

SWU
m a g a z i n e

LIVING OUT

Contagious Generosity

SERVING THOSE IN NEED
AFTER THE HURRICANES

Eclipse over
Pickens County
pg. 18

HURRICANE RELIEF EFFORTS
SWU community helping on the
front lines and at home
pg. 14

ISSUE #12
Fall/Winter 2017

A publication of
Southern Wesleyan University



Many are the plans in
a person's heart, but it is

The Lord's Purpose

THAT PREVAILS.

PROVERBS 19:21

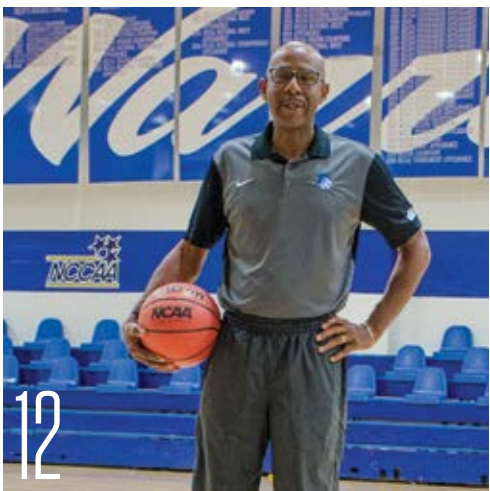
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Southern Wesleyan University is a Christ-centered university offering a traditional college experience at our main campus in Central, South Carolina, as well as fully online undergraduate and graduate programs. Founded in 1906, SWU remains faithful to its mission: to be a Christ-centered, student-focused learning community devoted to transforming lives by challenging students to be dedicated scholars and servant-leaders who impact the world for Christ.

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SWU Magazine is published two times a year by the Office of Marketing and Communications at Southern Wesleyan University.

2017 STAFF MEMBERS of the MONTH



June

MATTHEW THORPE

"Matt has a passion for serving our student body and community. I have seen him grow our student body involvement on campus, our intramural program has flourished and he has embraced serving our students. Matt will continue to grow in his role and we will be able to see his impact on the SWU community in the future."



July

PAM BURNETT

"Pam is always friendly in every interaction you have with her. She keeps things organized in Conference Services and ensures the summer camps are taken care of. A lot of what she does is behind the scenes, but it's clear that the summer activities would not look the way they do without her work."



August

ADAM LADD

"He is so deserving of this award! I can't count how many times he has left his home in the middle of night to open locked doors for campers and gone out of his way to help people whenever they need him. He is a pro, and we could not do our job in Conference Services without his support."



September

BRAD BOWEN

"Brad Bowen has made a great impact on the SWU community. His dedication to campus safety and security has improved faculty/staff and student relations, and he has offered continued education on the issues that affect us as a University. Brad deserves this honor for a job well done to make SWU a better and safer environment."



October

MARK MEALY

"Mark is always working behind the scenes on something. He spends many late hours on campus and is actively involved in the planning and implementation of many projects. I know that Mark is always available if I have a technical question."

CAMPUS NEWS

Southern Wesleyan University on a growth trend



For the fourth consecutive year, Southern Wesleyan University has experienced enrollment growth within its on-campus program.

Enrollment of on-campus students has been consistently climbing since Fall Semester 2013. Southern Wesleyan's headcount is 46 percent higher going into the 2017-'18 academic year than it was four years ago. After welcoming 273 new students this fall, Southern Wesleyan's headcount currently stands at 872. This includes new freshmen, new transfer students and students enrolled in OneLife, a gap year program in its first year at SWU.

The university's Full Time Equivalent (FTE) on-campus enrollment currently stands at 789, which represents a 37 percent increase over 2013.

"We do not take growth for granted and feel so blessed to be continually expanding our academic, athletic and student development options as a result," said Dr. Todd Voss, Southern Wesleyan's president. "We are committed to being a faith-filled campus intent on innovation and inventive learning. This growth represents individual students with the hope and dream of making the world a better place. Our goal has been, and will always be, to impact the world for Christ, and the more Warriors we have in that mission, the more incredible the outcome!"

Southern Wesleyan is also experiencing

the largest residential population in its history, according to Dr. Joe Brockinton, vice president for student life. Chad Peters, vice president for enrollment management, commented that campus housing options this academic year have all seen improvements – from a new 243-bed residence hall that opened for the first time in August to extensive improvements in existing campus housing currently available to students.

Peters noted that one of the factors driving current growth has been an improvement in retention rates. Emily Bloxdorf, Southern Wesleyan's director of retention, reports a 76 percent retention rate, an increase of 5 percent over the previous academic year.

Bloxdorf credits the efforts of the university's admissions office, faculty and athletics programs, as well as an increase in student activities offered and a new residence hall, for improving retention.

"This is really something to be thankful for. This is not solely an Office of Retention thing, it's an 'all of us' thing," Bloxdorf said.

"This campus is really starting to embrace the fact that it takes the entire campus to recruit a class. It also takes the entire campus to retain," said David Slabaugh, Southern Wesleyan's director of admissions. ♦

SWU hosts innovative program focused on community, growth and service

Imagine you are a 17-year-old high school senior. It seems your parents bug you daily about making plans for next year. You want to follow God's leadership, but you might not want to go straight into college. You're hesitant to go "off path" after high school.

At the same time parents want the best for their son or daughter as they make potentially life-changing decisions.

Situations like these led Peter Sullivan to establish OneLife Institute, a gap year program, in 2012. Sullivan wanted to see the program extend into the Southeast, and, seeing that OneLife resonated with SWU's emphasis on inventive learning, a partnership was formed.

OneLife students earn a year's worth of SWU credits while traveling, acquiring life skills, growing in emotional intelligence, and deepening their walk with Christ.

At the start of the fall semester, SWU offered its first OneLife class with 12 students and three staff members. Overseeing the SWU program is OneLife Site Director Dr. Matt Hunter, joined by Residence Leader Anna Tabor and Recruiting Coordinator Gavin Potter.

After graduating from SWU in 2015, Potter joined the OneLife staff at Lancaster Bible College.

"We'd like to see our students understand the gospel in a way that affects their lives holistically," said Potter. "Vocation, education, recreation, family, emotions and relationships are all areas where God's goodness can be seen and cultivated." OneLife students learn inside and outside the classroom through a variety of teaching activities.

OneLife at SWU has begun partnering with local organizations such as the Dream Center,

Habitat for Humanity and the Potter's Place. Students serve these and other organizations while seeking to grow as a team and reflecting on what they are learning as a community.

A big part of the OneLife experience is travel. OneLife started fall semester with a trip to refugee communities just outside of Atlanta.

"Our interactions ranged from intentional and structured to informal conversation at refugee owned or operated businesses," Hunter said.

They also traveled to Denver and Salt Lake City. Upcoming trips will take them to Pittsburgh and overseas to Israel.

OneLife students are also without their phones six days a week, not promoting "anti-technology" but rather "pro-community" in spirit. Many students have found that the benefits of face-to-face interaction outweigh any loss of screen time.

"The secret sauce of OneLife is community," Potter said. "The high level of accountability – not necessarily in the hard discipline sense, but in individual mentoring where students meet with a staff member every other week. We're doing Bible studies every week that are deep and require vulnerable sharing, so students are knowing and being known in levels they haven't previously experienced.

"Every exercise we do challenges my comfort zone and forces me to trust in the people around me."

- Christian Lilly, Fishersville, Va.

In a healthy community, students are able to wrestle with issues proactively rather than reactively."

Tabor commented that OneLife is "intense and intentional."

"I joked with the students that they're going to learn everything in a year that it took me four years of college to slowly understand," she said.

For further details about OneLife, visit swu.edu/onelife or onelifepath.org. ♦

Check out the OneLife program at youtu.be/F7esuyclpWE

"I have learned that God is a relational God, He wants to know me, and He is still speaking to me."

- Riley Hannagan, Avon, Ind.



OneLife students earn a year's worth of college credit while traveling, acquiring life skills, growing in emotional intelligence, and deepening their walk with Christ.

Academic division updates

School of Business

In October, Dr. Charlotte Houke of the SWU business faculty presented a paper at the annual conference of the Christian Business Faculty Association, held at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego. The title of her paper was “More Than the Bottom-line: Fulfilling God’s Purpose for Man in the Business World.”

The School of Business recently approved certificates for the following:

Beginning in Spring 2018:

- Certificate in Servant Leadership
- Graduate Certificate in Health Care Concentration

Beginning in Fall 2018:

- Graduate Certificate in Leadership
- Graduate Certificate in Management

A Master of Science in International Business has been approved by the SWU Academic Council and is pending final approval of the Board of Trustees. This completely online degree is scheduled to begin in Fall 2018. ♦

School of Education

The School of Education has submitted the new program application to SACSCOC, their regional accrediting body, for Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Assessment. The projected program start date is August 2018. Possible career opportunities for an Ed.D. graduate include:

- Academic Assessment Coordination
- Academic Officer for Assessment and Effectiveness
- Associate VP or VP positions in higher education
- Data Analytics
- Data Integration
- Director of Assessment and Accreditation
- Director of Curriculum and Assessment (K-12)
- Director of Financial Aid
- Director of Fundraising and Advancement
- Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Evaluation, or Research
- Educational Leadership and Policy
- Executive leaders in church or regional denominational headquarters
- Head Librarian

- Provost, Dean, Chancellor of Academic Affairs

Dr. Paul Shotsberger has been named interim coordinator of the doctor of education program in the School of Education.

The School of Education hosted a visit from State Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman and State Representative Gary Clary to view the successful advances in student learning and reading for the Project Read grant program at Brennan Elementary School in Columbia.

The School of Education is investigating a partnership with Pickens County Schools and Tri-County Technical College for dual enrollment in order to accelerate teacher training in light of the looming teacher shortage in South Carolina. ♦

College of Arts & Sciences

God has been working mightily through SWU during the past few months! Thank you to all who have welcomed me to campus. These past three months have refreshed my spirit daily as I hear of significant moments in SWU history or of faculty members’ continual efforts to brighten the future of students and the university. As you read the highlights from each division, please join me this year in praying for the continued resonance of God’s glory through each academic unit within the College of Arts and Sciences.

- Randolph Johnson

Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

DIVISION OF FINE ARTS

The division celebrates Professor Heather Haithcock’s continued teaching in voice studies, aesthetics, and musicals at SWU, now in a full-time capacity for the 2017-18 academic year.

SWU hosted the South Carolina American Choral Directors Association Fall Conference and Honor Choirs Weekend on Oct. 13-14. Over 900 guests were on campus for this event.

In October, SWU hosted “SWUFest” and “SWUFest Too” choral festivals which brought 22 high-school and middle school choral ensembles to campus. Close to 1,000

students grew closer in unity as they made music together under the direction of Dr. Don Campbell.

