

FALL/WINTER 2009

INSPIRE

the cedarville magazine

'Tis the Season

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by Sharyn Kopf

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by Donna Messenger

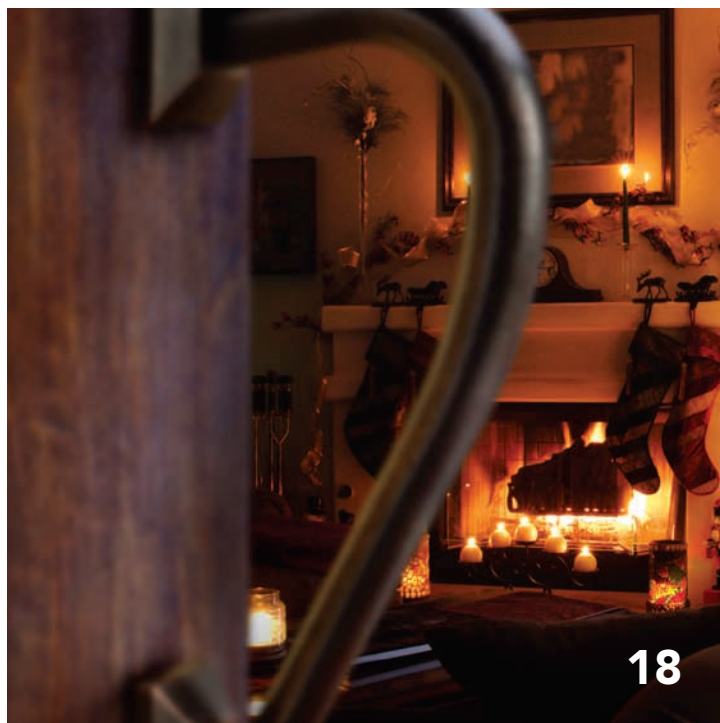
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by Donna (Payne) VanLiere '89



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*“The hinge of history
is on the door of a
Bethlehem stable.”
— Ralph W. Sockman*

CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY IS A CHRIST-CENTERED
LEARNING COMMUNITY EQUIPPING STUDENTS FOR
LIFELONG LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE THROUGH AN
EDUCATION MARKED BY EXCELLENCE AND
GROUNDED IN BIBLICAL TRUTH.



WHO: New high-energy praise and worship touring team

WHAT: Worship, games, and lessons for middle school students

WHERE: Camps, youth events, and church services

New Endeavor: East to West

"You can't find another ministry quite like this," said Jonathan Walburg '10, student leader of the inaugural East to West touring team. "It's exciting to see where it will go ... there is so much potential."

Launched during the 2008–09 school year, East to West is the newest addition to Cedarville's touring ministries. You might be familiar with The Master's Puppets teams, which have focused on children's ministry. But according to Brandon Waltz '87, director of youth ministry touring teams, reaching out specifically to middle school students had not been addressed by an on-the-road ministry team. So he intentionally programmed East to West for middle school and high school teens as a "rich multimedia experience, making it fun, interactive, and appealing." Students enjoy a program with a Gospel-oriented theme woven throughout the games, videos, worship, and lesson.

During their 2009 summer tour, the six team members introduced this new ministry to seven camps and several churches. "The response from

students and camp directors was great," Jonathan commented. "Many directors have already asked us to come next summer!"

As with all of Cedarville's touring teams, East to West members don't mind getting their hands dirty as they serve alongside camp or church staff. Nothing has influenced Brandon's philosophy of ministry more than a quote from his former seminary professor Dr. Howard Hendricks: "You impress from a distance, but you impact up close." As Brandon explained, "We're not satisfied with simply giving an impressive performance from the stage. We want to build into the lives of teens in an intensely personal way with the Gospel of Christ."

Over the next year, the youth ministry touring teams will transition to include two East to West groups and the existing Lifeline Players drama team. East to West is ideal for middle school youth events, camps, and family church services. To learn more information or to schedule East to West for your event, visit www.cedarville.edu/easttowest.

"From east to west, the Lord's name is deserving of praise."
Psalm 113:3

Pharmacy Program Promotes Health Care Solutions

Pharmacists are now the most widely accessible health care professionals. With their increasing one-on-one interaction with patients, pharmacists can administer vaccines, recommend treatments, and answer questions about medication. Recently, the field has garnered even greater attention, since pharmacists can work to lower health care costs by helping patients take their medications correctly. These expanded roles require an increased number of skilled pharmacists committed to serving patients and influencing the profession.

To help meet these growing demands, Cedarville established its new school of pharmacy. As one of the few Christ-centered pharmacy programs in the nation, Cedarville's school of pharmacy equips students to bring their biblical convictions to the complicated issues of the profession. This fall, the program welcomed 52 students as members of its inaugural class. After completing three years of prepharmacy coursework, they will enter the professional-level portion in 2012 and graduate with a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)* degree.

"Our students are investing in more than a program," said Dr. Marc Sweeney, dean of the school of pharmacy. "By choosing Cedarville, they're making an investment in eternity."

