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New amphitheater named in
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ISSUE #11
Spring/Summer 2017

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Southern Wesleyan University is a Christ-centered university offering a traditional college experience at our main campus in Central, South Carolina, as well as evening and online programs. Evening programs are offered at the main campus as well as regional education centers across the state located in Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, and North Augusta.

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ACADEMIC UPDATES



School of Business

The School of Business continues in its transition during 2016-'17. Former dean Dr. Jeannie Trudel left in December to a new calling in Australia. Interim dean, Dr. Jonathan Young has guided the school since Jan. 1, stepping aside from the classroom to lead business school efforts during spring.

Accounting and General Business concentrations will be offered in fall, along with the current areas of HR, Management and Supply Chain. Faculty are also developing curriculum for graduate and undergraduate markets focusing on using "stackable" certificates for stand-alone and lead-in-to degree options, possibly including quality and project management and accounting. The school is investigating a new Management Information Systems program, conceivably as a B.S. in MIS.

Dr. Walt Henley joined the staff as an online faculty, teaching graduate and undergraduate marketing and will also develop a new online concentration in marketing for the undergraduate BSBA to be ready by Spring 2018. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Memphis and brings both extensive teaching and business experience. Fulltime faculty positions in Central and Greenville/online programs are being filled, bringing staffing to a level necessary to meet the growing needs of the business programs in the future.

Dr. Stephen Preacher was named permanent dean of the School of Business. He is currently on the faculty at Liberty University and will be taking over at SWU upon completion of his duties there. His background blends significant classroom teaching with several academic office leadership positions at both Liberty and Christian Heritage College.

The school continues work towards ACBSP accreditation under the leadership of MBA-Health Care director Dr. Lynn Brown-Bulloch, who will become associate dean in June. ♦



School of Education

In preparation for the new teacher evaluation program in South Carolina, the School of Education has conducted three-day training for all clinical supervisors to begin a pilot for the new evaluation. This evaluation tool focuses on teacher strategies to enhance student learning.

The online Early Childhood and Family Studies major started January 2017. The program is the only one offered online in South Carolina and received more than 156 applications since July 2016. The first graduate for the face-to-face Early Childhood Family Studies which launched in fall 2016 will be in May 2017.

Dr. Lisa Hall-Hyman and Kayla Payne, an Early Childhood Education major, are joining Professor David Tolan and Team Kenya for a mission trip to Kenya in May. Hyman and Payne are looking forward to sharing Christ and assisting in any capacity needed.

Dr. Kim Jedlicka, Dr. Lisa Hall-Hyman, and Dr. Sandra McLendon are serving on the founding board of the Empowerment Charter School which has advanced to the second step of the State Charter application process. The school plans to serve kindergarten through third-grade initially and add a grade level each year in partnership with Southern Wesleyan University.

After 16 years as secretary and administrative assistant in the School of Education, Roberta Sears will be leaving and moving to Springfield, Mo., to be with her husband. The School of Education will miss Mrs. Roberta, but prays that she and Bob receive all God's blessings in this new venture. ♦



Division of Fine Arts

In January, the Fine Arts Division hosted the Western Region Honor Choir, comprised of

over 150 high school students; Dr. Don Campbell was clinician. Nine students participated in the South Carolina Collegiate Honor Band at Furman University, of which several were first-chair players in their section.

In February, Dr. Darryl Jachens and four students represented the division at the State convention for the South Carolina Music Educators Association. Other events included a Jazz Invitational for middle and high school jazz bands and a church choir festival, "Musica Ecclesia."

The SWU Jazz Band, led by Professor Greg Day, performed in a spring tour, taking them from Charleston through High Point, N.C.

Professor Heather Haithcock directed "Smokey Joe's Café." The hit musical was presented as a dessert theater in Newton Hobson Auditorium.

Professor Jane Dill was featured in "The Whole Rest of the Story," an article by SWU music alum Lee Millsbaugh in Upstate Exposure Magazine. The article focused on Dill's journey with breast cancer and how music played a pivotal role throughout that time.

The Wind Ensemble, directed by Professor Day, presented their Spring Concert "Past Times." Dr. Darryl Jachens, retiring music faculty member, was honored during the concert.

The SWU Concert Choir, under the direction of Dr. Campbell, combined with the Greater Anderson Musical Arts Consortium Chorale and Orchestra to present the Verdi "Requiem" at Boulevard Baptist Church in Anderson. ♦



Division of Humanities

Humanities students and recent graduates garnered impressive achievements and awards during spring.

May history graduate Mikkaela Bailey presented her honors project on the Magna Carta's relationship to the English identity in several venues this semester. She was also accepted into Clemson University's graduate history program and was awarded a full graduate

assistantship to aid in her pursuit of her MA. Caleb Southern, who will graduate in December, was awarded a South Carolina Humanities Fellowship and a research grant from the South Carolina Independent College and Universities for his honors project focusing on Jefferson Davis' cabinet when he was president of the Confederacy. He will travel to several states and Washington, D.C., researching Civil War-era documents and other important source material as part of his research.

May history graduates Kathryn Brickle and Kris Douglass will begin officer training school in the U.S. Army in the fall. Recent graduate Tracy Byrd completed her MA in History at Liberty University and will begin work as an adjunct professor in fall. Anna Bross, another recent SWU graduate and English teacher at Pickens Middle School, was named Pickens County's Outstanding First Year Teacher of the Year. The Humanities Division is graduating one of the largest groups of graduates in recent years.

These students and recent graduates have helped to maintain a high standard of achievement for the Humanities Division. We look forward to similar accomplishments in the future. ♦



Growth and newness characterize the Division of Religion for 2016-2017. There were 54 new majors and minors in the division in spring.

Two new faculty members join the division: Dr. Mike Tapper as associate professor of religion and chair, and Rev. Mark Wilson as assistant professor of multiplication, discipleship, and renewal.

For the first time, the DOR taught the first course where students and professor were in different locations. Dr. Elizabeth Drury Skyped into the Central Campus for a Ministry in Cultural Context course, three times a week. While using the same technology as online courses, the instruction was live and face-to-face!

The new Christian Worship concentration met its first year goal of students. Two new courses – one in fall and one in spring – have been taught this year to support this program.

Several students, both Religion students and

a few other majors, recently participated in the Wesleyan Theological Society annual meeting, also experiencing a visit to Asbury Theological Seminary in Kentucky.

The DOR is enjoying wonderful opportunities the new Christian Ministry Center provides for classes, meetings, small groups, round-table discussions, mentoring and more. We are profoundly grateful to the Lord on a daily basis for this beautiful facility.

Efforts are gearing up for Year Two of the Called Camp at the end of June. Pray that God will send to us high school students who are earnestly seeking Him, as well as His will and guidance for their vocation. ♦



Dr. Heather Hudson was hired for the open exercise science position in the Science Division for next fall.

Biology Major Reagen Welch will attend Lincoln Memorial University-Debusk College of Osteopathic Medicine next fall. Forensic Science Major Erin Cross was accepted into the master's program in criminal justice at Liberty University.

Two Exercise Science majors were accepted into Methodist University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program. One Exercise Science major was accepted into the University of Western States' chiropractic program. Attending the Southeast American College of Sports Medicine in Greenville were 24 SWU students.

The Division of Science hosted a Math Olympiad for area high school students led by Dr. Jacob Chapman and Dr. Paul Shotsberger.

Professor Staci Johnson began her Ph.D. in Engineering and Science Education work and has applied for the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship. She also led the S.C. Region 1 Science Fair, serving students in the Upstate and part of the Midlands.

The Science Division seeks to connect with graduate and professional schools and has brought representatives to campus to meet with students.

The Science Division seeks a Computer Science faculty member, which would make possible the return of Applied Computer Science.

The division continues offering Computer Information Systems (CIS), because besides the core computer science courses, there are concentrations in business and media communication as part of the degree and faculty with doctorates in those disciplines to anchor the major. ♦



The College of Arts and Sciences approved Criminal Justice and Psychology revisions, conducted to align the curriculum more closely to professional standards and enhance program marketability. Human Services and Recreation and Sport Management programs are currently being revised for 2017-2018.

The Leadership for Outdoor Recreation Education (LORE) concentration, part of the Recreation and Sport Management degree, is being revised to offer a minor for other majors to enhance undergraduate experience and improve professional preparation.

Human Services is working with The Jericho Project's steering committee to provide training and internships for students interested in working with the friends who will live in the residence.

The Division will offer the Human Services degree program fully-online this summer.

Assistant Professor Joe Crosby will graduate in May 2017 with a Ph.D. in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management from Clemson University. Assistant Professor Emily Germain was accepted into the Ph.D. program in Psychology at Grand Canyon University.

The Criminal Justice program, in cooperation with the Development Office, hosted a Law Enforcement Appreciation breakfast March 16, attended by approximately 65 police officers and many local elected and appointed officials. Two students were among the speakers. President Voss and Pickens County Sheriff Rick Clark also spoke at the event.

The Division faculty led projects at Asbury Hills Camp and Retreat Center, Clemson Community Care, Stephen's House, Golden Corner Ministries, and the Easley YMCA for Day of Service March 14. ♦

RN TO BSN PROGRAM TO START IN AUGUST

Registered Nurses will soon be able to pursue their Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing online at Southern Wesleyan University. The program is designed for registered nurses who desire to advance their career and enrich their professional development. This program will equip those in the nursing profession to become leaders in providing high-quality, evidence-based care.

This fully online program, which will start

in August 2017, teaches evidence-based best practices, innovative use of technology, and servant leadership rooted in Christian ethics.

The RN to BSN Program is pending approval by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Southern Wesleyan will also be seeking accreditation from Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

RN to BSN dean and program director, Dr.

Elizabeth Fezio, came to Southern Wesleyan in 2016 with extensive leadership experience in nursing programs in Georgia, including the rebuilding of the LPN program at Oconee Fall Line Technical College and establishment of a new RN satellite program with Darton State College. She is also a veteran, having served as a specialist in the U.S. Army in Germany, during which time she traveled throughout Europe. ♦

SWU'S RELIGION DIVISION MOVES INTO AN EXCITING NEW ERA

DR. MIKE TAPPER



With the Nicholson-Mitchell Christian Ministry Center in place and now the naming of two key leaders, Southern Wesleyan University's Division of Religion is positioning itself to better prepare future generations to impact the world for Christ.

