

REAL CHANGE

**Empowering the
Poor & Needy**

WHEELER
Jesus John
316
MISSION

WALK GOD'S WAY
A CHANCE

Alumni Shine Their Light

Growing up just blocks from the Fort Wayne campus, I would often accompany my Dad, **Phil Mortensen g74**, there on the days when students signed up for their Christian Service "CS" assignments. He was there to invite students to serve at his inner-city church, Fellowship Bible Church (FBC).

In 1986, my parents founded Love Church, rededicating themselves to demonstrating Christ's love to the poor and needy.

Along the way I got a great education growing up in the inner city. I also met and befriended **Joy Gerig g51** and **g66, Dick Baxter g70**, and several students who would adopt me as a "little brother." One of my favorite activities was going after church to visit either in Schultz, Bethany, or Lexington (now Hausser). I felt so grown up hollering "man on the floor" as I entered.

One of the students I met was **Donovan Coley g85**, who came to FBC with several of his Jamaican friends. Later, I met **Lindsey (Carpenter) g01** and **Josh Arthur g01**, who, among others, volunteered at Love Church.

Thirty years later, Donovan and now the Arthurs are serving in the inner city, caring for the poor and needy. In this issue of the *FW Vine*, we celebrate our alumni who are leading ministries to help and empower the needy.

The ministry of the Fort Wayne campus continues beyond the Alumni Center through your lives. *To God be the glory!*

Giving thanks as the ministry moves forward,



Michael D. Mortensen g91
Director of Fort Wayne Alumni & Friend Relations
mcmortensen@taylor.edu
260-744-8790



The Mortensens in the early 1970s.

FW Vine is published two times per year for Fort Wayne campus alumni and friends by the Fort Wayne Alumni Center and the Taylor University Alumni Relations Office. Copyright © 2016 Taylor University®.

Send address corrections and mailing updates to:

Fort Wayne Alumni Center

915 W Rudisill Blvd
Fort Wayne, IN 46807
(260) 744-8790
alumnifw@taylor.edu
<http://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 42 states and 30 foreign countries attend Taylor, where majors in 61 fields of study are available.



Michael D. Mortensen g91 with the Fort Wayne Alumni and Employee Dependent Scholarship Recipients at TU

Mortensen's Role Expands to Help Students

An Update from: Michael D. Mortensen g91

Life took a big, but blessed, turn for me and for your Fort Wayne Alumni Center in January.

I was invited to serve three days a week at Taylor University as the Director of Scholarships while remaining Director of your Alumni Center in Fort Wayne.

Questions whirled in my mind. Was I capable of doing both? Was this God's leading? Others felt that my skill sets were fit for the position, allowing Taylor University to fill their need but also allowing the Alumni Center to continue *caring* for Fort Wayne alumni by *connecting* and *celebrating*.

Now, four months later, the answers to my questions are clear. Yes, it was God's leading! Could I do both? No way! Not by myself. He took that "no way," and through His way poured out provisions beyond my expectations.

First, God brought **Stephanie (Cox) Demorest g93**, former TUFW Greek and New Testament instructor, to the Alumni Center last August to serve as my quarter-time program assistant. She has exceeded all expectations with her thoroughness, dedication, and passion for the Alumni Center.

That was just the start of God's provisions. **Tui (Walcott) Bedwell g97** consented to be our Special Events Coordinator, something she has been doing in part for us since 2009. **Shellie (Kale) Burden g91** accepted a newly-created Volunteer Coordinator position. This has been an incredible "win" for the Alumni Center. I rejoice daily that more alumni have become involved, making it truly a "we" organization and less dependent on one individual.

I am totally sold on Christ-centered higher education as I reflect on the transformation it inspired in my own life! But as college education costs rise and Christ-centered education is under attack, my new role at Taylor University of raising money through scholarships and endowments will provide dollars to offset those rising costs and the possibility of losing government financial aid. Not only does this keep Christ-centered higher education accessible and affordable, but it also could provide additional scholarship dollars, including ones for your family!

God, indeed, does have good plans for our lives and for your Alumni Center.

CARE

Alumni Leading Change at Rescue Mission

By Michael D. Mortensen g91

The poor shall always be with us, but how we provide for them is changing as five Fort Wayne grads work together at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission.

