



WITTENBERG
magazine

The Painting Life



WITTENBERG MAGAZINE SPRING 2019

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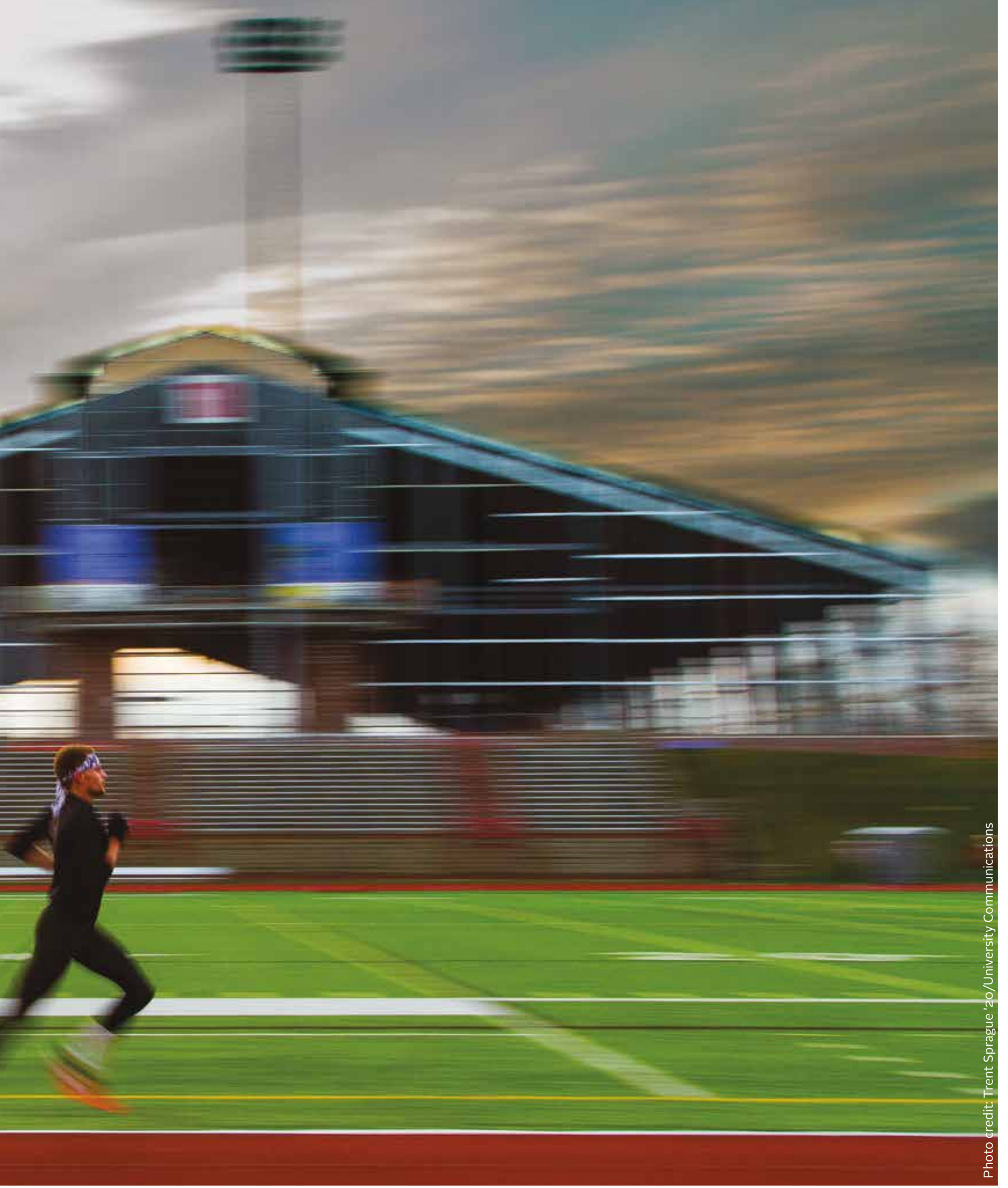


Photo credit: Trent Sprague '20/University Communications



Stories Matter

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to connect with Mary Hunter. For those of you who may not know, Mary is the widow of coaching legend Larry Hunter, who passed away last year at age 68. For nearly five decades, Larry coached collegiate men's basketball with uncompromising passion, serving five different institutions, including Wittenberg from 1976-1989, where he led the Tigers to an NCAA championship as the team's head coach.

While neither Mary nor Larry were alumni, they experienced the Wittenberg story firsthand during their 12 years at the university. This was a place that felt like home, and to this day, Mary looks back on her husband's time with the Tigers with extreme fondness as it was here that they discovered the power of the Wittenberg family.

Sharon and I also experienced that "family feel" from our first days on campus, and we continue to see it in the dedication of our alumni. Because of your support, more students can join the Wittenberg family thanks to the scholarships you establish and fund. Because of your support, our new Health, Wellness, and Athletics facility will officially open during Homecoming 2019, bringing even more opportunities for community building and connecting. (Save the date of October 24-27.) Because of you, we can also continue to live out our mission and values as envisioned by Wittenberg's founder and first president Ezra Keller.

Our values call on us to embrace the life of the mind and engage the complexity of the human experience. They also call on us to be a purposeful and diverse community in which we affirm the dignity of every person, which is why I recently established the first-ever President's Council for Diversity and Inclusion. The Council will play an essential role in engaging our entire community in work designed to ensure that Wittenberg is a more inclusive and inviting campus for all individuals, and I am encouraged and excited by the work already underway.

I am also excited by the renewed energy on campus and on the senior leadership team. In recent months, we have welcomed Rob Young as our new Vice President for Finance and Administration, Carola Thorson as our new Vice President for Enrollment Management, and we just announced Michelle Mattson as our new Provost. We also celebrated the elevation of Casey Gill to Vice President of Student Development and Gary Williams to Vice President and Director of Athletics and Recreation. In addition, our Board of Directors welcomed three new members, whom you can read about on page 6.

We are the Wittenberg family, the same one that embraced Mary and Larry more than 40 years ago and the same one that continues to embrace our alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends today. I look forward to hearing more of your memories. Please share them at stories@wittenberg.edu.

Best regards,
Michael L. Frandsen, Ph.D.
President



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Mission -- Wittenberg University provides a liberal arts education dedicated to intellectual inquiry and wholeness of person within a diverse residential community. Reflecting its Lutheran heritage, Wittenberg challenges students to become responsible global citizens, to discover their callings, and to lead personal, professional, and civic lives of creativity, service, compassion, and integrity.



WITTENBERG LAUNCHES NEW NURSING PROGRAM

Wittenberg University launched its four-year, fully self-contained Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program this past fall. The university received full approval from the Ohio Board of Nursing, Ohio Department of Higher Education, and Higher Learning Commission to proceed with its liberal arts-inspired nursing program.

“Being approved to offer our own full-scale, in-house nursing program affirms the confidence the state of Ohio has in the high-quality liberal arts education Wittenberg has been delivering for generations,” said Mary Jo Zembar, interim provost and professor of psychology. “We already have considerable interest in this program and expect to garner even more in the months and years ahead.”

Obtaining a BSN in the field is essential according to the Institute of Medicine (IOM). In its 2010 report on the future of nursing, the IOM recommended that 80 percent of the hospital-based nursing workforce hold a BSN by 2020. According to NursingEducation.com, a “BSN allows nurses to have more responsibility, supervisory roles and higher salaries in the workplace than a registered nurse (RN) with an associate’s degree.”

The fact that Wittenberg’s program will have a liberal arts foundation adds an even greater dimension to the program’s attraction.

“Having our nursing program entirely in-house means that nursing students can now complete minor studies in languages, music, arts, or any other field including honors,” said Elizabeth Sorensen, professor and director of nursing. “For example, philosophy and nursing arranged for nursing courses to count toward the Justice, Law, and Public Poli Sci minor, which is very exciting. It means that Wittenberg faculty will teach all of the classes, allowing for better opportunities to guide and mentor nursing students.”

The new program also represents significant, sustainable revenue and resource growth for the university, Sorensen added.

“We expect the program to be financially self-sustaining by its second year. We have developed an 1,800-square-foot, state-of-the-art nursing simulation learning center. The ‘Sim Lab’ is the most requested tour site for pre-nursing students who are deciding where to enroll. We look forward to helping students enter this in-demand healthcare field, while also helping area employers improve their BSN nurse staff.”

For more information: wittenberg.edu/academics/gps/nursing



50 YEARS OF ACTIVISM

Wittenberg University recognized 50 years of activism in support of diversity and racial equality during its annual Concerned Black Students (CBS) Commemorative Walkout, which took place on Monday, Jan. 14.

On behalf of CBS and the McClain Center for Diversity, the event honored the historic walkout of 1969 when several students protested to highlight racial inequality on campus.

“For those of us who were there, it was a moment when we realized that social change was not just a theoretical proposition,” said Ron Woods ’69, president and founding member of CBS. Woods is a longtime professor at Eastern Michigan University and emeritus director of the Wittenberg Board of Directors. In a special Spring 2009 issue of *Wittenberg Magazine*, Woods said, “It was something you had to be willing to commit to, organize for, and make a sacrifice for.”

Other founding CBS members included Muriel Mitchell Scruggs and Levi Wingard, both class of 1969; Jim Bell, Tyrone Curry, Mary Foxworth, Margie Hemphill Peacock, Larry Peacock, Gregory Pratt, Selena Neal Singletary, and Sandi Williams, all class of 1970; and Beverly Andrews, Tom Catlett, Mary Dillard Daniels, William Hardin, Darryl Herring, Paul Hicks, Norman King, Leonard Lightfoot, Wendy Miller Woods, Alfonso Pearson, Charleyse Smith Pratt, Victor Sheppard, Mark Thomas, and Jim Thrasher, all class of 1971.

CBS, an organization that empowers students of color while educating the university on diversity issues, has evolved into an organization that doesn’t just embrace African Americans, but all

Wittenberg students through a variety of events and activities. In recent years, CBS has partnered with student organizations such as the Gender & Sexual Diversity Alliance (GSDA), the American International Association (AIA), the Womyn’s Center, and Student Senate to provide campus programming opportunities.

CBS operates out of the refurbished William A. McClain Center for Diversity (previously known as the Black Culture House), named for the late groundbreaking Cincinnati-based attorney, judge, and member of Wittenberg’s class of 1934. Still considered one of the most respected attorneys in the nation, McClain, who passed away on February 4, 2014, at the age of 101, received numerous honors during his illustrious career, including the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, which recognizes the achievements of outstanding ethnic Americans and their contributions to the nation.

CBS organizes several recognizable events each year, including the Unity March, the commemorative walkout, a host of Black History Month events in February, and the Martin Luther King Jr. panel discussion in January.

The group strives to celebrate diversity in all forms, and is excited to join together with CBS alumni for a 50th reunion during Homecoming 2019.

Increasing diversity and supporting diversity and inclusion across campus embody part of Wittenberg’s Operational Agenda. To this end, the university has also announced the President’s Council for Diversity & Inclusion, an advisory committee established to ensure the university intentionally strives to affirm the dignity of every person on campus, and foster a spirit of respect.



TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Wittenberg's Faculty Development Board (FDB) recently announced the winners of the 2018 Collegium Award for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching and the Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Cynthia Richards, professor of English, received the Collegium Award for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching and Sha'Dawn Battle, assistant professor of English, was awarded the Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching.

The Collegium Award for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching is the only teaching award at Wittenberg that is awarded by the faculty itself.

Richards said she realized early in her career "that to stay good at my job I was going to have to continue to grow and stay innovative in my approach... I needed to model for my students intellectual risk-taking by taking a risk on new themes and approaches myself." She is described by colleagues as an engaging instructor who challenges students of all levels to "push beyond what they thought possible in themselves," and she achieves this with innovative assignments and "clear, concise formalization of the inputs and outputs" that enable even her beginning students to succeed at complex tasks.

Richards has also been honored with Wittenberg's Omicron Delta Teaching Award, a Fulbright Teaching Award, the Lawrence Ruff Visiting Chair of 18th-Century Studies at the University of Dayton (2016), and the American Society for 18th-Century Innovative Teaching Award.

The Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching recognizes the highest level of teaching excellence by a visiting or adjunct faculty member at Wittenberg University.

Battle believes her "job is to facilitate discussions that enable this kind of critical reflection...and the conversations are often uncomfortable. But discomfort is a tell-tale sign of effective pedagogy." Her impact has been felt beyond her classroom's walls as she has been involved in extracurricular organizations, including serving as adviser for a new student group, Shades of Pearl, and helping students to earn the NCAA Div. III Diversity Spotlight Initiative Award in 2015. Her department chair says she has "rarely heard undergraduates so able to move seamlessly between theory and literary texts and criticism."

"These awards give us the opportunity to recognize and celebrate our peers' efforts and accomplishments," said Justin Houseknecht, associate professor and chair of the chemistry department who served as interim FDB administrator. "The FDB extends its appreciation to all the faculty who nominated peers and to all of the finalists, who submitted truly inspiring portfolios for review."



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Wittenberg University elects three new members to its Board of Directors for three-year terms.



Dr. James J. Lakso '67 is Emeritus Provost and Vice President for Student Development and Professor of Economics at Juniata College. He joined the Juniata faculty in 1970, was promoted to full professor in 1981, and was named Provost and Vice President for Student Development in 1998. Juniata's Center for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning was named in his honor, and The Lakso Endowment for Faculty Excellence was created in his honor to support faculty development. Lakso currently serves as the vice-chair of the board of directors for Kish Bancorp (KISB), and he serves on the board of United Lutheran Seminary. He also remains active at St. James Lutheran Church, the Huntingdon Lions Club and Huntingdon County Business and Industry. An economics major at Wittenberg, Lakso was awarded an Alumni Citation in 2014.



Steve Neely '75, an education major at Wittenberg, has served as president of Armoloy of Ohio Inc. in Springfield since 2000 where he works directly with renowned companies such as Kraft Foods and Kellogg's. Before his work with Armoloy, Neely was an elementary school teacher for five years, a medical equipment salesman, and vice president of sales for the McKesson Corporation.

A community leader, Neely has served numerous organizations in the Springfield area, including the Springfield Foundation, the Clark State Foundation, and the Community Healthcare Foundation. He is also a past president of the Springfield Rotary Club, and it was through Springfield Rotary that Neely became involved in aiding orphaned children from the South African Kingdom of Lesotho after learning about the effort through Wittenberg.

Originally from Newark, New York, Neely met his wife, Mary Alice Schryver '75, at Wittenberg, and they were married a year after graduation. The Neelys have three children and three grandchildren. To this day, he attributes his distinctive and expansive resume to his time at Wittenberg.

"I have had a somewhat diverse career, but it was the diverse education that I received at Wittenberg, as well as experiences, that prepared me for the last 40 or so years," he said.



An elementary education major at Wittenberg, **Wendy Ford '76** was actively involved on campus in Union Board and Concerned Black Students (CBS). A retired director of human resources from the Springfield City School District, she is a leader in the Springfield community through her service as first vice president of the Wittenberg Guild, as a member of the Community Health Foundation board, the Covenant United Methodist Freedom School board, Opportunities for Individual Change, and United Senior Services.

Ford's husband, Eddie, is a member of the Wittenberg class of 1975. They have two children. She states that they have made sure to give back to Wittenberg for supporting them over the years and for giving them the professional foundation necessary for their careers.

