it’s not surprising that many of those supporting Fresh New Start today are Taylor alumni, including five of the twelve Fresh New Start directors. I believe this is the love of which C.S. Lewis wrote in The Four Loves:

In reality, a few years’ difference in the dates of our births, a few more miles between certain houses, the choice of one university instead of another, posting to different regiments, the accident of a topic being raised or not raised at a first meeting—any of these chances might have kept us apart. But for a Christian, there are, strictly speaking, no chances. A secret Master of the Ceremonies has been at work.

Taylor University has always placed great emphasis on intentional, covenant community. The Life Together Covenant provides a clear foundation on which to build a community that loves one another as we grow in our intellectual knowledge and our spiritual walk while at Taylor and the world beyond.

I recently read the LTC “Do’s.” Therein lies a commitment to love by caring for one another. As I embark on God’s plan for me to care for women like me who need a fresh new start as young cancer widows.

Within our community the greatest expression of fellowship and the highest principle for relationships is love … Caring for One Another: We are responsible to come alongside those experiencing grief, discouragement, illness, tragedy, or other personal trials. Expressions of bearing one another’s burdens include comfort, encouragement, consolation and intercession.

—Life Together Covenant
LEARNING TO TRUST

Eli ’14 and Nate Nupanga ’14 will graduate together in May—Nate with a degree in biblical literature and Eli with a degree in international business and systems. Born to a seminary teacher in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the road to Taylor taken by the Nupangas wound through the Central African Republic, later to South Africa, and eventually to Wheaton Academy in Chicago. They have witnessed firsthand the unrest that has gripped their homeland. But they have also experienced God’s faithfulness, love, and His purpose for their lives.
WE WERE COMING FROM THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC TO VISIT OUR GRANDFATHER IN THIS LITTLE TOWN TAKEN OVER BY REBELS. THEY WERE KILLING PEOPLE. WE LEFT AND THE NEXT DAY THERE WERE MORE KILLINGS. MY MOM ALMOST GOT HIT BY A BULLET. ONE STUDENT WAS SHOT IN THE LEG AND RECENTLY ONE STUDENT DIED AS A RESULT OF SHOOTINGS.
WE HAVE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT UNREST IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AND THE CONGO. WHAT WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE?

ELI: One of the things about the Congo is that it is such a large country. We were fortunate enough to be from the northern part, which was relatively peaceful. But in the south and east parts of the country there is always rebel activity and fighting going on. That is also one of the richest parts of the country where all the natural resources are from, and so that is always caught in a struggle, because whoever takes over the area can exploit the area.

DID YOU EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE FIRSTHAND?

ELI: We were coming from the Central African Republic to visit our grandfather in this little town taken over by rebels. They were killing people. We left and the next day there were more killings. My mom almost got hit by a bullet. One student was shot in the leg and recently one student died as a result of shootings. It’s been in the news. The Central African Republic is very unstable.

WHAT LED YOU TO TAYLOR UNIVERSITY?

ELI: We heard about Taylor from Dereck Kamwesa ’06 when he visited us at Wheaton Academy. I talked with Dereck, and he was from Kenya, and he said, “You come over.” It’s just the way Dereck is. I had a personal relationship with Dereck. I did not have a personal relationship with any other counselor from any other school.

NATE: We looked at some other schools, but when it came down to it, Taylor seemed to understand the most regarding what they were doing with their international students. We thought that was the best situation—the best place for us. Dereck was definitely a key element of that.

WHAT KIND OF ADJUSTMENTS DID YOU HAVE AT TAYLOR?

NATE: I would say for us, we had a little easier time adjusting. We have lived in so many different places because of my dad’s ministry: the Congo and the Central African Republic, South Africa, and back to the Central African Republic. Transitioning to new environments is something that we are more accustomed to, and so I would say there was also a lot of support through international student orientation with other international students here.

HOW WERE YOU CHALLENGED ACADEMICALLY HERE AT TAYLOR?

