



***The Ministry
Continues...***

One of the hallmarks of the Fort Wayne campus through the years has been preparing pastors for ministry. We still have hundreds of alumni who pastor congregations of different sizes around the world. We have both men and women serving, and we have pastors serving in and out of the “traditional” church.

In this issue, we look at the Pastoral Ministries program, its history, and its impact. We also showcase some of our pastors who faithfully minister in traditional and non-traditional ways.

Serving as a pastor is not easy. From a quick look on Google, today’s new encyclopedia, I discovered that 1,300 to 1,700 pastors are leaving the ministry each month. But there is hope in even this statistic—read **Rick Hartsell’s g77** story on page seven for proof.

Growing up as a “Pastors’ kid,” I witnessed firsthand some of the highs and lows of being a pastor. I often attended class with my dad, **Phil Mortensen g74** at FWBC. While he was learning about homiletics from **Dr. Bob Strubhar g36**, I was majoring in coloring. It doesn’t mean I don’t remember his signature line, “Blessings.”

I have had the privilege of working with two of Dr. Strubhar’s successors, **Dr. David Biberstein g66** and the **Rev. Bob Smith**. Both were instrumental in shaping lives through classroom lectures, interactive role-plays, and internship supervision.

Whether you are still serving as a pastor or are now in another vocation, we celebrate your training. In today’s world, we still need you, as we are all called to be ministers to our world in need.

We CELEBRATE as the Ministry Continues,



Michael D. Mortensen g91
Director of Fort Wayne Alumni & Friend Relations
mcmortensen@taylor.edu

*PS. In order for me to spend more time with alumni, which I LOVE to do, I asked **Kathryn Fenstermacher g13** to write the majority of this issue again. Thank you Kathryn for your servant’s heart. Also, I give special thanks to **Shirley Platte g69** and our newest volunteer, **Rachel Vachon g13** for proofing talent.*



FW Vine is published two times per year for Fort Wayne campus alumni and friends by the Fort Wayne Alumni & Friends Resource Center and the Taylor University Alumni Relations Office. Copyright © 2013 Taylor University®.

Send address corrections and mailing updates to:

Fort Wayne Alumni & Friends Resource Center, 915 W. Rudisill Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46807, or call (260) 744-8790. E-mail: alumnifw@taylor.edu or online at fw.taylor.edu.

Opinions expressed by individuals in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of Taylor University®.

The Fort Wayne campus was founded in 1904 as the Fort Wayne Bible Training School. It was renamed Fort Wayne Bible Institute, Fort Wayne Bible College, Summit Christian College, and later became Taylor University Fort Wayne. Founded in 1846, Taylor University is one of America’s oldest Christian liberal arts colleges. Over 2,000 graduate and undergraduate students from 41 states and 37 foreign countries attend Taylor, where majors in 50 fields of study are available.



Pastoral Ministries Program Goes Beyond Preaching



CARE - Alumna Prepares the Dying for Eternity

A role-playing activity in Dr. Biberstein's class shaped the way Britney Sloffer g09 views her ministry with hospice patients.



CONNECT - From Square Dance Caller to the Pulpit

Pastor David Crow g03 felt called into ministry at age 38. He entered TUFW the same year his daughter did, driving two hours each way to earn his degree.



CONTINUANCE - Healing Leads Teachers to Leave Legacy

Two former educators with a combined 75 years of classroom experience have pledged their home to care for alumni.

COVER: J.E. Ramseyer was one of the founders of the Fort Wayne campus. Here is his pulpit, now displayed in the Ramseyer Retreat Room at the Resource Center. The picture of Jesus was hung in **Phil Mortensen's g74** first church building located at the corner of Calhoun and Pontiac, before it burned down May 13, 1972.

CELEBRATE

Pastoral Ministries Program Goes Beyond Preaching

By Dr. Jay Platte g69, Jared Hammond g14, and Kathryn Fenstermacher g13

When Fort Wayne Bible Institute became Fort Wayne Bible College in 1951, the course curriculum saw a number of changes that led to the creation of a new department that would eventually grow into one of the largest programs at the school: the Pastoral Ministries Department.

Previously, the administration assumed the standard bible course at the school was sufficient to give students the knowledge they needed to enter the pastorate. During the early years, only a few classes in preaching and homiletics were even offered alongside the core Bible courses. **Cyril Eicher g32** taught some pastoral training courses during the 1950s along with some assistance from then FWBC President **Jared F. Gerig g29**. But their other administrative duties stretched them thin, preventing more courses from being offered.

Dr. Edward Simpson inherited the program in 1960. He started expanding the program by developing a new major in pastoral training. The program remained primarily focused on the standard Bible education, along with the required Greek courses. But the focus shifted toward pastoral training.

In 1966, Dr. Simpson became the

school's academic dean and passed the program on to **Dr. Robert Strubhar g36**, who became the program's first full-time professor. During his 16 years as department head, Dr. Strubhar made his contribution by expanding the curriculum further to focus on field work. He developed an internship program that proved to be extremely popular among students at the time.