"Eddie and I have always tried to support our alma mater by giving and serving," she said. "Being a member of the Board of Directors is a great opportunity to serve the university. I plan to be a good listener, observer, and to be engaged."

HAGEN CENTER & COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Celebrate Anniversaries



Wittenberg's Susan Hirt Hagen Center for Civic & Urban Engagement, established in 2008, celebrated its 10th anniversary last year, at the same time the university's long-standing Community Service Program turned 30.

Described by former Ohio Lt. Governor Lee Fisher as "the model" for how universities should engage with their communities to promote economic development and ensure that generations of students are committed to civic engagement, the Hagen Center promotes responsible, productive, and thoughtful scholarship, service and collaboration between Wittenberg University and the Greater Springfield area to create a more vibrant, cohesive community.

Since the Hagen Center opened, 186 interns have worked on 123 local projects in partnership with 134 community organizations, including non-profits, government agencies and area businesses, with guidance from 56 Wittenberg faculty experts. At the national level, Wittenberg has also consistently been recognized for its leadership and commitment to community engagement, landing on the President's Community Service Honor Roll for nearly a decade. More recently, Wittenberg received the program's highest award status, the President's Community Service Honor Roll of Distinction.

"We at the Hagen Center are proud to be partnering with local businesses, government agencies, non-profit organizations, neighborhood groups, and even individuals here in the City of Springfield," said Stephanie McCuiston, administrative director of the Hagen Center.

"It has always been our hope that partnering with the local community through service, research, internships, and student employment would help prepare Wittenberg students to be informed and active citizens in their communities throughout their lives," McCuiston added. "At the same time, we hope that our partnerships will continue to contribute to positive outcomes in our city."

The Homecoming and Reunion Weekend 2018 event celebrating

the anniversaries also focused on Wittenberg's Community Service Program, located inside the Hagen Center. Each year, students contribute their time and talents in service and, collectively, their efforts annually translate into more than \$360,000 in donated time in service to the Greater Springfield area.

"As a member of the class of 1992, the first class to complete the faculty-approved community service experience at Wittenberg, I believe in the transformation that can take place by being engaged in community; it can help shape your life's story," said Kristen Collier '92, director of community service at the Hagen Center. "For 30 years, we have been fortunate to provide experiences to students that can transform their lives and can strengthen the relationships they have with the community. We couldn't do any of this without the support of our caring and supportive community partners."

The Hagen Center was endowed in 2011 by Wittenberg alumna Susan Hirt Hagen '57. Community service also remains a requirement for graduation at Wittenberg and includes time for students to reflect on the service experience to better understand themselves, community needs, and their responsibility in advancing the common good.

In addition, during the special ceremony in October, local community leader Tom Loftis announced that a new scholarship has been named for Springfield Mayor Warren Copeland, faculty director emeritus of the Hagen Center and retired Wittenberg professor of social ethics.

"We thought long and hard about how to best recognize Warren for his dedicated service, which has done so much for the Springfield community and Wittenberg, and decided that the best way to honor him is to help future generations," Loftis said. "Once endowed, this scholarship will be awarded each year to support Wittenberg students who are interested in careers in public service or social services and have demonstrated a willingness to confront societal issues with compassion and commitment."

Miles With Mike

Wittenberg's 15th President Completes More Than 24,000-Mile Alumni Tour

Against the scenic backdrop of Boulder, Colorado, Wittenberg University's 15th President, Michael L. Frandsen, officially concluded his 10-month-long alumni engagement tour, aptly titled "Miles With Mike."

President Frandsen, accompanied on most stops by his spouse Sharon, traveled a total of 24,347 miles in less than a year, and had the pleasure of meeting a wide range of Wittenberg alumni, some of whom graduated as far back as 1947. The common theme that was discussed in every town was the positive role the university has played in each of their lives.

"Sharon and I are most thankful for the extraordinary welcome we received from Wittenberg alumni on the road during my inaugural year as president," President Frandsen said. "Hearing their stories, discovering where their Wittenberg education has taken them, and seeing Wittenberg's mission in action in their own lives and communities reaffirmed the power of this university to help students find their passion and purpose. We will forever be grateful for this opportunity."

The Miles With Mike Tour involved 31 stops in cities and towns across the country beginning with Indianapolis, Ind., on Sept. 27, 2017. Wittenberg's Alumni Board was also represented at 28 of the 31 stops with Vikki Hooper '78, past Alumni Board president, helping to coordinate the attendance.

At each event, alumni received a commemorative, concert-inspired T-shirt, featuring the stops and the number of miles to each location from the university's hometown of Springfield on the back. President Frandsen also offered updates on the university and spent time fielding a variety of questions from attendees.

While the tour served as a good introduction for the Frandsens, it also proved to be profoundly informative for both the University's diverse alumni network and the new president alike.

"Wittenberg has always offered a personalized education, and the Miles With Mike tour is an extension of this, providing our alumni the chance to talk with our president, and allowing Mike and Sharon to learn from our alumni, including the history, traditions, and special moments that defined their time at Wittenberg," said Holly Gersbacher '03, director of alumni and lifelong engagement.

The tour provided the perfect opportunity for alumni to reconnect with old friends, reminisce about specific professors that influenced them, and to share how the liberal arts foundation at Wittenberg opened doors they never imagined possible.

One connection made at the Houston event even led to a job for one of Wittenberg's May 2018 graduates. A highlight of the Sarasota event included a performance by the Wittenberg Choir, and in San Francisco, President Frandsen and Sharon had the chance to meet Tom Stauffer, son of Wittenberg's 9th president, who has now met every Wittenberg president from the 7th to the 15th over the course of more than seven decades.

"We were delighted to listen to their stories, which affirmed the foundation of excellence upon which Wittenberg was built back in 1845," President Frandsen said.

During each event, President Frandsen also encouraged those present to stay engaged with their alma mater and to return to campus as often as possible to hear current student stories, see firsthand the exciting projects underway, including the restoration and expansion of Wittenberg's Health, Wellness and Athletics



facilities, and reflect on the relationships they established during their college days, many of which continue today.

“At its core, Wittenberg has always been about relationships – in the classroom, in the residence halls, in athletics, and across all areas and activities,” President Frandsen said. “It’s through those integrated relationships that Wittenberg has educated the mind to know and the heart to care for generations. I am honored to lead and serve at this time in Wittenberg’s history, and I look forward to

ongoing partnerships with our alumni in the years ahead to advance our shared future.”

President Frandsen’s ongoing engagement with alumni is only beginning. Follow him on Twitter @FrandsenWitt15, email him at president@wittenberg.edu or connect by phone at 937-327-7916. To learn more about the special tour, visit www.wittenberg.edu/mileswithmike

COMPASS Points Students in Right Direction

When it opened its doors in summer 2016, the COMPASS: Sweet Success Center was the answer to a simple but important question: How could Wittenberg best serve the needs of its students and enable them to grow, learn and lead?

WRITTEN BY Daniel F. Le Ray

By bringing together nine student services offices that had been scattered across campus, COMPASS has become a one-stop shop for Wittenberg undergraduates' needs—anything ranging from academic advising and career services to student employment, tutoring, disability services, counseling, and more are now housed in one space in Thomas Library.

According to Senior Associate Dean of Students for Student Success and Retention Jon Duraj '09, the center served 4,800 students in its first year alone.

“On a campus of 1,800, that illustrates our accessibility and the demand for COMPASS,” Duraj said. Students come back time and again. “The reality is that students use services and support interchangeably and think about their experience as interconnected, which it is.”

There is great value to combining services, “whether that means allowing a student to physically meet the people they will be working with, or walking them down the hallway to a service,” Duraj added. “Access to necessary services quickly and effectively is critical to supporting students.”

Grace Whiteley Sever '13, academic services director at COMPASS, echoed these sentiments.

“The Center has been an incredible asset for students,” Sever said. “They can bring questions to one location and find out exactly what their next steps should be.”

As well as eliminating the need to criss-cross campus, the center's visibility has encouraged more students to seek help.

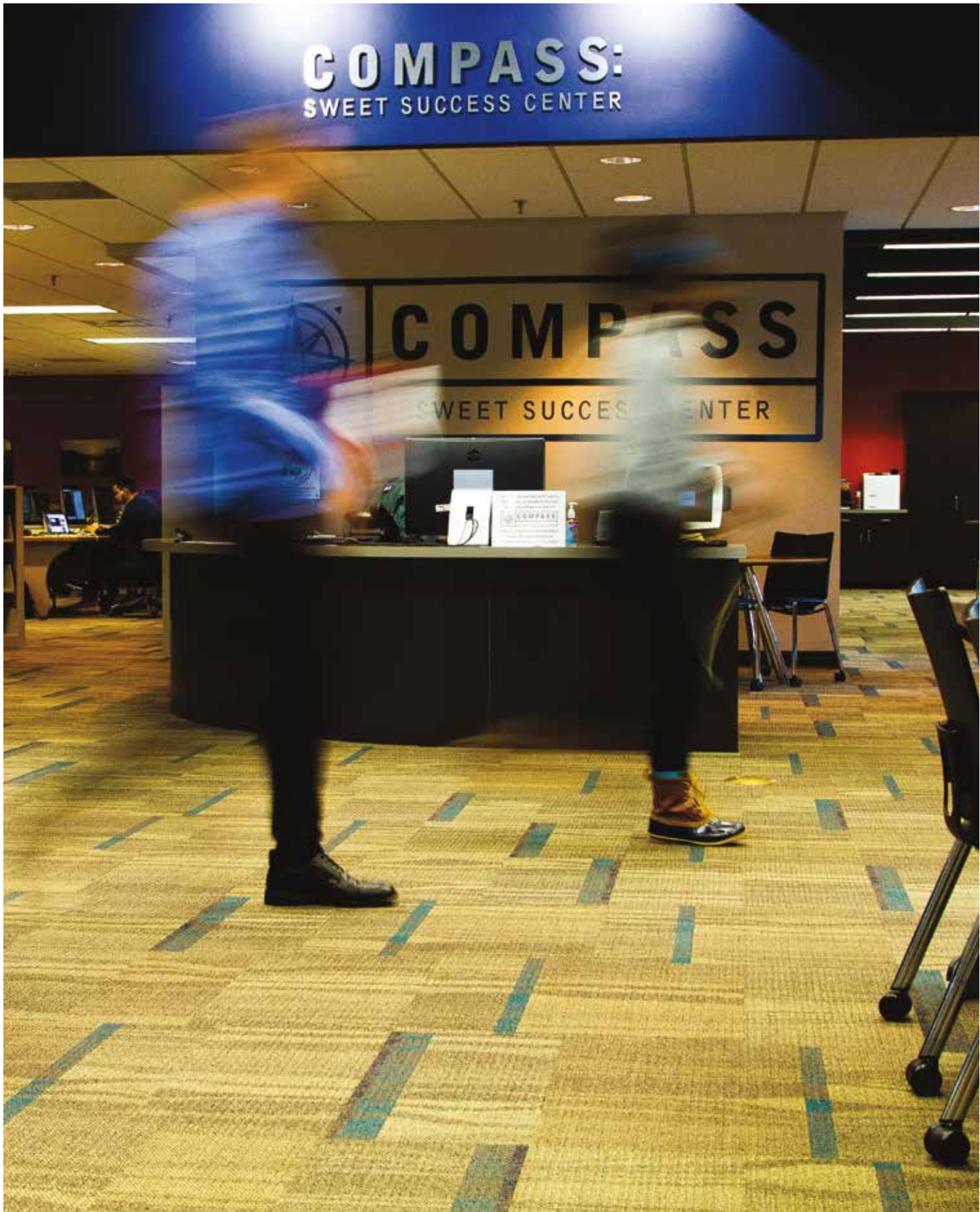
“COMPASS has helped to normalize seeking and accepting support,” Sever explained. “Students can be hesitant to realize that they need assistance and ask for help, especially if they feel that doing so is seen as a failure. We have positioned ourselves as a support to any student with any kind of question or concern.”

Caroline Olson '19 meets regularly with Sever. The pair discusses how Olson's classes are going and organize her schedule.

“Meeting with Grace has helped me understand my strengths and abilities more than I ever would have on my own,” said Olson, a communication major and journalism minor. “School wasn't always the easiest, but knowing I had a great support system with the help of the COMPASS staff made it easier.”

And the center's reputation continues to grow, Olson said.

“COMPASS has created a great atmosphere here on campus. Everyone is friendly and willing to help out, so students have a lot to gain by visiting the Center.”





” GREG AND I WANTED TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION TO ENSURE THAT NO STUDENT EVER HAD TO FEEL LIKE THERE WAS NO PLACE TO GO FOR HELP,” SAID ALICIA SWEET HUPP ’82.

The lead gift for COMPASS was provided by Alicia Sweet Hupp ’82, president and CEO of Sweet Manufacturing Company, and a member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors, along with her husband Greg. Additional funding came from the Student Senate and the Classes of 2015 and 2016.

Having seen some students struggling with academics at Wittenberg, Hupp said, “the need was obvious for a consolidation of student support services under one roof. Greg and I wanted to be part of the solution to ensure that no student ever had to feel like there was no place to go for help.”

She also hopes that COMPASS will positively impact retention.

“The Sweet Success Center will provide the resources to help students address problems that could have affected their continued enrollment. Our hope is to see the center grow and prosper as a key driver of student success at Witt,” Hupp said.

Celebrating students’ success is another essential part of COMPASS’s role, added Duraj, who has worked with students facing all kinds of issues, from homesickness to problems with academic performance and time management.

“That authentic approach to student support is something that comes through not only in our space on campus but in our

approach to working one-on-one with students,” he said.

Communication major Mitchell Mahon ’19 has benefited greatly from Duraj’s mentorship. After some initial academic stress as a first-year student, Mahon “began working with Jon in an attempt to right the ship. Within our first few visits, I had planned out with Jon success strategies that work for me.”

Mahon’s academic performance and confidence soon improved.

“I went from worrying about reaching graduation to being ahead of schedule and using that extra time to consider a minor I never thought would be possible,” he said. “COMPASS has helped me to re-evaluate my college career and get back on track.”

This kind of outcome is what Duraj and Sever strive for.

Wittenberg’s success is defined by the success of its students, said Sever. “Success not only refers to how a student is doing academically, but also to their overall happiness and wellbeing. We always aim to foster the wholeness of a person as we support students in reaching their goals.”

Duraj agreed.

“Getting to work with hundreds of students to assist them in realizing their potential—and the role of Wittenberg in that—is exciting work.”



The Numbers Game

Professor of Mathematics **Adam Parker**
receives the 2018 Distinguished Teaching Award

WRITTEN BY Daniel F. Le Ray

When Adam Parker, professor of mathematics and chair of the department of mathematics and computer science, came to Wittenberg University in 2003, he found an institution that focused first and foremost on the student experience.

“It wasn’t all about the research, but about your work with students, your impact on students and your research with students,” he said.

Last year, Parker’s gifts as a teacher and adviser were rewarded with the 2018 Alumni Association Award for Distinguished Teaching, the highest honor the university bestows on faculty members.

Parker, who had a chance to celebrate with current and former students at last year’s Homecoming, called receiving the award “wonderful. This award in particular is given by alumni and so that makes it a little more special—that people who have graduated and moved on still remember at least something about their experience with me,” he added.