ELI: Good question. With the challenge came all the solutions. I came wanting to be a computer science major. My view of what that would look like was slightly different from what Taylor was offering. After a year you have to declare a path—either you are software studio or new media and I was really passionate to work with people and I just knew that coding was not my thing. After a year I really, really struggled. But then Dr. (Jonathan) Geisler said to me, “You can go into business and do business systems.” It changed my whole view on the situation in 20 minutes. I knew I wanted to do international business with systems and systems gave me all the other tools that I needed. That was really comforting.

NATE: I came in actually as a biology/pre-med major. Being a pastor’s son I always felt the call to ministry, but I didn’t know if I was cut out for it or not. It was my freshman year that I felt a really strong call toward ministry and so I switched to that and after doing that, as much as people hear the bio-pre-med majors or physics majors on campus, that those are the really hard majors, after switching to biblical studies, I actually found that it was a pretty challenging major as well. You really want to engage with it and have to take the Greek and the Hebrew and theology classes, so I was challenged in that way.

HOW HAS YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE CHANGED SINCE YOU’VE BEEN HERE?

ELI: I would say dramatically. It took me to a different place as far as my spiritual journey. I have a small group for accountability and Bible study time with them four times a week. It has gotten to a point where it’s not about me, but I am connected to a bigger story, which is how I think we should view God. God doesn’t just want to fix you alone; He wants you to be a part of a story. He wants to do great things in the community. I really feel connected—these are brothers I will keep in touch with. It has been a great journey for me.

NATE: The biggest one for my brother and I would be how God has provided for us here at Taylor. On our own, there is no way we would be sitting here today. Every year, we have come up short of what we needed to continue to be students here. And every year, when we have come to our end is where God has started. Just a few days ago we were trying to figure out things financially and we received an email from friends in Wheaton who said, “a group of us came together and we’re going to pay for whatever you guys need to get you through the rest of this semester to graduate.”

I think God has shown us his provision in such a way that it has humbled us and has taught us a lot about the plan He has for our life and to remain faithful to that and to Him.
“Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”
Isaiah 1:18
1952
Lee and Ruth (Dixon) Truman celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary June 5, 2013. Lee worked as a United Methodist pastor for 40 years and Ruth served at the California State University Fullerton campus as an administrator.

1956
Donald Love passed away Oct. 11, 2013, in West Unity, Ohio. He and his wife, Barbara (Benjamin ’57) Love, worked in the Philippines as medical-missionaries for several years before returning to the states, where Donald continued to work in medicine. He is survived by his wife, sister, sister-in-law and three children.

1961
James Bormann has been working as an independent evangelical missionary with his wife Lidia since 1968. James left the U.S. after graduation and met Lidia while he was in Spain. James and Lidia currently reside in Trieste, Italy.

1962
Judith (Johnson) Leigh died December 31, 2013, after battling Multiple Sclerosis for over 30 years. Judith and her late husband Don Leigh ’61 served in and planted several churches in Minnesota. She is survived by her daughter Susan.

1967
Robert Connor’s wife Linda died in Palmetto, Fla., Sept. 6, 2013. He survives along with four children and stepchildren, Nathan Connor ’96 TUFW, Sarah (Connor ’99) Hewes and Mary Heather Connor ’02.

1968
01 Thomas Dillon was named a 2014 Ohio Super Lawyer by the Ohio Super Lawyers magazine. He is a partner at Roetzel & Andress, LPA, which is located in Columbus, Ohio.

1970
Bob Brown was named the endorsing agent for military chaplains for the Evangelical Congregational Church. Bob resides in Plymouth Meeting, Pa.

1973
02 Donald T. Williams recently published his ninth book, Gaining a Face: The Romanticism of C.S. Lewis, a book he co-authored with Jim Prothero. He is scheduled to speak at the Center for the Study of C.S. Lewis and Friends on Taylor’s campus during Homecoming 2014.

1977
Diane (Fuller) Sellhorn retired after serving in public school education for 22 years in June 2013. She spent the past 18 years teaching 6th grade science and math.