The University's commitment to biblical integration undergirds the school of pharmacy by preparing students to influence the world with the light of Christ. "People are more interested in hearing what we have to say about the Gospel when we have answers to their immediate needs and solutions to health care dilemmas," explained Dr. Sweeney. "If we're good stewards of the wisdom and motivation our students have, God can work through them to bless the world."

To learn more about Cedarville's pharmacy program, visit www.cedarville.edu/pharmacy.

**Pending approval by the Ohio Board of Regents (www.regents.ohio.gov), the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (www.ncahlc.org), and the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (www.acpe-accredit.org)*



Billions of dollars are lost each year because people don't take their medications correctly.

How will Cedarville's pharmacy students help?

chapel report

Authentic praise. A community gathering. Challenging speakers.

Some things never change. Meet a few of the guests who spoke in chapel during the past few months. Listen to archived chapel broadcasts at www.ThePath.fm/chapel.

Rob Turner (August 17–20)

Lead Teaching Pastor of Apex Community Church, Dayton, Ohio
www.apexcommunity.net

Tim Dowdy (September 23–24)

Senior Pastor of Eagle's Landing First Baptist Church, McDonough, Georgia
www.eagleslanding.org

Nadine (Terrill) Hennesey '87 (October 1)

Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (ABWE)
www.abwe.org

Clark Kellogg (October 6)

CBS Sports Analyst
www.cbssports.com

Robin Giles (October 20)

Former Music Director for the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir
www.robingiles.org

Clifford Christians (October 21)

Director of the Institute of Communications Research and Chair of the Communications Doctoral Program at the University of Illinois
www.illinois.edu

Dave Livermore (October 28–29)

Executive Director of the Global Learning Center at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary
www.grts.cornerstone.edu

Celestin Musekura (November 12)

Founder and President of African Leadership and Reconciliation Ministries
www.alarm-inc.org

Sean McDowell (November 17–18)

Educator, Speaker, and Author
www.seanmcdowell.org

John Blodgett (November 23)

University Trustee and Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church, Bristol, Indiana
www.fbcelkhart.org





Dr. Brown Named Master-Coach

Each year, 12 prominent Christian leaders are appointed as master-coaches to lead training sessions at the Global Proclamation Academy (GPA) on the campus of Dallas Theological Seminary. In June, Cedarville President Dr. Bill Brown joined an impressive list of master-coaches that includes Dr. Tony Evans, Dr. Norman Geisler, Dr. Howard Hendricks, Dr. Erwin Lutzer, Dr. Charles Ryrie, and Dr. Joseph Stowell '66.

GPA equips national pastors from Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Eastern Europe through sessions in biblical spirituality, theological discernment, and effective preaching. The pastors, mostly from areas experiencing explosive church growth, benefit from Christian fellowship and lectures from some of the world's most sought-after speakers. This ministry-defining experience connects these influential pastors, which in turn fortifies their international ministries.

"I was humbled to spend the day with these choice servants of God from around the world," said Dr. Brown. "Most of them live in daily deprivation and danger because of their faith. I found myself continually challenged to evaluate our own priorities as followers of Christ in the United States."



"I was humbled to spend the day with these choice servants of God from around the world."



yellow jacket sports

Athletes of Honor: Building a Legacy

Five years ago, former Cedarville Athletic Director Pete Reese '60 purposed to find ways to preserve the University's athletic heritage and honor the alumni athletes of all sports whose success on field and court make up that history. To begin this process, the Legacy Committee was formed, comprised of Cedarville coaches. Using criteria established by coaches in each sport, the group identified athletes who had outstanding careers in their sports and in their eras.

Not surprisingly, this task was huge, considering the number of men and women who have competed on Yellow Jacket teams since 1953, as well as all the ways the athletic program has changed. The Legacy Committee searched sports information archives and yearbooks, interviewed former coaches, and reviewed lists of nominees. They then voted on the honorees and selected more than 300 former athletes as Athletes of Honor.

At this year's homecoming, the athletic department commemorated the Athletes of Honor who graduated prior to 2000. Comprised of more than 60 honorees, the group marched in the homecoming parade, were recognized at halftime of the men's soccer game, and attended a dessert reception afterward. They also received certificates stating their recognition as Athletes of Honor.

Athletes of Honor who graduated after 2000 will be honored at homecoming next year. After 2010, additional nominees will be considered, with honorees being recognized every two years. To see the list of those named as Athletes of Honor, visit yellowjackets.cedarville.edu.



During Homecoming 2009, more than 60 alumni athletes returned to campus to celebrate their achievement as Athletes of Honor. They enjoyed reconnecting with one another and their former coaches.



“These **increases in financial aid** are significant, and the simplicity of the **new program** makes it **easy for families** to plan and budget.”

Adding Up the Savings

Cedarville recently announced significant changes to its financial aid program. A six-month study of the needs of families resulted in a recommendation to the board of trustees calling for increased financial aid and a greatly simplified program. With the board’s unanimous decision to implement these changes, Cedarville’s rigorous, Christ-centered education is now more affordable than ever.