These five Fort Wayne alumni, ranging in years on campus from 1961 through 2009, visited the Alumni Center recently to talk about today's way of helping the poor and needy as compared to the methods of the past.

Rev. Donovan Coley g85, CEO and Senior Pastor; **Pastor Bob Herman, g85**, Director of Church Relations; **Pastor Sharon Gerig g89**, Director of Emergency Services; **Joyce (Wiggle) Gerig fs61**, Treasure House Clerk; and **Rev. Candace (Hart) Moore g11**, Pastor of Charis House, each work in different areas at The Rescue Mission. They all strive to provide hope through a meal, a smile, a tube of toothpaste, deodorant, or a blanket.

Pastor Donovan explains, "Ultimately, this hope comes from Christ. Man does not live by bread alone, but from every word from God." Pastor Bob recalled the film, *Empty Bellies Have Not Ears*, which shares the importance of providing a meal before providing the message of a person's greatest need — redemption through

Christ.

There are 2,500-3,000 homeless in the Fort Wayne community at any one time, but there are only 500 total beds to help. Half of the beds are provided by The Rescue Mission, with 172 beds for men and 78 beds for women and children at their Charis House program. Often these beds are full.

Charis House turns away 35 to 50 women and children a month who need assistance.

In addition to providing 55,000 nights of lodging this past year, The Rescue Mission provided 217,000 meals and served 1,250 unique individuals in the shelters. Pastor Sharon and her team also served thousands of non-residential individuals.

Knowing that the need is greater than their capacity, Donovan has led his team through a major restructuring in their approach to ministry. Previously, a person would arrive at the mission and would be given a set amount of time to work through the program; however, often that person would not be motivated for "real change" until their time was near completion.



Pastor Sharon Gerig g89 helping someone in need.

CONNECT

Now, with the help of case managers, they focus on real change from day one with a contractual agreement. Accountability is provided. “As long as the person is walking forward through their program, we will work with them through the love of Christ,” Bob said.

The women at Charis House make a day-to-day decision to earn another day to stay there. “The women have work assignments or chores — they have to give back,” Pastor Candace explained.

Many who come to The Rescue Mission are looking for a simple solution, but instead they need a safe place where they can look at themselves honestly and progress in a healthy way.

Since moving from the former assistance of “three hots and a cot” to a program where individuals can confront their own brokenness, the staff is seeing results. More men are expressing a desire to overcome their traumas and addictions. With the new methods of ministry, the residents make better decisions and donated financial gifts are used more effectively.

Bob said, “The Rescue Mission’s work is far more than a home for the homeless. It is a place of real change, where participants are getting help to overcome their brokenness and even get job skills.” The job skills are developed through Treasure House, an upscale resale shop

that has recently relocated to Coldwater Crossing, causing store traffic to increase five times over the past location. The donations and sales directly benefit The Rescue Mission.

A common theme among the five staff



Five Fort Wayne alumni are working together to serve those in need.

members is their personal experience of brokenness. One nearly died from a stroke, another was homeless even as a student, and another was almost deported while a student.

Their experiences, along with the training and support from various members of the Fort Wayne campus community, caused the staff to be better equipped to empower those they are serving to experience real change. To God be the glory as the message of redemption is shared.

Editor’s Note: The Rescue Mission is always looking for individuals and groups to volunteer to serve meals and sort donated items at Treasure House. Call Bob Herman or the Volunteer Coordinator at (260) 426-7357, ext. 118 for more information.

CARE

Alvis Leads Redemptive Work at Wheeler Ministries

By Char (Miller) Binkley g64

When Rick Alvis g77 applied to Fort Wayne Bible College, he was certain that he would only attend one semester. After all, he was already in his early twenties and he couldn't imagine there was much more they could teach him that he didn't already know.

Mentored by Professor Sterling Demond, Rick soon realized that he really did have much to learn, so he enrolled in the Christian Education and Camping Program. His call to ministry was made clear at Fort Wayne Bible College, but he never dreamed that it would lead to rescue mission ministry.

After serving for 13 years as Director of the Rescue Mission in Evansville, Ind., God led Rick to Indianapolis as Director of the Wheeler Rescue Mission, now known as Wheeler Mission Ministries.