Then in 1982, **Dr. David Biberstein g66** was appointed Director of the Pastoral Ministries program. Dr. Biberstein made significant changes to the program by focusing it into four pillars, which remained hallmarks of the program for years to come.

The first pillar, **Visitation**, focused on pastoral compassion-interaction with people and engaging in meaningful dialogue. The second pillar, **Administration**, focused on leadership capabilities and church management. The third pillar was **Preaching/Teaching**. The fourth pillar, **Counseling**, focused on solving personal and family issues on a one-on-one basis.

Dr. Biberstein expanded the entire program to include courses in Christian Worship, Evangelism and Discipleship, and Pastoral Tools. The pastoral internship program, expanded to eight credit hours, became required and grew so large that Dr.



Biberstein travelled to states as far as New York and California to evaluate interns. Another dimension was the Christian Service assignments that were required six out of eight semesters, giving students invaluable practical experience under observation and evaluation.

When Dr. Biberstein retired in 2008, the Rev. Bob Smith was appointed director. He too started to tweak the program, but the program ended the following year with the closing of the school. However, the program's legacy continues.

The Pastoral Ministries program has had a long-lasting impact in educating thousands of pastors and teachers who went through the college at Fort Wayne. At one time, as many as a hundred students were enrolled in the program, despite the fact that

the program never had more than one full-time professor. Its impact will continue for years to come as pastors educated through the program continue to apply its pillars in churches and ministries around the world.



Dr. Robert Strubhar g36

CARE

Role-play Activity Shaped Ministry

By Kathryn Fenstermacher g13

When Britney (Kolkman) Sloffer g08 went through the Pastoral Ministries program, she participated in a role-playing activity in **Dr. David Biberstein's g66** class that shaped the way she would view ministry. In class, the students practiced ministering to a cancer patient who was angry and embittered. The lesson was this: don't try to fix people's emotions, just meet them where they are. It's a lesson Britney



puts into practice today as chaplain for the Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home.

"I'll never forget that," Britney shared of the lesson she learned.

"Pastors really like to fix people." But during her ministry at the bedsides of ailing people facing their last days, Britney has learned the value of listening.

Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home provides support to hospice patients in the Fort Wayne area. Britney spends time with patients in prayer, scripture reading, and hymn singing. Her church-going patients particularly appreciate this opportunity to worship from their own homes. She ensures each patient is connected to a church,

and she coordinates care with his or her pastor. To Britney, it is important that her role complements rather than replaces the church. She provides extra spiritual support during this vulnerable time in a person's life.

Her role also helps pastors in a very practical way. "For a lot of pastors, even if they're connected to a church, the hardest thing in their ministry . . . has been visiting local people and talking about death," she said. "We have those conversations that are uncomfortable, while sharing the gospel and preparing them for eternity."

This is what makes Britney most appreciate her training at TUFW. Her basic theology courses under **Dr. Wes Gerig g51** and her crisis counseling courses with **Dr. Michael Cook ha09** taught her principles and techniques she puts into practice today. "I have nothing but wonderful things to say about the Pastoral Ministries program," she shared. "That program developed a solid foundation for my personal theology that has really shaped my ministry."

Britney lives in the Fort Wayne area with her husband **Brett g09**, a worship leader at Christ Community Church, and their one-month-old daughter.

Editor's Note: One of Britney's mentors is the **Rev. Scott Davis g85**, another Pastoral Ministry program graduate, who formerly worked with her at Visiting Nurse and Hospice.



CONNECT

Alumnus Pastors Fight Church

By Kathryn Fenstermacher g13

Josh Boyd fs99 may be the world's first Mixed Martial Arts (MMA)

Chaplain. He started his ministry, Fight Church, in 2010 with the support of Craig Gross and Fireproof Ministries. Fight Church takes the church

to the gyms where they interact with fighters, coaches, and staff. They volunteer at MMA events, including live Ultimate Fighting Championships (UFC), to help ensure that the fighters have everything they need to compete—especially in the spiritual battleground.

“We take a very practical, relational approach,” Josh said. Fight Church leaders make weekly gym visitations, hold prayer meetings, invite athletes into their homes, and publicize fighting events through social media. Similar in structure to other sports chaplaincy

programs, Fight Church is the first ministry focused on the fighting community. Josh said blazing his own trail has been rewarding but challenging, especially in getting churches involved.

“One of our goals in Fight Church is to educate people,” Josh shared. The church tends to view combat sports negatively,

and he hopes to break down some of this resistance. But the main focus is on the athletes themselves and building relationships with them.

“Most of them are unchurched people,” he said, “and obviously aren’t inclined to go to church unless they have an outside person meeting them where they’re at.”

Josh, who used to host UFC viewing parties in his TUFW dorm, is a self-declared “super big fan” of the sport. When he moved to Las Vegas to plant a church, he got involved with Fight Pastor,

a chaplaincy program from Washington with a small-scale Vegas program. This inspired him to start his own MMA ministry. “I wanted to be a full-time pastor, and I love MMA, and I thought, ‘This is a match made in heaven,’” he said.