DIVISION OF HUMANITIES

We welcome Dr. Britt Terry as associate professor of English. Dr. Terry is program coordinator of English and taught previously at Charleston Southern University.

Faculty established the Carolina Institute for Faith and Culture as an initiative to increase opportunities for integrating the Christian faith in student scholarship and community engagement. See the new web site at <http://www.freedomhillprimer.com/institute/about-the-institute/>.

DIVISION OF RELIGION

Students and faculty have traveled off campus for numerous hands-on learning activities, including a visit to 12Stone Church.

New initiatives to equip and encourage pastors have been launched. For example, the Replenish Clergy Appreciation Breakfast, Unstuck Revitalization Summit, Church Multiplication Roundtable, and NextGen Roundtable. Two other Roundtables (Discipleship and Clergy Health) are scheduled in coming months. See www.swu.edu/recharge.

Dr. Bob Black presented at the CCDA (Christian Community Development Conference) in Detroit.

Rev. Mark Wilson spoke at Beulah Camp, in New Brunswick, Canada.

Dr. Stephan Dilday launched courses in Hebrew and Latin.

Guest lecturers during the semester included Wesleyan leaders JoAnne Lyon and Mark Gorveatte (video conference), and Mike Hilson (in person). Roger Ciskie, global Christian philanthropist who led a Fortune 500 company, also was a special guest lecturer.

Faculty made guest visits to more than 20 churches throughout the country.

Mimi Heeter, a Division of Religion senior, served as the South Carolina Director of Awaken the Dawn, a prayer gathering of thousands in Washington D. C.

DIVISION OF SCIENCE

The division welcomes Dr. Heather Hudson as associate professor of exercise science. Hudson brings professional and teaching experience in athletic training, exercise science, and related health disciplines to the SWU program.

The division welcomes Dr. Michele Eller as assistant professor of biology. Eller is a graduate of SWU and has years of teaching experience in secondary schools and universities.

Professor Staci Johnson has a manuscript entitled “Comparing Student Learning in the Team-Based Learning Classroom with Different Team Reporting Methods” that is to be published in the November/December

2017 volume of the Journal of College Science Teaching.

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

The division welcomes Dr. George Buzzy as professor of criminal justice. Buzzy previously served at Liberty University and brings years of experience in the courtroom and classroom to SWU as he endeavors to establish new opportunities in Pre-Law studies at SWU.

Dr. Gunsung Lee has also joined the division as assistant professor of psychology. Lee recently earned his PhD from the University of Iowa and has clinical practice experience through University of Iowa Children’s Hospital (Center for Disabilities and Development)

and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (Kennedy Krieger Institute).

Faculty revised the BS Criminal Justice degree to better align with best practices in the profession and the major field exam. ♦

Southern Wesleyan University announces SWU Online

Due to its significant growth in online enrollment accompanied by less student interest in face to face evening classes, Southern Wesleyan University has embraced the fully online modality in a new division: SWU Online.

SWU Online will continue Southern Wesleyan University’s 30-year tradition of offering Christ-centered programs of study for adults in South Carolina, but will now expand

its reach through increased online program offerings and online support systems in new markets across the U.S. and potentially around the world.

“We are committed to the same high level of excellence, care and service in our online programs as in our on-campus programs,” says Dr. Tonya Strickland, provost and vice president for academic affairs, who noted that

students who have traditionally been drawn to face-to-face evening classes are now choosing to enroll in online programs to further their educational and professional development.

“As we implement the new SWU Online experience, we’re looking forward to the increased potential for God to transform the lives of our students—both near and far,” Strickland said. ♦

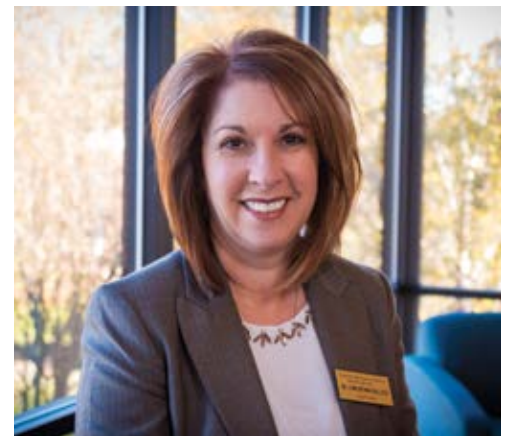
New vice provost to provide leadership for SWU Online

The university has named Dr. Lynn Brown-Bullock as vice provost for online learning.

Brown-Bullock has been serving as associate dean and director of graduate studies for Southern Wesleyan’s School of Business. She brings 25 years of experience in business and health care administration and is certified in Strategy Mapping and the Balanced Scorecard as well as Customer Experience Management. Brown-Bullock has also served on the Board of Examiners for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

Brown-Bullock earned her DBA from the

University of Phoenix, a master’s degree in nursing administration from the University of South Carolina and an undergraduate degree in nursing from MUSC. She began her career as a staff nurse and then moved into administrator positions in the healthcare and business industry. She was a home health administrator for McLeod Health in Florence, then vice president, business excellence and chief strategy officer for American Stainless in Cheraw. Prior to coming to SWU, she worked in higher education as associate vice president for health and sciences at Florence-Darlington Technical College. ♦



Record number of students living at Southern Wesleyan University



SWU's new residence hall is a living and learning community for 243 students.

This year more students are making the campus at Southern Wesleyan University their home.

As part of a record-breaking traditional enrollment going into the 2017-'18 academic year, nearly 500 students moved into on-campus housing. According to Dr. Joe Brockinton, vice president for student life, 477 traditional students are living in campus housing and an additional 12 students in the new OneLife gap year program are living in newly updated rooms in Stuart-Bennett Residence Hall. All but the top two floors of Stuart-Bennett are being repurposed for classroom and office space.

A newly-constructed residence hall on Wesleyan Drive has transformed the Central campus and exemplifies Southern Wesleyan's distinctive of being a faith-filled community offering inventive learning opportunities.

"Built with expertise and incredible support by J. Davis Construction, the new living and learning community offers exciting new enhancements for students at the Central campus," said Dr. Todd Voss, Southern Wesleyan's President. Voss noted that the residence hall, with separate wings for men and women, includes 17,000 square feet of space devoted to amenities such as a kitchen/bistro and ample gathering space, fitness rooms, a conference room and a large outdoor deck.

"Students in the new residence hall are ecstatic over the amenities that this facility offers," Brockinton said. "The tremendous amount of common space is creating a greater sense of community as students can gather in so many different venues in the hall for a

variety of activities."

"It's completely different," said Shonquez Caldwell, a sophomore from Spartanburg majoring in criminal justice. "It's just a whole new living experience. I really enjoy it."

For Alexa Bombich, a junior from Pawley's Island majoring in forensic science, chemistry and biology, the new residence hall is the third place she's lived on campus and the nicest.

"The rooms and bathrooms are a lot bigger," said Bombich, adding that the large lobby and community spaces offer a great atmosphere for being around other students. "It's nice living with freshmen but also upperclassmen, so you get a good mix," she said.

"It's a much better area to socialize and to fellowship with other people here on campus," said Ethan Ekback, a sophomore from Seneca majoring in mathematics.

"There's so much more room to put things. In this room I have a couch and a chair – it's so much larger," said Christian Luna, a junior media communication and youth ministry major from Lake City.

Other housing improvements include Mullinax Hall receiving a facelift with new furnishings and décor in the lobby as well as the lounges on each floor. The university's two blocks of apartments were extensively renovated within the past three years, with new flooring, appliances and furnishings in the units and improved laundry facilities and

meeting areas.

With the opening of the new residence hall, Childs Hall, a 70-year old residence hall, was closed for renovation. A fundraising campaign is now under way to transform Childs Hall, converting its traditional rooms with hall bathrooms to new suites, which will each consist of two rooms and a bathroom; and for a new heating and air-conditioning system for the 48-bed facility.

Childs Hall may be needed as early as Fall 2019 to accommodate projected growth, making urgent the drive to complete the \$1.5 million fundraising campaign. Details about saving this historic residence hall can be found online at swu.edu/childs or by calling 864-644-5008. ♦

 Watch a timelapse of the construction at youtu.be/un-FmoJGAJ8



From left: students Madeline Johnson, Lyssa Henry, and Kierra Douglas by the fireplace in the new residence hall.

Faculty & Staff of the Year

Faculty Member of the Year



DR. KELLI HORNE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ACCOUNTING,
DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES,
AND COORDINATOR OF AFFILIATE FACULTY

“Dr. Horne teaches me more than the material in our textbook; she teaches me skills that I will use every day as a Christian business woman. As a teacher and advisor, she is someone I look to for guidance, support and encouragement. I cannot express how much she has impacted my life.”

SAVANNAH MCCOLLUM, senior, business/religion major

“She’s very influential. She really helped me along the way when I needed help the most. She encourages students to do well – that’s one thing I absolutely love about her.”

ALLEN WILLIAMS, senior, criminal justice major

Staff Member of the Year



Regina Bolding Harned

ASSOCIATE REGISTRAR

“I see her endlessly serve all of the campus – students, faculty, and staff. The selflessness, devotion, diligence, and ambition that she exudes while serving the SWU community is unmatched. Her servant’s heart is recognized across the campus, as she eases the burdens that many face by always going above and beyond what her staff position entails.”

LISA CORBIN, assistant director of student accounts – traditional

“Regina has consistently gone the extra mile in order to provide excellent service to students, staff and community. Her years of experience and knowledge gained have enabled her to work across all departments to help ensure a positive student experience and to help reach university goals. She genuinely cares about people, and those who know this seek her out when they need encouragement and a prayer warrior.”

NIKKI HANSON, payroll and benefits manager

SWU Trustees name new chair, new members

Southern Wesleyan University's board of trustees elected Sue Rickman as their new chair.

Rickman succeeds Dr. Charles Joiner, who retired from the board after 45 years of service; 13 of those years spent as the chair. Joiner was voted Trustee Emeritus.

Rickman is a retired educator who has taught and served as a teacher and as an administrator in the School District of Pickens County in several schools, including A.R. Lewis Elementary School, Central Elementary School and Six Mile Elementary School. Rickman has also served as district secretary of the South Carolina District of The Wesleyan Church, general board member of The Wesleyan Church and is also an active member of ALIVE Wesleyan Church in Central, serving in many leadership positions. Her father, James H. Johnson, also served on the university's board of trustees for 33 years.

Rickman received her BA in accounting/business administration with a minor of education in 1968 from Southern Wesleyan. She also received her master's degree in school administration from Clemson University in 1984 and her Ed.S. degree in school administration from Clemson University in 1991. She is married to retired SWU professor Dr. Mickey Rickman, who is the son of former university president, Dr. Claude Rickman.