While the growth has been incredible under Rick's leadership, taking the ministry from 17 to 150 employees and from a budget of \$700,000 to \$9.5 million, the greatest success story is God's redemptive work in the lives of thousands through Wheeler Ministries.

The purpose of the homeless shelters, residential programs, and addiction recovery

programs is made clear through Wheeler's mission and vision statements: *To provide Christ-centered programs and services for the homeless and those in need. To see every man, woman, and child we serve equipped to be productive citizens who enjoy lasting success in Christ.*

The Shelter for Men served 179,047

meals last year and provided 65,364 nights of lodging for 3,344 men. This state-of-the-art facility gives emergency food and shelter for the body while the redemptive message of Jesus Christ for the soul is shared in chapel services and elective spiritual classes.

The Wheeler Training Center is a 286-acre, long-term intensive rehabilitation program for men who are recovering from substance addiction. The Christian approach to recovery involves applying God's truth to life. In addition

to attending daily classes for spiritual and personal growth, the men work in the Wheeler Mission Pallets and Industry program, which was created specifically to support the recovery center.

Yesteryear's idea of giving the homeless a place to sleep and a meal now includes a much larger and more complex goal. Rick



Rick Alvis g77 outside Wheeler Mission



Rick and Julie Ahns

explained, “While years ago, it was the middle-aged man who came to the mission, the men and women are younger now. They come from very unstable home lives, often with no foundation on which to build and no skills. The breakdown of the American family unit causes a downhill spiral of addiction and unemployment. Food and shelter alone won’t take them to the next step, so we must help them deal with their life issues, which go far beyond a bed and meal. We view each one who comes not as just a homeless person, but as a person — a person who needs the hope found in Jesus Christ.”

The Center for Women and Children Emergency Shelter Program provides a safe shelter for their basic temporal needs. The hope of Jesus Christ is shared as life skills are developed. The Center has a family development component, a children’s ministry program, and an educational program as two-thirds of the women have only an eighth grade education or less.

Redemption through Jesus Christ found at Wheeler Ministries is repeated in hundreds of stories.

Andrew’s addiction to heroin led him to a life of stealing and trouble with the law. Eventually, with the desire to quit using drugs, he walked into Wheeler. Andrew said, “I’d always felt discouraged when life didn’t go according to my plans. To forget it, I’d escape through drugs. Now I turn to God. I pray all the time. I used to feel so hopeless; now, because of the mission, I have hope!”

Lauren’s story is one of abuse followed by a life of drugs, trouble with the law, and jail time. Lauren says, “By God’s grace, I found Wheeler. The whole process here is biblical addiction recovery, so it’s changing your whole life, inside and out.”

Rick says of his time at Fort Wayne Bible College, “I learned to set goals and objectives. I learned lesson preparation techniques that I still use today. Most of all, I developed a larger sense of what ministry can be.” That larger sense of ministry is continually bringing redemption through Jesus Christ at Wheeler Ministries.

Rick and his wife, Julie, have been married for 42 years. Julie serves as Wheeler’s Director of Donor Relations. They have three adult children and one grandchild.

CELEBRATE



Josh Arthur g06 outside of the church where he serves as pastor.

Grads Provide Hand-up to “Forgotten” Neighborhood

By Andrea Osmun g06

Fourteen years ago, **Josh g01** and **Lindsey (Carpenter) g01** chose to move to an under-resourced neighborhood in Muncie, Ind., to help provide hope and help to the people in the community. Now, they’re seeing lives changed as people are improving their credit, buying their own homes, finding stable jobs, and beating addictions.

Two decades ago, Josh and Lindsey met on the Fort Wayne campus and sensed that God had plans for them to be involved in intentional ministry, although they didn’t know what that looked like as they approached graduation in 2001.

Josh was a double major in Biblical Studies and Pastoral Ministries, and Lindsey was a student of Intercultural Studies.

During one chapel service at TUFW, Josh heard Bart Campolo, the son of pastor

and author Tony Campolo, speak about the Christian Community Development Association (CCDA), based in Lawndale in Chicago. Josh spoke with Bart after chapel and found out that the ministry wasn’t about charity but about living among people who the city and even the church had overlooked and offering them resources to change their lives as a whole.