1979
Nancy (Grande) Graham was named superintendent of the school district of Lee County, Fla., in June 2013. This is the ninth largest school district in Florida, with over 86,000 students and 10,000 employees. Nancy was also named a Person to Watch in 2014 by The Fort Myers News-Press. She lives in Fort Myers, Fla.

1981
Linda (Clark) Bynum received a Master of Divinity from Nazarene Theological Seminary, her second master’s degree. She was also ordained as an elder in the Church of the Nazarene. Linda serves as the Connections Pastor at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, Northville, Mich.

1982
Bill Westrate was recently hired as vice president of information technology at Advanced Disposal in Ponte Vedra, Fla. He is in charge of all information technology responsibilities.

1984
Bert Chapman has written a new book: Export Controls: A Contemporary History. He serves as a professor of library science, government information and political science, as well as an...
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economics librarian at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind. • **03** Michael Daugherty was named director (for) architecture governance for IT services at Asurion in Nashville, Tenn. He resides in Franklin, Tenn. with his wife Marcia (Harness ’87) Daugherty. • Nancy Erickson married Galen Gard on April 4, 2013. The couple runs their own business, Gard’s Auto Repair LLC., and lives in Newport, Ore. Friends can contact Nancy at nancysgard@gmail.com.

**1985**

Amy (Mitchell) Young, Cathy (Dieter) Trout, Nancy (Norman) Rizzo, Holly (Egner) Walker, Lois (Kiehlbach) Larsen and Sue (Vinton) Stone met for their annual reunion in New York in June 2013. They all lived on First West Olson during their Taylor years.

**1987**

Rochelle Manor was presented with a Tribute Award by the YWCA of West Central Michigan. Rochelle co-founded her own organization BRAINS (Behavioral Resources and Institute for Neuropsychological Services) in 2007 to provide professional care to families and children who are otherwise unable to afford it. • **05** Doug Otto is now pastor of small groups and leadership development at Grace Family Church in Lutz, Fla. Doug and his wife Pamela are parents of three children.

**1989**

Tad Atkinson worked as the production coordinator and associate producer for a pilot presentation of a new “Star Trek” TV series, Star Trek Renegades, in the fall of 2013, a program that includes several “Star Trek” alumni. Tad will also appear in the on-screen acting credits for playing the role of Admiral Atkinson. • **06** Joe Miller recently published a book *Changing Our Approach to Changing the World: Encouraging and Enhancing American Engagement in International Philanthropy Through Tax Law Reform*. The book is available on Amazon. Joe works for Faegre Baker Daniels LLP and lives in Carmel, Ind.

**1993**

Chris Theule-VanDam, his wife Arika and their son Zeke (3), moved to Holland, Mich. Chris continues to work as regional director for Young Life’s Western Great Lakes Region, which includes the west half of Michigan and northwest Indiana.
Did You Know? TU is...

1996
01 Caryn Grimstead married Stephen Kuzner July 27, 2013, in Owings, Md. Caryn also became a step-mother to Stephen’s daughter. • 02 Nathan Lowe received his doctorate in educational leadership from Purdue University in December 2013. He is principal at the Crossing Educational Center in Northeast Indiana, a faith-based alternative school for at-risk youth. Nathan lives in Ligonier, Ind., with his wife Anne and their three children.

1997
Chris Hayden is the technology specialist at Wilson High School in Florence, S.C. He maintains the school website, digital grade books, intranet, technology integration in the classroom and teacher training. Chris also teaches at the International Baccalaureate School in Wilson, S.C.

1998
03 Melissa Lemke and Dan Sievers were married Oct. 5, 2013. The couple lives in Colorado Springs, Colo. Melissa has spent the past 15 years working in non-profit ministry and Dan owns his own architecture firm. • 04 Lori (Herminghuysen) McColley and her husband Ed welcomed Tyler Kent into their family on Aug 14, 2013. Tyler has already visited Taylor’s campus, coming with his mother to her 15-year class reunion during Homecoming 2013.