“For those who may have thought Cedarville was out of reach financially, they should take another look,” said Dr. Bill Brown, Cedarville president. “These increases in financial aid are significant, and the simplicity of the new program makes it easy for families to plan and budget.”

These changes demonstrate the University’s continued priority of making the Cedarville experience affordable for families. Over the past five years, Cedarville has increased its financial aid commitment by more than 100 percent, benefitting families from a wide range of income levels. Financial aid resources come from careful stewardship of the institutional budget and the generous gifts of donors and friends of the University.

Cedarville’s commitment to affordability stems from the conviction that the college experience is far more than classes, friends, good grades, and fun times. When students invest in Cedarville, they invest in their futures and the people they will become. By offering competitive financial aid, Cedarville provides the resources to inspire students to make a difference for Christ wherever He leads.

Learn More: **1-800-CEDARVILLE**
www.cedarville.edu/finaid



cu on the road

January 17

Lifeline Players
Worthington, Ohio

January 17

The Master’s Puppets
Mason, Ohio

January 24

East to West
Millersburg, Ohio

February 4

Dr. Bill Brown
Tucson, Arizona

February 10

Dr. Bill Brown
Tampa, Florida

February 14

Dr. Paul Dixon
Boca Raton, Florida

February 21

East to West
Millersburg, Ohio

February 21

HeartSong
Dayton, Ohio

March 9

Dr. Bill Brown and HeartSong
Marengo, Ohio

March 13–14

Lifeline Players
Mount Hope, West Virginia

March 20

HeartSong LIVE
Liberty Township, Ohio

March 21

Dr. Paul Dixon
Martinsburg, West Virginia

March 28

HeartSong
Hillsdale, Michigan

For more events and information,
visit www.cedarville.edu/rebs.
(All dates are subject to change.)



Chick-fil-A Comes to Campus

It's not every day the president of a major restaurant chain visits Cedarville. Even more rare is for that person to be a dedicated follower of Christ. Dan Cathy, president and CEO of Chick-fil-A, brings Christ-centered, moral convictions to his leadership role — and loves training others to do the same. In August, he spoke on campus at an afternoon session titled "The Role of Leadership and the Importance of Having a Good Name." Hundreds of people from the community and the University attended, and each one received a voucher for a free Chick-fil-A sandwich!

student stats

How many packages does the post office receive?

Remember how exciting it was to receive a care package while you were at college? Every day, Cedarville University Postal and Print Services helps ignite this joy by processing and distributing hundreds of items for students, faculty, and staff. The office plays a large role in keeping the University running smoothly — and perhaps evokes more smiles than any other office on campus!