Although Bart Campolo has since publicly left his faith in Christ, Josh said he was a major influence in the Arthurs’ ministry. “I think about him -- and again, God’s not done with him, but he was influential,” Josh said.

After graduation, Josh and Lindsey traveled to Lawndale, Chicago, and were trained with the CCDA, founded by Dr. John Perkins, author and key influencer on the

Arthurs. They chose to move to a neighborhood in Muncie, Ind., in 2002, and have been there serving ever since.

“Josh and I moved into a neighborhood that some people would refer to as ‘forgotten,’” Lindsey said. “We wanted to be a part of that neighborhood. We wanted to invest ourselves in terms of being a resource and a friend and bringing our skills and abilities to whatever would most impact what residents wanted to see. We viewed ourselves as becoming neighbors and friends with people.”

Josh started a small window washing business to employ people who had a hard time finding jobs because of choices they made in their past or lack of resources and experience. He ran that business for about five or so years and then sold it to someone else in the community.

Josh now leads the congregation at Avondale United Methodist Church in Muncie. Lindsey has worked for the Greater Muncie Habitat for Humanity for the past 14 years and has been the CEO for the past eight years.

“My husband Josh really has a wonderful place in the community where he fosters discipleship and friendship in leading a congregation at Avondale United Methodist,” Lindsey said. “My focus has been on housing and helping people to become first-time home buyers and jump into some things they didn’t think were possible.”

During the time Josh was running the window washing business, some friends of the Arthurs, **Dr. Andrew g00** and **Leslie**

Draper g00, TUU grads, intentionally moved into their neighborhood and started Urban Light Community Church, which is now celebrating its 10th anniversary. Andrew pastors the church, where several other Fort Wayne and Upland grads are involved in its ministry, including **Dr. James Rediger g01**.

The church developed non-profit Urban Light Christian Development Corp., focused on housing, addiction recovery, education and community investment projects. Lindsey is on the board of directors for



Lindsey (Carpenter) g01 Arthur helping on a build site.

this non-profit. One lady who successfully beat addiction and found life after incarceration now runs Wayside Mission, one of Urban Light CDC’s programs, which specifically helps women who are highly motivated to change their futures for the better.

Throughout their ministry, the Arthurs have empowered their community by providing a “hand up,” and not a “hand out.”

“We assume that every person has value and worth because they’re a child of God,” Lindsey said. “By coming together, we can accomplish more together. Being available and a resource for people is part of what that means. I think, for me, the ‘hand up’ that I provide to most people is allowing them to find a meaningful way to change the trajectory of their life. I’m not going to do for someone what they can do for themselves.”



Submit *News Notes* items to alumnifw@taylor.edu, call the Alumni 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 Alumni Center to add your email address to our list.



Use your smartphone to submit the latest News Note.

Class of 1964

Karl g64 and Felicia (Wells g64) Bell celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June 2014 and are looking forward to their 52nd in June 2016.

Class of 1966

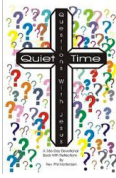
Emily (Mighells g66) Graham manages an H&R Block tax office as a seasonal part-time job, and her husband, Paul Graham, recently retired. They are active in their church in Randolph, NY. The Lord has blessed them with three great children who serve the Lord in their respective churches and who have given them 15 wonderful grandchildren.

Class of 1973

Robert S. Lewis, Jr. g73 is currently living in Pueblo, CO. He is a retired Navy chaplain (1998), a retired language arts educator (2014), and the founder of Bethel Community Church & Institute of Biblical Studies. In his retirement he is currently enjoying fishing; more fishing, and even more fishing; coin collecting; and teaching the Scripture. He has seven grandchildren with one "in the hangar."

Class of 1974

Phil Mortensen g74 has just released his second book entitled *Quiet Time Questions with Jesus*, in which he explores the 324 questions Jesus asked in the Gospels. It is in a devotional book



format that provides the reader with one question to ponder each day of the year.