The math professor’s courses run the gamut, from introductory sessions for non-majors to senior topics seminars. At last count, he has taught around a dozen different classes.

“I love the variety,” he said. “It never gets boring, and it’s always fun to revisit things that I haven’t seen in a while to keep me on my toes.”

With such a diversity of offerings, Parker teaches as many math-oriented minds as he does humanities brains. This intellectual variety makes Witt a great place to be a faculty member, he said.

“Not everyone has the same goals when they graduate and that’s fine. Not everybody’s going to be a math person. That’s great as long as they have something that they’re passionate about.”

And that’s where Parker’s other role comes into play: helping students discover these passion projects as an academic adviser and research collaborator.

“A student may have an interest in examining how math and music play together, and we will look into that and learn it together,” he explained. “It tends to be a very rewarding experience for both a student and myself when we’re able to accomplish a paper or a talk.”

Parker took an interdisciplinary path himself, double majoring as an undergraduate in math and psychology.

“They were in the same building, so I joked that I was just lazy and just didn’t want to leave the building,” he laughed.

But in reality, the two subjects are complementary.

“When I was in my cognitive psychology classes, I was using a different part of my brain and relaxing the math part. And then, when I was in math, I was stressing the math part but maybe not so worried about the social and psychological side of me.”

He then went on to pursue a Ph.D. in math at the University of Texas at Austin. To this day, he sees math in everything around him.

“The language of math is probably one of the most universal in terms of being able to describe the world that we live in,” Parker said. While there are other verbal or scientific languages that shed light on the world, “I tend to think of math as being perhaps the most general and the most applicable.”

Parker’s research and teaching interests straddle both pure and applied mathematics, ranging from the history of math and math pedagogy to algebraic geometry and more complex topics such as moduli spaces.

And while he is constantly inspired by his peers—“The innovations they bring into the classroom demand that I stay on my toes and make me not complacent!”—working with students remains the most fulfilling part of his day-to-day job.

“It’s fun to see students get excited,” he said. “It’s nice to be at a place where excellent teaching is the expectation as opposed to the exception.”





Painting Life

A software designer by day and an artist by night,
Jacqueline DelBrocco Purdy '07 finds her balance.

WRITTEN BY Devon Atchison '19



Striving for a creative balance in her life, Jacqueline DelBrocco Purdy '07 works two jobs in seemingly unrelated fields. She is a software designer by day and a successful live event painter by night, having recently been named by *Cleveland Magazine* as an “Editor’s Pick Best of Cleveland Winner” for 2018.

“I’ve always thrived on sort of a duality mindset,” said DelBrocco, who earned both a BFA in studio art with a concentration in painting and a B.A. in biology, along with a minor in art history. “Art and biology, painting and tech, it helps me feel the most balanced.”

Originally from Chesterland, Ohio, DelBrocco has found opportunities for creativity in the five years she has worked for Matrix Pointe Software in Cleveland.

“There’s a lot of opportunity for creative people in technology, and I love my day job almost as much as I love painting,” she said.

Her side hustle began on a whim when a friend suggested she accompany her musician husband on a gig and paint him live. That experience was followed by a live event painting of the 50th anniversary celebration of The Ratner School held at the Cleveland Museum of Art in 2013, where her painting was auctioned off in support of the school.

Her art career took off from there as she painted live events for organizations such as the Cleveland Cavaliers, the American Heart Association, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and the

National Huntington’s Disease Society of America, where one of her paintings raised \$5,000 for the nonprofit. A referral by the Cleveland Museum of Art led to painting weddings, which now make up 90 percent of her business and have taken her to all over the country. Besides the 40-plus events she’s painted throughout Ohio in just the last two years, she’s also painted weddings in Lake Tahoe, Seattle, Bloomfield (MI), Baltimore, Denver and Nashville. Even though weddings keep her busy, DelBrocco still reserves a few weekends each year for causes she believes in.

“Lucky for me, there is a great interest in live wedding painting and not a lot of people who do it, so one of my biggest problems is constantly having to say no to people because I’m already booked,” she said.

Along her career path, DelBrocco has had a variety of experiences post-Wittenberg, including owning and operating an art gallery, directing large multi-media arts showcases in downtown Cleveland, and creating a variety of public art pieces, including outdoor murals and painted sculptures.

DelBrocco’s duality mindset has also pushed her to hone her “soft skills.”

“There are talented people everywhere, but if you have talent and can’t figure out how to put it to use, it doesn’t matter,” she said. “It’s about recognizing opportunities, then outlining the plan to realize your vision, having the motivation to execute those plans, and the dedication to follow through.”





“Soft skills of interacting with people and communicating effectively in ways that get them on board with your vision... that’s how you make things happen,” she continued. “My time at Wittenberg prepared me for this. Constantly juggling different responsibilities and studying different disciplines helped me become a well-rounded person with a unique perspective.”

At Wittenberg, DelBrocco served as vice president of programming for Delta Gamma, vice president of scholarship on Panhellenic Council, and president of the Wittenberg Art League. She was also a member of The American Institute of Biological Sciences and studied abroad in Rome.

She is confident she wouldn’t be where she is today without the liberal arts education she received at Wittenberg, which she said pushed her, prepared her, and gives her an advantage over other artists.

“When you’re a creative person, you can’t be expected to fit into a one-size-fits-all career path,” she said. “Wittenberg is a school for individuals [who] are encouraged to think independently and draw conclusions on their own instead of always being told specifically how to do things. The future is built on creativity and innovation, not by people who do what they are told to do, but by people who think independently and come up with new and better ways to do things.”

The art program at Wittenberg exposed DelBrocco to impressionist painting. She still uses, in fact, the same recipe for her flesh palette that she learned in Professor Ed Charney’s portrait painting classes.

“For me, gestural, painterly impressionism is unquestionably

the best style to capture the great energy and excitement of an event—especially weddings,” she said. “They always say your wedding day will feel like one big blur, and I try to capture that in my paintings. One big blur of happiness and love, all your favorite people in the same place at the same time. If that doesn’t deserve to be a work of art, I don’t know what does.”

Experiencing these monumental moments in people’s lives and capturing them in one-of-a-kind works of art for each couple has been fulfilling for DelBrocco.

“Art provides such a special way to communicate with people and share personal experiences,” she said. “Every live wedding painting is a one-of-a-kind memory and a unique work of art made up of many tiny stories and behind-the-scenes details. I love it because I get to be a special part of so many amazing, once-in-a-lifetime celebrations and help immortalize those memories for people with my art in a way that can be cherished by their families for generations.”

DelBrocco has worked hard, created a niche, and found success, but she doesn’t plan to stop growing as an artist.

“When it comes to creating art, a finish line doesn’t exist,” she said. “You can always improve the quality of the art you’re making; you can always continue to evolve and get better. My hope is that I can continue to paint weddings and other events for the rest of my life, traveling to exciting new places to do so, and meeting more amazing people along the way. I’m excited to see what the future holds, what new opportunities arise and what new creative adventures are out there.”

To learn more, visit www.LiveWeddingPainting.com



TRANSFORMING LIVES

In a few months, Loie Greenwood '19, a double major in psychology and marketing with a minor in communication, will be graduating. A self-described “ambitious kid from Columbus, Ohio,” Loie has taken advantage of all Wittenberg has to offer in his four years. From joining Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, playing baseball before two ACL surgeries sidelined him from his favorite sport, becoming a Student Leader Fellow and participating in the popular C.A.B.L.E. program, to serving as an admission tour guide, working as a consultant in the Oral Communication Center, and studying abroad in Australia, Loie has found that “this campus is just itching to give us each and every chance to make a difference.”

With baseball off the table, Loie had to learn what life was like outside the diamond.

“I had to figure out a way to identify my other passions, but Witt made that easy for me. With some extra time, I was able to flourish in leadership roles within my fraternity, as corresponding secretary and current vice president. Through those roles, I’ve grown as a leader, a follower, a listener, and a friend.”

He also found professors who cared deeply about him.

“The professors here at Wittenberg are just as advertised – incredible. I’ve been given countless opportunities to find my passions through programs they’ve personally recommended, colloquiums they’ve encouraged me to attend, and mostly from the honest and appreciated conversations they are willing to have with any student that knocks on their door. So here I am – a senior at Wittenberg University, soon to be the first Greenwood to graduate from a four-year institution – and I can truly say that Wittenberg has pushed me to challenge myself to the fullest extent.”

Help more students like Loie discover their passion.
Make a gift today.

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Repair the World

An Anchorage couple worked decades to help African villagers.
Other Alaskans decided to help, too.

BY Charles Wohlforth courtesy *Anchorage Daily News*

Each morning on the porch of their thatch-roofed home on the south end of Lake Malawi, Tom and Ruth Seeh Nighswander '64 receive the sick and injured for medical care before the subsistence farmers' workday begins in southern Africa.

The couple lives parallel lives in Alaska, where Tom has spent a career as a family practice doctor in the Alaska Native health system and Ruth retired as a school nurse in Anchorage. Along the way, they've built a pipeline of Anchorage residents helping a region of 37 villages and schools in Malawi.

Their latest involvement in the region started in 2000, when HIV/AIDS had filled it with orphans. Today, patients have drugs for AIDS, but needs remain. Tom said people come to his porch in the morning explaining they can't take AIDS drugs with food, as directed, because they don't have any food.

"In January and February, everybody's hungry; it's just greater or lesser amounts of how hungry you are," he said.

The couple used leave from work in Alaska to work in Africa. Jobs here provided reasonable salaries. Work in Malawi, one of the poorest places on Earth, provided a sense of purpose and an immense network of friends. They seem profoundly happy.

Tom, tall and slender, draped himself over a sofa Tuesday, apparently incapable of suppressing a smile and chuckle with each sentence. Ruth steadied the conversation, calm and precise. Their living room is full of African carvings, including some by a friend who works with his feet because he lost use of his arms due to polio.

Every year they travel to Malawi with two suitcases, one

carrying their belongings and another with medical supplies. After a couple of months there, that seems like plenty.

"We have everything we need, in this thatch-roofed place," Tom said. "You live there and you kind of get in the rhythm of being there, and you come home and walk in your house and go, 'Oh my God, this is obscene.' And we vow, the rule is this: Everything we haven't touched in two years we are going to get rid of. That lasts for about two weeks and then you get sucked in again."

But the Nighswanders' house near Cheney Lake in East Anchorage is not fancy. Rather than cashing in on his medical degree, Tom worked in a salaried position that allowed him to concentrate on care and community health, not how much he billed. Earlier this year, he was picked as family physician of the year by his Alaska professional association.

The couple met in high school in Kent, Ohio, and stayed together while attending separate colleges, each studying a field that had nothing to do with science or medicine. When they graduated, President John Kennedy's 1961 inaugural address called to them. His phrase, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," brought them to join the Peace Corps.

They got married to join as a couple and the next day left for Nyasaland. Ruth never got a diamond but saw the country gain independence in 1964 and become Malawi. The Peace Corps provided training. They diagnosed tuberculosis and conducted exams with no applicable experience, but they loved the work



and decided to dedicate their lives to medicine.

The Vietnam War brought them to Alaska. In 1971, with a fresh medical degree, Tom faced a choice of joining the U.S. Public Health Service as a commissioned officer or being drafted into the military. They left mainly for stints back in Africa — including enrolling their children in school there for a time in the 1980s.

When they went in 2000, they encountered the orphan crisis. An old Peace Corps friend had recruited them to a locally run organization called Malawi Children's Village. The Nighswanders in turn recruited Anchorage to help.

More than a decade ago, I was at a parent meeting at Chugach Optional Elementary when school nurse Madelyn Schlansker told us about her trip to Malawi and suggested we adopt a school there. The children at Chugach rapidly raised enough money for a latrine. That allowed girls in a Malawi village to go to school for the first time.

Chugach fundraising is approaching \$100,000 for that school, Ruth said, making it a model in the region and the envy of other communities. Five other Anchorage elementary schools also adopted schools through the Malawi Children's Village, adding classrooms, teacher housing, bicycles and even helping students after they graduate. Just a little money makes a huge difference there.

The Nighswanders recruited teachers, nurses and architects to go. Alaska engineers worked on a safe drinking water project. Students from Alaska Pacific University went, as well as high school students in the International Baccalaureate program at West High.

Going to Malawi seems to be its own reward. People glow about the warmth and smiles of the people there.

Ruth said: "I think it's that they have a hard-working ethic. They were born poor, but it's where they were born. They're just as bright. They don't have the opportunities we have here."

"Very loyal," Tom said. "Loyal friendships. Our oldest friendships go back there 53 years."

Ruth said about 300 Anchorage residents have gone to help so far.

Tom said: "What's remarkable about there and here, especially in the villages, is how similar it is. When you work with a group like we have, for years and years, it's the similarities that really become obvious and not the differences. They happen to speak Chichewa in the villages, but beyond that, they worry about their kids, enough food to eat and a dry roof, a good bicycle and education. It's the same kind of human drives."

I already knew that was true but I was grateful to be reminded of it. As we sit down to our feast on Thursday, I will give thanks for the lives of Tom and Ruth Nighswander.



SHINE THE LIGHTS

As the oldest and largest Jewish congregation in Alaska, Congregation Beth Sholom initiates and supports one of the primary missions of Judaism in the world, the practice of Tikkun Olam (repair of the world).

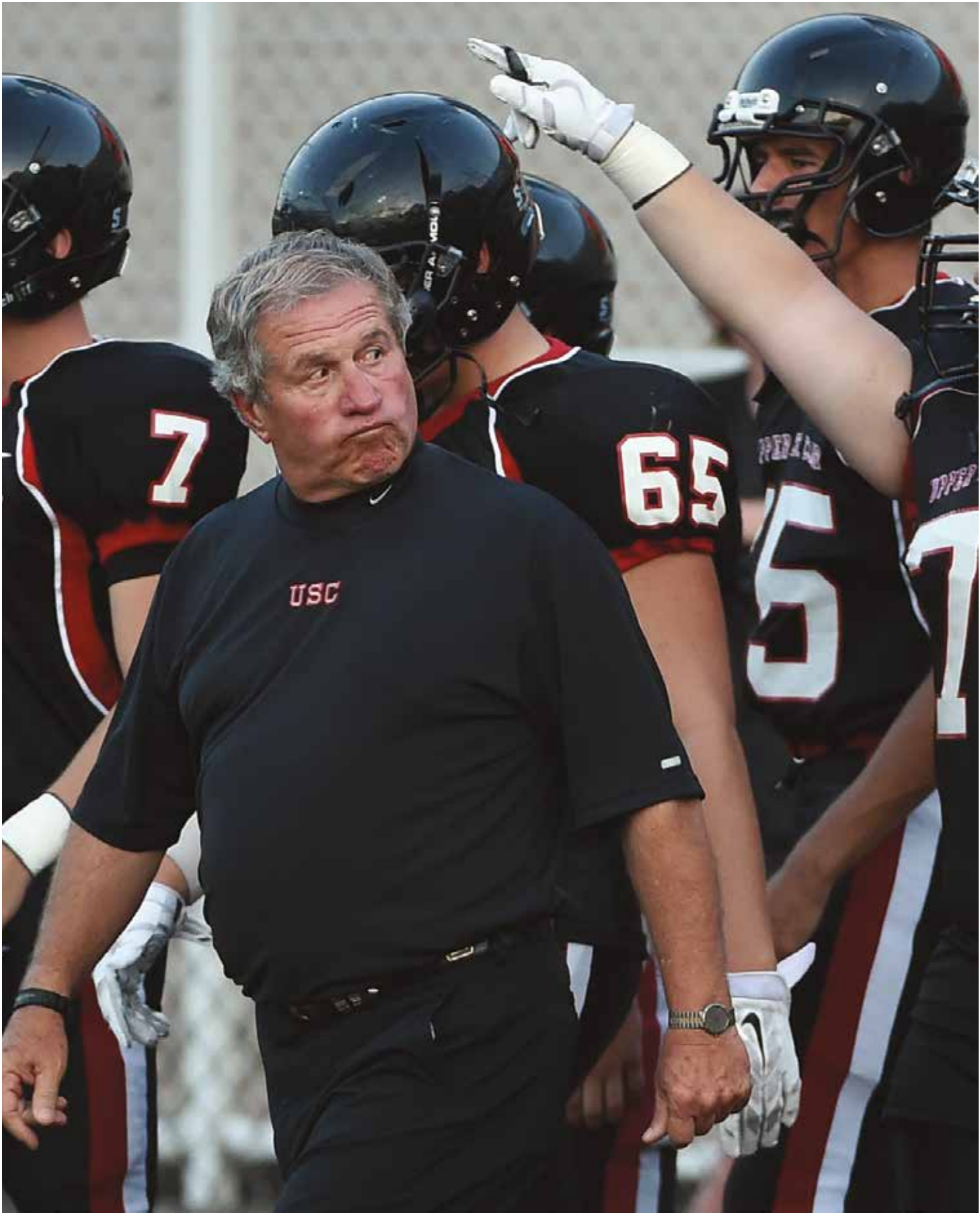
The Shining Lights Award honors those that practice commitment to Anchorage and the greater Alaska communities through Tikkun Olam. This year, the Congregation recognize Tom and Ruth Nighswander for their dedication to education, social action and compassion for human growth.