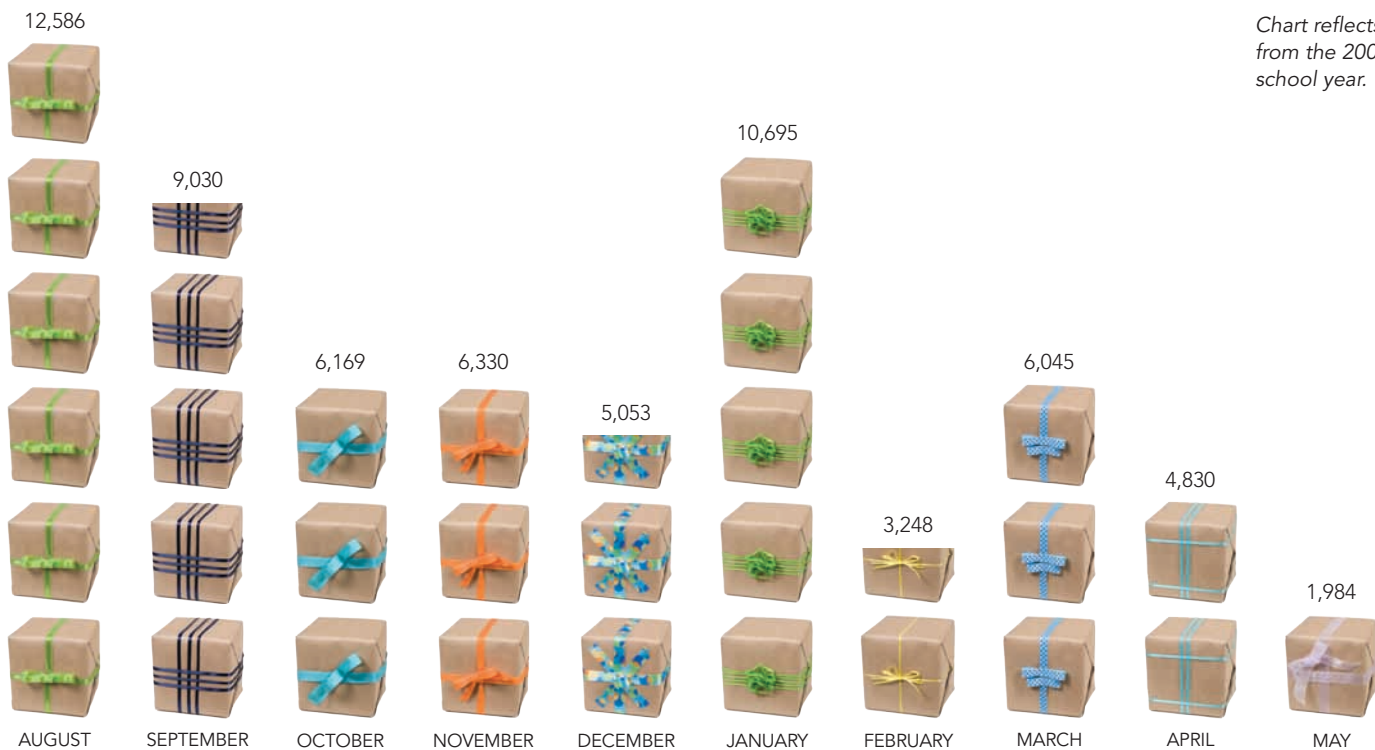


Chart reflects data from the 2008-09 school year.



Cedarville to Launch M.S.N. Program

“Wherever the need arises — on whatever distant shore — I ask no higher or greater privilege than to minister to it,” said Mary Seacole, a self-taught nurse from Jamaica who worked tirelessly in the 1800s to treat those suffering from disease.

In the more than 100 years since her lifetime, nursing has grown in scientific vigor and professional respect, yet the heart of compassion remains the foundation. Unfortunately, well-qualified, advanced practice nurses are hard to find — and it’s not getting any easier. To help meet that need, Cedarville University announced its decision to offer a Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.)* degree.

“The demand is great,” said Dr. Jan Conway, department chair and senior professor of nursing. “We hope to increase the number of advanced practice nurses to fill local, national, and international openings.”

Cedarville has a strong reputation for supplying qualified nurses, not only locally but also around the world. The M.S.N. builds upon a strong undergraduate bachelor’s program — one that integrates faith and a biblical worldview into the discipline of nursing. As the need for health care services continues to grow, the U.S. faces a shortage that could reach half a million by 2025, with a projected 40 percent nurse vacancy rate across the nation.

The program plans to begin offering classes in fall 2010. To learn more about Cedarville’s M.S.N. program, visit www.cedarville.edu/msn.

**Pending accreditation by the Ohio Board of Regents (www.regents.ohio.gov) and the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (www.ncahlc.org)*

Cedarville featured its second session in the Critical Concern Series on October 28. Dr. Stan Jones presented a lecture on a biblical response to the challenge of same-sex attraction. With a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, he serves as provost of Wheaton College and recently published the book *Ex-gays? A Longitudinal Study of Religiously Mediated Change in Sexual Orientation*. Visit www.cedarville.edu/criticalconcern to access audio and video recordings of his lecture.

The Critical Concern Series brings in noted scholars to biblically analyze contemporary issues. In the spring session on March 11, Marvin Olasky, editor-in-chief of *WORLD Magazine*, and Jim Wallis, founder and editor of *Sojourners*, will discuss Christian responses to poverty and wealth.

CRITICAL CONCERN series

Cultural engagement.
Critical thinking.
Biblical analysis.

campus events

January

- 5–7
Missions Conference
- 22–23
High School Leadership Conference
- 28–30
Winter Play, *Much Ado About Nothing*
- 29–30
Moms Weekend
- 30
Nursing Day

February

- 4–6
Winter Play, *Much Ado About Nothing*
- 6
Alumni Basketball Weekend
- 12–13
Li'l Sibs Weekend
- 13
Engineering and Computer Science Day
- 18–20
Music Showcase

March

- 5–7
National Christian College Forensics Invitational
- 12
CU Friday
- 12–13
CedarMania
- 25–27
Spring Play, *You Can't Take It With You*
- 27
Allied Health and Pharmacy Day

For more events and information, visit www.cedarville.edu/events. (All dates are subject to change.)



What is your favorite memory from Christmas Open House?



For this annual holiday competition, students create elaborate — and sometimes eccentric — dorm-sized Christmas displays for the campus to admire.

The guys in my hall bought four huge bags of packing peanuts and created a snow scene in our lounge. Not surprisingly, halfway through the Open House, **we had a huge snowball fight**. We found peanuts in the oddest places for months!

ROBERT BOWMAN '88, SOMERDALE, NEW JERSEY

For our hall's "Christmas in the ER," **my roommate and I created an operating room**. I lay on the bed while she pretended to operate by digging around in a bowl of licorice, corn syrup, and red food coloring.

ERIN (SMITH) WILSON '02, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

We once built a snowman on one wall of our Printy lounge. It's amazing what you can do with a glue stick, construction paper, and good ole Orville Redenbacher.

ELAINE (STONE) SMYTH EPPLER '85, LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA

For our award-winning “Rags to Riches” theme in Lawlor Hall, the guys in one unit dressed in tattered clothes and created a sloppy, disheveled atmosphere. In the other unit, **the guys donned suits and tuxes and covered the walls with gold paper and white lights.** Candles, a fireplace, and a formal table setting completed the decadent ambience.