Dr. Mike Tapper was named as new chair for the Division of Religion, bringing a wealth of pastoral ministry and higher education experience to Southern Wesleyan. Mark Wilson was named as assistant professor of multiplication, discipleship and renewal.

Tapper has served as connection pastor at Moncton Wesleyan Church in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. He has also served as an adjunct professor at Kingswood University, Sussex, New Brunswick, and has also served at Crandall University in Moncton. He previously served as pastor of Pathway Wesleyan Church in Bangor, Me., and also was a program coordinator supporting individuals with developmental disabilities. Tapper is an author, speaker, community volunteer and leader who has produced numerous publications and professional presentations.

Tapper has a Ph.D. and M.A. in theology from Saint Paul University and a master of divinity from Tyndale Seminary, as well as a B.A. in religion from Kingswood University.

"Tapper is inspired to develop the next generation of church leaders with his deep experience in pastoral ministry at two dynamic churches and his success in the academy, teaching in four universities. He has also served individuals within the special needs community," said Dr. Todd Voss, Southern Wesleyan University president. Voss sees Tapper's coming to Southern Wesleyan as

signaling a "fresh start" for the Division of Religion.

Tapper and his wife Kristy have four children.

Wilson has been serving as senior pastor of Hayward Wesleyan Church, Hayward, Wisc. He brings to the Division of Religion significant experience in higher education, as well as church planting and curriculum development. Wilson served as an adjunct professor with the Wesley Seminary and FLAME, and has developed numerous ministry correspondence courses. He is also a writer, blogger and sought-after speaker.

"Wilson is joining the faculty to serve in a unique role specifically designed to support the missions of SWU and the Church," Voss said. "A beloved leader, author and speaker, Mark is a pastor's pastor and brings a wealth of ministry experience."

Wilson has an M.A. in theology from Fuller Theological Seminary and a B.A. in Christian ministries from Indiana Wesleyan University. "His unique gifts of communication, connection and encouragement will be used by God to transform and renew the lives of our students, pastors, leaders, churches and communities," Voss added.

Voss noted that a collaborative concept with The Wesleyan Church was identified to fulfill the missions of both organizations, leading to the launch of a parallel position search for a new faculty member to teach, lead and connect in the areas of multiplication, discipleship and renewal.

Wilson and his wife Cathy have five children and one grandchild. ♦

REV. MARK WILSON



SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY NAMES JOHNSON DEAN OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



Dr. Randolph Burge Johnson was named as the new dean for Southern Wesleyan University's College of Arts and Sciences.

Johnson comes to Southern Wesleyan from Oklahoma Baptist University, where he has chaired their Division of Music since 2013.

"Dr. Johnson has an exciting vision for arts and sciences and his passion for students and faculty is equally exciting. He is coming to SWU at the perfect time for him and for us and we couldn't be more pleased. Another example of how God selects the right people at the right time to move his plans forward," shared Dr. Todd Voss, president.

Johnson has extensive higher education experience, having received the Provost Award of Excellence in 2016 for his leadership at Oklahoma Baptist. He has also extensively published his research in music as it relates to vocal and instrumental aspects, and he has made presentations at conferences and workshops across the nation.

Johnson earned his doctor of philosophy in music theory from Ohio State University. He also has a master of arts degree in music theory from Ohio State and a bachelor of science degree in music from Indiana University.

Johnson said, "The call to serve in Southern Wesleyan University's College of Arts and Sciences is particularly thrilling because of the opportunities that students and faculty have to interrelate myriad academic fields of study while pursuing spiritual transformation and growth. Colleges of arts and sciences have traditionally been centers of intellectual tradition and creative activity in academia. In tandem with SWU's track record of excellence in the liberal arts, its mission guides university community members to be lights on the hill – proclaiming Christ Jesus as the ultimate center of knowledge."

Johnson's wife Lia is a high school teacher and they have a daughter and son. ♦

SWU NAMES STEPHEN PREACHER AS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS DEAN

Dr. Stephen P. Preacher was named dean of the Southern Wesleyan University School of Business.

"Dr. Preacher has the experience and creativity to help SWU move even farther in the school of business. He is a scholar and practitioner who really understands the importance of innovation and experiential learning," shared Dr. Todd Voss, SWU president.

Prior to entering the academic field, Preacher worked in the business world in real estate and financial planning.

Preacher comes to Southern Wesleyan from Liberty University, where he has been serving as professor of international business and teaching at both undergraduate and graduate levels. During the early 1980s Preacher took a sabbatical leave to continue his studies at United States International University in San Diego, where he earned his doctor of business administration with an emphasis on international business. In addition to his doctoral degree, Preacher earned M.S. and M.B.A. degrees from National University in San Diego. He also earned a B.A. degree from

the School of Religion at Bob Jones University in Greenville.

After returning to Liberty University, Preacher was appointed chairman of the Department of Business and Administrative Services. In the fall of 1986 he returned to California where he was appointed chair of the Division of Business at Christian Heritage College near San Diego. He revised the curriculum for the business major, introduced an international business major and eventually split his teaching duties between the traditional program and a non-traditional degree completion program, which he implemented after being promoted to academic vice president.

From 2004 until 2009, Preacher owned and operated a large outdoor equipment and apparel store while he continued to teach fulltime.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Preacher is a member of the Oxford Round Table, Oxford, England. He also maintains active involvement with the Southern Management Association, World Affairs Council, the

Foreign Policy Research Institute and the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. He's also currently a Fulbright Senior Specialist candidate in curriculum development. ♦



SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY TO OFFER GAP YEAR PROGRAM IN FALL

Starting in Fall 2017, Southern Wesleyan University will house an innovative program designed to help students gain focus while deepening in them an awareness of a calling into a particular career and a deeper relationship with God.

This inventive concept, known as a “gap year” program, will be offered in partnership between Southern Wesleyan and OneLife, a faith-based organization based in Lancaster, Pa. A typical profile for a OneLife student is an individual post-high school to age 21 who loves travel and adventure, appreciates learning both inside and outside the classroom, desires to grow in their faith and knowledge of God’s Word, demonstrates moral character, leadership qualities, has a positive attitude toward authority and expresses a desire to be teachable.

Peter Sullivan, founder and CEO of OneLife, noted that partnering with Southern Wesleyan fulfills a longing he’s had to extend the program’s presence into the Southeast. Gavin Potter, a Southern Wesleyan graduate now working as a resident leader (R.L.) for OneLife, encouraged Sullivan to make a connection with the university and President Todd Voss.

“We believe in the mission of OneLife and are excited to be able to fulfill that mission with a student base that longs to stay in the Southeast,” said Sullivan. “We are thankful for the God-given opportunity to extend the mission of developing students into infectious spiritual leaders to different and new places. Most of all, though, we are thankful for God’s guidance and the friendship He has blessed us with through our partnership with SWU.”

“I have seen first-hand the work of OneLife, and it is inspiring,” said Voss. “A ‘gap year’ is basically the first year of college, but



From left: Peter Sullivan, Derek Melleby, Tonya Strickland, and Todd Voss.

designed as a completely different learning experience. It’s self-supporting and very experiential, with travel in the region and abroad offering significant designed elements not normally included in a typical first year collegiate experience.”

“President Voss, along with Vice President of Recruitment, Chad Peters, and Provost, Tonya Strickland and their respective teams, have vocalized and shown a level of care, passion, and helpfulness that far exceeds any direct benefit for SWU,” Sullivan added.

Part of Southern Wesleyan’s plans to repurpose Stuart-Bennett Residence Hall next year includes devoting the top two stories to housing up to 20 male and 20 female students enrolled in the gap year program.

“The OneLife collaboration will allow SWU to serve these high school grads as SWU students, while still allowing OneLife to advise on the trajectory of program,” Voss said. “All courses will be SWU courses, and SWU will direct the mutually agreed upon learning outcomes.” He added that students enrolled in gap year programs have high retention and have a very high graduation rate in four years or less.

Voss hopes that many of the students enrolled in the gap year program will continue as traditional Southern Wesleyan students. Details about the gap year program can be found at www.swu.edu/onelife. ♦

FUND DEVELOPMENT AIMED AT INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH

SWU took advantage of market conditions with historically low interest rates in the refinancing of two construction bond loans from the past. This provided a reduction in debt service payments over the next seven years

that were repurposed with the future in mind: To establish a research and development fund to expand program, curriculum development and deployment in a dramatic way at SWU. For the first time in decades, SWU

has targeted resources to rapidly grow new programs, majors and concentrations to offer new options for students! ♦

SOUTH CAROLINA REGION 1 SCIENCE FAIR

Southern Wesleyan University hosted the S.C. Region 1 Science Fair March 10, featuring projects presented by 118 students in grades 3-12 from Anderson, Abbeville, Laurens, Greenville, Greenwood, Oconee and Pickens Counties.

In keeping with the University's core value of "contagious generosity," Southern Wesleyan has been proud to partner with the region's teachers and parents to further STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering

and Mathematics) education. The fair provides an opportunity for all students who are interested in science and technology to pursue their personal areas of interest and display their research as a presentation in a public competitive forum.

Southern Wesleyan University faculty, staff and students volunteered in a variety of capacities to allow the event to operate. Employees of Duke Energy, Hill Electric Company, Clemson University and Southern Wesleyan

University judged the students' entries. Southern Wesleyan Science Club members also gave demonstrations of various science concepts in breakout sessions across the Central campus.

The South Carolina Region 1 Science Fair sponsors include Founders Federal Credit Union and ServPro of South Greenville County and ServPro of Pickens County.

Planning is already underway for the 2018 South Carolina Region 1 Science Fair to be held Friday, March 9, 2018 on the Central campus. ♦

SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY HOSTS AREA 14 SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Southern Wesleyan University welcomed 450 athletes to celebrate "special abilities" as Area 14 (Anderson County) Special Olympics returned April 20 to Joe R. Gilbert Track and Field.

"This is a day of fun and competition for athletes to come out and enjoy being around other athletes from all over Anderson County," said Kathy Schofield, volunteer area director of the Area 14 Special Olympics. Schofield noted that more than 490 participants were registered. Anderson County offers a variety of sports training and competition throughout the year for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Also, athletes get an opportunity to compete at the state level.

This is the second time Southern Wesleyan hosted the games at Central as part of a continuing relationship the university hopes will demonstrate contagious generosity toward all members of its surrounding community.