That match just celebrated its three-year anniversary. In those three years, Fight Church has reached out to athletes from more than 300 local gyms, building authentic relationships and encouraging athletic aspirations. They now have five affiliates across the country and internationally.

Besides his work with Fight Church, Josh is involved with Corporate Chaplains of America, a similar ministry providing support to corporate employees. Josh lives in Las Vegas with his wife Rebecca (Startup) fs99 and their three children, Josiah, Rachel, and Joel.

For more information about Fight Church, visit <http://www.fightchurch.com> or follow them on Twitter.



Editor's Note: Josh is planning a seven to 10 day Fight Church ministry trip to Indiana in March. If you would like Josh to speak in your church or small group, you may contact him at <http://fightchurch.com/> contact to send him a message.

CONNECT

Former Square Dance Caller Now a Pastor

By Kathryn Fenstermacher g13

At 38 years old, David Crow g03 felt called to enter the ministry. David, a square-dance caller at the time, had not been in school for over 20 years. There was little in his life that could provide a stepping-stone to the pastorate. But when his daughter Amy (Craw) Fuller g03 entered her freshman year at TUFW, God opened a door for David, too.

“When I got the call to preach, I wanted to do the best that I could for the Lord and get the best training I could find,” David said. He took a discipleship class the first semester his daughter was in school, and by spring was enrolled full-time. Initially, finances posed an obstacle. However, the university offered enough grants and scholarships to cover his full-time tuition. Around the same time, he was asked to serve as youth pastor of their Losantville, Ind. church, and his calling was confirmed.

It wasn't easy. David commuted two hours each way to attend classes. He endured bad weather and a severe accident on the road, and often sat in his car between classes to do homework. But he never forgot why he was there. “He [God] keeps his promises,” he said. “It was such a strain on me at the beginning Not only was I a new pastor, but also I was going to school full-time and had three kids and a wife. But God is faithful.”

David took refuge in the students and faculty surrounding him. His fellow, non-



traditional students, “non-trads” as they called themselves, used to fellowship and pray together. For a while, he spent Thursday nights in the dorm after his evening class. His roommate Josh Arthur g01 used to stay up late with him discussing doctrine and their vision for ministry. “Staying in a dorm was quite an experience,” David said, tongue-in-cheek.

David also grew close to Dr. David Biberstein g66, who always provided a listening ear. Dr. Biberstein had a spare chair in his office, where Crow sat many times to pour out his heart. “He was such a great help to me,” Crow said. “He never let me feel sorry for myself.”

The faculty also taught David by example. “They submitted themselves to us and washed our feet,” he said, “and you take that lesson into the ministry.” That’s why the towel he received upon graduation means so much to him, even after 15 years of ministry. To David, no sacrifice is too great to follow the will of God.

“The only sacrifice that really matters is the one that Jesus made for me,” he said. “God could have chosen anybody else, but he gave me the opportunity. Taylor was a great part of that, and always will be.”

Crow lives with his wife Sherry in Losantville, Ind. where he pastors Antioch Christian Church. Their second daughter, Lori Crow-Current g04, also graduated from TUFW a year after her dad and sister.



CONNECT

Pastor Becomes Painter: Ministry Continues

By Kathryn Fenstermacher g13

The term “full-time ministry” has changed over the past few decades. It once exclusively described those in the pastorate, mission field, or mercy ministry. But today, the definition is much broader. Rick Hartsell g77 is one Pastoral Ministries graduate who embraced this change early on.

Rick had a rough relationship with traditional ministry. The nature of pastoring stifled his entrepreneurial bent. “At the root of me was a guy who just could not work for somebody else,” he said. “It is just not in my blood.”

After several rocky attempts at pastoring, Rick took a new direction: he started a painting business, Somerset Painting and Professional Home Improvement. “What else can a guy do with a Masters in Hebrew and Greek?” he joked.

Nearly 20 years later, Somerset has become the top-ranked company in Oakland County, Mich. Positive reviews keep pouring in on Angie’s List, and Rick is enjoying success. But there is more to it than business savvy.

Rick conducts business in a God-honoring way. He is profoundly inspired by author and speaker Os Hillman, who emphasizes the businessperson’s role in building the Kingdom. “I find it thrilling to understand that the ‘full-time ministry’ calling is for us all,” he said.

For Rick, there is no distinction between business and ministry. Rather than director, he goes by the title “Servant Leader.” He gives generously to missions work with his time as well as his money. He recently led a trip to Nepal, and his company painted a Detroit home for women who aged out of foster care. “Believe me, I’m in full-time ministry,” Rick said.

Yet all these years later, Rick can recall the pain of his transition. “(It) really felt like a divorce,” he said. It was a source of guilt, and his years of training seemed like a waste.

But many of the lessons he learned in the FWBC Pastoral Ministries program still apply. He saw love in action. He learned to study the Bible and teach it to others, as he still does in weekly Bible studies and men’s ministries. Above all, he learned authenticity. “Professors would step away from the class lecture podium and speak directly from their heart,” Rick recalled.