KURT SAVAGE '02, WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

We covered our walls with empty pop cans and duct tape to create Christmas-themed murals — and then called it a “Pop-Culture Christmas”!

SAMUEL MCGUIRE '03, GOSHEN, INDIANA

For our spectacular portrayal of “Christmas Under the Tree,” **our hall won an award!** Of course, one of the judges was Lisa (Davidson) McGrady '89 who ended up marrying me ... so there may have been some bias involved.

PAUL MCGRADY '93, FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS

We created a “Winter Wonderland” in Faith Hall by hanging paper snowflakes from all the ceilings. We also decorated each room with a different theme, including a candy shop, church, and toy store.

JANET (CARR) HARRIMAN '77, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

We reenacted the “not a creature was stirring” part of *The Night Before Christmas*. **Wearing our pajamas, we sprawled on the floor on heaps of blankets and pillows** while pretending to be asleep. It was probably the most relaxing time before finals I'd ever had.

LEAH (NIELSON) LONG '04, APPLETON, WISCONSIN

Bethel Hall recreated the Titanic, complete with a first-class upper deck, lower-class staterooms, a boiler room, and “iceberg” snow cones. Although the dorm is now gone, the memory of Bethel lives on!

JASON GRAHAME '99, CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA

During Christmas of 1999, we built an ice cave in our residence hall lounge. We even created a waterfall — complete with goldfish — by piping water from the bathroom across the hall. Afterward, we couldn't help throwing on our swim trunks and taking a dip!

ERIC WENTZ '01, WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN

QUESTION FOR THE NEXT ISSUE:

What campus play, concert, or recital will you never forget and why?

Send your answer to Alumni Relations, 251 N. Main St., Cedarville, OH 45314, or e-mail alumni@cedarville.edu. Selected responses will be printed in the spring issue of Inspire. The alumnus who submits our favorite answer will receive a Cedarville sweatshirt! Deadline for entries is January 15, 2010.



A
Merry
Little
Christmas

by Sandi (Welch) Harner '64

“What I enjoy most is seeing students gathered around the tables, talking and sharing their lives with each other and with me.”

I LOVE MY JOB, and I love Christmas. Not surprisingly then, my annual Christmas brunch for technical and professional communication (TPC) majors epitomizes my work at Cedarville.

Holiday dishes, china teacups, glowing candles, and charming Christmas decorations fill my home, but my guests know what to look forward to most: blueberry caramel pecan French toast. And it really is as good as it sounds! Upperclassmen tell new students to mark their calendars for the first Saturday in December, saying, “You won’t want to miss Mrs. Harner’s Christmas brunch.”

Over the years, the menu hasn’t changed. It’s always the French toast, sausage links, fresh fruit salad, orange juice, and my special home-roasted, freshly ground coffee. The event has become a highlight of the year, both for me and the students. But with all the preparation and delicious food, what I enjoy most is seeing students gathered around the tables, talking and sharing their lives with each other and with me.

I’ve found that the student I see in my home differs from the one who sits in my classroom day after day. These young men and women beg for stories, wanting to hear about Cedarville when I was a student or how I met my husband or about my own children growing up — even asking for stories about my grandchildren. They usually stay until late in the afternoon playing games.

When I shared on my Facebook page last December that I was getting ready for the annual Christmas brunch, several graduates of the TPC program posted comments suggesting I open it up to all

TPC alumni. That would be a great idea — but I would have to rent a large hall to accommodate the many students and alumni!

Getting to Know You

God has given me 28 wonderful years on the Cedarville faculty, years in which to build into the lives of hundreds of students. Because the TPC major is relatively small, I have the same students for many courses. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know them better.

Of course, my interaction outside of class isn't limited to the Christmas brunch. Students are often in my home for game nights and dessert and just to hang out. Each year I invite the junior and senior girls to my house on a Saturday for a movie marathon. One year we watch six hours of *Anne of Green Gables* and *Anne of Avonlea*; the next year we indulge in the BBC classic version of *Pride and Prejudice*. The day also includes chicken salad, homemade rolls, and coffee or tea — all served on china plates and in dainty china teacups.

And finally, each spring I take students on a trip. We have gone as far west as Minneapolis, as far north as Toronto, east to New York City, and south to Orlando. We either attend a professional conference or visit corporations that hire technical writers. In the evening, the students pile into my hotel room where we talk for hours and laugh until we cry. The time we spend together on these trips is like no other. It's togetherness in a whole different context. And this is where so much of the bonding takes place.

As a result of these special times with students, they feel comfortable stopping by my office just to chat. They often ask questions about their schoolwork or talk about their career path. But it is not unusual for a young man to drop by and, after all the classroom-like queries, shyly ask my opinion of a certain young lady he is thinking of asking on a date. And more times than I can count, a conversation quickly turns serious as a student relates the events surrounding a relationship that has gone bad. I hand them the tissue

box — after taking one for myself. Yes, often I cry with them. God has given me a special ministry to students suffering from broken relationships. Perhaps it's because I can still remember the pain I felt while going through an especially painful breakup. I tell them it is all right to cry, then remind them that God has a plan, one far better than they could even imagine. Students will tell me, 25 years later, how they remember that time in my office and how true that advice was for them.