Highlights included an opening ceremony involving the athletes, hundreds of volunteers from Southern Wesleyan University and Anderson School Districts 1 – 4, athletes' family and friends and community members.

Also during the ceremony, Special Olympics athlete Mitzi Mize led in the Athlete Oath: "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." Special Olympics athlete Kathleen Stoller sang The National Anthem.

"This campus is your campus. We're looking forward to a long-term relationship. Come back every year and let's make this bigger and bigger," said Southern Wesleyan University President Dr. Todd Voss.

For the athletes, ranging from young



Central city police officer Karen Buckley assists Special Olympics athlete Dwight Ables as he lights the cauldron during the opening ceremony.

children to adults, this was "their day," as they enjoyed races, softball tosses, long jumps and many other activities while being cheered on by family, friends and volunteers.

Area first responders, including local law enforcement, emergency services personnel and firefighters, were also on hand as volunteers, as well as to greet the athletes and cheer them on. Also on hand were representatives of various Anderson area community organizations.

The volunteers got as much joy out of the activities as the athletes they accompanied, and experienced a type of inventive learning beyond the scope of a textbook. Madelyn Crawford, a human services major from Six Mile, started volunteering with Special Olympics as a high school student, and served as a volunteer for Area 14 Special Olympics.

"It's really something amazing just to see them smile and have a good time. It makes my heart really full," Crawford said.

Sponsors include but are not limited to: Southern Wesleyan University, Alive Wesleyan Church, Bowers Emergency Services, Brookdale Senior Living Solutions, Clemson Area Transit (CATbus), Central Fire Department, Central Police Department, Diamond T Promotional Gear, EZ Cash, First Quality, Founders Federal Credit Union, Little John Portable Toilets, Palmetto Physical Medicine, Pickens County Emergency Management and Visit Clemson.

For details about Area 14 Special Olympics or to become a volunteer, contact Kathy Schofield at (864) 260-4142 or email Area14@so-sc.org or online www.so-sc.org/locals/area-14/.

Special Olympics South Carolina provides year-round athletic training and competition for 25,588 children and adults with intellectual disabilities, offers 28 Olympic-style sports, and hosts more than 400 competitions each year. ♦

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ ROCKS SWU

Produced by Southern Wesleyan University's Fine Arts Division, this year's student production, "Smokey Joe's Café," was a musical revue of 50's and 60's Rock and Roll music, written by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. The performance, set in a dessert theater setting, featured lots of "oldies but goodies from the days when jukeboxes ruled and AM radio stations rocked all day long with Top 40 tunes. Community sponsors included Alive Wesleyan Church, Southern Smiles, Landvision Titles, Inc., Monterrey Mexican Restaurant and Lightsound Productions. ♦



Above: Tad Day, Emily Service, Julianna Phillips, Shaquenta Bryant, Genesis Perez, Zach Johnson, Adeesha Martin, Wesley Henson, and Caroline Sweatt celebrate the Golden Age of Rock n' Roll.

Right: The "Motown Crew," aka Wesley Henson, Ethan Giles, Tad Day and Patrick Hampton, performed "oldies but goodies," including "Young Blood," "Searchin'," and "Poison Ivy."

Left: Genesis Perez performs "Don Juan."



HONORING THOSE WHO PROTECT AND SERVE

Mark Gowan (left) a SWU Criminal Justice major from Central, greets Pickens County Sheriff Rick Clark as SWU President Todd Voss (seated right) looks on. Clark and law enforcement officials from various area agencies were invited to the Central campus for a Law Enforcement Appreciation Breakfast March 16.

SWU's Advancement Office organized the Law Enforcement Appreciation Breakfast with assistance from SWU's Criminal Justice program, Conference Services, Marketing Office and Pioneer College Caterers. ♦



DAY OF SERVICE SETS RECORD PARTICIPATION IN 2017

The 2017 Day of Service at Southern Wesleyan University was one for the record books.

According to Dr. Justin Carter, associate vice president for student life, Day of Service has seen an increase in overall participation. Day of Service had 331 participants, composed of 262 students, along with faculty and staff. Twenty-five projects were completed in Pickens, Oconee, Anderson and Greenville counties, a Day of Service record.

Drew Carson, a Southern Wesleyan senior and student-athlete, said “Day of Service is just an opportunity for me to get out as an individual, to represent SWU and to represent the Baseball Team and Criminal Justice program, just to come out here and serve and give my time to someone else.” Carson helped with cleanup of the Potter’s Place, a ministry located near Southern Wesleyan’s campus.

“Basically having more people, it relieves the people who work here,” said Taylor



President Dr. Todd Voss (second from left) was part of a crew of students, faculty and staff who painted the historic Norfolk-Southern Railroad overpass in downtown Central. Warrior logos were added later.

Vinson, a senior from West Columbia.

“We think of ministry sometimes as teaching, preaching, singing, working with people but really it’s service, any kind of service; it’s a core value for us,” said Dr. Daryl Couch,

professor of psychology and chair of Southern Wesleyan’s Social Sciences Division. ♦



Watch video from Day of Service 2017 at swu.edu/dos

GRANDPARENTS DAY 2017

Grandparents, family and friends gathered at Southern Wesleyan University in Central for Grandparents Day, a time for sharing campus experiences, including lunch in the University Dining Commons, a tour of the historic campus, a chapel service, financial planning session and a chance to meet SWU faculty, staff and students. Organizing the event was SWU’s Advancement Office, with valuable assistance from SWU Admissions and Spiritual Life offices, Pioneer College Caterers, Clemson Area Transit and Sam Head with Carolinas Wealth Management.

Grandparents Day occurs the third Friday of March each year. ♦



Clockwise from top: Student Malek Martin of Anderson pauses for a photo with his grandfather Dan Morris.

Grandparents, family and friends gather at Nicholson-Mitchell Christian Ministry Center for Grandparents Day.

Jim and Judy Chestnut with their granddaughters Courtney and Brynna Chestnut.



SWU DEDICATES PARKER-SINNAMON BASEBALL CLUBHOUSE

The Southern Wesleyan University baseball team has come a long way from its early days of practicing and playing on a dusty little baseball diamond a few miles away from the Central campus.

In 1985, the team, coached by Dr. Walt Sinnamon, began practicing and playing on Old Stone Church Field in nearby Pendleton, then competed for a while at the D.W. Daniel High School baseball facility. In 1991, a new baseball field took shape as hilly terrain along Simms School Road was leveled for the Dr. C. Keith Connor Field, named for the university's first athletic director. In 2006 the field morphed into a stadium with the completion of new bleachers capped by a new structure containing deluxe climate-controlled box seating, a press box, concession stand and restrooms.

Connor Field now has a beautiful new clubhouse, a climate-controlled facility where the team enjoys a spacious new locker room, bathroom and laundry area and kitchen.

Sinnamon, longtime dean for Southern Wesleyan's College of Arts and Sciences, and his wife Carol, retired director of counseling and health services at the university, made a generous donation toward the clubhouse in memory of his parents, who instilled in him a love for baseball and other sports.

The Parker-Sinnamon Baseball Clubhouse, dedicated Feb. 22, honors Walt's father George Sinnamon and his mother Florence Sinnamon Parker.

"Basically I wanted to do that both to honor her, which some of you knew, and to honor

even my father, who none of you knew but he would've loved this school, would've loved the sport of baseball here and would've been a real supporter also. So that's where we put the money in order to help with the program and to honor her," Sinnamon said.

"I was fortunate to grow up in a Christian family. Next to that, academics were very important. My dad was really into various types of sports. That became a really important part of my life," Sinnamon said. He recalled how his parents, who lived in the Philadelphia area, were avid Phillies fans, and that his mother remained a big baseball fan after moving to South Carolina to be with Walt and Carol. She would watch her son coach the Warriors at home and even travel on the van with them to some away games.

Southern Wesleyan University President Dr. Todd Voss praised Sinnamon for his dedication to the Warriors baseball program.

"I am taken back related to the power of the ministry of the program and the impact it has on those students from this point on through



Dr. Walt Sinnamon, center, and Dr. Todd Voss, right, observe the dedication of the new Parker-Sinnamon Clubhouse.

graduation. I am also impressed with what they learn from character development, teamwork, the sense of what this place is about and how it gets incorporated in their lives to the point of becoming who they are," Voss said.

Southern Wesleyan's current baseball coach, Mike Gillespie, played under Sinnamon's coaching when he was a member of the Warriors Baseball Team.

"It's really a great honor for us to have alumni come back and be able to walk them through the clubhouse," Gillespie said. "We sincerely appreciate what we have now."

Gillespie added that, in addition to benefiting current students, the Parker-Sinnamon Baseball Clubhouse will have a positive impact on recruiting future Warriors.

Future improvements to Connor Field will include a new visitor dugout, hitting facility and extended retaining wall.

For details about giving opportunities, visit swu.edu/homerun-legacy or contact the Southern Wesleyan University Office of Advancement at (864) 644-5008. ♦



Dr. Walt Sinnamon reflects on the beginnings of intercollegiate baseball at Southern Wesleyan University and how his parents instilled in him a love for sports.

JERICO PROJECT BREAKS GROUND ON FIRST PHASE

Officials from Pickens County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs and Anderson County Disabilities and Special Needs Board, Southern Wesleyan University and the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs joined together with elected and appointed officials Feb. 27 to break ground on the first phase of a housing community that will serve individuals with special needs and disabilities.

The Jericho Project represents a new type of collaboration which will yield a living/learning environment that will prepare its special needs and disabilities residents to live more independent lives, while at the same time, provide a select group of Southern Wesleyan University students an immersive experiential learning opportunity to guide them in important ways in their chosen profession.

Just as the walls came down around the biblical city of Jericho, The Jericho Project represents figurative walls coming down – the barriers that hinder individuals with special needs and disabilities from experiencing life-enriching opportunities.

“Today we turn dirt to proclaim that public-private partnerships can and do work to serve the needs of our community,” said Dr. Lisa McWherter, Southern Wesleyan’s vice president for advancement. “Southern Wesleyan University seeks to provide an inventive learning environment, to be a faith-filled community and to exude contagious generosity. There is not a ‘smidgen’ of this tremendous partnership that does not perfectly align with our institutional DNA.”

McWherter added that the housing will be “a structure that represents to all that God is good, and He breaks down walls and helps us realize that we’re all more alike than we are different.”