“Ruth and Tom exemplify the dedication necessary to heal the world. They bring to our communities their energy and skills, their understanding that Tikkun Olam can only be achieved through compassion and the hard work involved in the task,” said Michael Oblath, rabbi at Congregation Beth Sholom in Anchorage.

Following her service with the Peace Corps, Ruth obtained a master's in education, and a nursing degree from Alaska Methodist University. As such, Ruth served the Anchorage School District for 30 years as school nurse. She created innovative and beneficial programs, and in 2001, the Alaska School Nurses Association voted Ruth Alaska's School Nurse of the Year.

With a long career with the Public Health Service, Tom established clinics, placing health aides in remote villages. He expanded access through the Alaska Telehealth Advisory Commission, enabling patients and professionals to consult electronically throughout Alaska, and he was awarded the Alaska Academy of Family Medicine's Physician of the Year award in 2016.

Ruth and Tom enjoy being youth counselors at St. Mary's Episcopal Church and, in fact, for their volunteer efforts in Anchorage, were awarded the American College of Physicians' Volunteerism Award for 2013.



Wins Aplenty

Jim Render '64 Joins Select Company With
400 High School Football Coaching Victories

WRITTEN BY Ryan Maurer

In most high school sports, the number 400 represents a significant but not completely unapproachable coaching milestone. Most high school sports are not like football, however.

Football coaches lead their players onto the field between 10 and 15 times each year, a schedule limited by the physicality of the sport. Games are played under the intense scrutiny that comes with being the focal point of each community's fall social calendar, complete with the glare of media attention, especially at a place like Upper St. Clair High School in football-obsessed suburban Pittsburgh.

Heading into the 2018 season, just 28 high school football coaches in the entire country had ever reached 400 wins in their career. On Aug. 31, 2018, Jim Render '64 became the latest to cross that threshold after leading Upper St. Clair to a tense 16-14 win over rival Peters Township.

Following the landmark win, Render was awarded the game ball from the team captains at midfield, and he shared joyous embraces with numerous family members, including his four grandchildren. It was a moment 49 years in the making, and it was meaningful to Render for a variety of reasons.

Most importantly, he finally felt like he could exhale.

"I have to tell you the pressure was extremely immense as the game was tough and close to the end," said Render, a native of Dover, Ohio, who transferred to Wittenberg after starting his college playing career at Northwestern University under the direction of legendary coach Ara Parseghian. "The emotions were off the charts, and there was relief as well as extreme satisfaction after it was all over.

"The 400 victories took 49 years, but I have been rewarded many times with great players and great coaches. My wife Pam has always been rock solid in her support."

Render's first win as a head coach came in 1970 at Carrollton High School in Ohio. He spent two years at Carrollton and seven years at Uniontown High School in Pennsylvania before taking over at Upper St. Clair. His Upper St. Clair teams have won five Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) titles, 23 conference championships, and a pair of Pennsylvania State Championships. He has coached numerous athletes who later enjoyed success on the college gridiron, most notably Sean Lee, who currently plays for the Dallas Cowboys.

”

THERE HAVE BEEN SOME MARVELOUS MEN WHO NOT ONLY WERE OUTSTANDING FOOTBALL PLAYERS BUT MANY HAVE GONE ON TO BE VERY SUCCESSFUL DOCTORS, LAWYERS, FINANCIAL WIZARDS, AND A WHOLE HOST OF BRILLIANT BUSINESSMEN, AS WELL AS PROUD HUSBANDS AND FATHERS.

The wins are nice. The trophies are meaningful. The framed Pittsburgh Steelers jersey presented to him during a timeout of a 2018 game is a particularly prized memento. But like most successful coaches, Render is most proud of his players. Their achievements are his achievements, especially after their days in uniform have concluded.

“I have had a very long and prosperous career that spans 55 years since I left Wittenberg,” said Render, who was selected by the Steelers as their 2018 nominee for the prestigious Don Shula High School Coach of the Year Award. “By prosperous, I don’t mean financially, but rather with the amount of great young men I have been privileged to coach and mentor. There have been some marvelous men who not only were outstanding football players but many have gone on to be very successful doctors, lawyers, financial wizards, and a whole host of brilliant businessmen, as well as proud husbands and fathers.”

Render’s coaching success should come as no surprise, considering the influences he had as a player and as a professional. His high school coach was inducted into two state high school halls of fame, and he was mentored by a state hall of fame coach while an assistant at East Liverpool High School in Ohio. In addition, Render worked as a graduate assistant under College Football Hall of Famer Bobby Bowden at West Virginia University.

In between was a college playing career at Wittenberg that

introduced him to a pair of future College Football Hall of Fame inductees in Head Coach Bill (“Bull”) Edwards and Offensive Coordinator Dave Maurer. Render became a Tiger in part thanks to encouragement from his uncle, Dwight “Ike” Trubey ’32, himself a Wittenberg Hall of Honor inductee and a one-time teammate of Edwards.

Edwards and Maurer taught Render, a quarterback and kicker for the Tigers in the 1962 and 1963 seasons, the human touch. He says that his Wittenberg experience “was and is a significant part of my life.”

“The influence of Davey and Bull was immense,” he said. “I still have a letter from Coach Edwards that he wrote to me shortly after his Wittenberg retirement banquet – which I attended – that included his speech and a poem that he used that night. I re-read the letter periodically and used an excerpt in one of my articles for our Upper St. Clair magazine.”

Render led Upper St. Clair to an 8-3 record in 2018, pushing his career record to a remarkable 406-140-6. Following the season, Render decided to hang up the whistle as he announced his retirement on Jan. 3, 2019.

Render says he has been “blessed as a coach.” The players who he has impacted, including Wittenberg Hall of Honor inductee Darryl Herring ’71, who played for Render at East Liverpool High School, would most certainly agree.





Eyewitness to History

Former CIA spymaster John McLaughlin '64
still has a few tricks up his sleeve

It was a clear September morning in Langley, Virginia, and the recently confirmed Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency John McLaughlin '64 was conducting a meeting in the old CIA headquarters. Suddenly, the door to the conference room swung open, and an agency employee hurried in with the stunning news that an aircraft had crashed into the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan.

As the world sat transfixed before TV screens, McLaughlin and his team at Langley, precluded by the nature of their jobs from pausing to absorb the horror, got to work trying to prevent any further attacks, one of which may well have been targeted against the very building they occupied. While many non-essential personnel were allowed to go home, McLaughlin and the rest of the top CIA leadership relocated to a nearby building to help get a handle on the early chaos of the most devastating domestic terror attack in U.S. history.

“I remember later that night typing a one-sentence memo to myself that read, ‘Nothing will ever be the same,’” McLaughlin recalled.

The coming months and years marked a trying and controversial era in U.S. intelligence. Distrust and recrimination stemmed from the Iraq War, and revelations of prisoner abuse and torture shook public faith in major institutions, including the CIA—an agency often scapegoated by politicians and pundits for its perceived failures before 9/11. But in retrospect, this was also an era defined as much by the extraordinary success the federal intelligence and law enforcement communities achieved by preventing any fresh attacks after 9/11.

That feat, which most experts presumed impossible, was

largely a reflection of the experience and dedication of McLaughlin and his colleagues. McLaughlin, having served as an intelligence professional during the most pivotal moments in U.S. foreign affairs over the past half-century, was able to inject some valuable perspective.

When I called McLaughlin in February, he was in between media appearances to discuss the unfolding drama surrounding several investigations into Russian interference with the 2016 presidential campaign. His unique expertise places him in high demand on cable news and other national outlets that continue to sift through the near-daily revelations of Russia’s election meddling and propaganda operations.

At the moment, controversy had erupted over Republican plans in the House of Representatives, in coordination with the White House, to release a political memo claiming the government investigation into Russia was fueled by a vast conspiracy of intelligence officials aimed at delegitimizing Trump’s 2016 victory.

Despite being deemed flatly inaccurate by the FBI, publicly rebuked by the Justice Department and sharply disputed by the Democrats, Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee appeared poised to release the memo anyway. McLaughlin was preparing to discuss the likely fallout of the memo’s impending release in NPR’s Washington studio when I reached him by phone at his office. He lamented the fact that despite some natural tension between the intel communities and politicians in Washington over the years, this current hostility and dysfunction was unprecedented.

“It’s important to understand that the congressional oversight

”

I REMEMBER LATER THAT NIGHT [ON SEPTEMBER 11]
TYPING A ONE-SENTENCE MEMO TO MYSELF THAT
READ, ‘NOTHING WILL EVER BE THE SAME.’”

committees were created in 1975 after a series of scandals in the CIA and FBI, and after the Watergate scandal, in order to restore public confidence in these agencies,” McLaughlin explained.

“They were never meant to be partisan and really haven’t been until now. The committees shouldn’t serve as an arena for public battles between the two political parties, and what we’re seeing is a breakdown in congressional oversight of a major secret activity of the U.S. government, which is troubling because it’s taking attention away from focusing on how we can stop Russia from interfering in future elections.”

In 1960, McLaughlin entered Wittenberg with the intention of majoring in English and being a pre-theological student. But during his first semester, a young presidential candidate named John F. Kennedy spoke on campus, and that marked an early turning point for McLaughlin.

“That speech was a seminal event for me, because I was so struck by it that I changed my major to political science, and set my sights on doing something either in the political world or in foreign affairs,” McLaughlin said.

Four years later, with plans to attend law school after graduation, McLaughlin experienced another pivotal moment in his career, thanks once again to his connection to Wittenberg. During Christmas break, he visited a dorm-mate in Washington, D.C., whose father was a professor at the School for Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at Johns Hopkins University.

“He gave me a tour of the school and something just clicked for me,” McLaughlin remembered.

So he abandoned the idea of law school, and the following fall, in 1964, was enrolled in a master’s program at SAIS, where he has now returned to teach. But the path that ultimately led

him back to Johns Hopkins is a truly fascinating one.

During his final weeks at SAIS, McLaughlin was drafted by the army and would be destined for Vietnam. After training to be an officer and attending language school to learn Vietnamese, McLaughlin arrived in Southeast Asia in 1968, two months after the Tet Offensive, and smack in the middle of what is considered the bloodiest year of the entire war. He was assigned to army intelligence, gaining his first real experience in the intel world and quickly displaying an aptitude for the work.

After the war, McLaughlin studied comparative politics at the University of Pennsylvania before joining the Directorate of Intelligence in 1972, where he focused primarily on issues relating to Russia and Europe. For the next three decades, McLaughlin rose through the ranks of the CIA, building a reputation as a legendary analyst as he headed various divisions of the agency and founded the Sherman Kent School for Intelligence Analysis, which offers training for CIA personnel in the complex arts of analyzing intelligence data.

When President Bill Clinton nominated McLaughlin to be Deputy Director of the CIA in the fall of 2000, he was swiftly confirmed by the Senate with a unanimous vote. Four years later, he would briefly serve as Acting Director atop the agency he had served for so long, before announcing his bittersweet retirement in November of 2004.

McLaughlin has been an eyewitness to history in a way very few people can claim. He experienced Vietnam through the unique lens of military intelligence, served on the front line during the peak of the Cold War, and witnessed the Soviet Union’s ultimate collapse.

But speaking to McLaughlin, there’s a sense that, perhaps,

more than any other event, the 9/11 attacks remain indelibly seared into his memory.

Both 9/11 and the faulty pre-invasion intelligence that led to the Iraq War have prompted tremendous soul-searching and analysis within the CIA over the past decade and a half. McLaughlin believes that painful process has resulted in some valuable lessons.

“We recognized that we should be clear and honest about what we don’t know, not just what we do know,” McLaughlin explained candidly. “There was also a need for analysts to provide greater transparency into the sourcing of the intelligence they’re reviewing, because security concerns have limited that transparency in the past,” he said, adding that those reforms have been made.

McLaughlin also pointed to the 2011 raid of the bin Laden compound in Pakistan as a good example of how the lessons from the Iraq War had been implemented.

“There is a process we call ‘devil’s advocacy’ or ‘red teaming,’ where we have a separate group of analysts look at our most important assessments and see if they catch anything that wasn’t noticed the first time around,” McLaughlin said. “That was done in the lead-up to the bin Laden operation, where a second team reviewed the intelligence and came to slightly different conclusions. That resulted in a successful mission.”

While McLaughlin admits he occasionally misses the excitement of the CIA, he said returning to his old graduate school at Johns Hopkins has been incredibly rewarding, and he enjoys giving young people advice about possibly following in his footsteps.

“I never discourage people from going into the intelligence

industry,” McLaughlin said. “I tell them it’s an exciting career and an opportunity for continuous learning. But it can also be addicting, like a narcotic, and sometimes you don’t want to go home at the end of the day because the job is so fascinating. That’s why I always tell students to get a hobby.”

When McLaughlin was 11 years old, he began practicing magic tricks—a hobby that he continued to hone throughout his time at Wittenberg and still does to this day with astonishing skill.

One foreign affairs journalist in Washington who once saw McLaughlin perform for a small audience of national security insiders, described his act as half dry-wit standup comedy and half genuinely skilled magic.

“I’ve seen him tear up a newspaper into tiny pieces and make it reappear, and even cut open a grapefruit and pull out a \$20 bill that someone in the audience gave him,” the journalist recalled. “His magic was so good that his fellow spies were begging him to reveal his methods.”

Realizing what time it was, McLaughlin gently announced that he’d better hop off the phone and stroll down the street for the NPR interview, then left me with a few final thoughts about his college years.