Rev. Mike Hilson, senior pastor of New Life Wesleyan Church in La Plata, Md., was named vice chair. Since 1999, New Life has grown under Hilson's leadership from a congregation of less than a hundred into several churches and video venues, averaging more than 5,000 in regular attendance across Maryland and Northern Virginia.

Two new trustees were named to the board: Rev. Waymond Burton and Rev. Aaron Sherman.

Burton is pastor of Water of Life Church in Greenville. His father led him to Christ as a child and at age 12 he was sharing his Christian



Left: Sue Rickman, middle: Rev. Aaron Sherman, right: Rev. Waymond Burton.

faith with his neighborhood friends and inviting them to church. He has served in ministry for more than 25 years and has actively trained ministers in the U.S. and Africa. Close to his heart is ministry to men raised in fatherless homes who struggle to be the husbands and fathers God has called them to be. He has authored the book "Ministry Training School: A Manual for Ministers in Training," "What is a Good Man?" and "The Law of Honor."

Sherman serves as district superintendent of Kentucky and Tennessee for The Wesleyan Church. He has pastored churches in New York, Ohio and most recently in Louisville, Ky., for a total of 18 years of ministry. He has also served as president of Maysville Wesleyan Camp. Churches Sherman has pastored have experienced spiritual revival and growth, especially among people of several ethnic groups. Sherman was also a psychiatric counselor for St. Mary's Health Care in Amsterdam, N.Y. and a social worker with Catholic Charities in Albany, N.Y. Sherman met his wife Hannah at church camp, and they have been married 15 years.



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Replenish – Clergy Appreciation at SWU

Southern Wesleyan University hosted area ministers Oct. 4 for Replenish, a clergy appreciation event, organized to show appreciation to area church leaders for their continuous service to spiritual needs in the area.

With Southern Wesleyan's spirit of contagious generosity, Dr. Lisa McWherter, vice president for advancement, welcomed pastors from across the Upstate to Replenish.

Replenish participants enjoyed a delicious breakfast, along with "spiritual nourishment"

in the form of an encouraging presentation by Rev. Mark Wilson, assistant professor for discipleship, multiplication and renewal. Wilson encouraged pastors to get "free refills" and allow God to energize them and carry them through the difficulties encountered in day-to-day ministry.

University President Todd Voss expressed his support of pastors and the important work of their churches. Dr. Mike Tapper, chair of the university's Division of Religion, encouraged

pastors and their churches to partner with SWU in new and creative ways. Also part of Replenish were performances by several Southern Wesleyan Fine Arts students.

"Replenish" was organized by Southern Wesleyan's Division of Religion, in partnership with the university's Advancement Office, Conference Services, Fine Arts Division, Spiritual Life Office and Pioneer College Caterers. ♦

WESLEYAN CHURCH DISTRICT PROFILE

Shenandoah District

NUMBER OF CHURCHES:

58

38 in Virginia and 20 in West Virginia

AREA THE DISTRICT SERVES:



Virginia and West Virginia

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

District Superintendent Rev. Greg Reynolds ('80) has led the district for 10 years. Prior to that, Reynolds served six years as superintendent of the East Michigan District.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

Rev. Bob Phaup ('69), serves as assistant superintendent. Bob has made several mission trips to Guatemala and El Salvador. Many in his family have a heritage of service within The Wesleyan Church.

SWU ALUMNI IN THE DISTRICT:

Randy Garner ('84) and his wife Cindy ('83) have ministered at Christ Community Church

in Williamsburg for 20 years. Randy became the first official chaplain for police officers and firefighters in James City/County.

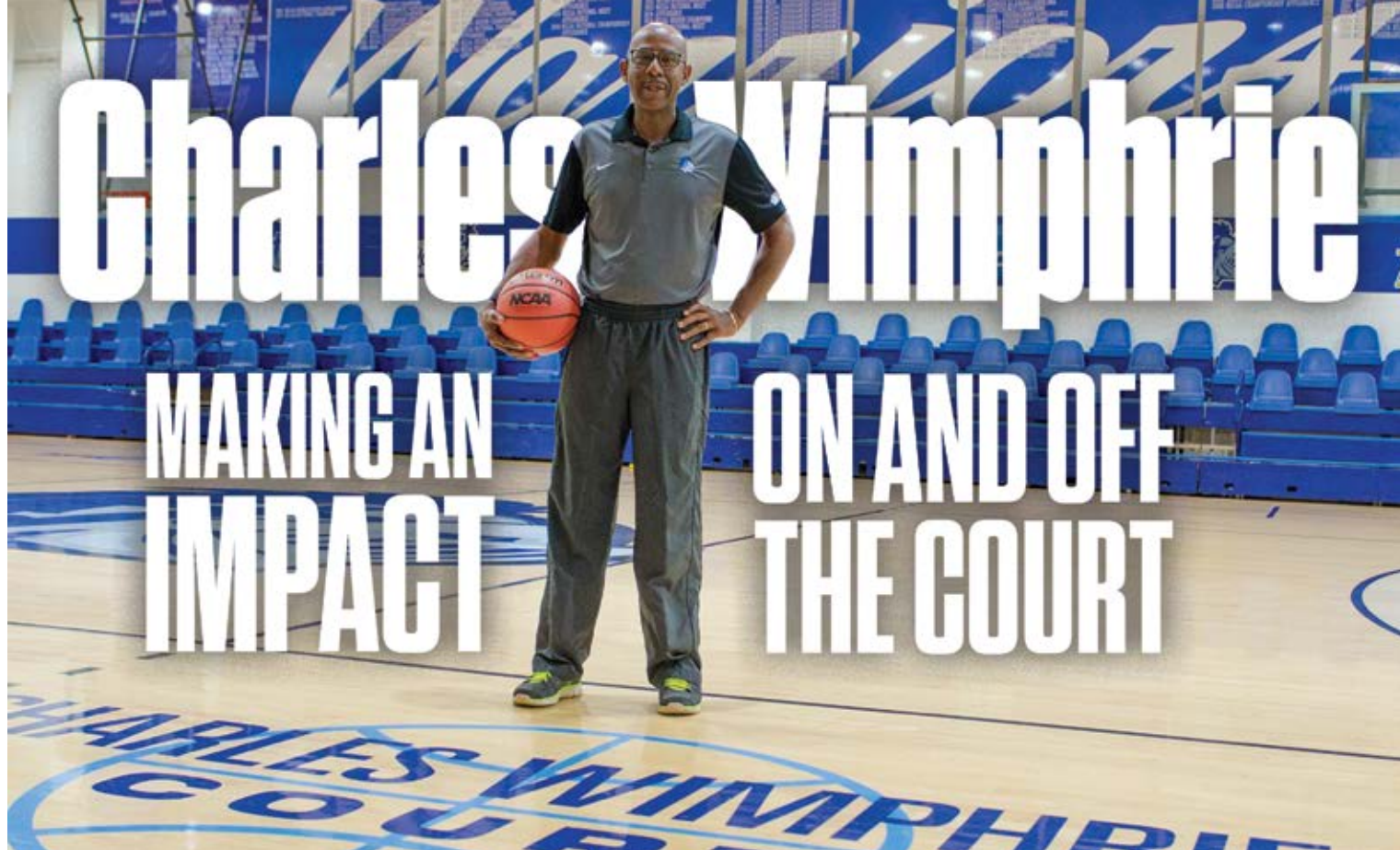
Rev. Chris Shinn ('92) and his wife minister to the West Side of Charleston, W.V., considered an economically depressed area. With the tagline "The West Side is the Blessed Side," Faith Community is a Wesleyan congregation literally reaching out into the streets and meeting the spiritual and physical needs of West Side residents.

Bob Moore ('85) and his wife Anne are in the beginning stages of a church plant in Pearisburg, Va.

OTHER EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS:

1. Re:Claim, under the leadership of Cory Adkins, launched their first campus in September. Adkins' vision is to multiply the ministry of Re:Claim to the greater Huntington Area. **2.** In Williamsburg, First Simple Church, under the direction of Dr. Sam Frye, a bivocational pastor, has had significant growth with conversions and baptisms increasing yearly. **3.** Broadcast Church, a new church plant in Chesapeake, Va., now has a permanent home and has grown to two morning services on Sundays. According to Reynolds, Rev. Jess Holmes, the church's pastor, has a vision of being a multiplying church with the goal of planting churches throughout Chesapeake, Virginia Beach, Hampton Roads and Suffolk.





At the end of the 2017-'18 season, Southern Wesleyan University Head Men's Basketball Coach Charles Wimphrie will retire after more than 30 seasons of coaching a Warrior athletic program.

Coaching for Wimphrie has been about a commitment to the transformation of the student-athletes who have played for him. A successful basketball program in Southern Wesleyan's faith-filled community means more than practicing and studying game videos. To prepare his team, Wimphrie also leads his team in prayer and conducts a regular Bible study.

During a luncheon Aug. 3, plans were revealed to name the basketball court at Tysinger Gymnasium for him in recognition of his years of coaching and mentoring. On hand to applaud Wimphrie were his wife Sandra, University President Dr. Todd Voss, Athletic Director Chris Williams, Vice President for Advancement Dr. Lisa McWherter, Vice President for Student Life Dr. Joe Brockinton and Associate Athletic Director and Head Women's Volleyball Coach Julia Reininga.

"Charles has devoted his career to the endeavor of changing lives using the tool of basketball and we will be forever grateful," Voss said. "I know where most colleges are on athletics for the most part – it's about wins, it's about postseason, it's about regionals, nationals, key players making it big. For Charles, it's been

about building character in each players' heart."

Reininga remembered how as the new volleyball coach at Southern Wesleyan, she was nervous about asking Wimphrie about sharing court space for practices. She was pleasantly surprised when he responded, "We'll work around you."

Wimphrie began his coaching career in 1986 as the assistant women's basketball coach, then in 1993 he began coaching men's basketball. During his first two years as head men's basketball coach, Wimphrie guided the team to back-to-back 20 win seasons and ultimately National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) regional and national tournament appearances.

"Coach Wimphrie has influenced hundreds of students here at SWU and all throughout the Upstate through his summer basketball camps," Williams said. "Charles has used the sport of basketball to share the Word of God and grow the Kingdom. We are so proud of coach and know that his story doesn't end here. We are proud to have coach's name on the Historic Tysinger court."

As a young player at Laurens High School, Wimphrie averaged 20 points and 15.5 rebounds per game. He then received a scholarship to play for the Citadel and transferred to Southern Wesleyan, where some of his records from 1979-'81 still stand.

"A coach's legacy is defined by how hard he works toward certain goals and, at the end of the day, to see his name on the playing surface is an honor only a few receive," Wimphrie said.