That authenticity infuses Rick’s business—from rattling off his business policies on the answering machine (“At Somerset we do something very unique. Take thirty seconds and see if you agree.”) to his Christ-like client interactions. “I like to work hard—with excellence,” he said, “and I like to see the fruit that comes with that.” And the fruit Hartsell is bearing goes deeper than Angie’s List.

CARE

Storm Surprises Church Sistrunks Help Washington, IL Community Cope

By Michael D. Mortensen g91

Pastor Ken Sistrunk g87 will not soon forget Sunday, November 17, 2013. He was leading a congregational hymn at 11 a.m. when several members of his congregation signaled him to stop.

He was notified that a severe storm was heading toward the town of Washington, IL., where he has pastored Calvary Evangelical Church the past five years.

The church people were led into the basement where they resumed singing and praying. Ken then began his message from John 8:12 about Jesus being the light of the world. Then the lights flickered and went out.

"It just sounded like a regular storm," said Joanne (Kingsbury) g84, Ken's wife. Then they started getting bits and pieces of information that it was far worse than they thought.

Nineteen families from among the 138 church members suffered damage to their homes. They have been displaced until the damages can be fixed or the houses rebuilt. One family lost three homes. One woman from this family had just moved into an assisted living facility. She could have been injured or killed at her previous residence.

Amazingly, only one church building in the town of 15,000 residents was slightly damaged. The rest were untouched, probably saving many

lives due to the time of the tornado.

Since the storm, Ken's role as a pastor has taken on a new, very functional responsibility: scavenging parishioners' homes, as they need someone they can trust to recover heirlooms from the wreckage, and coordinating some of the relief efforts.

"It's emotional," Ken said after sifting through the rubble. "Just like with Job's one friend who listened, I think that is my role, because there are no answers for this, so I try to just keep my mouth shut."

Ken wishes he had consulted with his leadership team ahead of time to prepare for these kinds of possibilities. He never expected a tornado in November, and the issue

was never addressed.

Nevertheless, he finds guidance in something he learned at FWBC long ago. "One of the things Dr. Wes said was the difference between an educated and uneducated man is the educated man can do what he has to do when he has to do it," Ken said. "This is how I am functioning now."

Ken's hope is that the disaster will encourage unity in the congregations as they help one another. He asks for prayer that revival will come to his town. "It's not about stuff," he concluded. "I know God is in charge."

Photo was removed
due to copyright concerns

Editor's Note: Pastor Ken, a former Christian Education major who became a pastor, said they do not need more supplies. Monetary donations are encouraged for Samaritan's Purse, Red Cross, and the Mennonite Disaster Service, which is set up in his church building.

CONTINUANCE



Healing Leads to Leaving Legacy

By Michael D. Mortensen g91 & Kathryn Fenstermacher g13

Dr. Jackie Carl g53 and Virginia “Ginny” Lehman’s g55 journeys started in the same place: Lima, Ohio. They attended the same high school. Their common passion for education and the development of young children kept their paths together at Fort Wayne Bible College.

After graduation and further education, their careers took them to different cities and even countries, the U.S. and Sierra Leone, West Africa. However, their paths joined indefinitely when they bought a home together in the States.

Both professional educators for more than 35 years, they believe in education—especially Christ-centered education. It was for this reason that they put their home into a trust to go to Taylor University Fort Wayne (TUFW) at their passing.

Then the closure of TUFW was announced in October, 2009.

“I was extremely angry,” Jackie said. “Anything that arrived in my mailbox that looked like, smelled like, or even felt like Taylor, I would throw in my circular file.”

The pain was deep. No effort on Taylor’s part could heal it. “The anguish deep inside was still churning and I carried a chip on my shoulder,” Jackie explained.

As representatives of the Alumni Council, Jackie attended a scholarship dinner at Taylor with Joy Gerig g51 & g66. While observing the students, Jackie began to heal. “What I observed that day changed my perception of TU,” she said. “I saw students who were committed to Christ’s calling and were being obedient to that call . . . I felt God changing my heart.”

Ginny made a similar emotional journey. She also was disappointed by the closure, but felt

relieved when the Resource Center began taking shape. “I am thrilled by all that it is doing today,” Ginny said. “I don’t feel left behind anymore.”

For these reasons, they reconsidered and have revised their trust to donate their home to support the Fort Wayne Alumni & Friends Resource Center Endowment Fund.

“We were looking for something to do with the money from the house that would be beneficial to what we believe,” Ginny explained.

For these women, supporting the Resource Center is a heartfelt commitment. Jackie used to spend hours volunteering with Rev. Cyril Eicher g32 in the English Library Archives. And when the Resource Center moved to Brown Gables and eventually to Lillian Rolf after the closure, she helped with the transition.

“I’m convinced that it’s people like Cyril and Jackie that’s kept us alive,” said Michael Mortensen g91, director of the Fort Wayne Alumni and Friends Resource Center.