“We’re the demolition crew who are knocking down the walls and barriers before this program gets built,” said Tyler Rex, executive director of Anderson County Disabilities and Special Needs Board. “I want to thank you for being part of our ‘demolition crew’ for The Jericho Project. Simply your presence here today is meaningful and has impact.

The \$2 million initial phase involves building one four-bedroom unit, seven two-bedroom units and two one-bedroom units,



From left: Rep. Gary Clary; Dr. Lisa McWherter; Andrew Goldsmith; Councilman Chris Bowers; Councilman Trey Whitehurst; Jonathan Catron; Mike Cannon; Horace Padgett; Dr. Todd Voss; Michael Sheriff; Margaret Jackson.

which will house a total of 11 residents with disabilities and/or special needs and nine students. All units will have fully ADA compliant restrooms, fully ADA-equipped kitchens and laundry areas and common space. Included will be an elevator, administrative office, training/meeting room, covered van drop-off portico, outdoor pavilion and a quarter-mile walking trail.

Elaine Thena, executive director of Pickens County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs, the agency that will manage the facility, said that The Jericho Project will offer opportunities that their residents could experience nowhere else.

“They are going to come and be part of this university campus. They are going to develop friendships that are going to be life-long friendships. They are going to participate in sports, chapel, music, classes and anything that’s available. If they want to further their education, that’s part of what they can do too. Hopefully some of them will find employment here,” Thena said.

Dr. Todd Voss, SWU President, praised The Jericho Project for the opportunities that will open for its residents.

“It’s about our friends, finding themselves in a loving community where they are known,

where they are loved and appreciated and – maybe for the first time in many of their lives – where they feel like they are a part of an expanded community where their name is known and wherever they go they’re greeted with kindness and support,” Voss said. “I think that identity process is so important to healing and to growth and development.”

“For most of our students interested in this project, it’s about the opportunity to get their hands dirty and to really understand the issues involved,” Voss added. “It is such a win-win.”

Housing will be constructed on a 3.4 acre tract between Wesleyan Drive and College Street owned by the university, made available through a long-term lease.

The groundbreaking ceremony was preceded by a chapel service where students joined in the celebration of The Jericho Project and heard from individuals with disabilities and special needs and representatives from the special needs boards.

Details about The Jericho Project can be found by contacting the Southern Wesleyan University Office of Advancement at 864.644.5006 or by visiting jerichoatswu.org. ♦





Dr. Dupin speaks to 4,000 at an Asheboro, N.C. crusade.

AMPHITHEATER NAMED IN HONOR OF INTERNATIONAL EVANGELIST

Dr. Clyde Dupin has been considered the “Billy Graham of Small Town U.S.A.” As his ministry grew, his impact reached worldwide, resulting in thousands of individuals making decisions to follow Christ.

SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY dedicated its new amphitheater in honor of the noted evangelist, Clyde Dupin, April 12 at Central. The Clyde Dupin Celebration Amphitheater is the result of generous gifts and support from the Dupin family and friends. At its entrance stands a statue of Dupin, created by professional sculptor Dee Jay Bawden of Provo, Utah.

Dupin became a Christian at the age of nine and began preaching

as a boy, beginning decades of evangelism that reached more than four million people in over 600 interdenominational crusades, revivals and conventions. An ordained minister in The Wesleyan Church, Dupin pastored for 10 years and was an evangelist for 50 years. He produced a radio program heard by thousands and published a weekly column that appeared in more than 100 newspapers for 40 years.

Dupin received his ministerial training at United Wesleyan College,

University of Evansville and received an honorary doctorate of divinity from Southern Wesleyan.

He married Grace Elizabeth Spencer in 1951. They had three children; Wesley, Kenneth and Joy. Both sons are pastors and each have a son who pastors.

The dedication ceremony featured music from Donnie Haulk and the Rick Webb Family. Haulk and Webb have performed at many of Dupin's crusades around the world. Also leading in musical worship were the University Singers.

"This is called Dupin Celebration Amphitheater for a reason... because it's what Clyde called his crusades. But more than that, it's what our campus community will do every day they walk by this space reminding us that evangelism is our mission and celebrating lives won to Christ is our reward," said Southern Wesleyan University President Dr. Todd Voss.

Ben Davis, SCDOT commissioner for the Third Congressional District and a former general board chairman of Clyde Dupin Ministries, recalled the effect of Dupin's crusades on communities, resulting in many salvations, calls to ministry, and churches working together.

"My life is a part of the ripple effect of Dr. Dupin's work as I carry out God's mission for my life," said Pam Mangum of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, who became a Christian at a Dupin crusade.

Terry Woychowski, a Dupin supporter and former vice president of General Motors credited with the rollout of major SUV and truck brands, called attention to Dupin's leadership – his wisdom, courage and strength to endure as he traveled the world with the Gospel.

Dupin expressed gratitude to Southern Wesleyan and to Dr. Voss, praising him for his love for God, love of people and his vision for the university.

"I accept your honor only in the name of Jesus," Dupin said. "What I am, I am by the grace of God."

Referring to the statue erected at the amphitheater's entrance following the ceremony, he said, "Don't look at that man; look at the Bible in his hand." Of the cross that stands behind Dupin's sculpture, he said, "They'll know that with the cross, there's redemption and salvation."

Dr. Charles Joiner, chairman of Southern Wesleyan's board of trustees, led those assembled for the ceremony in a litany of dedication.

Ken Dill, university chaplain and associate vice president for spiritual life, recalled the shared vision he had with Voss about a vacant space between Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center



Pictured from left are son, Dr. Kenneth Dupin; daughter, Joy Beth George; Clyde; Grace; and son Rev. Wes Dupin. Ken and Joy Beth attended Southern Wesleyan.

and Nicholson-Mitchell Christian Ministry Center that was grown over with scrub trees, praying it would one day be a place where students would gather.

Located along Wesleyan Drive next to Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center, the amphitheater is a testimony to Southern Wesleyan University's faith-filled community. The contagious generosity that made this venue possible will also be of benefit to the surrounding community as Southern Wesleyan hosts outdoor events. ♦



CELEBRATING NEW LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITY AT SWU

On March 15, students gathered in the new residence hall for a special chapel to pray and to celebrate what God is accomplishing on the Central campus and how this new facility can be used to His glory to impact future students. Students, faculty and staff wrote on the walls and beams verses of scripture and inspirational thoughts at the conclusion of a chapel service in the residence hall, currently under construction. The new residence hall will open to students this August. ♦



Watch video from the chapel service at youtu.be/JoyqFNofS_Y



SWU WELCOMES THREE NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

During the opening session of the April meeting, Russ Gunsalus, executive director of education & clergy for The Wesleyan Church, installed three new members to the Southern Wesleyan University Board of Trustees.



FRANKIE RODRIQUEZ

Rev. Frankie Rodriquez is a Hispanic ministry leader in The Wesleyan Church. In that role he serves as a bridge between Wesleyan Spanish speaking churches across the country and the Wesleyan Church leadership. He is also the pastor of La Iglesia El Camino in Greenville, S.C., where he shares his contagious enthusiasm for spreading the gospel by making a difference in the Hispanic community through meeting needs in very practical ways.



JONATHAN LEWIS

Rev. Jonathan Lewis is the district superintendent for the North Carolina East District of The Wesleyan Church and is also a Southern Wesleyan University alumnus, having received his master of ministry from SWU. Lewis began his career as a mission pastor and has participated in ministry in more than 112 different countries. He has a real heart for transforming the local church into a mission minded body that is reaching outward to impact the community and the world for Christ.



GREG LEWIS

Greg Lewis is a former executive of the Lubrizol Corporation, a Fortune 500 company. During his career he held many important positions and traveled extensively, including living in Singapore. He holds a BS in chemical engineering and a Juris Doctorate in law. After retiring from corporate life his desire was to work full-time for the Lord. He connected with Southern Wesleyan University as a guest lecturer in a Business Law class and has since been advising and teaching in the School of Business. ♦

SEEING SWU 'IN A NEW LIGHT'



Before (top) and after photos of the updated lighting in Tysinger gymnasium.

As it becomes critically important to be good stewards of God's creation, Southern Wesleyan University feels its investment in LED (light-emitting diode) lighting technology will pay dividends down the road for the planet and also in the form of significant energy cost savings.

Southern Wesleyan has been transitioning from conventional light fixtures to more energy-efficient LED fixtures, which should result in significant savings over a short period of time.

Duke Energy is offering an incentive for the university to convert to the new LED lighting. The total project spend will be approximately \$162,000, but with available rebates from Duke Power "in the neighborhood of \$115,000," the net one-time cost to SWU will be \$47,000, according to Mark Reeves, vice president for finance and auxiliary services.

"Based on historic meter readings and the guaranteed reduction in energy usage, it is projected that SWU will save over \$90,000 annually with this conversion to LED," Reeves said.

The installation initially focused on lights that remain on continually or for many hours each day, such as those found in lobbies and other public areas. Installation in Tysinger gymnasium was completed in late November. Also being replaced are outdoor lights controlled by photocells that switch them on at night. Lights in offices and classrooms were updated during the spring.

Chicago-based Vivid Energies and the physical plant staff have been performing the installation of the new lights. ♦

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NATHAN STEGENGA IS LIVING OUT HIS DREAM – DOING SOMETHING HE’S PREPARED FOR HIS WHOLE LIFE.

STEGENGA IS THE FIRST Southern Wesleyan University student to be selected to enter NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School), one of outdoor education’s most highly regarded programs. Being among the first students to participate in Southern Wesleyan’s LORE (Leadership in Outdoor Recreation Education) program and leading the university’s Outdoor Club has equipped him with skills for planning outdoor adventures of all kinds – backpacking, rock climbing, skiing and outdoor rafting. His love for the outdoors springs out of a childhood where his parents – one a state park ranger and the other a science teacher – cultivated a desire for exploration and adventure of God’s creation.

“Lucky for me, I lived in a state park and had two older brothers whose boyhood passions for discovery easily rivaled my own. From the many hours spent catching snakes and frogs in the creeks, camping out atop Table Rock for the best sunrise in South Carolina, or helping my dad with his campfire nature talks, a love for wild places became rooted deep within and has grown even more in the past four years,” Stegenga said.

Since entering NOLS, Stegenga has risen to new heights, but it hasn’t been easy.