"I love coaching and building relationships with the student-athletes under my guidance, but I am looking forward to starting the next chapter of my life," said Wimphrie of his upcoming retirement.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to the Wimphrie Scholarship Endowment, call 855-644-5008 or give online at swu.edu/give. ♦

During the annual Alumni Awards Dinner Oct. 20, SWU launched a campaign to endow a \$25,000 scholarship in the name of Coach Charles Wimphrie to carry on his legacy and to assist future students seeking a Christ-Centered higher education degree. Wimphrie is pictured at left with his wife, Sandra, and SWU Athletic Director Chris Williams is pictured at right. SWU Athletics is providing a lead gift of \$4,000.



Williams appointed NCCAA President

The NCCAA announced Southern Wesleyan Director of Athletics, Chris Williams, will serve the role of the new NCCAA President in conjunction with his daily work as Athletics Director at SWU.

Williams has been on the NCCAA Board of Directors and an Administrative Committee Member since 2011. He has been the Director of Southern Wesleyan Athletics since 2007 and has had nine teams become NCCAA National Champions during that time. He has brought nine athletic programs to Southern Wesleyan including: Women's Golf, Men's and Women's Tennis, Men's and Women's Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field, Women's Lacrosse and Women's Triathlon. There has been a long list of improvements and additions to the Warriors athletic facilities under his leadership, some of which include a track and field complex, a tennis complex, re-branding of the athletic department logo and branding guide, and leading the athletics program from the NAIA to the NCAA II.



"I am honored to serve the NCCAA and the membership in this way," commented Williams. "I want to thank each of the earlier presidents of the NCCAA for their service and loyalty to the association. I am hopeful and optimistic that the NCCAA and its member

institutions will continue to shine Jesus' light through the platform of sport. I also want to thank President (Todd) Voss and Vice President (Joe) Brockinton for supporting this leadership role within the NCCAA." ♦



Ministering to our military

University Singers, a mixed vocal ensemble, exalts Christ through a blend of contemporary Christian and traditional gospel music. Each semester, they travel 10 weekends to various churches and schools in several states. Ministering to military personnel has been a growing part of their ministry. They have visited bases in the southeast and in Eastern Europe. Since 2012, they have sung before more than 25,000 troops and witnessed more than 10,800 men and women wearing the uniform of our Armed Forces stand and say "YES" to Jesus. University Singers are pictured during a

Above: Kneeling in front, left to right: Chaplain Christi Marshall, Chaplain (Maj) Kelvin Todd. Standing, left to right: Bob Kerstetter, Ethan Giles, SFC Derrick Love, Ashleigh Love, Gail Kerstetter, Wesley Henson, Anna Marie Nieves, Katherine Wiggins, Caroline Sweatt, Kierra Douglas, Katy Todd, Kayleigh Kivett, Tanner Lambert, Chandler Morse, Zach Wheeler, Jennifer Mealy and Mark Mealy.

Right: University Singers leading service personnel in worship in one of the chapel services. Pictured is Caroline Sweatt (center) and Katy Todd (right).

trip to Fort Benning, Ga. Oct. 29, where they led basic trainees in musical worship at several chapel services. University Singers is led by Revs. Gail and Bob Kerstetter, parents to an Army veteran.



Watch more of the University Singers at youtu.be/On43Dh7KYzE

Contagious Generosity IN THE WAKE OF 2017 storms

In the wake of the most active hurricane season in recent memory, Southern Wesleyan University alumni, faculty, staff and students rolled up their sleeves and pitched in to help those whose lives were impacted by the storms.

// SWU ALUMNI REACH OUT TO HAITIANS

SWU alumni were part of a team that traveled on a nine-day trip to Haiti, where they four-wheeled, then hiked into Jacmel, a remote mountain village, and built a roof over an existing block structure, preparing it to be used as a church. The team consisted of Greg Lum; Rev. Randy Clay; Glen Bolding, father of Regina Bolding ('11); Rev. Greg Edmonds ('97); Rev. Mark James ('77); David Harned, husband of Regina Bolding-Harned; Robbie Bryant ('17), and Brian Beard, husband of Laura Beard ('96). At the end of the week, Bryant, the youngest member of the team, secured a handmade cross into place before the team began their seven-hour journey back to Port au

Prince for the flight home.

They returned to Haiti in October to finish work on a church in the mountain village of Mombin. Though hindered by nearly impassable roads and triple digit temperatures, the team was able to finish the project, with the help of the church members, and make it back down the mountain to Port au Prince.

Southern Wesleyan Alumnus Greg Edmonds ('97) has been working with Trinity Wesleyan Church to ensure donations of items and financial assistance went to individuals and families affected by Hurricanes Jose and Irma. Kevin Sexton of Trinity transported truckloads of items to Florida

and recruited others to help in disaster relief efforts.



// 'DIRTY HANDS FALL BREAK' ABOUT HELPING HURRICANE VICTIMS



This Fall Break, many SWU students rolled up their sleeves and “got dirty,” helping with cleanup of hurricane damage or reaching out closer to home. A team led by Brad Bowen, SWU Campus Safety director,



helped clean up and remove debris in Florida. Working with Poured Out Ministries, they passed out disaster relief supplies and did light construction and debris cleanup. A Texas team, led by Matt Thorpe, SWU's



coordinator for intramural activities, went to Port Arthur to work on various cleanup projects. They also partnered with Poured Out Ministries to do light construction and debris cleanup.

// ALUMNA GETS HER STUDENTS INVOLVED IN HURRICANE RELIEF

While students in Ashley Brady's first-grade class at Mayo Elementary School in Spartanburg County were learning about hurricanes, they were learning a valuable lesson about reaching out to other schoolchildren and their families in time of need.

“Most students knew that a hurricane was a type of weather, but they were uncertain of what it entailed,” said Brady ('12), a SWU Early Childhood Education graduate. “We looked at photographs of the damage and devastation. We began with looking at roads, homes and buildings. We then transitioned into looking at photographs of schools and the damage they sustained. We brainstormed all of the many things that were likely lost.”

The thought of children losing their homes and belongings brought Brady's students to tears, but they soon found out they were going to help by adopting a school in

a hurricane-ravaged community in Texas.

“The students were immediately on board and ready to help,” Brady continued. “I've had students save their coveted ice cream money to give to these students. I've had students who would beg their parents to take them shopping so that they can buy more school supplies for the children.”

Brady's class adopted a first-grade class at Arredondo Elementary School in Rosenberg, Tex., that lost books and school supplies to Hurricane Harvey's floodwaters. They collected paper, pencils, glue and other school supplies, which were sent – along with gift cards for Target and Walmart – to Arredondo Elementary.

“I've had students mention during our



lessons how excited they are that the Texas children will be able to learn and do things at school just like them,” said Brady.

"I've had students save their coveted ice cream money to give to these students."

"We were flying in the worst weather I've flown in my

// SWU GRADUATE IN THE MIDST OF RESCUE EFFORTS IN TEXAS



Back in 2005, as AST2 (Aviation Survival Technician) Wes Price watched news coverage of Hurricane Katrina unfold on TV, he caught a glimpse of his future.

"I always wanted to be in the military and go through military training to see if I could make it through," Price said. "I had a good friend in the U.S. Coast Guard and he told me they were the rescue swimmers. It took a couple of years to grasp hold of it and I finally decided to try it."

Price, a 2004 recreation graduate, found out about Southern Wesleyan University as a youth attending the Wesleyan church in Galax, Va. That summer SWU sent an intern, Brian Hoover, to be the youth pastor.

"I didn't know what path I was going to take. We met, hung out and hit it off as friends. He was the influence I had and put me on that path," Price said. "SWU was exactly where God had planned me to be. I still talk to many from SWU who are close friends. I made a lot of friends."

Price always felt he wanted to be in the type of work that helped people. Working at an outdoor wilderness program for at-risk youth, Price worked alongside many retired military servicemen who influenced him to pursue service in one of the armed forces. He had considered becoming a Navy SEAL or an Army Ranger, but felt those roles weren't the fit he needed. He set his sights on the U.S. Coast Guard.

Price endured the Airman Program at Air Station Atlantic City – four months of training and preparation for 18 weeks at AST "A" School. Price's training consisted of rigorous workouts and hours daily spent training in a pool. He was the only one to finish in his class.

Over the years he has rescued stranded boaters, sometimes in conditions of high winds and seas. He's also taken part in medevacs of cruise ship passengers urgently needing medical attention onshore.

"The Coast Guard is highly overlooked until you need us. But it's good to feel needed like anything," said Price.

Hurricane Harvey brought unprecedented challenges to Price and his colleagues.

Photo credit: Tim Calver

y entire career."



"We were flying in the worst weather I've flown in my entire career. We had 300 ft. ceilings and about a quarter mile of visibility and average 45 knot winds gusting to 50-55 knots and a ton of rain," Price said. "We had people from all over the Coast Guard in Houston."

Further complicating the situation was navigating through unfamiliar territory to locate people in need of rescue.

"I didn't know the copilot or mechanic, but the great thing is we all train to the same standard – same commands, same everything," Price said, adding that the pilots did "a phenomenal job" of running rescues through the storm and dealing with airspace crowded with other rescue aircraft and tall communications towers.

Instead of being lowered to a boat, Price was being lowered to roofs of houses where people could be trapped in attics.

"I usually go out of the cabin door with fins, but this time it was with a chainsaw and an axe 180 feet off of the ground when I went out of the cabin door," Price said.

"I got a call from a rescue swimmer on the ground and called for the helicopter with a two-piece stretcher. 'We need a 60 (helicopter) and two more swimmers.' They lowered Luke and me together. We surveyed the scene. There were two women inside with a guy bedridden and in his mid 40s. I told Luke to go outside – I'll send you the ladies. I'll send a litter (rescue basket) in and we basically prepped survivor for the litter. He's scared and nervous – it took a whole team effort. The litter was delivered first, while Luke hoisted the ladies by basket. We all carried the patient outside his house in three feet of water. We placed him on the hood of a car. It's unnerving to be hoisted flat on your back.

"It was a moment that was surreal. I'm now doing what I got to witness back then (after Katrina)."

It would be easy for the casual observer viewing pictures of rescues posted in Facebook to conjure up visions of heroes pictured larger than life on the movie screen. Price cautions, "I'm no different from you – I signed up for what I do and that's it. To me it's no different. I do what I do. It's fun and exciting and I just wouldn't do anything else."

// WARRIORS REACH OUT TO HURRICANE HARVEY VICTIMS

Members of SWU's Women's Basketball Team gathered donated items and mailed them to the University of Houston, where the women's basketball team there would distribute the items to people impacted by Hurricane Harvey's devastation. They also sent notecards with scripture verses to encourage hurricane victims.