1999
05 Kent Salsbery married Lindsay Macfarland June 8, 2013, in Winnetka, Ill. Taylor alumni in the wedding party included Kent’s brothers Kevin Salsbery ‘01, Kreg Salsbery ‘05, Kristopher Salsbery ‘07 and Kyle Salsbery ’13. Kent and Lindsay live and work in Chicago, Ill. • Heather (Pickerell) Delp and Christen (Milligan) Ellis ’97 are members of worship band Jasper Stone, based at Plymouth Wesleyan Church, Plymouth, Ind. They recently released their first album, Rock&Redeemer, and had the amazing opportunity to open for Jeremy Camp in October! The album is available on iTunes.

2000
06 Joey (Castro) Alvis and her husband Jamie welcomed the arrival of their fourth child Charlotte Avery, born Oct. 18, 2013. Charlotte joins big sisters Addison (6), Aerin (5) and Elizabeth (3). The family lives in Noblesville, Ind. Joey works as a speech pathologist. • 07 Laura (Weber) Padgett and her husband Keith recently adopted Beatrice Leanne (3) from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Beatrice came home to Columbus, Ohio, with her parents
in August 2013. • **Rod Coeller ’02, Nathalie (Cowells) Coeller ’98, Melissa Reesman, Missy Chambless, Kate Oates ’02** and Dustin Smucker met in Puerto Vallarta this past summer to vacation. All of these Taylor graduates were good friends and all lived in Swallow Robin during their Taylor experience.

**2001**

Dan Bubar, his wife Allison, and their two boys are living in Roanoke, Va., where Dan works in his dream job as an assistant United States attorney. • **Joshua Maggard** was elected to partnership with the law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP in Milwaukee, Wis. Joshua practices in the areas of commercial litigation and professional liability, specializing in complex financial issues, professional malpractice and class action defense. • **Dawn New** joined Stephen Wisher in holy matrimony Oct. 12, 2013, in Bloomington, Ind. Dawn teaches business communication at the Kelley School of Business, Indiana University. Her husband is a contractor for BC Construction and a lieutenant in the National Guard. The couple lives in Bloomington, Ind. • **Matt Oquist** attended the Clojure/conj programming conference in Washington, D.C., along with Taylor alumni Aaron Brooks, David Whittington ’03, Nathan Ehresman ’05, Melissa (Goss ’06) Whittington, Matt McGill ’07, Jonathan Claggett ’96, Chris Houser ’98 and Joel Martin ’99. Claggett and Houser gave a talk entitled, *Illuminated Macros*. • **Stephen Wardle** recently joined the Fuqua Global Executive MBA Class of 2015. He resides in Nairobi, Kenya, with his wife Leah. • **Kara (Gratz) Zink** and her husband Seth welcomed their daughter Ellia into the world Feb. 16, 2013. The family resides in Bluffton, Ohio.

**2002**

**12 Nate Becker** and his wife Jessica proudly announce the arrival of their first daughter, Emily Amor, born July 6, 2013. She joins her three older brothers Elijah (5), Malachi (4) and Luke (2). The Beckers reside in the Philippines where Nate and Jessica are teachers with Wycliffe Bible Translators. • **13 Jared Seaman** and his wife Mandy moved back to Indiana with their sons Caleb (2) and Gavin (1). The Seaman family returned to open a full service automotive repair shop, Christian Brothers Automotive, in Fishers, Ind.

**2003**

**14 Amy (Young) Savona** and her husband Don rejoice at the arrival of their first son Griffin Parker, born June 2, 2013. Griffin joins sisters Emma (4) and Addie (2) at their home in Novi, Mich. Their e-mail is amyeyoung1229@yahoo.com.
Simple Guidelines to Health

Lifestyle changes and a holistic approach to wellness are guidelines contained in the fourth book by Dr. Ed Dodge ’57: Be Healthy: Simple Guidelines for Lifelong Wellbeing. The volume is the result of years of research and observation says Dodge.

During a long medical career in Florida, Dodge was a family doctor, health department director, and associate professor at the University of Florida.