Rappelling down a vertical canyon wall, slithering through the confines of a slot canyon, and dealing with fatigue and subzero conditions are not for everyone, but Stegenga has learned a lot about himself.

“The Rocky Mountain West is a wild and wonderful place, and while

NOLS is certainly one of the hardest things I’ve ever done, I’ve also never packed so much thrill and enjoyment into 90 days,” Stegenga said.

“I owe a multitude of thanks for the mentoring I have received from Dr. Roger McKenzie, Dr. Daryl Couch, and former Resident Director Phil Pranger. Each one of these men have poured countless selfless hours into not only my academic pursuits, but also my holistic development as a leader,” Stegenga said. He feels his experience with NOLS will pay dividends as he seeks to advance his education. Following graduation in May 2017, Stegenga plans to continue his studies with the potential goal of working in wilderness therapy and/or becoming an NOLS Instructor – and eventually pursue a master’s degree.

“In any case, the road ahead in my career as an outdoor educator is sure to be a rigorous and rewarding one, and I am thankful to have had my experience with NOLS to prepare me for it,” Stegenga said. ♦



Above: A 20-day rock climbing course gave Stegenga a chance to sample many different styles of climbing – from steep granite slabs to gorgeous sandstone cracks. Pictured is Stegenga nearing the top of a climb called “Coyote Ugly” in Sewemup Mesa, Colo. Photo credit: Patrick Casper

Right: Ten days into a two-week journey through the Wind River Range in Wyoming, Stegenga and his coursemates found themselves in the East Fork Valley, with stunning views of the Raid Cirque.



MAKING A Difference

Upstate Parent highlighted four SWU graduates among 10 Educators Who Make a Difference in their January issue.



**Misty
Abercrombie**

Teaching at Mauldin High School has brought Misty Abercrombie full circle.

Always wanting to be a teacher, Abercrombie started college majoring in education. Abercrombie feels blessed to have had teachers who taught her subjects she needed and cared about each student and their success, such as Lem Blackwell; also Barbara Bunch, a favorite sixth-grade teacher.

When Abercrombie's twin sons were born, she decided family was her top priority. A few years later she entered Southern Wesleyan University and earned her bachelor's degree in business administration, then started working as an outside sales rep. When her twins graduated high school, she thought about how to make a difference in the lives of others and entered South Carolina's PACE program to become a certified teacher.

Being a first-year teacher wasn't without challenges for Abercrombie. She knew how to teach entrepreneurship and other business subjects, but most of all she wanted her students to learn to succeed and impact society. A breakthrough came when she gave her students an essay assignment to tell who they are not – essentially to counter perceived stereotypes.

Abercrombie said "They shared things with me that some had never shared with anyone else." Her students created a wall outside the classroom telling the school who they actually were.

Strong. Kind-hearted. One of a Kind. Complex. A great planner.

Christian. Realistic. The list goes on.

Abercrombie asserts that Southern Wesleyan gave her the business knowledge she needed to begin her outside sales career, then use that knowledge and experience to begin her teaching career.

"Being in a Christian environment reinforced my Christian values," said Abercrombie. "These values have given me the heart to teach my students and help mold and guide them." ♦



**April
Christopher**

April Christopher says teaching is "in her blood." Her mother taught fifth-grade, her grandmother was a teacher and her grandfather was an elementary school principal.

She also gained inspiration from teachers who were able to make learning fun and memorable and knew how to bring out the best in their students.

A fourth-grade teacher at East End Elementary School in Easley, Christopher said, "Teaching is something I feel comes naturally to me. I also enjoy that each child is different, each day is different, each class is different and each year is different."

She says that the most rewarding part of teaching for her is when she's able to learn alongside her students.

Christopher recalled how she was able to help a student who was struggling with geometry.

"She and I worked a little bit extra one-on-one. Her confidence

grew as she was able to master the skills, and she started participating more in class,” Christopher said. “The most rewarding feeling is seeing the joy on a child’s face when you know they’ve been struggling and they finally master a skill, concept, or goal and reach the top of that mountain.”

For Christopher, who graduated from Southern Wesleyan University’s Adult and Graduate Studies program in 2009 with her master of education degree, her education equipped her to make more sound instructional decisions for her students.

“I am able to reflect back on my classes and curriculum and use what I’ve learned as a guide or resource tool for decisions in my classroom,” Christopher said, adding that she feels more confident in herself and more well-equipped to put her best foot forward for her students each day. ♦

Damon Qualls



For Damon Qualls, being an educator is a calling.

An only child, Qualls invited other children to his home to be students in the classroom he made.

“They were making Honor Roll. I was like ‘wow! I’m really good at this’ so I began to mentor in middle school,” Qualls said.

In high school Qualls learned about Call Me Mister, an initiative to prepare African-American teachers and enrolled at Benedict College.

After graduating, Qualls began teaching at Alexander Elementary School in Greenville, a school where many students are below the poverty line. He and his principal developed Men Who Read and invited professional men to share how reading has impacted their careers. He added a “dress for success” component, securing blazers, neckties and other accessories and transformed the school’s media center into a barbershop.

When Qualls learned how to submit grants to DonorsChoose, an online charity, funding began trickling in, but soon reached \$200,000. In 2015 DonorsChoose invited him to New York to tell his story.

Comedian Stephen Colbert made a surprise appearance and announced his \$800,000 donation to fund projects of more than 800 teachers, Qualls included. The celebration extended via Skype to Greenville where Qualls’ students, his principal and State Superintendent of Education Dr. Molly Spearman cheered him on.

“I’ve just held on, buckled up and enjoyed the ride,” Qualls said.

An ordained minister, Qualls chose SWU to pursue his master

of education degree in administration and supervision because the university’s vision aligned with his beliefs.

“The School of Education has remarkable professors; many are actually current principals or former principals or retired administrators. They were able to shed light on situations they’ve encountered over the years that textbooks wouldn’t necessarily share,” Qualls said. ♦



Watch more of Damon’s story
at youtu.be/wf9m1NQF7oE

Pam Erwin



After considering a career in Audiology, Pam Erwin decided to study Speech and Language Pathology. She enjoys helping other individuals regardless of age, and has a passion and empathy for her students and their parents.

Having a daughter who was diagnosed with learning issues in the first-grade influenced Erwin to pursue further education in learning disabilities.

“I can honestly tell parents I have walked where they are walking,” said Erwin, who received advance training with the Orton Gillingham reading approach for remediation of dyslexia.

Erwin is learning difference coordinator at Shannon Forest Christian School in Greenville and works with teachers, parents and administration seeking the best for students.

“A student, who is a runner, took the ACT with me and was having an off day. He was quite discouraged and I reminded him that he could take this test as many times as deemed necessary, to view this time as practice. We talked about how he runs daily to ready himself for a meet and often, not with good results because he has an off day. The analogy helped him connect the importance of repetition to succeed,” Erwin said.

“My students drill on correct concepts and sometimes lose heart, but when they stay the course, they are rewarded,” Erwin said.

Erwin, who was enrolled at Southern Wesleyan University’s Greenville education center, received her master of education degree in 2011. Southern Wesleyan appealed to her because she could take classes at night and during the summer.

“I was the oldest in my class, by far, with adult children and working full time as an LD teacher and coordinator. The collaboration was excellent. I have recommended the program to many coworkers,” Erwin said. ♦

Lovingly Shaped

BY THE

Master's Hands

THE SCHAUPP FAMILY story is a remarkable one simply because we have a remarkable God," said Shannon Schaupp. "The blood stained handprints of our Savior are all over each member in, first and foremost, mercy."

Don was born and raised in the Catskill Mountains of New York. His father spent 45 years as station agent for various railroads, and his mother as a telephone operator, in the days when operators were known by their first name. Shannon was born in Texas to a father who was a WWII fighter pilot with the Flying Tigers and a mother who was in real estate in San Antonio for 60 years.

Don, a U.S. Air Force officer, was stationed in San Antonio when he met Shannon on a blind date. They were married three weeks later.

"Extremely rocky first years of marriage left us desperate for help that only God could give," Shannon recalled. "At the invitation from a neighbor to come to church one evening, God spoke to our hearts. We went forward and laid our very broken lives at the foot of the cross. Our lives and marriage were transformed that night and the burning passion to lead others to Christ has never been quenched."

In 1985, the Schaupps moved from Ottawa, Canada to Central. Don's last assignment was at Clemson University as assistant professor and commandant of Cadets of the Air Force ROTC. While attending First Wesleyan Church (now Alive Wesleyan Church), Don's Sunday School teacher, Dr. James Bross, talked about a new adult evening program he was developing at Central Wesleyan College (now Southern Wesleyan University). Bross recognized Don's leadership potential and experience, and asked him to collaborate with him on the new program.

Don was "all in," retiring from the Air Force the next year after 22 years of service to develop the Leadership Education for Adult Professionals (LEAP) program. He also helped establish a Computer Science program at the University.

In 1992 the Schaupps built their house on Wesleyan Drive. It became "home away from home" for many students over the years, where they would come for Bible studies, discipleship groups, Sunday dinners and holiday meals.

"They embraced every facet of the students and their lives, and

looked for ways to point them to Christ and minister to them while they were there," their son Reagan Schaupp recalled. "The college students were like surrogate brothers and sisters, and were more fun than kids my own age," said son Nathan Schaupp.

Reagan graduated from Clemson University and is now a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force, leading a team of curriculum developers at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala.

Don and Shannon's second son, Darren, a graduate of SWU, is vice president of programs for American Leprosy Missions, an organization dedicated to curing leprosy. Darren said, "TPP is simply the expansion of who my parents were at home; I believe one of their greatest strengths is their transparency. They openly share the broken places in their lives while pointing to the One Who fixes them."

Their third son, Bryan, who also attended SWU, owns Upstate Locksmith and developed Grand Central Station, a nationally-ranked disc golf course in Central. The course, developed in collaboration with the town of Central and supported by SWU, hosts national tournaments each year. Bryan views his parents' spiritual transformation and service to Christ in the community as an example of changed lives he tries to follow.

The youngest son, Nathan, attended SWU under dual enrollment two years while at D.W. Daniel High, then earned a Landscape Architecture degree from Clemson, and now serves as Client Liaison, Design Studio Manager and Landscape Designer with The Collins Group.