Class of 1982

Kim (Steiner g82) and Jay Hatfield recently opened an escape room game adventure called Room to Escape, LLC at 3734 Allen Ave., Fort Wayne, IN. It is a real, live game where teamwork and communication are key to getting out of a themed room by using clues available in the room. www.roomtoescape.com

Class of 1988

Sari (Pafford g88) Harris recently moved back to Indiana, where she is the Director for the Center for Economic Education at Ball State University. Her husband, Ted Harris, is a pastor at a church in the Muncie, IN, area. Their daughter, MacKenzie, attends Taylor.

Class of 1991

Nick Johnson g91 is now the Director of Student Life for the University of Dayton China Institute Campus in Suzhou, China. His wife, **Alane (Heindel g89) Johnson**, continues to teach at Ivy Tech, and more recently at the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne. She and their youngest son, Austin, plan to join Nick later this summer in China.



Class of 1993

Corey g93 and **Holly (Wright g92) Laster** recently moved to Massachusetts, where Corey took the position of Head Women's Basketball Coach at Gordon College in Wenham.

Cheri (Patton g93) Shea and her husband, Alan Shea, returned to Liberia on February 11 for another 2½- year term. They left Liberia in 2014 with six days' notice because of the Ebola epidemic. During this time their campus hosted two Ebola treatment centers (one covering seven acres), and Alan did the engineering work to keep them supplied with water and electricity. Upon returning, Alan will be working to upgrade the generators on the ELWA campus to support a new hospital being built by Samaritan's Purse and completing the wiring and

equipping of a new Christian radio studio building. Cheri is homeschooling their three boys: Josiah (7), Nathaniel (5), and Zachary (2½).

Class of 1995

Leon, former TUFW professor, and **Anne g95 Amstutz** are "missionary appointees" with SonSet Solutions (formerly HCB Radio) in Elkhart, IN, providing technology-based solutions to advance the Gospel worldwide.

Class of 1997

Gary Rowland g97 is pastoring The Ridge in Fort Wayne, and is also now working with International Project, a ministry that has been effectively making disciples in New York City for 18 years. As the first Regional Mobilizer in the Midwest, Gary will be working with area churches to recruit teams who will be trained to reach internationals with an easily reproducible method of discipleship.

Class of 2000

Jason g00 and **Cori (Green g00) Roton** have moved to Crystal, MN, where Jason serves as the Children, Youth, and Family Pastor at Calvary Lutheran Church of Golden Valley.

Class of 2002

Paul g02 and **Ashley (Bandy g03) Kellogg** welcomed Frannie Joy (4) and Finton Scott (3) to their forever

Three Couples Give 149 Years to Take God's Message Around the World

Six decades ago, God called three couples to take the message of His love to people far from their Fort Wayne alma mater.

Tom g56 and **Judy (Kenyon g59) Branks** retired last year after 55 years with Wycliffe Bible Translators. They completed translation of the New Testament and an Old Testament summary for the Guambianos in Columbia, South America. They celebrate that one small congregation has now grown to at least 22 congregations worshipping in their heart language.

Phil g67 and **Jan (Schumacher g68) Logan** served with World Partners in Sierra Leone for 44 years before retiring in December 2015. They translated the entire Old Testament for the Kuranki



people and revised the former translation of the New Testament. Phil continues to translate Theological Education by Extension materials for pastoral training and discipling for the Kuranko people.

Gene g62 and **Juanita (Ranes) Bertolet** joined OMS (now One Mission Society) in 1966 and have helped develop literature for all of the countries where OMS has ministered for the past 50 years. Christian literature outreach in Korea and Haiti has resulted



in thousands of decisions for Christ. They continue working for OMS out of the Greenwood, IN, office.

family in July 2015 from China. They then welcomed Trixie Darlene Diane on January 28, 2016. Trixie weighed 9 lbs., 2 oz. Besides Frannie and Finton, Trixie's siblings include Kyler (12), Gracelyn (11), Brynnan (9), Ezekiel (7), and Myra (6). The Kelloggs live in Fort Wayne.

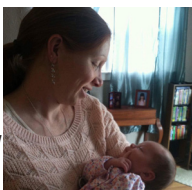
Class of 2003

Kelly (Greenamyer g03) Wogomon recently accepted a job as Hospital Chaplain at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola, IN. Kelly is providing rounds on the hospital floor and on-call services to the ER.