Since retiring in 1996, Dodge has made numerous Volunteer-in-Mission trips to Zimbabwe. In 2010, he was appointed as a volunteer Visiting Adjunct Professor at Africa University in Zimbabwe, teaching in the Master of Public Health program for one semester each year since then.

“Be Healthy ... empowers the reader to take action/responsibility for their own health,” said Clemencia Bakasa, Deputy Minister of Health in the Office of Noncommunicable Diseases of Zimbabwe. “In my experience it’s the first book to deal with most of the risk factors on chronic-nonlinearmucable diseases in a comprehensive manner. The life experience in the book further enhances the belief that it is possible to reverse the growing problem of NCDs when individuals modify their behaviors or lifestyles.”

01 Michelle (Brate ’03) Hoffman and her husband Andrew joyfully announce the arrival of twin boys, Owen Timothy and William David, into their family on December 28, 2012. Owen and Will joined big sister Avery (3). The family lives in Fort Wayne where Michelle is a full-time mom and works part-time as an LCSW at Lutheran Children’s Hospital. Andrew is the executive director of NeighborLink Fort Wayne.

2004
02 Laurie and Matt Paciocco announce the arrival of their daughter Haley Grace, who was born Aug. 2, 2013. Haley joins her older brother Tony (3). Laurie has worked for Capital One as an integrated BSA for the retail bank since 2011. The family resides in Glen Allen, Va., where they have lived since 2012.

2006
03 Jessica Cuthbert married Joseph Voldrich ’09 in Kalamazoo, Mich., December 20, 2013. The wedding party included Taylor alumni Rachel (Clemens) Cuthbert, Courtney (Little) Policano, Chrissie (Spier) Duncan, Jill Hamilton ’07, Justin Smith ’09, and Nate Miller ’08. • Nathan Diepstra and his wife Amy rejoice at the arrival of their son Wes, born July 8, 2013. The family resides in Villa Park, Ill. • Andrew and Amy Fredrickson welcomed their daughter
Kayla Grace into the world July 27, 2013. The family lives in Holly Springs, N.C. • **Thomas Jackson** received a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership at Brandman University, in Irvine, Calif., in May 2013. In October 2013, he published a historical fiction novel titled *The Yearbook* under the pseudonym T.J. Valentino. • **Vanessa (Wright) Jergensen ’05** happily announce the newest addition to their family, Lucy Michelle, born March 24, 2013. Lucy joined her big sister Ingrid (3). The Jergensens live in Durango, Colo., where Daniel and Vanessa planted a Vineyard Church and Vanessa runs her own business, Ginger Moose Photography.

2007

**05 Virginia (Roe) and Phil Kofahl** welcomed their son James Andrew into the world April 9, 2013. The family resides in Brighton, Mich. • **06 Robbie Miller** married Jada Thomsen Oct. 12, 2013, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Omaha, Neb. Taylor alumni in attendance were Brent Maher, Beth (Weingartner) Pavisian, Marcia (Ghali) Bergren, Bill Ridder, Heather Reimer ’02 and Monica Ghali ’04. The couple lives in Omaha, Neb., where Robbie teaches math at Abraham Lincoln High School and manages the Park Avenue Community House, an intentional Christian community for women. • **07 Anne Marie (Hardy) Spelman** and her husband Jonathan joyfully welcomed their daughter, Junia Marie, who was born Nov. 21, 2013. Anne Marie is staying at home as she finishes a master’s in spiritual direction and works part time as a marketing writer for Sonlight Curriculum. Jonathan is finishing a Ph.D. in philosophy with an emphasis in ethics at the University of Colorado, Boulder. The family lives in Boulder.

2008

**08 Rob and Kate (Yoder ’07) Bedinghaus** welcomed their son, Judah Robert, into the world on Sept. 27, 2013. Judah was greeted by his big brother Liam (3) at the family’s home in Bloomington, Ind. • **Bret Burchard** is starting his first NBA season as the assistant video coordinator for the Phoenix Suns. He also co-authored a book with Dr. Chris McAlister entitled *SightShift: Identity: 5 Actions to Discover Freedom from Comparison and Fear*. • **09 Amy (Handy) Slennett** and her husband Samuel welcomed their first child, Isabelle Audrey, on Aug. 14, 2013. The Slennetts live in Chicago, Ill., Amy works in the Moody Bible Institute admissions office and Samuel attends Moody. • **10 Steve Yardumian** recently took a trip to Spain with the World Harvest Mission team from Granada. He spent his time there teaching ESL (English as a Second Language).