“The liberal arts education I received at Wittenberg taught me how to be an effective intelligence analyst, because there’s a breadth of knowledge you’re exposed to that allows you to see things from different angles,” McLaughlin said.

“I came to Wittenberg young and inexperienced, and it’s a time in your life when you’re trying to figure things out,” he added. “Those were very formative years for me, and I grew up there. It was a truly wonderful experience.”



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Class Notes

SPRING 2019

1956

The Rotating Exhibits Gallery at Farmington Hills City Hall in Michigan featured **Ann Brashear Loveland's** watercolor paintings in a February 2018 exhibition called "The Still Life."

1960

Deloris Meyer Law's book *Home Was Alpena: A Bicentennial History* (Village Press, 1975), co-authored with John W. Law, has been accepted for the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) National Library Collection.

1962

Dennis Flood, a NASA veteran and scientific co-founder of Natcore Technology Inc., received the prestigious World Photovoltaic Energy Award from the World Conference on Photovoltaic Energy Conversion (WCPEC) in June 2018 in Waikoloa, Hawaii. While in Hawaii, he and his wife, Suzanne Sheppard Flood, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple lives in Oberlin, Ohio, and has four children and seven grandchildren.



Dennis Flood '62 received the World Photovoltaic Energy Award from the World Conference on Photovoltaic Energy Conversion (WCPEC) in June 2018.

1964

Nancy Wallace Chandler self-published *These Very Rocks Cry Out!: Choosing to Remember, Because We are Prone to Forget* in 2017.



Dave Moore '64 was named one of 100 Heroes by the United Way Central Indiana.

Dave Moore, who served several terms on the Indiana Governor's Council for People With Disabilities, was named one of 100 Heroes by the United Way of Central Indiana. Easterseals Crossroads nominated him for his commitment to helping persons with disabilities during his 30 years of involvement with the organization, including service as chairman of the board of directors. After working for IBM for 39 years, he retired in 2003 and lives with his wife, **Susan Kershner Moore '64**, in Indianapolis.

1966

Mother of Pearl, a collection of poetry by **Carol Feiser Laque**, was published by Circumference Press in 2017. After a career as an English professor at the University of Cincinnati, Laque taught at Xavier University. A founding member of the Cincinnati Writers' Project, she hosted her own radio program interviewing poets on WAIF 88.3 FM. She now writes and resides in Chicago, Illinois.

1968

Barbara Irvine was musical director and pianist for *Little Women: The Broadway Musical* and pianist for *Opera, Opera – a One-Act Opera Goofy* at Shepherd University in 2017. She also was keyboardist for *The Addams Family: The Broadway Musical* at Washington International School.

Marcia Balmut Ward was awarded the Simon Award by the Champaign County (Ohio) Chamber of Commerce for 2018. A 42-year veteran of education and former executive director for Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County, she was recognized

for her service to the local community and enhancing the prosperity of the overall population. She is married to Greg, is the mother of **Katie Ward Setty '98**, Vincent, and Anthony, and has six grandchildren.

1969

Charles V. Painter received the Dayton Agonis Club 2018 Mike Kelly/Don Donohor Coaching Award. The head tennis coach at Archbishop Alter High School in Kettering, Ohio, he has 739 career victories and serves as the president of the Miami Valley Tennis Coaches Association.

1972

Peter Schneller, professor of education at the University of Mount Union, is a member of the Alliance Community Center Board of Trustees, which received the group Icon Award presented at the annual Urban Pastors Association Martin Luther King Jr. event in January 2018.

1973

Bill Brown, former Wittenberg men's basketball head coach, was inducted into the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame in May 2018.

1974

Donald A. Wood received The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, one of Japan's most prestigious awards, in December 2017. The award is given to those who have made distinguished contributions to the promotion of Japanese culture. Recently retired from his position as curator of Asian art for the Birmingham Museum of Art in Birmingham, Ala., Wood was recognized for his role in deepening the appreciation of Japanese art in the United States.

1975

Virgil Covington Jr. presented his program *William Wells Brown: How I Got My Name* at an April 2018 event hosted by Muhlenberg County (Kentucky) Public Libraries.

Thomas Hyra has retired after 38 years of federal service with the Central Intelligence Agency, the Office of Personnel Management, the Library of Congress, and the U.S. Department of Defense. His awards include the Defense Intelligence Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Defense Intelligence Exceptional Civilian Service Award, the National Intelligence Council Certificate of Appreciation, and the Secretary

of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service. He holds a master's degree in international affairs from Columbia University and resides in Springfield, Virginia, with his wife, Linda, and youngest son, Alek.

According to Northwestern University, **Ingrid Sponberg Stafford** has stepped down from her role as the university's vice president for financial operations and treasurer to serve as a senior advisor for the university until her retirement in August 2019. She has spent 40 years at Northwestern serving in a variety of financial leadership positions.



Mark Miller works with Kalitta Air in Oscoda, Michigan.

1978

Mark Miller works with Kalitta Air at their MRO on the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, Michigan.

1980

In February 2018, the **Rev. Julianne DiRocco Smith** became director for evangelical mission and assistant to the bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She resides in Poland, Ohio, with her husband, **Stuart Smith '77**.

1982

Making his first appearance in *Best Lawyers® in America*, **James H. Rownd**, an attorney with Kadish, Hinkel & Weibel, has been named to the 2019 edition in the practice area of Business Organizations. His legal work focuses on corporate finance, commercial transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and income tax.

1985

John Handy has been promoted to president and CEO of Commerce Trust Company, a wealth management firm.

Scott Pinkerton has been named to the list of 1,200 top U.S. financial advisors by Barrons.com and *Barron's* magazine for the 10th year in a row. The managing partner and principal investment officer at Pinkerton Private Wealth in Venice, Florida, he has more than 20 years of experience in the financial services industry.

1987

Tom Journell Jr. was named head football coach at Carleton College in April 2018. Previously, he was the head coach at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

1989

Doug Houser is the director of construction and real estate services at the Zanesville, Ohio, office of Rea & Associates, a regional accounting and business consulting firm.



Steve Snyder '89 is the brand and development director for Farm Aid.

Steve Snyder has been selected to serve as the brand and development director of Farm Aid. Best known for the longest-running benefit concert starring musicians such as Willie Nelson, Neil Young, John Mellencamp, and Dave Matthews, the organization provides advocacy and support for family farmers. He has helped to coordinate the event as a volunteer since 1997.

Eric Stennett has been hired as Shaler Area Middle School Principal in Glenshaw, Pennsylvania. Previously, he worked as an assistant professor and education director in Point Park University's doctorate of education in leadership and administration program.

1990

Jillian Bichsel has been selected as the director of curriculum, assessment, and professional development for the North Allegheny School District in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She previously served as the director of curriculum and assessment for the Chartiers Valley School District.

Judy Wear Walcott has joined TalentRISE as director of client delivery. She was formerly with WorldBridge Partners/WorldConcert and Management Recruiters International.

1991

Shubhik DebBurman has been named the Disque D. and Carol Gram Deane Professor of Biological Sciences at Lake Forest College in Illinois, where he is the chair of the biology department. He also serves as president of the national council of Nu Rho Psi, the national neuroscience academic honorary society, and coordinates the annual Chicago Brain Bee for high school students in the Great Lakes region. At the 2018 Chicago Society for Neuroscience meeting, he was awarded the Chicago Neuroscience Career Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions to neuroscience education.



Shubhik DebBurman '91 has been named the Disque D. and Carol Gram Deane Professor of Biological Sciences at Lake Forest College.

R. Chris Stanton has been named the director of the Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center at the University of Mount Union. Previously, he taught biology for 17 years at Baldwin Wallace University and will continue to teach courses in ecology and environmental science at Mount Union.

1992

Andrew Bainbridge, principal owner of The Bainbridge Firm, celebrated the opening of the firm's newest office in Cambridge, Ohio, on May 18, 2018. The firm specializes in workers' compensation, Social Security disability, and personal injury claims. He holds a law degree from the University of Toledo College of Law and has more than 20 years of experience as a lawyer.

1994

Debra Kern Gaskill received the Silver Falchion Best Suspense Award at the Killer Nashville International Writer's Conference last month for her latest book, *Kissing Fitz* (D'Llama Publishing, 2017). An award-

winning journalist and the author of 10 novels, she is retired as the managing editor of the Washington Court House (Ohio) *Record Herald*.

1996

Britany Affolter-Caine has been appointed the executive director of the University Research Corridor (URC), an academic research cluster composed of Wayne State University, Michigan State University, and the University of Michigan, where she oversees all strategic and operational aspects of the organization. Previously, she served as interim director and as program manager since 2012.

Megan Shields Colt lives with her husband in Shanghai, China, where she works at InitialView interviewing applicants for highly selective colleges and universities.



Dave H. Thomas '96 was named 2018 Columbus Lawyer of the Year for White Collar Criminal Defense by *Best Lawyers in America*.

David H. Thomas was named 2018 Columbus Lawyer of the Year for White Collar Criminal Defense by Best Lawyers in America, as well as a Top 50 Columbus Super Lawyer by *Super Lawyers Magazine*. A partner at Taft Stettinius & Hollister, he serves as the Columbus litigation chair and is a member of the Corporate Compliance and White Collar Criminal Defense practice group.

1997

Charlie Bush, city manager for Sequim, Washington, was awarded a full scholarship to the Harvard Senior Executive program by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) in recognition of his outstanding job performance.

1998

Ivan L. Harrell III began his tenure as president of Tacoma Community College in Washington in May 2018.

Hallie Maranchick Utley was promoted to senior director of state government relations for Bayer Corporation. In this position, she is responsible for Bayer's entire state lobbying team across the United States.

1999

Vanessa Cosgrove Fry, assistant director of the Idaho Policy Institute and an assistant research professor in the School of Public Service at Boise State University, was selected by the Idaho Business Review as a 2017 Woman of the Year.



Nora Walsh Kerr '99 launched her business, *Memoir for Me*, in 2015.

Nora Walsh Kerr launched a business, *Memoir for Me*, in 2015 that captures life stories into keepsake books. She notes that her inspiration for the business came from the creative writing thesis on family stories that she completed as a student at Wittenberg. She lives in Chicago with her husband, Russ, and children, Eamon and Zoe.

Amy Horn Malkin and her husband, David, welcomed their second child, Archer Lewis Malkin, on Nov. 6, 2017. She works for IBM Global Financing in San Francisco, California.

John Schumate is vice president of marketing at Eastbay and is responsible for overseeing all marketing efforts and leading all sales and brand initiatives for the Eastbay brand.

2000

Aaron Shaffer, head varsity football coach at Greenville High School, has been selected to lead the 2019 Matt Light All-Conference Football Camp in Greenville, Ohio.

2001

Cole Schotz P.C. announced in January 2018 that **Nicholas J. Brannick** has been elevated to member of the firm. Based in Wilmington, Delaware, he

is a member of the Bankruptcy and Corporate Restructuring and Litigation Departments.

The Rev. Dr. **Scott Ness** delivered the keynote graduation address for the LeadStar College for Management and Leadership in Ethiopia. He also received an honorary doctorate from the LeadStar Theological College for his ongoing support and contributions to the faculty, staff, and students. His trip to Ethiopia also included preaching and teaching engagements and facilitating a two-day training of the teachers of LeadStar International Academy in Shashamane.



The Rev. Dr. Scott Ness '01 (right) is pictured here with The Rev. Dr. Jody Becker (left) and The Rev. Dr. Gemechis Buba (center) during a recent trip to Ethiopia to receive an honorary degree from LeadStar Theological College.



Archer Lewis Malkin, born Nov. 6, 2017, son of Amy Horn Malkin '99 and her husband, David.

2002

Mary Eddlemon Abernathy received a Master of Library and Information Studies from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in May 2018. She is

Alumni Award Winners

Wittenberg Alumni Association
recognizes several with special awards



President Michael L. Frandsen, right. From left, winners include: Honorary Alumna Margaret Coleman, Alumni Citation recipients Bob Graeter '77 and Chip Graeter '86, Class of 1914 Award recipient Alicia Sweet Hupp '82, 2018 Alumni Association Distinguished Teacher Adam Parker, and Young Alumni Award winner Aaron Davis '05.

**NEW AWARD CATEGORIES BEING ADDED
TO NOMINATE ALUMNI FOR AWARDS:**

[www.wittenberg.edu
/alumni/awards-recognition](http://www.wittenberg.edu/alumni/awards-recognition)

The 1914 Award

Alicia Sweet Hupp '82 received the Alumni Association's most prestigious recognition, the Class of 1914 Award, given to individuals who have served Wittenberg above and beyond what might be expected of any contributor to the college's welfare. Hupp serves as CEO and president of the Springfield, Ohio-based Sweet Manufacturing Company. Hupp is a member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors. Hupp and her family were recently honored for their lead gift to establish Wittenberg's COMPASS: Sweet Success Center (see page 10-13), a first-stop resource for hundreds of students in Thomas Library in 2017.

The Alumni Citation

Bob Graeter '77 and Chip Graeter '86 were recognized as those who have brought honor to Wittenberg by their continued dedication to the ideals for which the university stands. Bob, who majored in biology at Wittenberg, earned his MBA at the University of Michigan, before joining the family business, Graeter's Ice Cream. As a fourth-generation Graeter, Bob began furthering the legacy of his great-grandfather Louis Graeter, by managing the Springdale Graeter's location, starting in 1979. Since then, Bob, a certified food scientist, has held numerous positions within the company, and currently holds the titles of chief of quality assurance and vice president of operations.

Chip Graeter, who earned his B.A. in speech and theatre, is very involved in his community in and around Madeira, Ohio. A fourth-generation member of the Graeter family to own and operate the business, Chip is honored to have grown up in a family business that has been fortunate enough to see great success and popularity in Ohio over the past 142 years. He has been involved in guest interaction at Graeter's retail stores since his teenage years and currently works with a retail team as well as the sales staff to ensure patrons are included in the Graeter's experience.

The Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Aaron Davis '05 won the Young Alumni Award, created to recognize outstanding achievements of young alumni in their profession, vocation, or avocation and is awarded to alumni who have graduated in the past 15 years. Davis, originally from Springfield, Ohio, works at the Maryland Department of Health, Center for HIV Prevention and Health Services. During his time at Witt, he was a member of the IMANI Gospel Choir and Concerned Black Students. After graduating from Wittenberg, Davis applied for a position at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He worked at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health for four years before taking a position with the state health department.

Honorary Alumni Award

For African-American students attending Wittenberg in the 1970s, Margaret Coleman was a one-woman support system. Working alongside Dean Edwin Heusinkveld, she was the first counselor for the Concerned Black Students organization. To many she served as surrogate mother, guidance counselor, cheerleader, drill sergeant, referral source, resume reference, confidant, and friend at Wittenberg. Her son, William Hardin '71, was a founder of Concerned Black Students. Coleman was a reassuring presence on campus and always had a student's best interest at heart.

Distinguished Teaching Award

Adam Parker won the top faculty prize at Wittenberg. Parker, professor of mathematics and department chair of mathematics and computer science, came to Wittenberg in 2005 as an assistant professor. He is an honorary member of the Wittenberg class of 2013 and holds a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Texas at Austin. (Parker is featured on 14-15.)

the discovery and delivery librarian at Salem College. She lives near Greensboro with her husband, John, and two sons, Thomas and Samuel.