Ginny and Jackie encourage Fort Wayne alumni, especially those in situations like theirs, to consider the Resource Center in estate plans or to support the Resource Center any way you can. “The Center is doing a tremendous job,” Jackie said. With help from alumni like them, the Center will *continue caring, connecting, and celebrating* with alumni across the nation and abroad.

Editor’s Note: Recently, I have shown alumni in their 70s, 80s, and 90s with a charitable heart how they can make a sustainable guaranteed life income of 4.8% to 13.4% percent. If interested in knowing more, call the Resource Center at 260.744.8790.



Class of 1954
60th @ FW Celebrates!

Class of 1964
50th @ FW Celebrates!

Ruth Anne (Pipkin) g64 and **Sam Wegner** have produced a professional 35-minute DVD entitled, "The Longest Journey." Visit their website, www.longestjourney.org for more information.

Tom Rust g72 was inducted into the Indiana Sportscasters & Sportswriters Hall of Fame earlier this year. In addition to pastoring, Tom has hosted *Face to Face*, a nationally syndicated radio show on radio stations of all kinds. It is also available through the web at www.facetofaceradio.com

Class of 1974
40th @ FW Celebrates!

Dick Ehresman g74 has been named the Textbook Manager at Washington & Lee University Bookstore in Lexington, VA.

Debra Greenawalt g75 is serving as an intercessory missionary at the International House of Prayer in Kansas City, MO.

Larry Lewis g76 is now the Vice President of Institutional Advancement for Barclay College in Haviland, KS. For the previous 26 years, he had been in administration at Friends Christian Middle School in Yorba Linda, CA.

Carole (Guhse) Harrigan fs80 married **Wayne Feay** on August 10, 2013 at Fellowship Missionary Church, Fort Wayne, where Wayne is executive director.

Submit News Notes items to alumnifw@taylor.edu, call the Alumni & Friends Resource Center at (260) 744-8790, or mail to *FW Vine*, 915 W. Rudisill Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46807.

Do you receive your monthly e-newsletter, the *FW Falcon*? Contact the Resource Center to add your email address to our list.

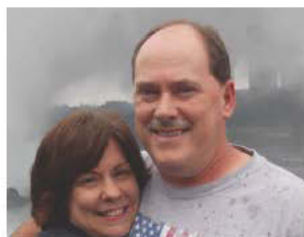


Use your smartphone to submit the latest News Note.

Glenn g80 and **Becky g87 Cate** still reside in Florida. Glenn has completed 16 years of IT support with Duke Energy, and Becky has been at Northside Christian School for over 14 years as an administrator in the Fine Arts Department. Glenn also works with Maximum Impact Churches.

After pastoring for 29 years, **Dr. Curtis Alexander g83** is now Ministry Coordinator for Child Evangelism Fellowship-Mason/Thurston Chapter, located in Olympia, WA.

Steve fs84 and **Pat fs84 Nelson** are transitioning back to Africa to join the team of missionaries with the Fellowship of Evangelical Churches (FEC) serving among unreached people groups in Mali and Senegal.



Tommy g85 and Konni (Saylor) g86 Logan returned to Papua New Guinea. Konni just completed her M.A. in Pastoral Counseling and will be ministering to other missionaries and their children on the Wycliffe station of Ukarumpa. Tommy will resume consultant checking of the Hebrews and 2 Corinthians translations in the Kasua language. Their youngest daughter Laura is a sophomore at Taylor University.

Teri (Beard) Hogg g86 is now the executive director of the Hope Clinic of Adams County in Decatur, IN. The clinic provides material and medical support to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

Dawn Kale g87 is now the assistant principal at Braeburn Elementary School in Houston, TX. Dawn is in charge of grades 3-5 and new teachers.

Tami Burritt g88 recently started a new job as the librarian at Harrison Elementary School in Warsaw, IN.

**Class of 1989
25th @ FW Celebrates!**

Susanna (Downey) g89 and **Gregory Collins** moved to Battle Lake, MN. to serve in youth ministry at Battle Lake Alliance Church where **Rev. Jeff g88** and **Cindy (Norwood) g88 Lawson** lead the church.

Tom g88 and **Joan Turner** sold their home in Indiana and have moved to Texas. They will be RVing and visiting friends for the foreseeable future.

Mike and Sherri (Harris) Ritter g88 returned to Ethiopia after furlough in the USA. They are in the process of building a new school and continuing to care for the 45 Rafiki children living in five cottages.

Nick Johnson g91 is now the International Admissions Counselor at Indiana Tech, Fort Wayne. He also teaches Cultural Anthropology as an adjunct instructor at Ivy Tech. Nick and **Alane (Heindel) g89 Johnson** and their children live in Fort Wayne.

Greg g92 and **Tami (Miller) g96 Carlyle** are directing the InterVarsity Chapter at IPFW, Fort Wayne. At the beginning of the semester they had a New Student Outreach event and had 250 contacts.

**Class of 1994
20th @ FW Celebrates!**

Grad Still Directs Ladies' Ensemble at 87



June (Swaback) Harrison's g48/49 father told her she had to earn her \$250 a semester tuition money first before she could attend Fort Wayne Bible Institute. Once Harrison did, she studied music at the college, founded a women's quartet, the Kings Carolers, and conducted a 30-voice choir at the First Missionary Church across from campus. She took piano and organ lessons, later becoming a piano teacher herself.