// SWU PROFESSOR ACTIVE IN PUERTO RICAN RELIEF



SWU Business Professor Dr. Franklin Aviles-Santa, right, and a group of entrepreneurs and leaders of the Puerto Rican community have sent containers of items needed by Hurricane Maria victims in Puerto Rico and are continuing efforts to provide aid. They also organized a benefit concert Nov. 18. Planning has been taking place at SWU's Greenville education center. Dr. Todd Voss, university president, met with the group and prayed with them, and spoke in support of the efforts for the reconstruction of Puerto Rico. Pictured at left is Dr. Lisa McWherter, SWU VP for Advancement.

Eclipse over Pickens

ON AUG. 21, Southern Wesleyan University hosted eclipse-viewers from several states and some foreign countries, to witness the first total eclipse to appear anywhere in the continental U.S. since 1979.

Eclipse Over Pickens County was organized by Southern Wesleyan University, Pickens County, the town of Central and many key partners. Event organizers estimate that between 3,000 and 5,000 came to SWU to witness the eclipse. The university handed out approximately 4,000 pairs of eclipse glasses; the remainder is being set aside for missions organizations for children overseas who will be in the path of a 2019 eclipse.

According to Dr. Todd Voss, university president, Southern Wesleyan was listed as one of the few officially approved NASA viewing sites in the country.

To celebrate the eclipse, Joe R. Gilbert Track and Field became a festive atmosphere of family-friendly games, food and entertainment.

The SWU Jazz Ensemble and University Singers performed throughout the program, along with Fine Arts Division Chair Jane Dill. Roy Costner, Pickens County Council chairman, emceed the event and also recognized elected officials, as well as other notable visitors, many of whom attended a VIP reception.

"I was looking along at the line of totality and saw SWU right on the center line, so I did a Google search to see if you guys had anything planned. We liked the fact that we could get a reserved spot in the lot," said Patrick Brandt, who traveled to Southern Wesleyan's campus with a couple of van loads of life science Ph.D. students from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Jenny Fisler of Harrington, Del., borrowed a welder's helmet from a friend to view the eclipse. Sitting on a blanket spread out on the soccer field, she quipped that there was plenty of room inside the helmet for comfortable viewing. Fisler enjoyed the eclipse alongside her grandson, Southern Wesleyan student John Ryall and his mother Debbie Holden.

Dr. Jo Anne Lyon, ambassador and general superintendent emerita for The Wesleyan Church, was in town for an ordination service the night before, so she decided to delay her return home and view the eclipse at Southern Wesleyan.

"There's nothing like experiencing a very unique natural event with other people. Southern Wesleyan people are my favorite people. It's great to be here," Lyon said.

Under a giant LED display showing a filtered image of the sun, Dr. Jim Schmutz, retired member of SWU's science faculty, explained what was happening as the eclipse transitioned through its stages.

"I just want to give a big shout out to Jim Schmutz, he was right on time," said Southern Wesleyan President Todd Voss as the moon passed over the sun and skies lightened.

Rev. Joy Bryant, the event's organizer, and the university's executive director for alumni and constituent relations, was delighted to welcome "new friends," – visitors from New Jersey; Boston, Mass.; Washington, D.C.; Texas; and overseas visitors from Italy and Germany.

"It was an amazing day where friends, family and alums from all over came," Bryant said. "This could be chalked up to a fantastic special event, compliments of God's spectacular hand on this campus."

"What an amazing day it was for SWU, Central and Pickens County! SWU's pillars of Faith Filled Community and Contagious Generosity were 'front and center' as the local community and new friends from across the world celebrated God's handiwork at the Eclipse Over Pickens County," said Dr. Lisa McWherter, Southern Wesleyan's vice president for advancement.

Mike O'Neal, a 31-year NASA veteran, presented "Spirituality and Space-flight," a multimedia presentation at the Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center auditorium that gave the story of the role faith has played in the lives and missions of many U.S. astronauts, recalling prayers said by John Glenn and other space pioneers, as well as a scripture reading from the book of Genesis read by the Apollo 8 crew as they looked toward earth from their moon orbit.

Earlier in the day, Prof. Ivy Kaufman gave a lecture on the science behind the unique natural event during a lunch presented by Southern Wesleyan's Division of Science.

County



Relive the Eclipse over Pickens County
at youtu.be/gxmJIAYK0h0

Background photo credit: David Cooper.

Right: thousands watch as the sun approaches totality over Southern Wesleyan.

Below right: Rick Adkins looks on as the eclipse begins.

Below: Retired SWU science faculty member Dr. Jim Schmutz explains the different stages of the eclipse to the crowd.



Rickman sets Christlike example as Wesleyan Christian Academy principal

When you think about Wesleyan Christian Academy in High Point, N.C., it's hard not to think about Tim Rickman.

Daughter Jenny Derr says her father is the "face of the school," constantly attending sporting events, fine arts, performances, high school banquets and attending practically any school function involving his students.

"During my dad's time at Wesleyan he has graduated 21 classes, he has taken high school students on 20 mission trips to Jamaica and played a significant role in the growth of the school; but more importantly he has played a huge part in students' lives being changed forever," Derr said, adding, "He has a deep love for his high school students as though they are his very own."

Rickman spent 15 years in the public school system of North Carolina, where he taught for eight years, moved to an assistant principal for three years and then served as a principal at Stanley Junior High School. In 1995, his family relocated to High Point, N.C., where Tim began his current position as high school principal at Wesleyan.

Head of School Emeritus Joel Farlow said, "Over the course of his years as head of Wesleyan, many decisions were made, but without a doubt, the selection of Tim Rickman as high school principal is one of the best decisions made during those 33 years."

Under Rickman's leadership, high school



Above: Zach and Jenny Derr (daughter) with son Hudson; (top left) Matt (son) and Shelley Rickman; (middle) Tim and Patti Rickman; (right) Sarah and Will (son) Rickman with son Colton.

of kids and families and our community," said Dr. Rob Brown, head of the K-12 Wesleyan Academy. "Doing things right and doing things well for the Lord is a footprint that Tim's legacy will have on us for

years to come. Beyond his responsibilities as high school principal, Tim is often regarded and respected in our community as the energy behind much of the achievements the Lord has chosen to confer on our school."

Currently in his 23rd year of leadership at Wesleyan Christian Academy, he describes being principal as "the thrill of my life helping students Know and Live the Truth!"

All four of Tim's children are graduates of the academy. Jenny teaches third-grade there.

Just as Rickman has demonstrated Christian love for his students throughout his years as an educator, he experienced that same kind of

enrollment increased; Advanced Placement (AP) courses expanded to all core disciplines; a 100 percent graduation rate was achieved with 99 percent going to college; the fine arts department expanded to include four levels of visual arts programming with ongoing stage productions; athletic teams won 17 state championships and ranked in the top 10 in three different sports in USA TODAY Poll, and multiple life-changing missions trips and projects were organized annually.

"I cannot adequately convey Tim's significance and impact on untold thousands

A 100 percent graduation rate was achieved with 99 percent going to college.

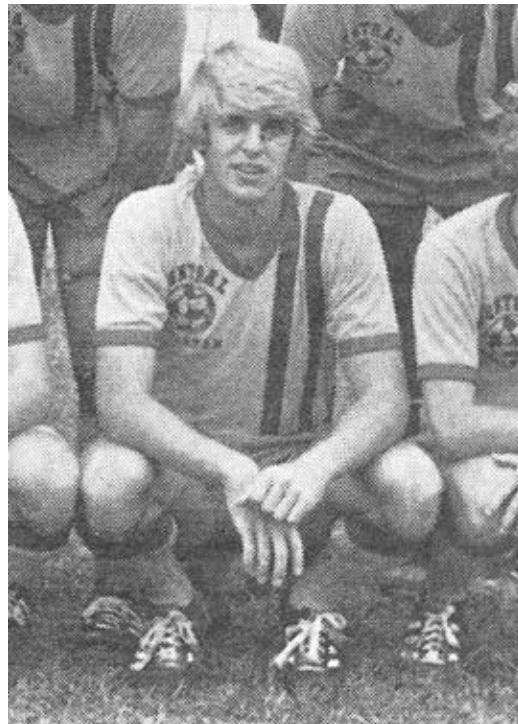
loving and caring environment when he enrolled Southern Wesleyan University, then known as Central Wesleyan College.

"It was a home away from home, and I loved every minute of my years there," Rickman recalled. He was actively engaged in campus life, including involvement in music groups and on the Warriors Soccer Team.

He speaks gratefully of professors, administrators and staff and their commitment to him as a student and caring about who he would become after leaving Central. In the middle of his senior year, Rickman was asked to join the nationally known performing group called the Re'Generation where he met his future wife, Patti. Returning to Central several months later to complete his student teaching, he graduated with his bachelor of science in physical education degree in 1978.

Tim and Patti were married in 1981 and, over the years, had four children: Will, Jenny, Lee and Matt. Will, Jenny and Matt are married and have families in North Carolina; Lee passed away in 2016 and is in his eternal home.

Rickman has also earned a master of arts in education from Western Carolina University in 1983; a certification in educational administration in 1988 from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte; and was awarded a professional lifetime education certificate from the Association of Christian Schools International in 2017. ♦



Left: Active in student life on the Central campus during the 70s, Tim Rickman was involved in musical groups and is pictured here on the Warriors Men's Soccer Team.

Considering creative charitable giving options?

Have a 459A problem?

Ever wonder if there is a streamlined and smart way to financially take care of yourself, your family and your university?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, SWU can help!

Please visit www.swu.edu/plannedgiving. The website has been designed to answer many questions about available giving options. Donors' gifts of all sizes and in many forms are welcomed!

For more information you are invited to call Dr. Lisa McWherter at 864.644.5006 or send her an email at lmcwherter@swu.edu.



Tackling tech's dark side

An inescapable fact of today's connected world is that there's a dark side of technology and the victims are real.

Southern Wesleyan University graduate Harold Reaves' work is devoted to raising awareness of the pitfalls and at the same time to promote "digital citizenship" by teaching students how to be positive role models to their peers.

Currently serving as Global Director for Safe Schools at Absolute, a technology company, Reaves works with students, parents, school administrators, counselors, school resource officers, law enforcement professionals and church leaders to educate them about the dangers children and youth encounter when going online.

Reaves presented "The Digital Life of a Bully" at the National School Safety Conference in Las Vegas, Nev., this past July.

According to Reaves, digital bullying has become a national epidemic.

"When we were growing up, if we were bullied, at least we could get a break until the next day. It's now 24/7 – it can go from you being the most popular person to an all-out assault," he said.

"We see students using technology more and have seen the need to build on digital citizenship. We educate students, parents and administrators on the dangers of the Internet," Reaves said. "Schools do a good job with firewalls, but students are just as persistent in finding ways around the firewall."