Gamma Phi Beta sisters converged in Washington, D.C., for their 16th annual "girls' trip." From left to right are Terri Engle Brown '03, Becki Lawyer Dub '03, Katie Hritz Brown '03, Rachel Lake Peach '03, Kristin Poth Rothweiler '03, Marcie McClintic Coates '02, Katie Joseph Lewis '03, and Annie Dunlap Davis '03.

2003

Brian Kuhn began his position as superintendent of Clark-Shawnee Local Schools in Springfield, Ohio, in August 2018. Previously, he served as assistant superintendent and principal at Possum School. He lives in Springfield with his wife, **Erin Gallagher Kuhn '04**, and their five children.



Alexis Miller '04 and Levi VanReeth '06 were married in Cozumel, Mexico, on May 5, 2018.

2004

Alexis M. Miller and **Levi W. VanReeth '06** were married in Cozumel, Mexico, on May 5, 2018. The couple resides in Dublin, Ohio.

Liz Magsig Moore and **Katie Platt Curtis** reunited in Reykjavik, Iceland, for a week of exploring the land of ice and fire, which involved climbing volcanoes, snorkeling between the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, touring waterfalls, and touching a glacier.

Jason Seegert was promoted to managing director, management consulting at Accenture, where he leads the transformation of customer experiences at communications, media, and high-tech clients. He resides in Atlanta, Georgia.

2006

Adam Hewitt is the director of operations for U.S. Rep. Warren Davidson (OH-8).

Joe Schmees has been appointed executive director of the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, a non-profit that addresses natural resource concerns throughout the state of Indiana. He holds a professional certificate in watershed management from Purdue University.

2007

Jonathon Felter is director of sponsorship and media sales for Major League Baseball (MLB) in Los Angeles, California.

2008

Attorney **Daniel L. Bey** has joined the real estate, corporate law, estate planning, and civil litigation groups and Bankers' Title Agency of Martin Browne Hull & Harper, PLL and Banker's Title Agency. He earned a law degree from Ohio Northern College of Law in 2011 followed by a U.S. Fulbright Scholarship in Law in Kosovo, where he implemented legal and economic reforms as part of USAID-funded projects.

2009

Alyssa Armstrong Hoofnagle, assistant professor of mathematics at Wittenberg, received the Omicron Delta Kappa Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award during the annual Honors Convocation in April 2018.

Erik Poldemann, M.D., a graduate of Ross Medical School, received a fellowship to study cardiology at Kettering Memorial Hospital.

Kristina Steiner, an assistant professor of psychology at Denison University, was featured in *The Newark Advocate* in September 2018 as part of a series about women in STEM careers. According to the article, she teaches courses in research methodology and



Liz Magsig Moore '04 and Katie Platt Curtis '04 enjoyed a trip to Iceland.

statistics and developmental psychology, and her research focuses on autobiographical memory.



Braelynn Rose Lods, born June 17, 2018, daughter of Craig Lods '10 and his wife, Elizabeth, June 17, 2018.

2010

Craig Lods married Elizabeth Marshall on July 1, 2017. Both are dentists in Muncie, Indiana, and they welcomed their daughter, Braelynn Rose Lods, on June 17, 2018.



Allison Stir '10 married D.J. Walters on March 24, 2018, in Grove City, Ohio.

Allison C. Stir and D.J. Walters were married on March 24, 2018, in Grove City, Ohio.

2011

Kayleigh N. Alexander earned a master's degree in communication disorders from the University of South Carolina in August 2017. She is employed as a speech-language pathologist at Palmetto Audiology and Speech Therapy in Summerville, South Carolina. She married Brian Blake in November 2017 in Charleston, South Carolina.



Kayleigh N. Alexander '11 married Brian Blake in November 2017 in Charleston, South Carolina.

Jordan K. Beauchamp earned a doctorate in veterinary medicine with a specialization in large animal medicine and surgery from Purdue University. After completing an equine veterinary internship at the Equine Medical Center of Ocala in Florida, she began her position as an associate at Premier Equine Ambulatory Veterinary Service in July 2018.

Marcus Richardson joined Buckeye Foot & Ankle LLC in July 2018, serving patients in the Urbana and Marysville, Ohio, locations. He was hired after completing a three-year surgical residency at Grant Hospital in Columbus, where he was chief resident. He received his doctorate in podiatric medicine from Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

2012

Lacey Davidson returned to Wittenberg in March 2018 to present "Activism and the Armchair: Why Philosophers Need Not Stay Out of Politics," a talk co-sponsored by the department of philosophy and the justice, law, and public policy program.

Zachary Foster has been hired as the Head Start director for the Clinton County Community Action Program in Wilmington, Ohio. Previously, he was the manager of data and compliance at the Council on Rural Services Head Start.



Chloe Hart '12, pictured here with her advisor, Dr. Drew Gorman-Lewis, completed a doctorate at the University of Washington in June 2018.

Chloe Hart completed a dual-title Ph.D. in earth and space sciences and astrobiology from the University of Washington in Seattle in June 2018. Her research focus was in geobiology and involved working with extreme microorganisms.

John Mohr received the first-ever Wayne Flynt Endowed Graduate Award in Alabama History and Culture in November 2017 from Auburn University in Alabama, where he is a doctoral candidate. For his dissertation research, Mohr is exploring the relationship between Southern society and foreign automakers.

2013

Alissa Armstrong has been hired as marketing communications manager for Seed Consultants Inc. (SCI). She previously served as an account executive for FLM Harvest.



Rachel M. Cinlemis '13 graduated from Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2018.

Rachel M. Cinlemis graduated from Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Pomona, California, in May 2018. She is in a three-year residency in pediatrics at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and Dayton Children's Hospital in Ohio. Promoted to captain in May 2018, she is active duty with the U.S. Air Force.

Tyler Hall earned a master's in public administration from Northern Illinois University and works as a management analyst in the police department for the city of Arlington Heights, Illinois.

2014

Cara Vendeville is manager of matriculation and licensure for Teach For America – Memphis. In this position, she works with new teachers to help them develop their teaching skills and guide them through

the state of Tennessee's licensure requirements.

2015

Ali Hock-James was among the first class to be inducted into West Clermont (Ohio) High School's Hall of Fame in March 2018 for her achievements in track and field and volleyball.

2016

Haley Mucha graduated from the Second Degree Accelerated Nursing Program at Mount Carmel College of Nursing and works as a surgical intensive care unit nurse.

2017

U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class **Desmond D. Daniel** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in San Antonio, Texas. The intensive eight-week program included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Erin O'Farrell spent the 2017-2018 academic year teaching English in Prague.

Vivian Overholt has been selected as a Princeton in Latin America (PiLA) Fellow for 2018-2019. She will work for a year in Mexico with Worldfund, an organization dedicated to training and supporting teachers in underserved schools in Latin America.

Ross '16 and **Molly McNulty Watko '17** announce the birth of their son, Arthur James Watko, on Dec. 8, 2017. The baby's grandfather is **Neil Watko '76**.



Arthur James Watko, born Dec. 8, 2017, son of Ross '16 and Molly McNulty Watko '17.

2018

Maddie Fischer is an assistant women's volleyball coach for the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

In Memoriam

SPRING 2019

1934

Josephine Camper Wohn, Genoa, Ohio, died June 27, 2018. She retired in 1976 after 30 years of teaching elementary and junior high school. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority, the National Education Association, and the Ohio Education Association.

1939

Charlotte Homrighaus Kirk, Ottawa Hills, Ohio, passed away June 13, 2018. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she was a faculty member at the National College of Education and was active with the American Association of University Women.

1942

William J. Klapproth Jr., Concord, New Hampshire, died Aug. 13, 2018. A member of Phi Mu Delta fraternity, he joined the U.S. Army Air Force and served in China during World War II. He worked for American Cyanamid in Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania before working for ARCO in Monroeville, Pennsylvania, until his retirement.

Herschel E. O'Shaughnessey, Columbus, Indiana, died May 31, 2018. During World War II, he served in the Pacific with the U.S. Navy. A lawyer, he worked for Standard Oil of Indiana, Union Starch, and Cummins. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega, First Presbyterian Church, Calvin Prather Masonic Lodge, the Scottish Rite Cathedral, and the Murat Shrine Temple. He served as past president of the Phi Delta Phi legal honorary society.

Louis E. Schwan, Marion, Indiana, passed away Aug. 30, 2018. During World War II, he served in the Navy. He was a member of St. James Lutheran Church and Alpha Tau Omega.

Willard A. Wood, Clarksburg, Ohio, died May 21, 2018. A farmer and 4-H advisor, he was a member of Clarksburg Grange, Ross County Farmers Club, Ross County Farm Bureau and Clarksburg United Methodist Church. He received the Ross County Soil and Water Association's Conservation Award and was honored as the oldest living member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity.

1943

Ralph W. Beckel of Hackettstown, New Jersey, and formerly of Springfield, Ohio, passed away Aug. 16, 2018. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he served as lieutenant junior grade in the U.S. Navy from 1942-1945 in the North Atlantic and Mediterranean on a destroyer. He then worked as assistant treasurer for Sawhill Tubular Products in Sharon, Pennsylvania, until his retirement.

Charles W. Cassel, Ormond Beach, Florida, died March 15, 2018. He was a retired aerospace engineer with General Electric who worked on NASA's Apollo Project. Previously, he worked for the U.S. Air Force All-Weather Flying Division at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. He was a Westinghouse engineer before joining GE and later designed computerized ship propulsion and U.S. Navy fighter-plan simulators.

Donald H. Kaiser, Needham, Massachusetts, passed away April 21, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army in both World War II and the Korean War, attaining the rank of captain. Founder of the Donald H. Kaiser Company in Lyndhurst, Ohio, he was a member of the Hillcrest Band and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

1944

Dorothy Beneke McPeck, Coshocton, Ohio, passed away June 7, 2018. She was the owner of Darr Designed Interiors and a member of Coshocton Presbyterian Church and Kappa Delta sorority.

Eldon E. "Monty" Montague of Winchester, Ohio, and formerly of St. Marys, Ohio, died Feb. 17, 2018. A U.S. Marine Corps veteran of World War II, he was a member of the law firm Noble, Montague and Moul from 1961-2016. He served as president of the board of trustees of the St. Marys Community Public Library, founded and organized the Walk With Nature along the Miami and Erie Canal towpath, founded and organized Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Mercer, Auglaize, and Van Wert counties, and authored *Growing Up in the Great Depression and Beyond*. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

1945

Richard A. "Dick" Guyton, Akron, Ohio, died Jan. 7, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and the Korean War, receiving the Korean Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal. In 1953, he established a practice in internal medicine and cardiology. From 1974-1992, he served as vice president and medical director for worldwide operations for B.F. Goodrich Company.

1946

Jeanne Armstrong Braun, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Jan. 18, 2018. A member of Kappa Delta, she was one of Wittenberg's first women cheerleaders.

Norma Sendelbach Wittman, La Grange Park, Illinois, died July 5, 2018. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority.

1947

Jack L. Klawitter, Johnstown, Ohio, died May 17, 2018. He served with the U.S. Army in the European Theater during World War II. He was a member of The Church of Aurora in Aurora, Ohio, and a Delta Sigma Phi.

Exie Allen Stetler, Missoula, Montana, passed away May 30, 2018.

1948

Shirley Williams Bradley, Mansfield, Ohio, died March 19, 2018. She taught physical education and coached at Appleseed Junior High and was active in the Mansfield Area Christian Women's Club and bridge clubs.

Janice Henson Carr, Springfield, Ohio, died April 10, 2018. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority, First United Church of Christ, Home City Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, VFW Post 8673 Ladies Auxiliary, and the African Violet Society of America.

Thomas M. Hearlihy, Springfield, Ohio, died June 24, 2018. He was a member of St. Teresa Church.

Thaddeus J. Montgomery Jr., South Glastonbury, Connecticut, passed away April 10, 2018. He served as a U.S. Army lieutenant alongside Gen. George Patton in

the U.S. Third Army during World War II. He started his career at BBA British Belting in industrial sales before working as vice president of sales and marketing for Scandura Belting in Charlotte, North Carolina. He then worked as president of Buckstan Inc. in Middletown, Connecticut, until his retirement in 1994. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Nathan W. Sherick, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Aug. 7, 2018. He was a World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

1949

Suzanne Kohn Witthoft, Fresno, California, died Aug. 11, 2018. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

1950

Paul C. Donnan, St. Paris, Ohio, passed away Dec. 18, 2017. A member of Alpha Tau Omega, he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and retired from Navistar in Springfield, Ohio.

Gladys Kelly Ellis, Connersville, Indiana, passed away Feb. 15, 2018. During World War II, she worked as a relief nurse at Fort DuPont before being employed at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. She then spent more than 40 years working as a registered nurse in her husband's medical practice.

Paul Myron Hoak, Springfield, Ohio, passed away July 7, 2018. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army from 1943-1945. He worked as a music teacher in Clinton County, for Crowell-Collier in Springfield for 20 years, as a clerk for Mitchell Engineering, and as a letter carrier for the U.S. Post Office, retiring in 1977. A member of and organist for Hillside Church of God, he wrote more than 35 original religious compositions.

M. Jeanne Long Keesling, New Castle, Indiana, passed away July 3, 2018. She was a pre-kindergarten teacher at St. James Episcopal Church and an active 50-year member of P.E.O.

Winifred "Wini" Jones Morsches, Columbia City, Indiana, passed away Feb. 15, 2018. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she worked as a teacher and interior designer.

F. Stewart Stover, North Haven, Connecticut, passed away Jan. 17, 2018. A U.S. Army veteran of World War II, he worked at American Cyanamid and for the Town of Wallingford, Connecticut. He then worked in human resources at the Institute of Living in Hartford, retiring in 1985. He served on the board of the Wallingford Community Daycare Center, and was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Masonic Day Spring Lodge #30, North Haven VFW, and Delta Sigma Phi.

Sylvia Hardy Whitford, Kettering, Ohio, passed away April 10, 2018. An active member and trustee of Christ United Methodist Church, she also was a member of the United Methodist Women, Steven Ministers, P.E.O., and Chi Omega sorority.

1951

John G. Andrews, Findlay, Ohio, died Feb. 21, 2018. He served in the Army and worked as an accountant for Marathon Oil. He served with Habitat for Humanity, Christian Clearing House, and First Presbyterian Church. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, he was president of the Antique Car Club and became a Master Gardener.

Robert D. Davis, Costa Mesa, California, died June 21, 2018. A U.S. Army Air Forces veteran of World War II, he was awarded the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Prisoner of War Medal, and the French Legion of Honour medal. During his career in the aerospace industry, he was granted four U.S. patents and several foreign patents in the field of high temperature plasma processing. He was the author of several books, including *Before I Forget*, and a member of the Freedom Committee of Orange County.

Hobart C. Drum, Springfield, Ohio, died June 21, 2018. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity.

Edwin R. Finical, New Franklin, Ohio, passed away Dec. 15, 2017. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II, retired from Goodyear Tire after 37 years as a shift foreman, and volunteered at Akron General Hospital. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha, Lockwood Church, the Gideons, and the Goodyear Blue Gold Club.

Margaret Rhodes Knappenberger, Redlands, California, passed away Feb. 19, 2018. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she was active with the St. Bernardine Medical Center Foundation, serving on their Board of Directors and organizing galas. She also was active with Bonne Meres, April Morning Club, and was a past president of the Redlands Country Club Women's Golf Association.