More than 60 years later, June can't get enough of praising God through music. June, 87, lives at a retirement home where she still directs a ladies' ensemble and accompanies Sunday worship services. She is humbled by the goodness of God, whom she still thanks for her Fort Wayne campus experience.



Hull to Serve As Reunion Coordinator

The FW Alumni & Friends Resource Center is thrilled to announce that Sharon (Walter) Hull g67 has agreed to serve as our first volunteer Reunion Coordinator.

Sharon and her husband, Bill g69, have volunteered at the Resource Center for the past three years. She worked for the college from 1982 to 1987 in the alumni relations, correspondence, and development offices, which makes her well suited for this role.

"If there is a way for me to help bring back alumni to campus to reconnect, I want to do this," Sharon said. "Everybody always says it is great to be back together, even if it takes time, expense, and details—it's worth it, and I know this firsthand."

Currently, Sharon is working on class invitation lists so our team can begin pulling together the details with the classes and with our specialty reunion hosts. If you are a member of one of these classes and you would be willing to help Sharon or to simply suggest an idea, please email alumnifw@taylor.edu.



Catharine (Beers) g97 and **Matt Cwanek g97** welcomed Madelyn Joanne on September 5, 2013. She was 6 lbs., 10 oz., and 20.5 in. long. Madelyn joins Torilinn, 10, and Allison, 8.

Matt fs98, Esta (Ponce) g98, and their son Mateo, **Jesch** currently reside in Bogotá, Colombia where they are a part of an 18-month training program with Mission to the World. They have a blog and may be contacted at mattestaj@gmail.com.



Jon g98 and **Erin (Jones) g98 Varnell** welcomed Samuel Jonathan on November 3, 2013! He weighed 7lb. 1oz. and was 20, 1/2 in. long. He joins Hannah, 14, Ryan, 12, Daniel, 9, Timothy, 7, Sarah, 4, Megan, 2. The Varnells live in High Point, NC.

Dawn (Renkenberger) g00 and **Jonathan Crandall** recently shared the news that Dawn's first book is making the rounds at different Christian book publishers. All three of her manuscripts have become semi-finalists in the prestigious ACFW Genesis Writing Contest, the third becoming a finalist in 2013.

Kelley g01 and **Kelly Sewell** mourn the loss of their son Hezekiah "Kye" Thomas Sewell, who passed away shortly after his birth on April 22, 2013. Kye weighed 7 lb., 2 oz. and was 18.75 in. long at birth.

Ashley (King) g02 and **Gerald Berry** announce the birth of Micah Thomas. He was born March 27, 2013. He weighed 7 lb., 9 oz. and was 21.5 in. long. The Berrys live in Kouts, IN.



Beth (Bongard) g03 married **Ray Roberts** on July 27, 2013 in Noblesville, IN. **Jeremiah Brown g05** officiated, and **Cyndi (Lee) Brown g06** and **Jessica (Hochstetler) Dettmer g03** were bridesmaids.



Jessica (Hochstetler) g03 and **Tom fs94 Dettmer** adopted a baby boy who was born on July 31, 2013. His name is Isaiah Lewis. He weighed 5 lb., 11 oz. and was 18 in. long.

Susan Hartman g03 is working at Kids Korner Quality Child Care and Learning Center as an assistant teacher in the three- and four-year-olds' class.

Faith (Pinnick) Riddle g03 and her daughter Elizabeth recently moved to Chandler, AZ. Faith is teaching at Southwest Elementary School. She recently got engaged and will be married soon.

**Class of 2004
10th @ FW Celebrates!**

Myric McBain g05 graduated from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree on May 11, 2013. He is now a preaching-elder at Millbrook Christian Fellowship (Congregationalist) in Grafton, NH.

Beth (Armstrong) g05 and **Matt Overman**, along with big brother Patrick, welcomed Charles "Charlie" Matthew on July 3, 2013.



Dorothy (Bradley) g05 and **James "Jim" Webb** have been blessed with Adelaide "Addie" born on July 16, 2013 weighing 7 lb., 5 oz. and was 20.5 in. long. She joins their older daughter Margaret "Maggie," 3.

Simon and **Maria g06 Rawson** announce the birth of Miriam Faith, born at home March 17, 2013. She weighed 7 lb., 8 oz. and was 18 in. long. Her siblings are Grace, 4, Andrew, 3, and Emalee, 1.

Kelly (Lash) g06 and **Tony Schurjer** welcomed Levi William on July 24, 2013. He weighed 8 lb., 1 oz. and was 20 in. long. He joins his older brother Jackson, 3.



Matt and **Amy (Badowski) g07 Boeke** welcomed twins Amelia Katherine and Heather Laurea into their family on March 23, 2013. Amelia weighed 5 lb., 14 oz.; Heather weighed 6 lb., 2 oz.