2009

**Joe Hamgeri** was hired in Jan. 2013 as a staff accountant on the health care team with Somerset CPAs in Indianapolis, Ind. Joe lives in Indianapolis.

2010

**10 Bethany Ballard** and Bradley Whittaker were married Aug. 31, 2013, at the Eiteljorg Museum in Indianapolis, Ind. Taylor alumni in the wedding were Paige Rudolph, Nikki (Kassebaum ’09) Hobson, Allison (Reece ’11) Darling and Sarah Shedd ’05. • **Sarah (Lu) England** graduated from Ball State University in December 2013 with a master’s degree in public relations. Sarah works at Minnetrista in Muncie, Ind. as a communications specialist. • **11 Caitlin (Finney)** and Jake (Martens) are proud to announce the birth of their son Malachi Jacob on Dec. 6, 2013. The family resides in Elgin, Ill. • **12 Jaime (Allen) Steward** married Craig Steward II on June 8, 2010 in Muskegon, MI. Alumni in the wedding included Lindsey (Bayle) Hardley ’10.

2011

**13 Hillary Dungan and Phillip Pinegar** were married Oct. 12, 2013 in St. Louis, Mo. Taylor alumni in the wedding party included Alex Pinegar ’03, John Pinegar ’16, Mark Dungan, Jr. ’13. Zach King
and Amanda Cooper. Elliott Pinegar '08 officiated the wedding and Becky (Hargrave '08) Pinegar performed the music. Hillary's parents are Mark '75 and Judy (Oyer '75) Dungan. Hillary and Phillip live in Washington, D.C., where Hillary works for Senator Roy Blunt and Phillip is employed with House Republican leadership.

2012

01 Germania Bedon and Daniel Rassi were united in marriage on July 13, 2013, in Bloomington, Ill. Several Taylor alumni were in the wedding party: Susanne Johnson, Mallory (Kendall) Detweiler, Verity Ramirez, Kelly Hagar '11, Kelsey Meyer '13, Josh Ohman, Nathan Rassi '15, Evan Cather and Felipe Bedon '11. The couple lives in Lewisville, Texas, where Daniel works for State Farm Insurance.

02 David and Stephanie (Binion) Ebert were recently visited in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa by Rachel Nolan '13 and David Perkins '14. Stephanie works for iThemba Projects, an organization that focuses on discipleship and education in a rural township. Rachel and David visited to use photography and film to tell the story of what God is doing through iThemba in the community. The video can be viewed at vimeo.com/75614441.

03 Corrie Walters and Matthew Voss '07 were married at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where Amanda was getting her masters in library and information science. She works as a reference and instruction librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. The Hatlands live in Waukesha, Wis.

04 Amanda Hatland married Joshua Howell Oct. 26, 2013. Amanda and Joshua met during grad school at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where Amanda was getting her masters in library and information science. She works as a reference and instruction librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. The Hatlands live in Waukesha, Wis.

2013

Amy Buck is an elementary school teacher for the Bristol Tennessee City Schools, in Bristol, Tenn. She is also the assistant swimming and diving coach at Tennessee High School.

01 Amanda Hatland married Joshua Howell Oct. 26, 2013. Amanda and Joshua met during grad school at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where Amanda was getting her masters in library and information science. She works as a reference and instruction librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. The Hatlands live in Waukesha, Wis.

02 Corrie Walters and Matthew Voss '07 were married at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where Amanda was getting her masters in library and information science. She works as a reference and instruction librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. The Hatlands live in Waukesha, Wis.