Tauna (Herrell g03) Batiste has been named the Executive Director of the National Hemophilia Foundation for the Columbus, OH, chapter.

Michael g03 and Bethany (Weideman g03) Collins developed a unique hobby of repurposing windows, doors, and shutters to give as gifts to friends. They enjoyed the work and having Jesus' name on people's wall so much that they kept on making them! See some of their creations on their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/corbandecor.

Nick g03 and Natasha (Fast g04) Hayden welcomed Mercy Esperança Hayden, born on January 20, 2016. Older brother is Fyodor Hayden (6) and older sister is Serenity Hayden (4)



Along Rudisill...

In case you missed these in the *Fort Wayne Falcon*:

- The Fort Wayne Alumni Center renewed its lease with The Summit, which was originally signed five years ago. Stephen Olson, Vice President for Finance at Taylor, signed it in late March. It's hard to believe in June we will start our 8th year of caring, connecting, and celebrating all done because of God's provision through you.

- The Samuel Morris statue that once stood at the entrance to Witmer Hall from 1996 through 2010 has now been moved to Liberia, where it will stand on the site of the new Samuel Kaboo Morris Educational Resource and Conference Center in Farmersville in Sinoe County, Liberia.



Sign up at <http://fw.taylor.edu/fwfalcon> to receive the *FW Falcon* online.

Class of 2006

Jennifer (Spurlock g06) married Charlie **Simmons** on July 12, 2015. **Justin g01** and **Sarah (Vestal g02) Spurlock, Asira (Nazarova g08) Matthew, and Michela Smith g07** were also part of the special nuptials.

Class of 2007

Stephanie (Gates g07) and Todd Hanson are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, **Tristan Marlo Hanson**, who made his debut into the world on Saturday, March 19, weighing 7 lbs., 7 oz.



Michael g07 and Jenn (Logue g06) Sprunger ushered into the world **Myriam Grace**, born November 29, 2015. She weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz. and measured 20 inches long. She joins **Eden**, who thinks she is pretty cool, too.

Mercy is aptly named for the incredible mercy they feel God has shown them this year. Her middle name was chosen to reflect both Natasha's past (hence the Portuguese) and the theme of waiting in "hope" (the translation) that has characterized their journey these past years.

Class of 2004

Lori (Craw g04) Current has been named a finalist for Wayne County's Young Professionals program, sponsored by the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce. She continues to serve at Indiana University East as the Assistant Director of Admissions, and her husband, **Michael Current g05**, is a 4th grade teacher at Galileo Charter School. The Currents live with their two boys, David and Cohen, in Richmond, IN.

John Jared g04 married Wendy Burley on May 25, 2013. **Danny Smith, Tyler Binkley g06, Michael Clancy g05, and Joel Aguilera** were in the wedding. John and Wendy just announced the birth of their son, **Jax Burley**, born on March 20, 2016. He weighed 8 lbs., 8 oz., and was 20¼ inches long.

Class of 2008

Dr. Dennis Hensley's h08 newest novel, *PSEUDONYM*, was released in January 2016 by Whitaker Publishing House. Doc's trilogy of historical adventure-romances entitled *The Parker Family Chronicles* are available from Whitaker House as e-book downloads.

Jared g08 and **Elizabeth (VandenAvond g07) Pomeroy** currently reside in Kentucky where Jared is the Associate Pastor at Centenary UMC in Danville and Elizabeth is teaching half-day in a private preschool, LABC Preschool.

Asira (Nazarova g08) and Reji **Matthew** welcomed Selah Miriam on March 11, 2016. She was 8 lbs., 7 oz., and 20 inches long.

Adam g08 and Stephanie **Zimmerman** are pleased to announce the birth of Brynn Olivia on January 19, 2016. The Zimmermans live in Grand Rapids, MI.

Class of 2009

Chris g09 and **Madison (Robbins g09) Freeman** have begun ministry work with the Fellowship of Evangelical Churches in the area of church planting.

Katherine Miranda h09 is now Assistant Registrar at Northeast Ohio Medical University.