My Favorite Things

Like millions of others, I have found online social networking like Facebook to be a great way to keep in touch, and a majority of my "friends" are current students or graduates of the TPC program. I can keep up-to-date on their career changes, their marital status, and their children. The best part is being able to view pictures of their weddings and growing families.

Teaching at Cedarville is so much more than making lesson plans and showing up to teach a class. It's more than making sure students take all the right courses and graduate on time. It's being fair and consistent in the way I make decisions in the classroom. It's teaching students a work ethic they can take into their own career after graduation. It's introducing them to a profession and making sure they are equipped to excel in the workplace. It's even helping them find internships and jobs. And it's modeling a true Christian life and attitude — both in the classroom and in the home. That's what I want them to remember when they think of their time at Cedarville.

Well, that and blueberry caramel pecan French toast! 

Sandi (Welch) Harner '64 serves as professor of technical communication. Along with her teaching responsibilities, she is an independent consultant and contract writer and a former board member for the Society for Technical Communication. She also serves on Cedarville's Alumni Council. She and her husband, Don, have two children, Amy Thompson '95 and Scott. You may contact Sandi at harners@cedarville.edu.



Blueberry Caramel Pecan French Toast

Texas toast, cut in half
5 eggs
2 1/2 cups milk
1 cup packed brown sugar, divided
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1 cup chopped pecans
1/4 cup butter, melted
2 cups fresh or frozen blueberries

Arrange a single layer of bread in a greased 9x13-inch baking dish. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, milk, 3/4 cup brown sugar, vanilla, and nutmeg; pour over bread. Cover and refrigerate for eight hours or overnight.

Remove from refrigerator 30 minutes before baking. Sprinkle pecans over egg mixture. Combine butter and remaining sugar; drizzle over the top.

Bake uncovered at 400° for 25 minutes. Sprinkle with blueberries. Bake 10 minutes longer or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean.



Shoebox

by Sharyn Kopf

TRAVELS



HERE'S SOMETHING MAGICAL about Christmas. In celebration of the One who gave His greatest gift to us in the birth of His Son, we shop and wrap, ribbon and bake for the people we love. In that same spirit, the ministry of Samaritan's Purse has taken generosity to another level since 1993 with Operation Christmas Child (OCC).

You're probably familiar with OCC. You, your family, your church, even your workplace may have made a tradition of putting together shoeboxes filled with toys, candy, toiletries, and school supplies for needy kids around the world.

For many of us, these items seem simple and ordinary, a far cry from "the stuff dreams are made of." But for the kids who receive these gifts, the boxes represent hope, joy, and generosity. Singer and songwriter Matthew West, who is this year's OCC spokesperson, captured this idea when he penned, "What if I told you you had the power to give someone hope beyond their wildest dreams?" He developed these lyrics for the song *Give This Christmas Away*, which he recorded with Amy Grant.

With the goal of giving this hope to kids around the world, each year thousands of individuals and families collect items to fill shoeboxes. You may have wondered, like many others, where the box goes once it's out of your hands. And now you can have a behind-the-scenes look! Although you can't know much about the child who ends up with your shoebox, you can learn a little bit about the journey the package takes to get there — thanks to Joey Turner '09.

Following the Box

Joey got his own sneak peek at OCC in 2006. His story begins when he went on a Samaritan's Purse international relief effort to Poipet, Cambodia. The three-week missions trip consisted of educating people on hygiene and installing bathrooms in villages, among other tasks. Not only did the work lead Joey to change his major from youth ministries to international studies, but that was also when he met Shannon Kozee, community relations manager for OCC.

When he returned to the States, he received a surprise call from Shannon, who wondered if he would be willing to host a video series called "Follow the Box." The videos would chronicle how a shoebox gets from your home into the hands of a happy child. Joey was more than willing to accept. Excited to learn for himself how OCC changes the lives of children around the world, he began a two-week journey that took him from Beavercreek, Ohio, to Quito, Ecuador. As he shadowed a shoebox, Joey had a firsthand look at each point of its trek.



Step 1

It all starts with shopping at various stores, packing the box with everything from teddy bears to toothbrushes, and adding money for shipping costs. Joey chose to send his box to a young boy between the ages of 5 and 9. He then thought about what special items he would have wanted when he was that age and purchased them for the child, not yet knowing where the box would arrive or who would receive it.

Every year, this step in the OCC process proves to be a memorable community-building activity as families, friends, Bible study groups, and classrooms work together to select the items and wrap the boxes. To add a personal touch, some even include a photo or handwritten note.

Then it's time to drop the box off at a local collection center. This might be the last step for your part of the story. But for the shoebox, the journey has just begun!