Kristi Heitmeyer g07 is teaching Special Education for grades seven through twelve at Jac-Cen-Del Jr/Sr High School in Osgood, IN.

Lazarus Tatenobu [tah-teh-NO-boo] joins his big brother **Mordecai Kenshin** [KEN-sheen] and parents **April (Selander) g07** and **Dusty Mack g07** in Japan. Tatenobu means "shield of faith," and Kenshin means "sword of truth." Lazarus was born June 18, 2013. He weighed 3,836 g (8 lb., 7.3 oz.) and was 52 cm (20.5 in.) tall.

Becky Morris g07 recently received her Masters of Science degree in Human Resource Management from Indiana Wesleyan University. She is the assistant manager of Laser X in Fort Wayne.



Michael g07 and **Jenn (Logue) g06 Sprunger** left for Dakar Senegal in August for language study. They plan to minister to the Yalunka people of Mali, West Africa. They can be reached at michaelsprunger10@gmail.com.



Center for Scripture Engagement Created

Taylor University has established a Center for Scripture Engagement (TUCSE). Nearly three years in the making, TUCSE is designed to help people encounter God through his Word.

"We tend as Christians to not fully realize how life-giving and life-changing it is to know God through the Bible," said Dr. Phil Collins, director of Scripture Engagement Training Activities at Taylor. Instead, we read it out of guilt, habit, or for a pick-me-up. "In truth, the Bible is the primary means we have to deeply know God," Collins said.

TUCSE's influence will extend beyond campus. They have established an agreement with Bible Gateway, the world's largest Christian website, to provide TUCSE content on their website. They will also present practical workshops in nearby churches.

"God seems to have been going ahead of us," Collins said. "We are very excited."

For more information about TUCSE, visit <http://tucse.taylor.edu>.



Jared g07 and Kate (Schmelzer) g08 Gutierrez welcomed León Immanuel ("the lion of God is with us"), born Saturday, August 24, 2013. León weighed 9 lb., 3 oz. and was 22 in. long. He joins Faith, 3, and Nahum, 1.



Ryan g08 and Nicole Koch announced the birth of their son, Hudson Ryan, on September 9, 2013 at Dupont Hospital in Fort Wayne. Hudson weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz., and was 21 in. long.



Allison (Davenport) g08 and Thomas Kuhn welcomed Callie Amia to their family. She was born August 3, 2013, and she weighed 6 lb., 7 oz. and was 19.5 in. long. She joins brother Lincoln.

Ava Danielle was born August 25, 2013 to **Brent g09 and Lacy (Pinnick) g08 Salsbury**. Ava weighed 6.9 lb. and was 18.5 in. long.



Brett g09 and Britney (Kolkman) g08 Sloffer are the proud parents of Hadley Grace, born October 15, 2013. She was 5 lbs., 4 oz., 19 in. long.

Former TUFW professor **Dr. Dennis E. Hensley h08** is the author of the new book *Jesus in the 9 to 5*. The book is a combination of solid lessons on time management, goal setting, quality control, and life skills, intermingled with fictional vignettes in which Jesus in on earth in the early 21st century running a modern day company. See www.dochensley.com for more details.

Nina (Thomas) Anderson g09 received a second license for ministry in order to fulfill her new role at New Life Providence Church in Virginia Beach. She also is working on her MDiv. at Regent University.

Amanda (Branyan) g09 and **Luke McKinney** welcomed Collin John Michael on September 12, 2013. He was 9 lbs 7oz. and 21 1/2 in. long. He joins his big sister Cameron, 2.

Amy Raymond g09 is now the resident hall director of Bonzell Hall at the University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne.

Jessica Tarr g09 married **James Reed** on October 25, 2013. They live in Bainbridge, IN. Jessica teaches First Grade at Bainbridge Elementary and coaches middle school volleyball.

Kelsey (Crook) g09 and **Gabe Schneider g07** were married March 30, 2013 in Fort Wayne. **Heather (Schultz) Detzner g08**, **Madison (Robbins) Freeman g09**, and **Brennan Doud g08** were in the wedding. Kelsey now works at Big Brothers Big Sisters, which now resides in Witmer Hall. Gabe is Youth Pastor at Aboite Lutheran Church.

Becky Blomenberg g11 is now a copy editor for Annie's Publishing, a craft publisher in Berne, IN.

Memorials:

Marie Rupp fs36 passed away May 21, 2013 in Berne, IN. She was a former World Partners missionary to Sierra Leone. Her late husband, **Rev. David Rupp g38**, passed away in 1999.

Virginia (Sprunger) Steiner g42 passed away on August 1, 2013 in Carlisle, Pa. She is survived by her husband of 59 years **Rev. Bliss Steiner g68**, and their three sons. Virginia served with her husband in pastoral ministry with the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Janice (Hasselbart) Harris g46 went to her heavenly reward on February 27, 2013. She and her husband **Rev. W. Bruce Harris g50** most recently resided at the Otterbein Retirement Center in Lebanon, Ohio. Bruce and Janice pastored United Methodist churches in the West Ohio Conference for 42 years. Janice was a music major at FWBI, singing in the choir and accompanying several women's music groups. She was also an organist and children's choir director in a number of the Methodist churches where they served.