Megan (Spillman) g09 and Aaron **Fritz** welcomed Landon Joseph Fitz on November 15, 2015. The Fritz family lives in Granger, IN. Grandma Debbie Spillman is very excited for Landon's arrival.

Brent g09 and **Lacy (Pinnick g09) Salsbury**, along with big sister Ava, welcomed Zoey Maria on May 4, 2015. Brent is now the Student Ministries Pastor at Grace Church of Sahuarita in Sahuarita, AZ.



Scott and **Ellen Klaus** (former TUFW employee) were accepted as members of Wycliffe Bible Translators August 1, 2015, and plan to begin ministry in Papua New Guinea in early 2017. They are currently developing their partnership team and preparing to move internationally. More at www.wycliffe.org/partner/klauses.

Anthony h09 and Hannah **Opliger** welcomed Sagesse (Saj) Emmanuel Mbumba Opliger (5), December 21, 2015, whom they adopted from the DRC.

Memorials

Ethel (Shaneyfelt g47) Barnett passed away on August 22, 2014.

Rev. Bob Magary g47 passed into the presence of the Lord on July 22, 2015. Pastor Bob had served in ministry for 68 years as a traveling evangelist, representative of FWBC with YFC in Europe, pastor, and then as a visitation pastor during retirement. He is survived

Platte Assists Poor and Needy at Matthew 25

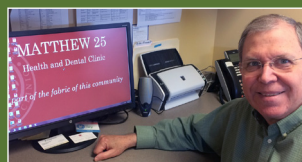
In addition to volunteering for the Alumni Center, **Dr. Jay Platte g69** has assisted the poor and needy in Fort Wayne for the past 10 years. He has amassed over 5,000 hours of volunteer service at Matthew 25, the only full-time clinic in Allen County offering free medical, dental, vision, and hearing services all under one roof.

Working in the patient assistance area of the clinic, Jay helps provide patients with costly medications without cost to the patients. Since those coming to Matthew 25 have no insurance, this

is their last resort to receive competent healthcare. Last year, in cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, over \$6,222,000 (retail cost) of medications was provided to patients through patient assistance. Jay, working two to three hours a day, added a significant dimension to this medicine-distribution service when he wrote a database program to track orders for each medication. He has also helped Matthew 25 with their publications and website.

When asked why he is volunteering at Matthew 25, Jay says, "The clinic is

aptly named and speaks to the heart of my motivation. For the cause and love of Christ, I share my abilities and time to help those who need it and have the fewest resources... the least of these, my brothers and sisters." He adds, "I have also had the privilege of working with alums such as **Karin (Lantz) Cramer g64** and many other like-minded people."



by his wife, **Marian (Anderson) fs48**, two sons including **Dr. Dennis (Pam fs73) Magary g73**, a daughter, and multiple grandchildren.

Rita (Erickson g49) Quay, 86, of Chino Valley, AZ, passed away September 17, 2015. She was awarded Music Educator of the Year in Phoenix and then Music Educator of the Year for the State of Arizona. Rita had organized large piano events in Phoenix for 40 years.

Dr. Glenna Edna (Webber fs50) Howard died May 27, 2015. Edna was a professor and chair of the Education Department at Houghton College from 1988-1996. She then worked for the New York State Education Department in area schools. She and her husband, Dale, had served CMA churches in Indiana, Texas, Illinois, Nebraska, Colorado, and Quito, Ecuador.

Carolyn (Maiden fs50) Johnson, 85, passed away December 16, 2015, in Leo, IN. Carolyn worked as a receptionist with TUFW for six years. Carolyn will be remembered for being a gracious hostess, opening her home to many people; for being a skilled seamstress and an avid reader; and for her beautiful gardens. Surviving are her husband of 65 years, **Rev. James Johnson g51** of Fort Wayne; her children, which includes four sons and a daughter, **Jana (Johnson g78) Wanner**; and her brothers, **Gordon Klopfenstein g55** and **Dr. David Klopfenstein fs61**.

Rev. Noboru Ayabe g55 passed away January 8, 2016, after battling liver cancer. Pastor Ayabe served at the Milalani Missionary Church prior to his retirement. He is survived by his wife, **Mymeth (Shaver g55)**; his daughters, **Joy Ayabe g82** and **Jean (Ayabe g84) Gerig**; and his brother, **Dr. Harold Ayabe g57**.