Step 2

Once the shoeboxes are dropped off at the collection center, more than 50,000 volunteers across America pack them into bigger boxes and load them onto semitrucks. Then everyone gathers around and prays for the gifts to get where they need to go and, most importantly, for the children who will receive them.

The boxes then make their way to one of the six OCC processing centers across America. Joey and the crew followed a truck headed to a center in Charlotte, North Carolina, where his box had been taken for the next phase of its trip. "For one week in November," he said, "thousands of volunteers from all over come to inspect every item and repair any damage. They also remove the shipping payment included in each shoebox, approve the boxes, and assign destinations."

The boxes are, once again, loaded in trucks, which are driven onto freighters that will deliver them to countries all over the world. Joey's box traveled to Quito, Ecuador ... and so did he. Once in Ecuador, the film team spent three nights in a neighboring village, where they distributed boxes and met with the country's national leadership team — a combination of area pastors and missionaries, all of whom volunteer their time.



Step 3



Finally, Joey met the boy who would receive his shoebox. "It was amazing," Joey said. "He didn't have a dad, and his mom washed clothes for a living. We got to hang out with the kids and, best of all, share the Gospel with them."

In fact, telling the story of God's love is the driving force behind OCC. In the years since the ministry started, they have delivered more than 68 million shoeboxes to kids in more than 130 countries. And each recipient has heard about the best gift of all: salvation.

The mission of OCC extends far beyond the moment when a child opens the gift-filled shoebox. OCC brings long-term spiritual influence through the OCC Discipleship Program. The 12-lesson, story-based Bible series teaches kids more about Jesus and what it means to follow Him. Many of the kids who receive boxes have the opportunity to participate in this program and receive New Testaments written in their own language.


Heading Home

As the trip ended, Joey and the crew prayed for the children and wrapped up the video shoot with a big signoff. Then Joey headed home and back to school. But the adventure proved to be a unique learning experience for him.

"It's not about the box," he reflected. "It's about the faith of the child receiving it. This ministry puts Christian faith in action, reaches out to the impoverished, and — most importantly — spreads the Good News."

Since his work on "Follow the Box," Joey has hosted two other video projects for OCC, including webisodes that share amazing shoebox stories from around the world. This Christmas season, he is hosting press events for OCC in Colorado, California, and North Carolina.

Joey's work with OCC stands as a good reminder of the little things we can do that have a big influence. During this holiday season, consider ways you can use your time, money, and energy to bless the life of someone else.

So, how about it? Will you "give this Christmas away"? 

Joey Turner '09 and his wife, Jenny (Bidwell) '09, live in Cedarville, Ohio. Learn more about OCC and Samaritan's Purse at www.samaritanspurse.org. You may contact him at jturner@cedarville.edu.

Sharyn Kopf enjoys her work as senior writer for the marketing department at Cedarville. She has worked previously as a newspaper reporter and spent more than seven years as an award-winning radio writer for Focus on the Family. You may contact her at skopf@cedarville.edu.

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student feel
like a kid at
Christmas.

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Sophomore class president Grant Miller '12 meets with the other class presidents to plan activities for the student body and discuss ways to build community on campus.

TRUE VICTORY

by Cedarville student Grant Miller '12

I UNDERSTAND THE DRAW of politics — that desire to win, to be great. As a political communication major, I've felt it myself and have used that passion to pursue my interests. But while my original plans revolved around winning, I've come to see that true leadership requires a servant's heart. And that's one of the main things I'll take from my experience at Cedarville. Of course, I wouldn't have thought that

"I BEGAN TO REFLECT ON MY FIRST SEMESTER. IT HAD BEEN FULL OF VICTORIES AND DEFEATS, AND BECAUSE OF THEM I WAS ALREADY BECOMING A DIFFERENT PERSON."

a few years ago. In fact, the first time my mom mentioned Cedarville, I wasn't impressed.

"Cedarville?" I said. "Never heard of it, and quite frankly, I'm not interested." At the time, I dreamt of attending a big-city school or an Ivy League institution. Little did I know how drastically my plans would change.

My mother was the first in my family to learn about Cedarville. During my junior year in high school, she attended an Association of Christian Schools International Conference in Dayton, Ohio, where Dr. Deborah (Bush) Haffey '68, a communication arts professor at Cedarville, was speaking. Throughout her lecture, Dr. Haffey interjected phrases such as "at my school" and "at Cedarville." Her interest piqued, my mother visited

the University's website as soon as she returned to southern Kentucky and swiftly signed me up for the annual High School Leadership Conference.

"How could they do this to me?" I thought. "Where in the world is Cedarville anyway? They just signed me up without even asking me first!"

Driving into Cedarville was definitely a shock and defied everything I wanted in my college town. It didn't even have a McDonald's or a Starbucks! To make matters worse, the entire landscape was like a winter tundra. I didn't like it at all. But, believe it or not, by the end of the weekend, I had decided Cedarville was where I wanted to attend college.