Shannon used to go into the woods near their home for time alone with God. Little did she know while sitting on a tree stump that God would one day entrust to them those 20 acres at the end of Clayton Street, where they would develop a special place for getting alone with God. What began as their personal home of hospitality is now known as The Potter's Place (TPP), where lives are molded and shaped by the Potter daily. (Jer. 18:2, Isa. 64:8)

"We had no master plan, but the handiwork of the Master Planner is everywhere," Shannon said. Nathan designed the landscape to enhance peoples' ability to fully sense God's presence. Journals found in each prayer cabin tell of many lives touched and transformed by God.

“It’s really good to be able to go somewhere safe and know that God is always there. Before I started going to TPP I wasn’t comfortable with solitude or being by myself,” said Lyssa Henry, a SWU freshman English major from High Point, N.C. At TPP, Henry learned how to spend meaningful time alone with God. She recalls being in a prayer cabin when a father, who had heard about this place, rolled his blind son with cerebral palsy up the ramp and asked her if she would pray for him. “It was really powerful,” she said.

Another college student brought his mother out after graduation to see “his cabin.”

“I call it my cabin because as a freshman, when my life and grades were in a downward spiral, a guy down the dorm hall brought me here at midnight. I was on my face until 4 a.m. pouring my heart out to God. This is where my life was transformed,” the student said.

A pastor staying with his wife in the pastor’s cottage said, “I felt like I had jumped out of a burning building in my ministry and marriage. The Potter’s Place was my safety net where God put our lives back together.”

Recently, Don and Shannon sensed God impressing them to add five houses for missionaries returning from the field, as well as a guest house for transient missionaries.

“It is extremely difficult for those who serve long term in another country to return to the States,” says Don. This facility would also

Don and Shannon at the Potter’s Place with Reagan, their son; and his wife Dawn and grandchildren Jonathan, Charles and Hannah.



serve as a place for discipling, training and connecting veteran missionaries with those preparing to go to the field. Lee and Amy Millspaugh, previous clergy at The Mount Church in Clemson, recently came as self-supporting missionaries to TPP and are helping with the process of forming a 501(c)3 (non profit) organization for this project and it’s sustainability.

“Don and Shannon are the hands, feet and heart of Jesus to all who come here,” remarks Lee, “They are the priceless vessels through which God began this work, and through which He continues it today.”

“It is our blessing to be caretakers of this place,” Don said “Our lives were the ‘marred, clay vessels’ in Jeremiah 18:4, but He made us over again. If we are willing to be poured out for the Kingdom, He will use us. Sometimes we are actually aware of it; a lot of times we are not.” ♦

Above: 2009 Schaupp family photo

Below: Don, right, when he was Commandant of the AFROTC cadets at Clemson.



RETURNING TO CHINA

Sentao “Charlie” Zhou, a 2016 Computer Information Systems graduate, works in Greenville for the U.S. office of TyreCheck, an Irish company. He was recently selected to support a key project involving TyreCheck and Michelin China, which meant a return to his homeland.

“It has always been one of my dreams to return to my motherland as a working man and make my family proud,” said Zhou.

While working on this project, Zhou traveled to Shanghai, Beijing and Tianjin working on technical support and building business relationships.

For Zhou this was also a great opportunity to reconnect with loved ones.

“I am the only one in my family who is overseas, so traveling back to China is an annual family reunion for me. I and my families talk through Skype once a while but it’s not the same,” Zhou said. “Also because of my absence for the New Year every year, when I do get back, my whole family, including my parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins would try to get together and have banquets with me. It’s always fun to catch up with families and just simply be with them.”

Zhou first learned about Southern Wesleyan University through the family of Chen Chen, a 2011 Media Communications graduate. When Zhou was considering an American university, Chen’s family recommended he look into Southern Wesleyan.

Zhou grew closer to Jesus Christ as his personal savior while at Southern Wesleyan. His professors demonstrated to him not only that they were knowledgeable about their subjects, but that they truly cared.

“Friends, professors and staff at SWU taught me and showed me what the love of Jesus Christ looks like and feels like,” Zhou continued.

At Southern Wesleyan, Zhou worked as a resident assistant, guided by a principle he was taught: “Love God; Love people; and teach others to do the same.”

As an international student, Zhou admitted that he struggled in class probably more than his peers, but he could always count on professors who took the time to make sure he understood the class material.

When he graduated, Zhou learned about TyreCheck from his friend and fellow Southern Wesleyan alumnus and mentor Christian Flinchum (’14). He also credits Ellen Pate in Southern Wesleyan’s



Career Services office for helping him write an effective resume and cover letter and being prepared for his job interview.

“Now looking back to the whole process of me applying and getting into SWU, I see God’s work in every step I walked,” Zhou said.

TyreCheck has also promoted Zhou to technical support lead for Asia. He will assist the company to establish a Chinese headquarters in Shanghai. ♦



FATHER-DAUGHTER LEGACY CROSSES CONTINENTS

In the late 1970s, Innocent Nwankwo was one of two Nigerian soccer players signed to a fledgling intercollegiate soccer program at Southern Wesleyan University, then known as Central Wesleyan College.

Innocent and teammate Paul Agu initially played at nearby Clemson University, but a change in the number of NCAA scholarships available led their coach I.M. Ibrahim to seek other places for them. Dr. Keith Connor, then-athletic director, worked with President Claude Rickman and Dean P.B. Wood to transfer these players.

An outstanding offensive player, Innocent scored a record-setting 48 goals during his first year. Innocent and Agu helped the Warriors finish third in the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) National Championships. Both were inducted into SWU's Athletic Hall of Fame.

"I am very grateful to Southern Wesleyan University for inducting me into the school's Soccer Hall of Fame; that was the icing on the cake. I will live to cherish Southern Wesleyan University all the days of my life," Innocent said.

After graduation, Innocent returned to Nigeria to establish his career and raise a family. He held several management positions and was named general manager and CEO of Imo State Development Finance Investment Company, where he served until retiring in 2014.

Anita Nwankwo, the third of Innocent's six children, enrolled at Southern Wesleyan in 2015, where she recently graduated with her BS in biology and plans to enter medical school.

"My mom is a nurse, so I was influenced a lot by her," Anita said, noting how she was inspired from watching her mother interact with people she treated. "Sometimes people would come to her house because we don't have EMT's; when something happens you go to your closest neighbor. It was amazing that she was rendering these

services to people; that's what inspired me to go into medicine."

Anita also grew up hearing Innocent share his memories of SWU, the camaraderie and friendship on and off the soccer field and of Connor, friend Andrew Loggins and many others who touched his life.

Innocent felt SWU was a school he could trust for his daughter to attend.

"It was amazing when I first got here. I was like, 'wow, my dad was here years ago!' I would say it brought us closer in a way because we have the same birthday and now we went to the same school," Anita said.

"I and my entire Family are overjoyed that Anita our child is attending the very University I graduated from," Innocent said.

Anita feels that SWU's faith-filled community is helping her spiritually, as her classes begin with prayer and as God speaks to her during chapels.

"You can't help but be in that presence of God," Anita said.

Anita said of her father, "He made sure he sent us to college and we studied whatever we wanted to do. He is all for encouraging us and supporting us to be the best we can."

During Homecoming this past October, Sandra Ellison Morgan, who attended the university at the same time as Innocent, met Anita at the lunch tent by chance and struck up a conversation that brought forth memories and delight that she followed her father's footsteps to Southern Wesleyan.

"Anita's dad has passed on a beautiful testimony to Anita of the joys he experienced during his SWU days," Morgan said. ♦

Left: Innocent Nwankwo (standing, second from left) in a 1978 Men's Soccer Team photo. Standing to the right of him is Paul Agu, who with Innocent was recruited by Coach Keith Connor to play on the team.

Right: Anita Nwankwo.

If These Walls Could Talk...

ON **APRIL 12**, more than 150 Southern Wesleyan University alumni, their families and friends gathered at The Founders to reminisce and recount stories from the 70-year history of Childs Hall. The banquet was also a time to focus on preparing for the next 70 years. As of April, more than \$200,000 was raised of the total \$1.5 million goal to preserve and enhance this historic residence hall.

Childs Hall renovation is slated to start in August and run through June 2018, which includes conversion of rooms to suites, where two rooms share a bathroom; stairwells will be enclosed; new windows will be installed throughout the building; new heating and air-conditioning will be installed throughout the building; and new common spaces will be added, including a first floor lobby and a lounge and study room on each floor.

Rev. Joy L. Bryant and Dr. Mickey Rickman are co-chairs of the Childs Hall Micro Campaign.





For details about the
Childs Hall Micro Campaign
and to make a donation, visit
swu.edu/childshall
or call (864) 644-5008.

Just imagine the new
memories yet to be made at
Childs Hall!

Clockwise from left: Fine Arts students Tad Day, left, Patrick Hampton, center, and Ashley Lamos, right, re-created glimpses of life during Childs Hall's heyday, recalling milestones in the history of the historic structure. SWU's office of Advancement organized the event.

Childs Hall co-chairs Dr. Mickey Rickman and Rev. Joy Bryant unveil a \$200,000 check as Southern Wesleyan University President Dr. Todd Voss looks on.

Darl Fowler, center, gets some laughs from Dr. Todd Voss, left, and Clifton Wood, right, during the Childs Hall Fundraising Dinner. Fowler and Wood recalled construction of Childs Hall in 1947 and of their experiences there as students.

Why We Give

YEARS AGO I REMEMBER hearing people saying “Time sure goes fast.”

I did not understand this statement very well because the road of life behind me looked so much shorter than the road in front of me. I now understand the meaning better because 60 years ago this year, I enrolled as a freshman in Wesleyan Methodist College, now Southern Wesleyan University. I now see that my views have reversed. The road of life in front of me is much shorter than the one behind me.

So how did I arrive at this point in my life? It is only by the grace of God and being blessed by others in so many ways. I can now see along the way that many people and organizations helped me unmeasurably. I was not ready academically to begin college work but my teachers at SWU were more than teachers. They were mentors and friends, ready to guide me. They gave me an opportunity to work to help pay the expenses of school. They knew how to help me grow academically and prepare me for the next phase of life.

This story is similar in my student teaching classes at Pickens High School and later teaching at Wren High School. It was true in my graduate program at Clemson University, with NDEA financial support, and support from family members and friends. It was true with my work at Southern Wesleyan and during sabbatical leave at Winthrop University. All along the way, there have been many individuals and organizations that invested their finances and time to help me accomplish my goals.