Shirley Oswald Putnam, Dublin, Ohio, died June 13, 2018. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta, a member and past president of the Women's Board of Pilot Dogs, and a member of Ascension Lutheran Church.

Freda Whitmer Spruance, Columbus, Ohio, died Feb. 11, 2018. A U.S. Navy veteran of the Korean War, she was a member of United Church of God.

Elnora Huffmeyer VanOsdol, Elmira, N.Y., died Jan. 10, 2018. A lifelong music and piano teacher, she worked as a band director and music teacher in Rushville, Ind., and later served as music director at Christ United Methodist Church in Elmira for 23 years.

Warren D. Veitinger, North Canton, Ohio, passed away June 8, 2018. An Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, he was an elementary, middle school, and high school science teacher in the Plain Local School

system. He was past president of the Ohio Country Music Association, and a member of Canton VFW, Beach City American Legion, Plain Grange #2, and Pi Kappa Alpha.

1952

William R. Benyak, Ft. Myers, Florida, died Aug. 10, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army from 1953-1955 and then practiced medicine in Flint, Michigan, for more than 25 years. He was a member of the Elks Lodge, American Legion, Kiwanis Club, All Faiths Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Mended Hearts, and was a board member of the Cypress Condo Association.

Joe B. Dick, Pierson, Florida, died June 18, 2018. A veteran of the U.S. Army, he retired from the field of education after 35 years of service in Ohio and St. Augustine, Florida. He also had a career in the circus, performing at the former Circus World in Orlando, with Franzen Circus, and with the Gator Clowns in Jacksonville. He was a member of Memorial Lutheran Church and Ashlar Lodge.

Gloria Henrich-Meekhof, Kalamazoo, Michigan, passed away May 6, 2018. She was a sixth-grade teacher and volunteered as an ESL instructor and at Borgess Hospital.

Gerald W. "Jerry" Janosek of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and formerly of Brunswick, Ohio, passed away Jan. 31, 2018. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

Arlayne Madsen Lewis, Novi, Michigan, died March 1, 2017.

Ruth Heins Pfeil of Noblesville, Indiana, and formerly of Lafayette, Indiana, died May 21, 2018. A commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps, she worked as a labor and delivery nurse at White County Memorial Hospital in Monticello, Indiana, for 21 years before working at Turtle Creek Nursing Home.

John F. Torrence '52S, Charles Town, West Virginia, died Dec. 14, 2017. He fought at the Battle of the Bulge with the Eighth Armored Division. An ordained pastor, he served congregations in Steubenville and Marietta, Ohio; Charleston, Shepherdstown, Harpers Ferry and Charles Town, West Virginia.; and Boonsboro and Hagerstown, Maryland. He was active with the Scottish Rite, Masons, Eastern Star, and Beni Kedem Shrine Temple.

1953

Richard F. Faust '58S, West Carrollton, Ohio, passed away July 15, 2018. Ordained in 1958, he was a mission developer for Trinity Lutheran Church in Vermilion, Ohio. He then served as pastor for Lucas Lutheran Parish, associate pastor for First Lutheran Church in Shelby, Ohio, and pastor for Grace Lutheran Church in West Carrollton, Ohio, where he retired in 1996. A member of Alpha Tau Omega, he continued to serve as an interim pastor for the Southern Ohio Synod.

Jaclyn Netts Kline of Fairborn, Ohio, and formerly of St. Petersburg, Florida, died April 23, 2018. Early in her career, she was a teacher and school librarian before working as a computer programmer in Columbus, Ohio. In Florida, she worked in human resources for the *St. Petersburg Times* and as an ESL teacher for the Tampa Bay Rays minor league Latino players.

John B. Williams, Bradenton, Florida, died Aug. 29, 2018. A World War II veteran, he served four years in the U.S. Coast Guard and received an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Civil Air Patrol, serving in the Ohio and Florida Wings as a chaplain. He was employed as a tool and die maker by International Harvester and General Electric, and also was an ordained minister of three churches in Ohio for 15 years.

1954

Shirley Peery Finch, Midland, Mich., died Jan. 23, 2018. She taught English as a second language at the Education and Training Connection for 20 years and volunteered at the Literacy Council. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and Alpha Delta Pi.

Dorothy "Roselle" Yoder Kauffman, West Liberty, Ohio, passed away April 27, 2018. She taught piano in the Wittenberg preparatory piano program, at Goshen College, at West Liberty Elementary School, and in private lessons. A member of the Sigma Alpha Iota Music Sorority and Music Teachers National Association, she served as organist for the Kauffman-Eichholtz Funeral Home.

William E. Leshner, Claremont, California, died Jan. 23, 2018. He was a pastor at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Chicago and Reen Memorial Church in St. Louis. He served as president of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary before serving as president of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) from 1978-1997. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, he served on numerous commissions, boards, and task forces in the Lutheran Church in America, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Lutheran World Foundation, and his local community.

1955

Ann Jackson Edgcombe, Grand Blanc, Michigan, died Nov. 30, 2017. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she taught physical education in the Grand Blanc School System from 1963-1967 and then continued as a substitute teacher, retiring in 1991. She coached Little League baseball and high school girls' basketball and softball; taught Sunday School at the First Congregational United Church of Christ; and volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America, Genesis Hospital, and Grand Blanc Heritage Association.

Robert A. "Bob" Gallagher, Findlay, Ohio, passed away June 28, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army from 1943-1946 and worked as a writer and editor for

Marathon Oil Company, retiring in 1977. He also was a piano tuner and jazz musician who played with many different bands.

P. Galen Lenhart, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, died Dec. 21, 2017. He held a doctorate in biophysics from Johns Hopkins University and spent a year at Oxford University in England conducting post-doctoral research. His teaching career included positions at Wittenberg University and Vanderbilt University, from which he retired in 1994.

Edwin C. Lewis, Minneapolis, Minnesota, died Feb. 22, 2018. A longtime faculty member and administrator at Iowa State University, he held positions such as professor of psychology, associate vice president for academic affairs, and associate provost. A fellow of the American Psychological Association, he authored two books and 16 professional articles. He was a charter member of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Ames, Iowa, a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, and mediator and board member at the Center for Creative Justice in Ames.

Luther Y. Seibert Jr., Carlisle, Pennsylvania, passed away March 21, 2018. A member of Pi Kappa Alpha, he was an ordained Lutheran minister and served as a chaplain in the Naval Reserve. He retired from Perry County, Pennsylvania, where he was the chief probation officer.

Charles A. Wallick '58S, DeBary, Florida, died Dec. 19, 2017. Ordained by the Lutheran Church in 1959, he developed a new congregation in Stow, Ohio, before developing St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Longwood, Florida, retiring in 1998. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he was a former member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors.

1956

Charles A. Koehler, Bowling Green, Ohio, passed away Feb. 24, 2018. He had a career in sales and management and worked with many companies before starting his own businesses, Koehler Products and KPC Warehouse. He was a member of First Christian Church, Town and Gown, Bowling Green Country Club, and Phi Gamma Delta.

1957

Richard A. "Dick" Armentrout, Columbus, Ohio, passed away Jan. 22, 2018. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1951-1953 and retired from Empire Meats after many years in the food broker industry. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Linworth Kiwanis, Linworth United Methodist Church, and Lambda Chi Alpha.

Barbara Heidy Dressel-Diehl, Massillon, Ohio, passed away Dec. 23, 2017. She worked at Aultman Hospital for many years and with numerous doctors' offices. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta, St. Stephen

Martyr Lutheran Church in Canton, and the Akron Society of Artists.

Arthur P. Hess Jr., Loveland, Colorado, passed away Feb. 1, 2018. A U.S. Marine, he fought in the Korean War and received several medals for his service. A pharmacist, he owned Hess Pharmacy in Oberlin, Ohio, established the Oberlin Clinic pharmacy, and managed the Allen Memorial Hospital pharmacy from 1962 until the late 1980s. He served as mayor and chairman of the city council in the late 1960s, was president of the Oberlin Country Golf Club, and was a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

Raymond A. Kline Jr., Xenia, Ohio, died Dec. 13, 2017. He served in the Air Force, taught at Wittenberg University, worked at the University of Dayton, and served in leadership positions in the American Marketing Association and Dayton Sales Executives.

Caroline Zimmer Lonaker of Frankenmuth, Mich., and formerly of Kettering, Ohio, died Jan. 15, 2018. She retired from the Kettering Board of Education and was a member of Epiphany Lutheran Church and Delta Zeta.

G. Richard "Dick" Marzolf, Winchester, Virginia, died Feb. 1, 2018. He was a former professor at Kansas State University and scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey until his retirement in 2004. He was a member of Phi Mu Delta and the Friends of the Shenandoah River.

1958

Charles R. Beard, Springfield, Ohio, died May 3, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy.

Ronald Bechtel, Plainfield, Illinois, died Jan. 19, 2018. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, he served in the U.S. Army for two years.

Walter A. Hiskett, Sun Lakes, Arizona, died Sept. 3, 2018. He served for more than 30 years in the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Navy and as a chaplain for the Marine Corps. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Medal of Valor. A member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, he received the Wittenberg Alumni Citation in 1990.

Sondra Sibbach Laudig, Pendleton, Ind., passed away Feb. 5, 2018. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she worked in her husband's veterinary practice until retiring in 1997.

Carol Cutshall Loomis, Venice, Fla., died Dec. 12, 2017. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta.

Carole Holmes McCoy, Springfield, Ohio, died April 29, 2018. She taught at Clark Junior High School and served as a guidance counselor at Olive Branch Junior High School, Tecumseh High School, and Northeastern High School in Clark County. She was a member of First Evangelical Lutheran Church and Alpha Xi Delta and volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and the Heritage Center.

Milton R. Ogden, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Jan. 2, 2018. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and retired in 1986 as a supervisor from International Harvester following 38 years of service. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi, Rockway Evangelical Lutheran Church, and Anthony Lodge 455 F&AM.

Karen Heilmeier Rankin, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, passed away July 18, 2018. She held an MSN in psychiatric nursing and was a member of the teaching faculty at West Georgia University. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

The Rev. William H. "Bill" Schreiber, Henderson, Nevada, died July 24, 2018. He was a bank examiner, a U.S. Air Force airman, and pastor of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, serving several congregations in the South, the Midwest region, and Nevada.

1959

Sarah Gibson Collins, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Nov. 30, 2017. She worked as a teacher for 42 years.

David D. Mattes, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Aug. 30, 2018. He began his legal career with the FBI before working for Cole, Cole and Harmon. He then served as municipal judge from 1973-1979, juvenile probate judge from 1980-1996, and probate judge from 1996-2003. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club of Springfield and Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

John D. Pfeiffer, Riviera, Ariz., passed away Dec. 31, 2017. An ordained Lutheran minister, he was pastor of Community Lutheran Church in Bullhead City from 1991-2008. After retiring in 2008, he volunteered as an instructional aide with local schools.

Nadine Ehlert Wormwood, Elk River, Minn., died Jan. 26, 2018. She was a homemaker and member of Chi Omega sorority.

Mildred "Millie" Conrad Yanta, Port Neches, Texas, died Aug. 19, 2018. She was a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Nederland and Kappa Delta sorority.

John W. Zimmann '62S, Salem, Ohio, died March 18, 2018. For 30 years, he served Lutheran parishes in Covington, Dayton, and Salem, Ohio. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

1960

Carol Everett Deckrosh, Bryan, Ohio, died Feb. 4, 2018. She was a librarian in the Lima Public Library. A member of Gamma Phi Beta, she sang in the Williams County Sweet Adelines and the church choir of First United Methodist Church in Montpelier.

James P. Fisher, Lima, Ohio, passed away June 27, 2018. He practiced law for 50 years, specializing in criminal defense work. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, YMCA, and Allen County Bar Association.

James H. Heil '64S, Groveport, Ohio, passed away Jan. 31, 2018. After his ordination, he served Ohio Lutheran congregations of St. Luke's, North Baltimore; St. Stephen, Sylvania; Augsburg, Toledo; St. Peter's, Lancaster; and Zion, Groveport. In retirement, he served as interim pastor at Grace, Westerville and First English, Columbus, where he remained a member. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi.

Rita "Susie" Charlton McFarland, New Albany, Ohio, passed away May 11, 2018. She was a Sunday school teacher and secretary for Whitehall Baptist Church and volunteered with the Girl Scouts and local animal rescues.

Jerry N. Shambaugh, Urbana, Ohio, died March 16, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army from 1954-1956. He was an educator who taught and coached at numerous schools for nearly 50 years.

Annemarie Sommer, Columbus, Ohio, passed away July 20, 2018. A medical doctor, she worked her entire career at Nationwide Children's Hospital, serving as chief of the genetics division, and as a professor in The Ohio State University's genetics and molecular genetics programs.

Bernard E. "Butch" Weiss of Lake Wales, Florida, and formerly of Excelsior, Minnesota, passed away Feb. 25, 2018. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi.

Frederick H. Wise of North Fort Myers, Florida, and formerly of Enon, Ohio, passed away July 20, 2018. He was vice president of Duplex Mill and Manufacturing Company in Springfield, Ohio, and a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

1961

Richard F. "Dick" Beyer, Providence Point, Pa., died Jan. 21, 2018. He worked for Bettis Atomic Power Plant from 1963 until his retirement in 2002. He was a member of Valleybrook Country Club and Lambda Chi Alpha and a founding member of the Parkinson's Foundation of Western Pennsylvania.

Mary Agle Troxell, South Charleston, Ohio, passed away July 21, 2018. She taught first and third grades at Rockway and Reid Schools for more than 30 years. She was a member of the Plattsburg United Church of Christ.

1962

Jerold S. Cory '62MEd, Delaware, Ohio, died June 27, 2018. In 1952, he joined the U.S. Army and served in Hawaii, Japan, and on the battle line in Korea.

Richard L. Henderson, Columbus, Georgia, died May 18, 2018. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

E. Alan Thompson, Columbiana, Ohio, died in March 2018. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, Canfield United Methodist Church, Argus Lodge #545 F&AM, and the Youngstown Shrine Club.

1963

Anna Niday Clark, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Feb. 27, 2018. She taught at Possum School.

Charles W. Snyder, Charlotte, North Carolina, passed away April 9, 2018. A member of Alpha Tau Omega, he spent his career in the family insurance business as owner of Snyder Agency Inc. He volunteered with the Hattie Larlham Foundation, Lake Township Rotary, North Canton YMCA, Lake Community YMCA, Zion United Church of Christ, and Junior Achievement.

Jack L. Spohn, Indianapolis, Ind., passed away Feb. 15, 2018. He worked for Dow Corning in Michigan and Roland M. Cotton Co. in Indianapolis before founding Spohn Associates Inc. in 1976. He was a member of Highland Country Club and Pi Kappa Alpha.

1964

Ronald R. Gilbert, Linden, Michigan, passed away July 28, 2018. As a lawyer, he advanced aquatic safety and established legal and safety standards around the nation. A member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, he established the Foundation for Aquatic Injury Prevention.

Donald L. Hinten '64MA, Columbus, Ohio, passed away June 7, 2018. A U.S. Army veteran of World War II, he retired as principal of Hamilton Middle School. He was inducted into the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame and received the Distinguished Service Award from the Central Ohio Basketball Officials Association. He was a member of Pt. Pleasant F&AM #360, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), VFW 4719, Aladdin Shrine Temple, BPOE, and American Legion 0159 and Moose Lodge in Venice, Florida.