Another area, "sexting," has become a real problem with students. There are serious criminal implications, and the fallout can last a lifetime.

"If an underage girl takes an inappropriate picture, technically she just committed a felony; a boy gets it and is possessing it; he's also committing a felony. Once you send anything over the Internet you can't recall it," Reaves said. "When a boy says 'If you love me you will do this' – he doesn't love you. Your picture will be on the Internet somewhere because if/when you break up, he will want to cause harm to you. Colleges and employers will do Internet searches and they may pop up. They (pictures) are out there for life."

Reaves noted that the bystander or receiver of a bullying email has a great deal of power to break that up by speaking up.

"They have opportunity to say 'it's not okay.' If they're copied on email or text they have opportunity to say 'that's not right.' The bystander is very important," Reaves said.

Reaves offered these tips for parents:

"Be actively involved in what their students are doing on the Internet. I'm not telling them to spy, but you have to look out for the potential danger," he said, noting how teens are often lured into meeting with someone who misrepresents themselves online, with potentially fatal results.

Reaves notes that there are several smartphone apps that are cheap or even free that can block questionable apps, notifying parents if their kids add new apps to their phones. He cautions against them having any apps that allow them to remain anonymous.

Reaves also encourages families to keep computers out in the open, rather than behind a closed bedroom door, and to have regular "disconnect" times for going online, at bedtime, and especially at



mealtime. He promotes commonsensemedia.org as an excellent resource dedicated to helping kids make good choices when it comes to the web and mass media.

Prior to joining Absolute, Reaves was in law enforcement, serving as director of homeland security for the city of Columbia and also as the city's interim police chief.

Reaves, who earned his business degree at Southern Wesleyan's Columbia education center in 2007, benefited from Southern Wesleyan's faith-filled community and feels the university prepared him well for his career. He's especially proud of being invited back to his alma mater in 2009 to give the commencement address to adult and evening program graduates. Prominently displayed in Reaves' house is the Presidential Citation presented to him by then-president Dr. David Spittal. ♦

In the 'right place at the right time'

Images of a manager at an Evans, Ga. Walmart helping and comforting an elderly woman who collapsed in the store quickly went viral on social media – a simple act of kindness that stood out in a world often clouded by controversy.

"I was going up to her to see if she was okay," said Jason Lewis, a Southern Wesleyan University graduate. "I caught her from hitting her head. I just propped her up and used my side and back as a support."

A registered nurse had walked up on the scene and asked the woman about medications she was taking, and also checked her vital signs. As the woman tried to get up, Lewis and the nurse advised her not to do so. They stayed with her until paramedics could arrive. As they waited, another man came and prayed over the woman.

According to Lewis, the nurse later visited the hospital to check on the woman, who by then was alert and improving.

Lewis learned about Southern Wesleyan University from a professor he had as an undergraduate at another college. The professor, who Lewis looked up to as a mentor,



Jason Lewis, right, in the photo that went viral after his act of kindness. Photo credit: Brittany McKee

was teaching at Southern Wesleyan's North Augusta education center as an adjunct.

"I got enrolled and went to class one night per week. Going to school and working a full time job, balancing school with his home life and family life – it was very convenient," said Lewis, adding that being able to take many of his courses online added to the convenience. He graduated in 2012 with his MBA.

While attending Southern Wesleyan was convenient, Lewis also gained a lot personally from being part of the university's faith-filled community.

"One reason I chose SWU is that they are in tune with what I believe. I wanted to make sure I was involved," Lewis said. "Starting (classes) with devotionals was key to my life."

Lewis enjoys keeping in touch with his classmates.

"I was actually the youngest person in my cohort by far. I was 28 at the time; I'm 32 now. It was good to get those life experiences and to see how they handled different situations."

Lewis is currently an e-commerce manager at the Evans Walmart, handling site-to-store transactions. ♦

Journey of a Warrior: SWU professor 'going the distance' to benefit business majors

Avid hiker and Southern Wesleyan University Business Professor Jonathan Young wanted to do something to benefit business majors, so he decided to "go the distance."

Young has hiked major portions of the Appalachian Trail (AT), a 2,180 mile long public footpath that extends from Springer Mountain in Georgia to Mount Katahdin in Maine. He didn't even know the AT existed until he attended Bates College in Maine as an undergraduate student. As a member of Bates' Outdoor Club, Young took a weekend backpacking trip and became hooked on hiking the AT. Since then, he's hiked more than 1,200 miles of the iconic trail, including approximately 140 miles this past fall in Maryland,

West Virginia and Virginia, a stretch that includes some of the most challenging passages. Young originally planned to hike 500 miles in 40 days, but knee problems and a swollen foot forced him to cut his hike short at the end of September.

The purpose of Young's hike was to raise funds and awareness for an endowed scholarship and to help the School of Business as it transitions into its new home at Stuart-Bennett Hall.

Young's gesture of contagious generosity had the goal of raising \$50,000 to support Southern Wesleyan's School of Business to endow business scholarships and help provide state-of-the-art equipment and renovations

for the school's new location at Stuart-Bennett Hall.

Young is exploring the possibility of resuming his hike in the spring.

"Your prayers for my health and well-being were answered as I suffered no major illnesses, falls or tragic consequences, nor did my daughter, Laurie, who accompanied me through the Shenandoah," Young said.

For details or to give online, go to swu.edu/journey or contact Southern Wesleyan's Advancement Office at 864-644-5008 or 855-644-5008. At swu.edu/journey, you'll also find a day-by-day account of Young's hiking experience through words and pictures. ♦



THE ICONIC CHILDS HALL has many stories to tell from its inconspicuous beginning back in 1947. Yes, it is true if only the walls could talk! Even if you only know a few of the many stories that could be told from over the years, I believe you would agree that it is no small miracle that it still stands strong 70 years after its meager beginning. In fact, it passed recent structural tests concerning its future so well that it was obvious that it had earned a new life of service for Southern Wesleyan University. And, to think it survived many of us who lived there in its early years! The future plans for Childs Hall are strategically important in order to have sufficient total student rooms available to handle the growth in the coming years.

Childs Hall now deserves our attention as an iconic historical marker of our past as well as a guide for our future success based upon a strong foundation of faith! Please join me in giving your full support to the Capital Campaign for a “new life” for Childs Hall. This is a need that is urgent to celebrate the past—especially alumni—and take the action required for meeting the critical student housing needs. The



need is great and now. I look forward to your joining me and all the Trustees in this historic moment for a successful campaign to restore Childs Hall for generations to come!

– **Dr. Charles Joiner** ('62)

Join the campaign to save historic Childs Hall.

Visit www.swu.edu/childs or call 855-644-5008 to give today!

Thank You.

To our generous donors who value the impact of Christian higher education at Southern Wesleyan University, thank you for your self-sacrifice to give to the mission of SWU. Our mission has not changed: we remain dedicated to educating and nurturing students as they seek God's plan for their lives. Your support is an investment in this mission, in Southern Wesleyan, and in the life achievements and spiritual growth of our students.

VISIT WWW.SWU.EDU/DONORS
for an online Honor Roll of Donors.

Fill the HILL

Warrior Homecoming 2017



(1) Southern Wesleyan University graduates from the late 1960s gather outside Nicholson-Mitchell Christian Ministry Center prior to the annual Homecoming Parade.

(2) Homecoming honorees march across Joe R. Gilbert Track and Field during halftime of Southern Wesleyan University's Men's Soccer game.

(3) Homecoming crowds lined up along Wesleyan Drive and enjoyed the parade.

(5) John Crist on stage with Mike Goodwin, a comedian from Columbia.



4



5

(4) COMEDIAN JOHN CRIST HAD HIS AUDIENCE ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AT A LIVE HOMECOMING PERFORMANCE

Graduates joined students, faculty and staff for a celebration-filled Homecoming weekend Oct. 20 and 21 at Central.

The Southern Wesleyan University Alumni Association recognized outstanding graduates Friday evening: Charles Wimphrie, 2017 Alumnus of the Year; Brittany Buchanan Jolly, 2017 Young Leader Award; Tim Rickman, 2017 Professional Excellence Award for the School of Education; Jeff Whitney, 2017 Professional Excellence Award for the School of Business; and Nathan Bryson, 2017 Professional Excellence Award for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Viral comedy sensation John Crist took to the stage of Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center auditorium along with Mike Goodwin, a comedian from Columbia. Crist has videos on YouTube and BuzzFeed viewed by millions; he's also appeared on the Bob and Tom Show and TBN, and has been featured in Relevant Magazine. Goodwin is considered "one of the brightest young minds in comedy," and has appeared with notable comedians such as Dick Gregory and Michael Jr. He's also appeared on BET, the Word Network and TBN. Event sponsor was Nationwide Insurance, along with Southern Wesleyan's Fine Arts Committee.

Saturday's activities began with coffee and doughnuts with President Todd Voss and his wife Julie in the lobby of the new residence hall, along with tours of Stuart-Bennett residence hall, where former residents and interested alumni got a last glimpse of the rooms and facilities before renovation occurs, making room for the School of Business and Division of Social Science.

Homecoming Chapel went outdoors for the first time at the Clyde Dupin Celebration Amphitheater, featuring an inspirational message

from Mark Wilson, assistant professor for discipleship, multiplication and renewal at Southern Wesleyan and a renowned speaker and author.

Following the chapel was a parade along Wesleyan Drive. A processional of classes featuring alumni from the late 1960s were joined by floats from student organizations and The Jericho Project, a special needs community that will locate on the Central campus next year. The Central Police Dept. led the processional and Ty the Warrior Mascot rode atop a Central Fire Dept. truck alongside Central Town Administrator Phillip Mishoe at the other end of the route. Southern Wesleyan's Office of Admissions was awarded as the winning parade entry.

The celebration then moved to the university's track and soccer complex area for a lunch with BBQ, potato salad and other picnic favorites. Throughout the afternoon the track area also featured crafts vendors, along with food and refreshments from local vendors.

In Warrior athletics, the Men's Soccer Team was victorious over Chowan University Saturday, with a score of 3-1 while the Women's Soccer Team lost 2-0 to Chowan.

Dr. Don Campbell, professor of music, led the SWU Concert Choir in singing the National Anthem before the men's soccer game. At halftime, Kaitlin Mosley of Central was crowned as the 2017 Homecoming Queen and Noah Cromer of Temperance, Mich., was crowned the 2017 Homecoming King.