This, no doubt, resulted from the many prayers and God’s blessings on my life when I was unworthy.

Now, I see other students walking in similar paths I took years ago. I wonder how they can pay for their education that is greatly needed to accomplish their goals of

service to their communities and to God. I remember one Sunday morning walking down the sidewalk to church with Dr. Virgil Mitchell. I am not sure of the subject we were discussing but I do vividly remember a comment he made. He said “Bob, our number one enemy is ignorance.” The more I reflect on his comment, the more I think he was correct. I believe the only way to improve individuals in our society and restore our culture is with Christian-centered education programs like those found at Southern Wesleyan University. However, current students need the same financial and educational support.

I want to give back to students the same way others invested in my own life. So that is the main reason I financially support students at Southern Wesleyan Uni-

versity. I encourage everyone financially able to invest in Christian Education, even at some small amount, because these young students are facing the same financial challenges many of us faced years ago. ♦



Harriet and Bob Nash

BOB NASH, '61

PARTNERSHIP WELCOMES S.C. FOSTER CHILDREN

Caring for more vulnerable members of our community is not only a solid biblical principle, it also aligns with Southern Wesleyan University's principle of contagious generosity.

Since last year, Southern Wesleyan University has collaborated with Tri-County Technical College by hosting 4-C-Able Futures, an initiative geared toward children and youth in foster care. 4-C-Able Futures camp is dedicated to its participants' learning self-confidence and teamwork at the SWU challenge course or through interaction with other foster children and youth. SWU will host another camp June 18-23.

"Seeing this Camp come to life last summer was one of the highlights of my life. To be able to look into the eyes – and the hearts – of these young people was a privilege and a blessing," said Gayle Arries, 4-C-Able Futures coordinator and TCTC marketing director. "Our goal was to help these youth realize their potential is far greater than their circumstances. I am confident that through this partnership, we were able to offer encouragement and direction for more solid futures." Arries and her husband adopted four children through the DSS Foster Care system in 2008.

"This camp was the most rewarding experience I've had in my 24 years with Tri-County," said Dr. Brian Swords (SWU '95), senior director of campuses at TCTC, and Arries' mentor. He is currently in the process of adopting one



Dr. Roger McKenzie gives 4-C-Able Futures campers an orientation of SWU's challenge course during last summer's camp.



CW62 TV host Jamarcus Gaston shares his life story while encouraging camp participants to develop a vision for their lives and "take it to the next level."

of the youth he met through the Camp.

Many SWU employees have opened their

homes to foster children. Amy Reese and her husband Jason recently opened their home to a foster child.

"Foster care and adoption are beautiful expressions of the gospel," Amy said. "The need for children to be placed in loving homes is high. For those who say, 'I could never foster, I would get too attached,' I say, 'Your attachment is exactly what these children need. If they leave your home after being loved by you, you have the capacity to cope and grieve. However, if you never open your homes to these children for fear of getting attached, these kids may never know stability and love.'"

Staff members Mike and Sandy Preusz took in a foster child years ago.

"A call from their Guardian Ad Litem (and they were only with us a couple months before they were eventually adopted and placed in their forever home) informed us that the little girl said she wanted 'a loving home like Aunt Sandy and Uncle Mike's' when she grows up," Sandy recalled.

"Looking back, I would do it all again. Being a foster parent and giving love, protection, and care for the most innocent and vulnerable among us is, I think, something that is very close to God's heart," said Warren Dennis, another Southern Wesleyan employee who took in foster children. ♦



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ALUMNI NEWS

1936

1 Happy birthday to **SALLIE EVATT** who recently turned 100! When Sallie received her teacher education degree, she then financially supported her sister Marie Evatt as she entered the mission field and served in Sierra Leone. Joy Bryant, executive director of alumni and constituent relations, paid Sallie a visit to celebrate.

1958, 59

2 Family members of **REV. JIM** ('58) and **LOIS WIGGINS** ('59) organized a celebration honoring their 80th birthdays on March 19 (Jim's birthday) at Trinity Wesleyan Church in Central. Lois will celebrate her birthday June 8. The Wigginses have devoted many years of service to SWU, The Wesleyan Church and area schools and have served as missionaries in Sierra Leone.

1974

3 Snead State Community College presented **DR. KAREN WATTS** with a 2016 Chancellor's Award during a ceremony Nov. 22, 2016, in Montgomery, Ala. She also received the 2016 John and Susan Roueche Excellence Award from the League for Innovation in the Community College. Watts is director of

the college's Social Sciences and Human Services Division. Her husband, **DR. JONATHAN WATTS** ('74), chairs Snead State's Humanities and Fine Arts Division.

1978

4 **SHERRY HAITHCOCK**, left, was inducted into the South Carolina Coaches Association of Women's Sports Hall of Fame. Haithcock is former Liberty High School athletic director. The SWU Alumni Association awarded Haithcock the Professional Excellence Award for the School of Education in 2007. Presenting the award was Van McCloud, last year's inductee.

1984

AMY CARVER BURK received her doctorate in educational technology and e-learning from Northcentral University in December 2016. Burk serves as the instructional support specialist at Cross Keys High School in Atlanta and has 32 years of experience teaching English and supporting the instructional needs of teachers and students.

1988

Indiana Wesleyan University appointed **DR. KEN SCHENCK** as the new dean of the School of Theology and Ministry in the College of Arts and Sciences. Schenck has held positions

at IWU since 1997 in both the School of Theology and Ministry and as the founding dean of Wesley Seminary. He holds several degrees including a BA in Religion from SWU, a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary, a Master of Arts in Classical Languages and Literature from the University of Kentucky, and a doctorate in New Testament from the University of Durham.

2002

5 Chaplain **PAUL "RANDY" BELCHER** ('02) was promoted to the Rank of Major Oct. 3, 2016. He, his wife, **TIFFANY** ('01) and son Jacob are currently stationed at Fort Lee, Va. where Belcher is serving as the 59th Ordnance Brigade Chaplain. He has served God and Country for more than 10 years and has deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

2003

BETHANY HOOBKAMP ADAMS was named Teacher of the Year at South Asheboro Middle School in North Carolina.

2004

BRITTANY ('04) and **BRICE BICKEL** ('06) welcomed Rowen Daniel Bickel into the world Dec. 22, 2016, at 7 lbs. 3 oz. and 20 in. Brice is

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regional director of enrollment and academic services for Central and Greenville and Brittany is an admissions counselor.

2006

The International Leadership Association accepted a workshop designed by SWU faculty member and alumna **DR. PRISCILLA HAMMOND** and two others, which will be presented at the Third Biennial ILA Women and Leadership Conference at Rhinebeck, N.Y. in June. The title of the workshop is "Raise Your Glass: Reflecting on Women in Leadership in Higher Education."

2007

Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce named **AMY WHITNEY** as Ambassador of the Month for January and February. She is

a member of BB&T's Sterling Performance Club, an honor awarded to the top five percent revenue generators in the bank. In addition to graduating from SWU, she graduated from the BB&T Banking School at Wake Forest University. Whitney, who is currently a vice president with BB&T, began her career as a teller in 2002 and over the years has received several promotions, including managing several BB&T office locations in the Upstate.

2008

STEVE GILSTRAP, a physical education graduate, was recently named a winner of WYFF-TV's Golden Apple Award. He teaches physical education at Chastain Road Elementary in Liberty.

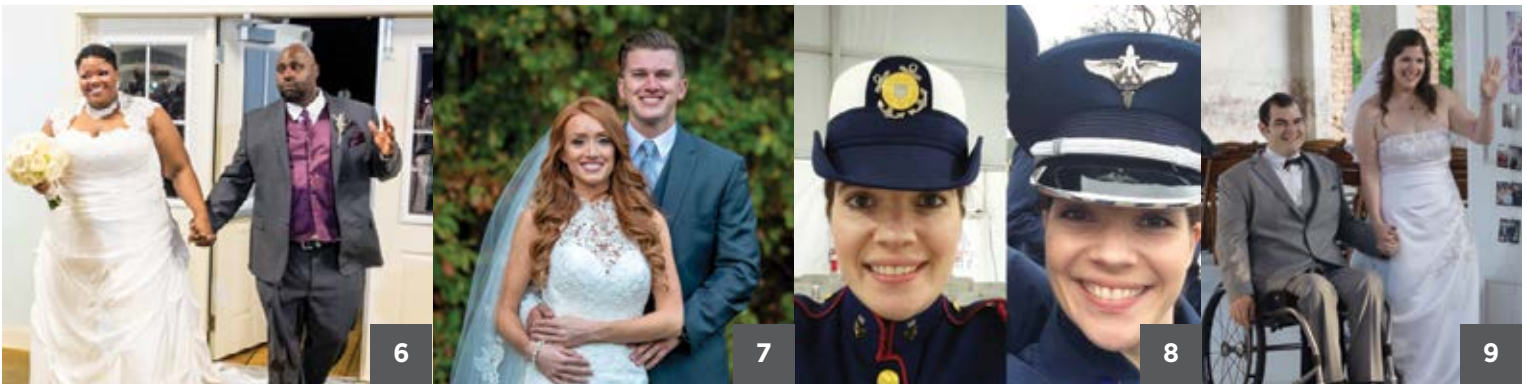
6 DANIELLE HARDEE ('08) married **EDWARD RICHARDSON** ('13) Nov. 26 in Charleston.

Hardee graduated from SWU's MSM program and Richardson graduated from SWU's MBA program. Hardee is a member of the adjunct faculty and is a former Student Services Coordinator at the Charleston education center.

7 TAMMY WHITE married Brody Jones of Easley Oct. 21, 2016, at Paris Mountain State Park in Greenville.

2009

8 SWU graduates and twin sisters **LAURIE MORTON BAYNARD**, left, and **NIKKI MORTON HILL**, right, took part in the Inaugural Parade in Washington. Laurie is a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Band, while Nikki is a member of the U.S. Air Force Band. This is Laurie's second Inaugural Parade while it's Nikki's first. Both are music graduates.



Tony Payne, SWU associate vice president for development, with Matthew Gross, vice president, Clemson market, Founders Federal Credit Union.

Southern Wesleyan University alumni are invited to check out **Founders Federal Credit Union!**

As alumni of SWU, you automatically qualify for membership with Founders! With a wide array of products and services to fit your lifestyle, Founders is your only stop for all your financial needs. To apply for membership, visit RelaxJoinFounders.com, stop by their Clemson Office at 680 Old Greenville Highway, or visit any of their other 28 offices in North and South Carolina.