Edward D. Marman, Wayne, Michigan, passed away Aug. 2, 2018. He first taught English and humanities at Graham High School in St. Paris, Ohio, before teaching English and serving as a media librarian at junior high schools in the Wayne-Westland School System. He founded the Detroit Metro Chapter of the Irish-American Cultural Institute in 1981, served on the Wayne-Westland Library Board, and was editor of the comprehensive index for *Eire-Ireland*, an interdisciplinary journal of Irish Studies.

D. Felix Younger, Mecosta, Michigan, passed away Jan. 28, 2018. He worked at the juvenile court in Ann Arbor and was director of human services for Lake and Mason counties before retiring in 2002. He also was deputy director of God's Helping Hands and a member of St. Michael Catholic Church in Remus, Michigan.

1965

The Rev. Adelaide Sampelle Clark, Monroe, Ohio, died March 5, 2018. After teaching elementary school at St. Brigid in Xenia, Ohio, she became an Episcopalian

priest and served parishes in Ohio, Indiana, and New York. She was a member of the Mt. Pleasant choir, Red Hatters club, and Chi Omega sorority.

Jane Rilling Dawson, Centerville, Ohio, died Dec. 23, 2017. She was a special education and math teacher and volunteer tutor in the Centerville schools and a tax accountant. She was a member of Living Water Lutheran Church, Alpha Delta Pi, and P.E.O. and volunteered at the Dayton Humane Society.

Elizabeth "Betsy" Goff McGee, Victor, New York, passed away May 10, 2018. She worked as a social worker for the State of New York from 1979-2008. She volunteered with Advent House Hospice, sang with several Rochester-area community choruses, and was a member of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and Rochester Knitting Guild.

1966

Franklin Chu, Bainbridge Island, Washington, died Aug. 11, 2018. Attaining the rank of commander, he served as deputy chief in the U.S. Public Health Service. He was a clinical faculty instructor for ophthalmic surgery at the University of Washington School of Medicine before engaging in private ophthalmology practice in Kitsap County. A member of Bethany Lutheran Church, he was past president of the Washington Academy of Ophthalmology and served on multiple boards in the community.

The Rev. Daniel L. Engber '70S, LaGrange, Indiana, died April 11, 2018. Ordained as a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America in 1970, he served as a pastor for 40 years in the following Indiana churches: Zion Lutheran Church, Pershing; Emmanuel Lutheran Church, LaOtto; Zion Lutheran Church, Bristol; Holy Trinity Lutheran, Harlan; and Lima Presbyterian, Howe. He also served as camp director at Camp Lutherwald in Howe for three years as well as chaplain of the Indiana Girls School in Indianapolis.

1967

Richard E. Crisp '67MS, Etna, Ohio, died Feb. 26, 2018. A U.S. Air Force veteran, he retired as a history teacher after 30 years in the Bethel Local Schools in Tipp City, Ohio, and Whitehall Yearling High School.

Dennis S. Murphy, Los Angeles, California, died Jan. 24, 2018. He worked in TV and film production for more than 50 years, co-producing the films *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* (1992) and *Powder* (1995) and *working on Fame* (1980), *Friday the 13th Part 2* (1981), *Phantom* (2013), and *Dear Dictator* (2017). He received an Emmy nomination for outstanding drama series in 1995 for his work on NBC's *ER* and a Humanitas prize for co-producing the 1991 Lifetime telefilm *Wildflower*. He served as a vice president of Plaza Community Services and devoted time to the Silverlake Children's Theatre Group.

1968

Mark F. Baker of Cumberland, Maryland, and New York, New York, died Aug. 13, 2018. He had a lengthy career in entertainment as a TV, film, and stage actor, earning a Theatre World Award, a Tony Award nomination, and a Helen Hayes Award. He renovated and operated the Embassy Theatre in Cumberland and performed at the Cumberland Theatre and the Mountain Playhouse in Jennerstown, Pennsylvania.

Marie McManus Kuhlman, Ann Arbor, Michigan, died Jan. 14, 2018. She worked as a high school teacher, a human resources vice president in the banking industry, a CPA and senior staff accountant in the public accounting arena, and a CFO for both not-for-profit and for-profit entities. She volunteered with St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and the Ann Arbor YMCA.

Evelyn Larson Owen, Delaware, Ohio, died March 13, 2018. A teacher, her first assignment was teaching first through eighth grades in a one-room schoolhouse in Marshall County, Minnesota. She also taught in the Mad River Local School District and Huber Heights (Wayne Township) School District in Ohio and became a pioneer in teaching special education.

1969

Penelope "Penni" Musser O'Brien, Shawnee, Kansas, died March 10, 2018. She was a member of Sigma Kappa sorority.

1970

Susan Marie Fitzgibbons Boyle of Greenwich, Connecticut, passed away on May 9 after a battle with cancer. She died surrounded by her loving family. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, David L. Boyle, her son, Carter H. Boyle, and daughter, Hadley H. Boyle, all of Greenwich, and a brother, John C. Fitzgibbons, of Hemet, California.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Susan received an MBA with highest honors from the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland). A pioneer among women in the business world, she was a senior management consultant at McKinsey & Company for nine years where she consulted CEOs and was co-head of the Financial Institutions Steering Committee. Subsequently, she was executive vice president of Xerox Financial Services for eight years before leaving the corporate world in 1996 to spend more time with her family. She previously served on various boards, including the USA Group and Bruce Museum.

Susan was active in the Greenwich Country Day School community, serving as class mother for Carter and Hadley who graduated there. An accomplished pianist, she was a strong supporter of the music department at Country Day where she and David provided funding for a new music room. Along

with David, she also served on the Parents Fund Committees of Phillips Academy Andover and Duke University, Carter's alma maters. She looked forward to doing the same for Columbia University where Hadley is currently a student.

A member of Greenwich Country Club, Susan enjoyed playing tennis and squash and for a number of years was a member of the club's tennis team. In addition to her family, the loves of her life were her three champion equestrian horses and pet dogs. Susan was a member of the U.S. Hunter Jumper Association and United States Equestrian Federation. Most of all, she enjoyed spoiling her family with parties, gifts and elaborate decorations during the holidays and on their birthdays. Christmas was a special time and Susan took great pride in decorating her home both inside and outside, including a 17-foot tree in the living room. She also cherished annual family spring vacations on Sanibel and Captiva Islands. An avid sports fan, Susan enjoyed rooting for her favorite teams, the Ohio State Buckeyes, Duke Blue Devils and Cleveland Indians, as well as her favorite athlete, Roger Federer.

James M. McClain, Sheffield Lake, Ohio, died June 15, 2018. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he had a private law practice in Elyria, Ohio, and was active in the Lorain County Bar Association, Ohio Bar Association, and Kiwanis.

Robert H. Thureau II, Osprey, Florida, died April 20, 2018.

Joseph F. Wilson, Penfield, New York, died March 14, 2018. A member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, he was nursing administrator for DePaul Mental Health and retired from Clifton Springs Hospital & Clinic.

1971

Martha S. Halliday, Westlake, Ohio, died July 23, 2018. She was employed with JPMorgan Chase for more than 25 years.

Mary Yeazell Snorf Staring, Springfield, Ohio, died Jan. 7, 2018. She taught in Clark County Schools for many years. She was a Master Gardener, sang with the Springfield Symphony Chorale and her church choir, and volunteered as a literacy tutor and at Mercy Hospital.

Senia J. Taipale, Lansing, Michigan, died Jan. 25, 2018. She worked in higher education as a financial director before earning a Master of Divinity. She was a pastor in Northeast Ohio and then served as director of pastoral care at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing from 1992-2010. A member of Sigma Kappa sorority, she served on the Wittenberg Board of Directors.

1972

Thomas L. Catlett, Dayton, Ohio, passed away April 27, 2018. After 30 years as a teacher and middle

school principal, he retired from the Richmond, Indiana, school system in 2003. He served as an elder and head usher at Aspire Church.

Paul C. Woodrow, Barrington, Ill., passed away Feb. 18, 2018.

1973

Patrick A. Beasley, Richmond Heights, Ohio, died Dec. 22, 2017. He was inducted into Wittenberg's Athletic Hall of Honor in 2001 for his accomplishments on the basketball court.

Linda J. Coventry, Abington, Massachusetts, passed away Sept. 1, 2018. She was a licensed acupuncturist and a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Kevin A. Murphy, Scott Depot, West Virginia, passed away Aug. 4, 2018. For more than 30 years, he owned a medical practice in Poca, West Virginia, and served Putnam County as coroner and EMS director. He also was an adjunct professor of general practice with the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, staff physician for West Virginia State University, and a youth soccer coach.

1974

Carol Gillette Smith, Bonita Springs, Florida, passed away June 1, 2018. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she was a commercial real estate lender and served on the finance and social committees for the Vasari Country Club.

1975

Frank Gross Jr. '75S, Alliance, Ohio, died Aug. 25, 2018. Ordained in 1975, he served Covenant Lutheran Church in St. Paris, Ohio; St. John Lutheran Church in Warren, Ohio; and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Alliance, Ohio. In retirement, he continued to serve area congregations as an interim pastor.

1976

Quincy L. Landingham, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., died Feb. 20, 2018. He was a sales professional and corporate trainer for Bard Medical and a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and OE-DE Investment Group.

Mary Bobst Runyan, Catawba, Ohio, passed away Aug. 11, 2018. She taught at Catawba and South Vienna Elementary Schools for 30 years, including 15 years in special education. She was a 4-H advisor and longtime member of Catawba United Methodist Church.

1977

Jon B. Thorsten, Lumberton, North Carolina, died Aug. 22, 2018. He served as director of radiology at Community Hospital in Springfield, Ohio, and Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury, Maryland, before becoming the director of medical imaging at Southeastern Health. He was active in the

Boy Scouts of America, Toastmasters, and Chestnut Street United Methodist Church.

1978

Gregory Goings, Springfield, Ohio, passed away April 6, 2018.

1979

Rita McWilliams Michael, Springfield, Ohio, died May 8, 2018. She taught kindergarten for 26 years in the Northeastern School District. She was a member of Southgate Baptist Church, where she was director of the HEARTS Program, and volunteered at the Pregnancy Resource Clinic.

1980

Scott R. McDonald, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Jan. 20, 2018.

1981

Geoffrey Thurman, Fresno, Calif., died Jan. 12, 2018. He was a record producer and songwriter.

1982

Gerardo F. "Jerry" Kusminsky, Honeoye Falls, New York, passed away July 10, 2018. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he worked at his family-owned business, Pittsford Paving Inc.

1985

The Rev. Dr. Charles J. Lundquist '85H, Poland, Ohio, died Aug. 16, 2018. A member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors for 32 years, he was named an honorary alumnus in 1985 and received an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Wittenberg in 1998.

1988

Jeffrey A. Totten, Bridgewater, New Jersey, passed away June 28, 2018. He spent most of his career as a sales representative in the pharmaceutical industry.

1989

John L. "Jay" Weppler Jr. of West Chester, Ohio, and formerly of Conneaut, Ohio, passed away on Dec. 15, 2017. He taught and coached ice skating for many years and also was a professional dance teacher.

1991

John M. Hays, Concord, Massachusetts, passed away June 16, 2018. He had a career in financial services and was an associate partner with Deloitte Consulting Inc. at the time of his death. He was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity and Nashawtuck Country Club.

1993

Kristin M. Tunis, St. Louis, Missouri, passed away June 28, 2018. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta.

1995

Catherine Fulton Bensman, Troy, Ohio, passed away May 10, 2018. She taught reading and language arts at Tipp City Middle School and was a former volleyball coach at Tippecanoe. She was a member of Kappa Delta sorority, the ALK cancer group, and Cove Spring Church, where she helped establish the youth group.

1996

Clifford M. Denny Jr. of Charlotte, North Carolina, and formerly of Lexington, Kentucky, died June 13, 2018. He was a merchandise planner for Off Broadway Shoes in Charlotte and a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

Shirlee Badgley Garringer, Verona, Ohio, passed away May 23, 2018. She worked as a stewardess for American Airlines before becoming an LPN and a certified hospice and palliative nurse.

2006

Deanna M. Gutowski, Macedonia, Ohio, passed away March 20, 2018. She worked as a microneurosurgeon at Charles River in North Carolina.

2007

Catriona Hay Martin, Canal Winchester, Ohio, passed away March 20, 2018.

In Memoriam

FACULTY AND STAFF

Conrad Balliet, professor emeritus of English, d. Aug. 18, 2018

Larry Hunter, former men's basketball head coach, d. May 4, 2018

Ben A. Johnson, professor and dean of Hama Divinity School, d. June 7, 2017

Dorothy Lemieux, assistant professor of physical education, d. Aug. 10, 2018

Ron Lucchesi, assistant professor of business, d. July 12, 2018

William "Bill" Matthews Jr., associate dean and associate professor of English, d. Sept. 28, 2017

Wayne Maurer, associate professor emeritus of business, d. June 7, 2018

Harold Sundelius, associate dean, professor and chair of geology, d. June 17, 2018

William Wiebenga, former provost, d. Feb. 19, 2018

Robert Wynne, professor emeritus of music, d. July 7, 2018

THE TITANIC

Nellie Becker, class of 1896, lived a life that was far from mundane. From the halls of Wittenberg University, she went on to travel the world, came face to face with countless deadly diseases, and was one of the few survivors of the Titanic.

Nellie was born in New Lexington, Ohio, on June 19, 1876, the daughter of John Baumgardner, one of the earliest photographers in the Springfield area. As a young woman, she entered Wittenberg's two-year preparatory school and there met her husband, Allen Becker, whom she married on Sept. 20, 1898, two years after graduating from Wittenberg.

Their marriage took place just a few months before beginning their first term as Lutheran missionaries in Guntur, India. Nellie and Allen faced harsh conditions in India. They arrived in a time of terrible famine, extreme weather, and were located in an isolated area where it was almost impossible to keep in contact with friends and family in America. The most dire condition facing the Beckers, however, was the outbreak of cholera. The couple lived in India during the Sixth Cholera Pandemic, which took 800,000 lives in India alone. Allen wrote to The Wittenberger that he and Nellie were witnesses to many passing from cholera.

With these hardships abroad, along with the sudden illness of her son Richard, it is understandable why in 1912 Nellie decided to take her three children back to America while her husband served the remainder of his six-month term in India. After taking a boat from India to England, she and her children set sail for America on April 10, 1912, aboard the Titanic.

Nellie reports that she did not awake when the ship hit the infamous iceberg, but instead when the sound of the engines stopped. First, a steward assured her that everything was fine and to return to her room. Soon after, another steward directed Nellie and her three children to the upper deck, with no time for them to dress. Nellie relayed that she had not truly realized she was in danger until witnessing the shooting of rockets as distress signals and hearing the ship's band play.

In a 1912 interview with the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Nellie admits that the worst of her Titanic experience was spent on the lifeboat.

"The most horrible thing of all was the shrieks. There was no more room in our boat, and we had to sit and watch men perish," she said.

After the sinking of the Titanic, Nellie traveled to Wittenberg to speak of her experience. There she stated that "she will remember the event throughout her entire life, so indelibly were some of the incidents in her mind."






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