Other Homecoming highlights included the dedication of four benches at the Sheriff National Guard Memorial Flag Plaza and a service at Freedom's Hill Church, led by Dr. Bob Black, professor of religion, celebrating graduates reaching the half-century anniversary and remembering those who have passed away. ♦

 You can see a Homecoming recap at youtu.be/ZwOVAMzRr_s

Southern Wesleyan University recognizes outstanding alumni for 2017



From left: 2010 graduate Brittany Buchanan Jolly; 2004 graduate Nathan Bryson; 1982 graduate Coach Charles Wimphrie; 1990 graduate Jeff Whitney; and 1979 graduate Tim Rickman.

Southern Wesleyan University recognized the achievements of outstanding alumni during an awards ceremony Oct. 20 at Central.

Recognized were Charles Wimphrie, 2017 Alumnus of the Year; Brittany Buchanan Jolly, 2017 Young Leader Award; Tim Rickman, 2017 Professional Excellence Award for the School of Education; Jeff Whitney, 2017 Professional Excellence Award for the School of Business; and Nathan Bryson, 2017 Professional Excellence Award for the College of Arts and Sciences.

A 1982 Physical Education graduate, **CHARLES WIMPHRIE** was an outstanding student-athlete when he competed on Southern Wesleyan's Men's Basketball Team. After graduating, Wimphrie served the university in a variety of roles, but is best known for his more than three decades as head men's basketball coach. In addition to coaching the Warriors, Wimphrie has taught thousands of youngsters the fundamentals of the game at numerous basketball camps. Over the years, Wimphrie has touched the lives of doctors, lawyers, teachers, preachers and several professional athletes including Nuk Hopkins and Shaq Lawson. He recently received another honor when the basketball court in Tysinger Gymnasium – where he has both played and coached – was named for him.

A 2010 English Education graduate, **BRITTANY BUCHANAN JOLLY** has been actively involved in church plants in the Charleston area, part of the South Carolina District of The Wesleyan Church, with her husband Nathan. Prior to coming to Charleston, the Jollys spent two years of missionary service overseas through Global Partners of

The Wesleyan Church. She and Nathan have been part of Residium, a church serving the Charleston area, and more recently have worked to begin The Grove, a new church plant in the Mount Pleasant area. She is currently working on her master's degree through Indiana Wesleyan University as she prepares to become an ordained minister in The Wesleyan Church.

A 1979 Education graduate, **TIM RICKMAN** is a longtime school administrator who has made a lasting impression on more than 20 classes that have graduated from Wesleyan Christian Academy in High Point, N.C. He can be seen at practically all school functions, including sporting events, fine arts performances and banquets. Rickman has taken students on 20 mission trips to Jamaica and played a significant role in Wesleyan's growth, while demonstrating a "deep love" for his students. During Rickman's leadership, Wesleyan has experienced a 100 percent graduation rate, expansion of AP (Advanced Placement) courses into all core disciplines and expansion of the fine arts program. He's also the 2017 recipient of a professional lifetime education certificate from the Association of Christian Schools International.

JEFF WHITNEY, a 1990 Accounting graduate, has been serving as the financial director of Global Partners at headquarters for The Wesleyan Church since 2013. He has a wealth of experience gained from serving in Russia and across Europe. As a Southern Wesleyan student, Whitney was involved in Rotaract, part of Rotary, an international service organization, becoming director of the Rotary Youth Leadership Camp for their North Carolina West District. As a student, he traveled to Russia for two summers as part of the university's Russia Youth Camp. He would go on to serve 18 years in Russia while assisting mission fields in the areas of accounting and bookkeeping and becoming part of the European Area Leadership Team.

NATHAN BRYSON graduated Cum Laude from Southern Wesleyan in 2004 with degrees in Music and Internet Computing and combined his love of music with technological know-how as project manager for Cornel Zimmer Organ Builders in North Carolina. In 2011, he installed the digital organ used in Nicholson Mitchell Chapel and Fine Arts Center. Bryson has become curator of the world's largest organ, located along the historic Boardwalk of Atlantic City, N.J., and is in his fourth year of a 10-year project to restore the Midmer Losh organ, a gigantic, complicated organ of more than 33,000 pipes that operates on a mammoth scale.

Prof. Jane Dill, chair of Southern Wesleyan's Fine Arts Division, recognized two Fine Arts honorees. Honored were **DR. DARRYL JACHENS**, Music Professor Emeritus; and **SHIRLEY SARLIN** for her contributions to SWU's Fine Arts productions. Sarlin, an alumna who passed away recently, was inducted into the Fine Arts Hall of Fame. Accepting the award on behalf of the Sarlin family was Jerry Nalley of Liberty. ♦

GRANDPARENTS DAY

2018

FRIDAY

MARCH 16

Continental Breakfast

SWU Chapel

Lunch

Historic Campus Bus Tour

Ticket to the Spring Musical, "Beauty and the Beast," on Friday, March 16, 2018

Tickets are \$25 per person

For other details about Grandparents Day, visit swu.edu/grandparentsday or contact Leah Moyer at 864-644-5009 or email lmoyer@swu.edu.

ALUMNI NEWS

1983

JOHNNIE HARRELL was inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success of the Sigma Alpha Pi for the Rowan Cabarrus Comm. College. He will graduate in December in a double major in Computer Integration and Web Technology.

1984

SANDY (McJUNKIN) PREUSZ played on the LA S'PORTS women's 50+ softball team in St. George, Utah's Huntsman World Senior Games Oct. 9-21.

1985



James M. Brown Elementary Spanish teacher **DALE LINK**, right, is pictured with School District of Oconee County superintendent Michael Thorsland

after being named 2017-18 Teacher of the year for the School District of Oconee County during a ceremony in May at Walhalla High School.

1996



JAMI BROTHERS has been named Clemson University's new chief of police. Brothers, a member of the Clemson University Police Department since

2007, was chosen for the position following a national search to replace Eric Hendricks, who retired in December. Brothers is assuming the role of leadership for a law enforcement agency that is growing as the university it serves continues to grow and new on-campus housing continues to develop. Brothers notes that her department, now staffed with 33 officers, plans to add eight positions over the next year.

1997

DR. MICHELE ELLER joined the SWU faculty as assistant professor of biology. Eller earned her BS in chemistry and her Ph.D. in genetics from Clemson University. Most recently, she taught science full-time at Oconee Christian Academy and has served

as an adjunct at SWU, University of Phoenix and Greenville Technical College.

1999

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) awarded **L.C. HAYES**, a biology graduate, a Senior Reactor Operator License, presented by their regional director. Hayes, a Duke Energy employee, participated in an 18-month training program, which included detailed systems training and accident response and mitigation.



RICHARD WAYNE RUSSELL ('99) and **PAULA RUSSELL** announce the birth of Waylon Richard Russell. Born Oct. 18. 6 lbs. 8 oz. at Palmetto Health

Parkridge Hospital.

2001

JUSTIN FLEMING was named senior director of the South Carolina Junior Golf Association. Fleming was a member of SWU's Golf Team. He is a business graduate of SWU.

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2002

JOYE LANAHAN is an agent with Coldwell Banker Caine, working with buyers and sellers in the Simpsonville, Mauldin, Greenville and Greer areas.

2004

LAURA HEDDEN was named administrative assistant for SWU's Spiritual Life office. She previously served in the Financial Aid office as a counselor for the traditional program. Hedden has been employed at SWU since 2015; prior to that, she worked for the City of Clemson.

2005



BRIAN MADDUX, center, is pictured with his wife Susan, left, and stepson Preston Stevenson at a Greenville banquet where Greenville television station

WYFF honored him as the Golden Apple Teacher of the Year. Maddux is a special education teacher at Woodmont High School.

2006



DR. PRISCILLA HAMMOND joined SWU full-time as assistant professor in the School of Business beginning in July. Hammond holds a Ph.D. in

organizational leadership from Indiana Wesleyan, a master of ministry from SWU, an MBA in HR management from University of Hawaii (Manoa), and a BBA in marketing from Georgia State. Besides teaching for SWU, she has served as an adjunct instructor for Oklahoma Wesleyan and IWU.

Hammond also served as part of a six-person team from 12Stone Church that traveled to Segera, Kenya, to help local entrepreneurs, developing relationships with people there while creating long-term employment opportunities.



2007

EMILY DILL HOLLEY ('07) and husband **TRAVIS HOLLEY** welcome Everly Anna to their

family. Everly was born Oct. 10, weighing 8 lbs. 12 ozs. and was 20.5 inches long. Everly joins big brother Emerson at their home in Kernersville, N.C. Emily is the Children's Pastor at Kernersville Wesleyan Church. Grateful grandparents are **KEN** ('81) and **JANE DILL** and proud uncle **PALMER DILL** ('10).



Bennett Lowe Taylor was born in Lexington, Ky. on June 9 to **LILES TAYLOR** and **ROBIN LOWE TAYLOR** ('07). Bennett weighed in at 7 lb. 5 oz. and was 20 inches

long. Proud grandparents include **MILTON** ('74) and **VERNA JOHNSON** ('74) Lowe.

2011



Luke Bravery Hinds was born Sept. 30 to **NICHOLAS** ('11) and **MEGAN HINDS**, at 19 inches and six pounds.

2012

ETHAN CASHWELL is now reference librarian at the Village Branch of the Pickens County Library in Pickens.



MARK SEARS ('12), left, and **ERIC CROMER** ('10) each received their D.O. (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine) from the Edward Via College of Osteo-

pathic Medicine in Spartanburg May 20. Both Sears and Cromer are Pre-Med graduates of SWU.

2013

Charleston MBA graduate **JENNIFER SIMMONS** has written a book titled "Scripturally Structured – A Guide to Business Success." Motivated by what she experienced as an entrepreneur, Simmons says her book is written for individuals seeking to start a business or grow their current business. Simmons is coding supervisor at Roper St. Francis Healthcare and is an adjunct faculty member at Trident Technical College.

2014

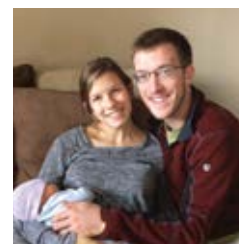
HAYLEY HOOVER has been named Teacher

of the Year at La France Elementary School in Anderson.

2015

SCOTTI BRYANT ('15) married **ADAM JOLLEY** ('10) Sept. 30.

HANNAH COVINGTON earned her MBA from Liberty University. She was also ordained as a minister by The Wesleyan Church.



Peter Scott Hochhalter was born to **ANDREW** and **CAROLINE HUDSON HOCHHALTER** Sept. 9, at 21 3/4 inches and nine pounds. Andrew is an assistant resident director at SWU.

CHELSI STEVENSON JETER accepted a position as a research technologist at the Greenwood Genetic Center. Jeter is a Pre Med-Pre Dentistry graduate.

2016

NICOLE BROWN accepted a supervisory position at the Lowcountry Food Bank. She started with the food bank as a temporary customer service representative, then became an accounts payable specialist. She will become accounts payable manager. Brown is a Charleston BSBM graduate.