Madelyn (Shives) Lehman g57 passed away May 5, 2013 in Littleton, CO at the home of her daughter, **Heather (Lehman) Stolba g87**. Madelyn was a fifth-grade teacher for 26 years, teaching one year (1990-91) in Sierra Leone, West Africa. She and her late husband **Jerry g57** loved ministering to people. They served together as house parents in Nebraska, youth pastors in Jackson, MS, and in children's ministries in the Peoria, IL area.

The **Rev. Dr. Truman D. Gottschalk g54** passed away on June 2, 2013. He had been minister, evangelist, and missionary at One Mission Society and a member of Southport Presbyterian Church in Southport, IN. He was also a missionary in Ecuador for 12 years and pastored churches in Fort Wayne and St. Petersburg, FL. His survivors include wife **Bobbie Bendinger Gottschalk**; daughter **Laurel Denise Reinking g67**; sons **Stephen Gottschalk g69** and **Rudy Gottschalk g81** and many grandchildren and a great grandchild.

Editor's Note: More current News & Notes are added weekly on our website: <http://fw.taylor.edu>. Alumni and friends can send for our review and posting, and then they can be read by former classmates and friends. Check out this feature today!



Elizabeth “Betty” (Campbell) Becker g64 passed away on October 29, 2013. She was a resident of Mount Horeb, WI. Her husband, David, survives. She worked as a secretary and Christian Education assistant, and then she worked for Lands’ End for 23 years, retiring in 2008.

Eileen (Clark) Steiner g64 passed away in Arizona on May 22, 2013 after a six-year battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband **Duane g64** and two children. A special memorial service was held in Marathon Key, FL, where the Steiners previously resided.

Barry Bartels g74 passed away in Fort Wayne on June 25, 2013. He is survived by his wife, **Jenny (Parrish) g90** and a son and family.

Jamie (McConnell) McKinley g91 passed away due to complications of a “routine surgery.” Jamie was on the basketball team while at FWBC/SCC. She was also active in the volleyball teams as well. Jamie is survived by her husband, Jeff, and parents, siblings, and lots of extended family and friends.

Carl White fs75 went to be with the Lord on June 1, 2013. Carl was deeply active in the ministry of Avalon Missionary Church. He is survived by his wife, Anita, and their children and grandchildren.

Find us on

facebook

Have you visited our Facebook page recently? As of the end of November, we have over 897 “Likes”! Our page, FW Alumni & Friends Resource Center, is a great way for alumni to connect and share updates. We frequently post news blurbs, words of encouragement, and photos from the good old college days. If you have not yet connected with us Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/FWAlumniFriendsResourceCenter. Take a look around and remember to “Like” us before you leave!

Fort Wayne Celebrates! September 19-20, 2014 To Expand to Include More Activities

FW Celebrates! is typically a weekend when of all ages can *reconnect, reminisce, and rejoice.*

Fort Wayne Alumni & Friends Resource Center hosts class and specialty reunions. But next year’s celebration, September 19-20, 2014 will include much more.

Based on your feedback, we plan to work with class representatives from 1954, 1964, 1974, 1989, 1994, and 2004, but we also plan to have events where alumni



Additionally, we are inviting any alumni who graduated the year after each class who wish to be identified with or have friends in an anniversary class.

We plan to have a two-track weekend: if not reconnecting with classmates, you can participate in a *Sunday Sing!* (on Saturday), listen to a former favorite faculty member lecture, or possibly be entertained (we’re working on these details). We welcome your

suggestions at alumnifw@taylor.edu.



Honor Someone Special By Dec. 31

When you think back to your time on campus, who impacted your life and calling? Was it a professor, roommate, or staff member? Maybe you had more than one. What did they say or do?

Now it is our turn to honor or encourage the one(s) who, perhaps unknowingly, impacted you. Please join me in giving a gift in honor of that special person who gave you what you needed to continue or altered your path to lead you to where you are today.

A group of former faculty, staff, alumni, and

friends of the Fort Wayne campus have pledged to match dollar for dollar new or increased giving over last year to the Fort Wayne Resource Center. All gifts enable our ministry of caring, connecting, and celebrating to continue.

Just think, your gift could be doubled while honoring that special person.

With this in mind, would you consider making a gift to the FW Alumni & Friends Resource Center by December 31? You may make your gift online with the link below or using the enclosed envelope.

For your gift, you may select an item of your choosing:*



For your gift* of \$51 or more, we will send you *Christmas Music from the Fort Wayne Campus* CD.



If you send \$75 or more, we will send Dr. Wesley Gerig's *Minute Meditation* flipbook with 270 devotional thoughts and meditations.

If you send \$100 or more, we will send you both.

Your gifts*, no matter the amount, are appreciated and needed for us to continue our ministry of caring, connecting, and celebrating!

<http://fw.taylor.edu/support/giving.shtml>





915 W. Rudisill Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!