Myron S. Harrison g66 passed on September 9, 2015. He was a proud graduate of the class of 1966, earning a BS in Christian Education. He and his wife, **Betty g66**, had served with OMF International in the Philippines.

Doreen Moening fs66 passed away on December 26, 2015, after fighting MS for over 25 years. Surviving is her husband, the **Rev. Bob Moening g66**, who lives in Delta, OH, and her sister, **Karin (Lantz) g64**, Fort Wayne, who is fighting cancer again.

Jan (Larkins g68) Brewer, 69, of Kentwood, MI, went home to be with the Lord on May 8, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Robert; her three children; and her five grandchildren.

Rev. Kenneth R. Schultz g74 died September 17, 2015, in Vermilion, OH, at New Life Hospice Center of St. Joseph after a short illness. He was a veteran of the United States Navy and served in the Vietnam War. Pastor Ken pastored in Pennsylvania and then moved to Ohio, where he pastored and eventually served as a chaplain.

Terri Miller g69, 74, passed away on October 22, 2015, after sustaining burns in a fire. Surviving is his wife, Bessie.

Lily A. (Yakich g71) Blomstedt, 66, passed away January 9, 2016, after battling cancer. She worked at Stateville Prison, Joliet, IL, and loved her children, grandchildren, and music. She is survived by her husband, Erik Blomstedt.

Sherry Anne (Bowles fs77) Amstutz passed away on February 5, 2016. She was the mother of four and homeschooled them all. She also worked in customer service for Nichols, Fort Wayne. She is survived by her husband, Michael Amstutz; four children; and many grandchildren.

Rev. Ron Farb g81 passed on February 23, 2016, after fighting cancer.

Sharon Kale, 70, former housekeeper at TUFW, passed away on March 2, 2016. Widowed at a younger age, she devoted most of her time to her children and grandchildren. Surviving are **Dawn Kale g87** and **Shellie (Kale g91) Burden**, along with a brother and several grandchildren.

Etta Marian (Burkins) Miller, 86, professor of Teacher Education from 1991-1995 at Taylor University Fort Wayne, passed quietly in her sleep on February 1, 2016.

Lawrence Whiteford, 93, former FWBC Board of Trustees member, passed away on February 3, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite, and four daughters, **Dianna Jenkins g70**, Miriam Jordan, **Sarah VanOrman fs72**, and **Marcia (Darold) Hogue fs79**.

Celebrating Day of Giving – \$12,000 To Go!

By Michael D. Mortensen g91

The first annual Day of Giving was a GREAT success as over \$13,000 was given in gifts and pledges. Nearly 50 new giving units joined in support of the ministry.

Thank you to those who sent or dropped off checks, made gifts or pledges online, or called in your gift. It was a FUN day watching your alumni ministry become funded more fully.

If you were unable to participate on that special day, I'm asking you

to give something (\$5, \$10, \$25, or more) to help us meet not just our \$70,000 budget goal, but also our participation goal. We need 132 new donors to reach our increased percentage goal. Will you participate? Will you give to keep your Alumni Center alive and vibrant?

Your gifts, which will be **DOUBLED** by an alumna, are needed and appreciated by **May 15, 2016**, so we can complete our budget year in the black.

Please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope or give online at <http://fw.taylor.edu/gift>.

1st Annual DAY OF GIVING



Did you  Show Your Green?

<http://fw.taylor.edu/gift>



September 23 & 24, 2016



Dr. Heather St. Peters h09, former Fort Wayne campus professor, will be our Homecoming chapel speaker on Saturday, September 24, at 11 a.m.

HOMECOMING

Samuel Morris Scholars Reunion with Kid's Activities

Hall of Fame Induction Dinner ★ Class of 1966 Reunion ★ Public Relations Reunion

Faculty, Staff, & Alumni Social Lunch ★ Sunday Sing on Saturday

Reconnect ★ Reminisce ★ Rejoice

FORT WAYNE
ALUMNI CENTER

Taylor University
915 W. Rudsill Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46807



260.744.8790 • fw.taylor.edu • We Care, Connect and Celebrate!