2017

Dr. Todd Voss presented the President's Award to **BEN HOCHHALTER** during the Student Leadership Awards Dinner April 25 at Central. The award exemplifies SWU's core values of "Christ Centered: Purpose, Scholarship, Community and Transformation." Hochhalter has held several leadership positions at SWU.

ANITA NWANKWO has planned to attend nursing school starting fall 2017 at MidAmerica Nazarene in Kansas.

The Kershaw County Board of School Trustees recently selected **ALANA POWERS** to serve as the assistant principal for Doby's Mill Elementary School. Powers was enrolled in the MED program at SWU's Columbia education center. Powers taught at Camden Elementary School (CES) since 2005, most recently as a fourth-grade teacher. She also taught at Jackson and Pine Tree Hill Elementary during her 18-year career. Powers

received a bachelor of science degree from Winthrop University and masters of education degrees from Lesley University and Southern Wesleyan University.

WILL WOODS married **LAURA COLLYER** July 8. Both are biology education graduates.

When **DANIEL STANLEY** went on his first short-term mission trip to Haiti in 2009, he immediately fell in love with the country and the people. He carried that excitement home with him and shared it with his wife Deanna. Over the next eight years, they both returned regularly to Haiti for short-term trips where they developed a burden for the many needs there. Daniel and Deanna will travel with their three children to Haiti for a four-year term next summer when they have raised their support. Please prayerfully consider supporting the Stanleys as God uses them to minister to the Haitian people.

Imowyn Mae Tyndall was born Aug. 3 to **BRITTANY** and **THOMAS TYNDALL**, weighing 5 lbs. 15 oz. and 20 in. long. Brittany studied vocal performance at SWU.

Accolades for Pickens County Teachers

The School District of Pickens County recognized its Teachers of the Year, and the following SWU graduates are included: Jennifer Hendrix ('11) was named Teacher of the Year at Pickens Middle School. Hendrix received her MED from SWU. She teaches sixth- and eighth-grade math. Daniel Marsh ('09) was named Teacher of the Year for 2017-'18 at R.C. Edwards Middle School, where he teaches band. Chaz Paxton ('03, '16) was named Pickens High School Teacher of the Year for 2017-'18. He received his music degree from SWU and returned to earn a master of education in administration and supervision. He is band director at Pickens High. Caroline (Martin) Smith ('14) was named Teacher of the Year for 2017-'18 at McKissick Elementary School. She is an elementary education graduate. Lauren VanGieson ('14) was named Teacher of the Year for 2017-'18 at Chastain Road Elementary School.

S.C. District ordains three alums



From left: Matthew Miller ('03), Bryan Stepp ('04), James Henderson

and Hannah Covington ('15) were ordained as ministers in The Wesleyan Church during a service of ordination held Aug. 20 at Trinity Wesleyan Church in Central. Dr. Jo Anne Lyon, ambassador of The Wesleyan Church, led in the ordination ritual and delivered the ordination sermon.

Alumni Haiti Team



Haiti, where they four-wheeled, then hiked into Jacmel, a remote mountain village, and built a roof over an existing block structure, preparing it to be used as a church. Left: Pictured at front are Greg Lum, Rev. Randy Clay and Glen Bolding, father of Regina Bolding ('11). Behind them are Rev. Greg Edmonds ('97), Rev. Mark James ('77), David Harned, husband of Regina Bolding-Harned, Robbie Bryant ('17), and Brian Beard, husband of Laura Beard ('96). At the end of the week, Bryant, the youngest member of the team, secured a handmade cross into place before the team began their seven-hour journey back to Port au Prince for the flight home.

Alumni start internships

Lyndy Barnes ('17, human services), Olivia Bush ('17, psychology, recreation and sport management), Tanner Gibson ('15, media communication, intercultural studies) and Malek Martin ('17, recreation and sport management) are recent SWU graduates returning for internships this academic year. Barnes is working with the office of retention; Bush and Gibson are working with residence life; Martin is working with student activities.



and missionaries to encourage and assist them in serving the communities of Nairobi and surrounding areas. They are pictured visiting a local Kenyan pastor (right).

SWU alumni were part of a team that recently returned from a nine-day trip to

Pictured from left: Dr. Lisa Hall-Hyman, SWU assistant professor of education; Rebecca Cromer ('14), SWU alumna serving in Kenya; Reagen Welch, SWU student; Monica Keever, SWU student; Kayla Payne, SWU student; Noah Cromer ('17); Rev. Dave Tolan, SWU missions mobilizer; and Rev. John ole Kisotu, assistant bishop of Good Shepherd Church, with his daughter.

Alumni honored during Faculty and Staff Chapel

SWU recognized the milestones of many of its employees during a faculty and staff chapel and service awards program Aug. 16 in ALIVE Chapel at the Nicholson-Mitchell Christian Ministry Center. This included the following alumni who are on SWU's staff:

30 Years – Mike Preusz ('84)

10 Years – Joel Crawford ('06), Kent Ellison ('07), and Brian Bartlett ('12)

5 Years – Thomas Parham ('11)

Obituaries



REV. CHARLES E. BARNES ('59) went to be with the Lord June 29, 2016. He attended the university when it was known as Central Wesleyan College

from 1955-'59. Daughter Aletha Barnes Tecklenburg says, "He and Momma had many fond memories of their time at CWC." While on the Central campus, the Barnes' first lived in Vetville.

They then lived in the basement of a house across the street from the stone church, presently the location of Nicholson-Mitchell Christian Ministry Center. In addition to pastoring, Barnes served as an airman, teacher, farmer, security guard, carpenter, bus driver, volunteer fireman and poll worker.

REV. LYLE GEIST ('67) went to be with the Lord Oct. 7. Lyle was a graduate of Southern Wesleyan University and Asbury Theological Seminary and pastored churches in North

Carolina and Alabama for 44 years. He found great delight both in teaching and preaching God's Word and in seeing Christians become true Spirit filled followers of the Lord. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Carolyn Geist; daughters Diana Geist of Fairmount, Ind. And Susan Norris (Stephen) of Cottondale, Ala.; brother Keith Geist of Lodi, Calif.; and 17 grandchildren.



LARRY MCALPINE ('65) went home to be with the Lord Oct. 2 at Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Home. He was a member of Christ Wesleyan Church,

where he taught Sunday School and was on the local board of administration for many years. In addition to graduating from SWU, McAlpine received his master's degree from North Carolina A&T University. He taught history and served as assistant principal at Ledford Senior High School for 29 years. In 2002, McAlpine founded The Hoover Walk, named after Hoover Smith, missions director of the West District of The Wesleyan Church. Through donations and matching funds, McAlpine has raised over a million dollars for these projects. McAlpine walked every year on his birthday to support World Hope International's Clean Water Wells and Sanitation – WASH – and proceeds have also helped improve the quality of education and health of hundreds of children affected by HIV/AIDS in Haiti.

Dr. JoAnne Lyon, Founder of World Hope International said, "Most people listening to a doctor's orders after a near death experience think only of themselves – but not Larry McAlpine! When he heard the directive to walk, he saw a broken world that could benefit. He truly lives out Jesus' command to love your neighbor as yourself!"

John Lyon, President of World Hope, said, "In 2015 alone, the Hoover Walk helped complete nine new wells, saving many lives even while he battled for his own life! His walk has raised over \$450,000 for various World Hope projects since its inception in 2003."

In 2016 SWU named McAlpine Outstanding Alumnus of the Year for his courage, dedication, and inspirational faith in action. He's

pictured here with his wife Pam following the Alumni Awards presentation in 2016.

DR. R. S. (STEVE) NICHOLSON, JR. ('43) passed away Oct. 15 at his home in Bath, Mich. He touched many lives during his 91 years, serving as a Wesleyan Methodist missionary to Japan for two terms and as president of a number of colleges from Chicago, Ill., to Las Vegas, Nev. and Portland, Ore. In addition he held the position of chancellor at community colleges in Oakland, Calif. and Lansing, Mich., as well as providing leadership in higher education in the United Arab Emirates. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Carol; one daughter, Suzanne and her husband Rick; two stepchildren, Lance and Pamela; two grandchildren, twins Allison and Dax; and three great-grandchildren. Nicholson was the son of the former president of the Wesleyan Methodist Church and chair of the Religion Department at what is now Southern Wesleyan University, Dr. Roy S. Nicholson, Sr., for whom Nicholson-Mitchell Christian Ministry Center is named.

BISHOP ROBERT LEE PERRINEAU SR. ('08) of Charleston passed away Oct. 12. Perrineau and many of his family members have strong ties to Southern Wesleyan University. He and his wife, Elder Pamela Reed Perrineau ('14), have been serving as co-pastors of The Rock, the Word, the Truth Ministries, a nondenominational congregation in Charleston. Family members who are alumni include son Robert L. Perrineau Jr. ('05); son-in-law Eric Jackson; Asha Reed; niece Kayce Jones ('07); and Florence Reed Jones, Pamela's sister.



DARL LEONARD FOWLER ('51) passed away and faithfully entered into eternal life Aug. 31, 2017. He leaves behind family, friends and colleagues who were

enriched by his life and lifted by his generous spirit. "Daddy Darl", as he was affectionately known, was a man full of generosity, love for others, and a one-of-a-kind sense of humor.

Born in Kings Mountain, N.C., Darl was the only child of James Sampson and Myrtle Hill Fowler. He graduated from Southern

Wesleyan University when it was known as Wesleyan Methodist College. He also has degrees from Marion College in Indiana and UNC Law School. He practiced law in Greensboro for nearly 50 years, three of which were served as a District Court Judge.

Darl was a friend and life-long supporter of Southern Wesleyan University where he served as trustee and alumni president. He was consistently enthusiastic and wholehearted in all of his endeavors; he lived simply, sincerely and he genuinely followed the spirit and teaching of Christ.

Predeceased by his wife of 60 years, Mary Cockman Fowler, Darl is survived by his children: Darl Fowler Jr. and wife Kim, Sherry Alloway and husband Michael, Marcus Fowler and wife Lynn, and Larry Fowler and wife Ann, 12 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

A celebration of his life was held Sept. 4 at Christ Wesleyan Church in Greensboro. The service was officiated by Rev. Dr. Robert Black, Rev. Jerry Lumston, Rev. Daryl Lewis and Rev. Ken Klein.

Memorials may be made to Southern Wesleyan University, Darl and Mary Fowler Scholarship, Faith Wesleyan Church or the charity of your choice. ♦

From *the* Vault



1978

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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FINE ARTS SERIES

The Spring 2018 Fine Arts Series will feature a wide variety of events, including the full time touring dance company Ballet Magnificat!, a spring pops concert, jazz concerts, and a stage production of “Beauty and the Beast.” There will be something for everyone!

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