03 Russia and Matthew Voss '07 were married at the First Presbyterian Church in Wheaton, Ill., Aug. 10, 2013. Taylor alumni in the wedding party were Hank Voss '98, Isaac Voss '99, Jamie (Otten '01) Voss, David Voss '03, Johanna (Thalacker '98) Voss, Mark Voss '09, Timothy Voss '11, Katie Clum '06, Jamie Olson '10, Annalisa Francis, Meagan Reed, Mandy Hall '13, Ty Humphries '06, Dereck Kamwesa '06, Stefan Davenport '06, Joe Hamgeri '09 and Nate Wheeler '11. Matt and Corrie are spending their first year as a married couple in Cuenca, Ecuador, before they return to the states for graduate work.
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CULTIVATING NONPROFIT IMPACT
A CONFERENCE FOR NONPROFITS, MINISTRIES, AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS
Of all the events on our campus calendar at Taylor, one of our favorites comes at the beginning of each academic year when our freshmen arrive on campus and begin moving into their residence halls. The campus comes to life and is filled with vehicles, trailers and wide-eyed young women and men who are leaving home, in many cases, for the first time.

As Marylou and I walk through the campus that day, it is my custom to introduce myself, not by saying I am president of Taylor, but, I serve as president of Taylor. It is not a case of semantics, but rather is in keeping with our mission to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister the redemptive love and truth of Jesus Christ to a world in need.

The presidency of Taylor is not an end but a means – a means to serve and care for those whom God has entrusted to us. During move-in day activities, that trust is personified in the lives of our new students. During the rest of the year, there are many other opportunities to pray for, mentor, serve and care for our student body, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and neighbors. This concept is not our original idea. It has been so ably articulated and demonstrated for us by those who have preceded us, including Drs. Milo Rediger ’39 and Jay Kesler ’58.

We live in a culture that often reduces the concept of “caring” to something cheaper and less costly than the standard to which our Lord desires we adhere. For our purposes, I want to suggest three ways we can actively care for one another and thus fulfill our Lord’s wishes.

One way to demonstrate this care is by simply being present with others. There are no words to describe the sorrow we have experienced here at Taylor University when we have faced the loss of a student, faculty or staff member. During those times, when words can be so empty and our hearts are failing within us, one of the best things we can do is to physically be present and to come alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ to hold them and pray with them. We may not be able to remove that burden from them, but we can help make it lighter.

A second way we can demonstrate caring is by opening our doors to welcome people into our homes and lives. One of the first things Marylou and I did when God called us to return to Taylor nine years ago was to have a sidewalk built that runs from the campus to the Muselman House where we live. We did this so our students would not have to walk in the street when they came to our home – and we wanted them to come. Our goal has been that every Taylor student, at some point in his or her time here, would have been hosted at least once in our home for a time of Bible study, food or fun. The relationships we have built with our students during those times are irreplaceable – we treasure them and thank God for them.

Finally, we can demonstrate our care and compassion by investing in the lives of those whom God has entrusted to our care. One of the ways we have done this happens each February when Marylou and I take a group of students to the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC. It is, perhaps, the most global gathering of its type in the United States and every student we have ever taken to this event has come back profoundly impacted. These are just a few of the ways we attempt to invest in our Taylor community and especially our students, helping them become what God desires and needs them to be. It is an intentional process. It is about honoring the command of God in our lives and theirs to prepare the next generation of global kingdom leaders. Our prayer is that all of us will be found faithful in that task.

Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68 serves as president of Taylor University.
KEEPING TAYLOR, TAYLOR
FOR THIS GENERATION—AND
THE NEXT

1972 - Dr. Ruth Ann Breuninger started the Lighthouse program, paving the way for more than 2,000 students to serve in over 30 countries.

2014 - Junior Morgan Storrer serves as Lighthouse Co-Director, equipping other students to serve abroad. She was part of the Nepal Lighthouse team last year.

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MAGAZINE WINS GOLD

The Taylor University alumni magazine Taylor has won a Gold Award for Excellence from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Region V, which is comprised of nearly 300 colleges and universities in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!