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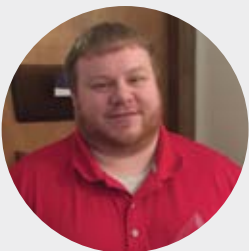
Founders Federal Credit Union is federally insured by NCUA.

2017 STAFF MEMBERS of the MONTH



January **CAMI MILLER**

"Financial aid can be cumbersome to some students, but Cami has a way of giving understanding and making students feel more at ease. She never fails to stop what she is doing to answer questions of students. Her assistance helps students to make the best decisions both financially and academically."



February **CODY THOMAS**

"Cody Thomas has done a remarkable job with our web-site. For many students it is the first impression of SWU. The site is welcoming as well as informative. Cody has a true servant spirit and his attitude and presence in the workplace makes everyone's day brighter."



March **WARREN DENNIS**

"No matter the circumstance or size of the problem, Warren has always shown the utmost customer service and willingness to help solve problems. Warren embodies humble, servant leadership in a way that I truly admire and I desire to learn from his example."



April **MARK TAYLOR**

"Mark has a great attitude toward his work, and life in general. You can tell that he loves the Lord, and this love shows in his willingness to serve those around him. He would make a great staff member of the month!"



May **JOHN DAVIS**

"I picked John Davis because his love for Christ spills over onto the people that he meets. He's always focused on getting his players closer to Christ and the game of basketball second. His smile and servant's attitude has not changed one bit in the five years that I've known him."

ALUMNI NEWS



10



11



12

9 ELIZABETH "LIZ" PROPST married Tony Walker May 13, 2016, at The Providence Cotton Mill in Maiden, N.C. Liz currently works at Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, N.C.) in the Undergraduate Admissions office while her husband participates in his 10 month Dietetic internship there.

2010

DARLISSA WISE PARKER, the CEO of Wisdom Academy, has been admitted to Grand Canyon University as a doctoral student. She is a missionary and minister of song at St. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church. Her motto is "the humble child tastes God's grace." She is also the founder of Enoch's Sons and Deborah's Daughter Nationwide Missionaries. Parker is a M.Ed. graduate of the university's Adult and Graduate Studies program.

2011

10 THOMAS CRANE celebrated 33 years of marriage with Judy Crane on a cruise in the Bahamas, on March 3. He says, "a key to a happy long marriage is always have fun together." Thomas is a BSBA graduate.

2012

Colton Scott Bridges was born to **BROOKE DAVIS BRIDGES** and JT Bridges on Jan. 28, 2017. Brooke is a biology graduate.

11 Emery Anne Patriquin was born March 25 to Shaina and **LOGAN PATRIQUIN**, weighing 7 lbs. 6 oz. and 20 in. long.

MARK SEARS graduated from Via College of Osteopathic Medicine in Spartanburg in May. He will do an internal medicine residency at the Merit Health Wesley Medical Center in Hattiesburg, Miss., starting at the end of June. He also published an article in the American Journal of Medical Sciences. He is the son of Bob Sears, former SWU director of library

services, and Roberta Sears, administrative assistant for the School of Education.

WILL HENDERSON joined the staff of ALIVE Wesleyan Church in Central as communications specialist. Originally from Brevard, N.C., Henderson has been serving as student pastor at Christ Wesleyan Church in Winston-Salem, N.C. and served as the communications designer for the NC West District Youth Board.

2015

12 Anna Bross, a sixth-grade English teacher at Pickens Middle School, won the Outstanding First Year Teacher award. Bross is pictured here with Dr. Danny Merck, School District of Pickens County superintendent. Candidates were nominated by an administrator or a mentor based on a number of criteria including job performance, attendance, motivation, classroom management and openness to improvement.

Charleston graduate **TAMEKA CROOK** is now working for Charleston County DSS. In January, Crook enrolled at University of New England in their MSW program.

2016

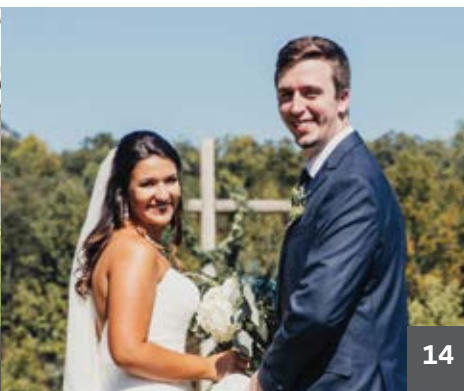
ATAVIA GADSON is supported employment specialist for Babcock Center. She is a Columbia BSBM graduate. Babcock Center is a private, non-profit organization in West Columbia that provides loving homes with caring and dedicated staff, vocational training and work opportunities for over 800 people with life-long disabilities.

13 DILLON GROVES and **KYLIE ROVENSTINE** were married March 24 at Welcome Wesleyan Church in Seneca. Both are Religion graduates.

14 MATT HEERSCHAP and **HANNAH ORTEGA** got married on Oct. 15, 2016, at Table Rock Wesleyan Youth Camp. Matt is



13



14



15



16

a Media Communication graduate and currently works full time as SWU's videographer. Hannah, who has attended SWU, is currently pursuing a career in professional organizing and interior design.

15 CAMERON TARRANT married **SYDNEY CHILDS** Nov. 19, 2016, at the Daniel Chapel, Furman University. A reception followed at the Westin Poinsett in Downtown Greenville, then a honeymoon in Iceland.

Human Services graduate **CARLEY TEAT** was interviewed by several media outlets about her kidney donation to Bret Reiff in 2015. ABC's Good Morning America featured her and Bret in a National Kidney Month feature. She was also interviewed by Fox Carolina News and HIS Radio.

16 December graduate **KIMBERLY DAWN WILLIAMS**, center, placed a brick in the alumni walk just prior to commencement. She is pictured with her parents, Lisa and Dwayne Williams, friend Kirsten Cosgrove, and SWU Coordinator for Alumni Relations and Special Events Ethan Cashwell. Kimberly's brick was placed beside a brick in memory of her friend Krystal Pearce. Williams, who is from Hickory Grove, received her BS in biology.

Religion graduate **ANDRE WINTERS** has joined the staff of Providence Wesleyan Church in Summerville.

IN MEMORIAM

REV. STANLEY BANKER passed away Dec. 24, 2016. He was a devoted man of God who had ministered to, taught and encouraged countless people throughout his life. His wife Evelyn preceded him in death. Together they were married for more than 73 years. Surviving are his children: son, J. Stanley Banker, daughters Linda Tittle and Judy McGraw.

MARGIE FREEMAN Barbee went to be with

Jesus Jan. 4 after several years of declining health. Barbee was a 1957 graduate of Central Wesleyan Academy. She attended Central Wesleyan College from 1959 to 1961 and graduated from Queens University, Rock Hill in 1962. In 1990, she completed her master's in education at Wingate University. She is survived by her husband, Ira Tracy Barbee, who also attended Central Wesleyan College. Additionally, the Barbees had three children, Margaret B. Page (Jeff), Stephen Scott Barbee (Kristin), and Kelly Ryan Barbee (Cherilyn). Barbee also has five grandchildren: Brianna Page, Allison Barbee, Carson Barbee, Emily Barbee and Ryan Barbee. Margie taught in the public school system for 35 years before retiring in 1999. She also served her local church for more than 50 years as pianist/organist.

JOSEPH CARLTON ('45) of Easley died Dec. 5, 2016.

REV. THOMAS COWART, a former pastor in the S.C. District of The Wesleyan Church, went to be with the Lord Dec. 20, 2016. Cowart and his late wife of 64 years, the former Loney Mae Warren, also served for 13 years as missionaries with The Wesleyan Church in India. He was a World War II veteran, having served in the Army Air Corps, then with the Veterans Air Express. Cowart was also an educator.

PEGGY LORETTA GREY HEDDEN, 78, of Central, passed into Heaven Jan. 14. The daughter of the late John Clark Grey Sr. and Dessie Cleo Moore, she was predeceased by her husband, Gene Nathaniel Hedden, and a son, Valdean F. Hedden. Born in Florida, Peggy moved to Central when she was 15 and enrolled in Central Wesleyan High School and then Daniel High School.

MINNIE ROBERTA MORGAN HEAD of Seneca, passed away Dec. 20, 2016.

SHIRLEY HONIGMAN SARLIN ('77), a Magna

Cum Laude graduate, passed away Jan. 29.

CYNTHIA STORY ('13), a North Augusta BSBM graduate, passed away Dec. 29. She had just started the MSM program when she began having major health issues. Her sister, Patrice "Sean" Glover, is also a SWU graduate.

DR. JOAN MELODY PHILLIPPE, 86, died at 9:15 p.m. March 23 in her Indianapolis residence. She was born in Hartford City, Ind., to the late Donald and Hazel (David) Cheeseman. Joan was an educator who also served the church through teaching, music and many other forms of ministry. Throughout their 63 years of marriage, Joan was supportive of her husband, Dr. Thomas "Tom" Phillippe's ministry as a pastor, general evangelist and officer of The Wesleyan Church; also his business and philanthropic activities toward Wesleyan colleges and universities, Global Partners, World Hope International and many other charities.

The Phillippes were generous toward Southern Wesleyan University. Thomas and Joan named Phillippe Hall, located in Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center, in memory of their parents William and Oney B. Phillippe, Donald and Hazel Cheeseman and a brother, William M. Phillippe Jr.

Also surviving are son, Thomas (Suzi) Phillippe, Jr.; daughters, Stacy Phillippe and Towana (David) Cranor; grandchildren, Thomas Phillippe, III, Jeremy (Amy) Phillippe, Tonya (Aaron) Hullett, Lauren Lanteigne, Lindsay (Mike) Siara, Lacey (Zack) Conner, Greg Mervine, Amanda (WB) Cavender, Trenten Mervine, and Christian Cranor; and fourteen great-grandchildren.

DANIEL STEVENS ('10), known as Boomer Stevens, a BSBA graduate from SWU passed away April 12th, 2017 from cancer. ♦

FROM ²THE VAULT



HOMECOMING, 1960'S

Can you identify anyone in this photo from the SWU archives? Give the SWU Alumni Office a call to let us know! 864.644.5385

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— OVER SWU —



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to see a total eclipse over SWU.

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