CHANGE IN DIRECTION

The next year and a half crept by at an agonizing pace. I couldn't wait to get to Cedarville! Thankfully, I was able to attend the Leadership Conference again during my senior year. I had already been accepted to the University and was determined to make connections and settle on a major before starting school in August.

While I was at the conference, I contacted Dr. Haffey and asked if I could meet with her. She responded enthusiastically, not only inviting me to sit in on one of her classes but also offering to discuss program options with me. She also asked if she could pray for me as I began to seek out my major. I never expected to experience such a personal interaction with a college professor. I didn't know it then, but

this was just the beginning of a long series of revelations I had regarding the quality of people within the Cedarville community.

When August finally rolled around, I was beside myself with excitement. I resolved to make the most of my experience by getting involved in as much as I could. But I quickly learned that college is different from high school — you might want to do everything, but you can't! As much as I would like to say I adjusted seamlessly to college life, I didn't. Establishing solid relationships as well as navigating the world of academia proved challenging. However, after about two months, I rebounded from the initial shock and began integrating into University life.

Being heavily involved in leadership in high school, I wanted to run for freshman class president and did so successfully. I was also elected the freshman representative for homecoming court. These two milestones, especially being elected president, encouraged me to stretch myself even further and focus on becoming a servant-leader.

Serving as class president provided me with many opportunities to interact with the faculty and staff at Cedarville. They were always willing to help in any way possible, and I was continually astounded by their passion and love for students. I found that professors are willing to take time from their busy schedules to converse over coffee, office workers are delighted to help plan an event, and members of the administration will stop you on the sidewalk and address you by name. These interactions gave me a small glimpse into what makes Cedarville an extraordinary place and distinguishes it from many other universities.

The first semester went by so rapidly I could not believe it was drawing to a close. As I sat in Chuck's one morning watching the sun cast its yellow beams on the frozen lake, I began to reflect on my first semester. It had been full of victories and defeats, and because of them I was already becoming a different person, someone more concerned about others than himself and someone who, with all of his heart, wanted to fully discover himself and the plan his Father has for him.

READY FOR THE FUTURE

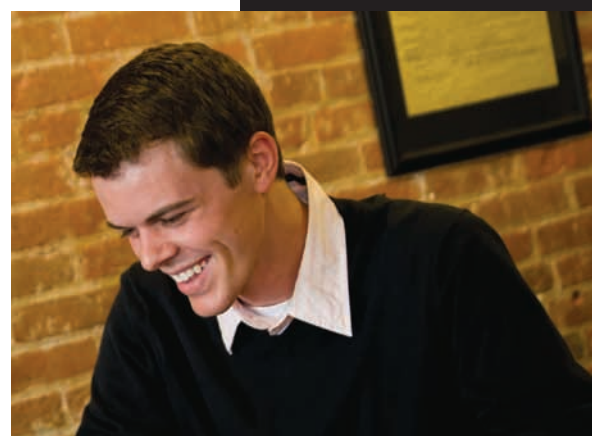
Early in my second semester, I was privileged to be a part of Cedarville's second Civil Rights Bus Tour. What an incredible, eye-opening experience! Along with nearly 30 students and faculty members, we traveled by double-decker bus into the Deep South to retrace the key events of the Civil Rights Movement. After visiting museums and watching poignant movies and documentaries while on the road, I was heartbroken by what we saw. As a group diverse in nationality and skin color, we all were confronted and challenged by the complexities of racial reconciliation and the issues we still face within the church today.

I have learned there is no such thing as a slow semester. The second half of my freshman year was a whirlwind of activities, events, and studying. I was re-elected class president and began developing new ideas and ministry opportunities for the next year.

Throughout my first year at Cedarville, I saw many themes woven through the classroom, chapels, and University family: quality, concern, excellence, and a desire to dream and go beyond the status quo. These themes are built upon those who came before me and will lay the foundation for those who come after me. I intend to relish the years ahead and, when I graduate, leave Cedarville as a true servant-leader. **i**

Grant Miller '12 is a political communication major from Trenton, Kentucky. You may contact him at tgrantmiller@cedarville.edu.

Since the writing of this article, Grant's mother was diagnosed with stage-four liver cancer. Despite the difficulty of the situation, Grant sees it as an opportunity to learn to empathize with others and rely on Christ for direction and provision. Please pray for Grant and his family as they face this trial together.



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- For missionary kids at
- Cedarville, their home away
- from home often defines
- their college experience,
- including holidays.
-

Home for the Holidays...

Redefined

by Donna Messenger

Home
holidays





AS FUN AND EXCITING as living on a college campus can be, you probably remember how interminably long finals week felt right before Christmas break. Those tests and papers seemed like they would never end. Especially when all you could think about was being with your family, sleeping in your own bed, eating your mom’s homemade lasagna, and relishing all the sights and sounds of home. After all, what are holiday traditions, Advent services, and Christmas carols without family?

And yet many missionary kids — or MKs — often have to accept the reality that being home for the holidays has fallen outside the realm of possibility. For MKs, “home” is often difficult to define since most consider the country where they grew up as their true home. But while MKs from Europe or the Caribbean are often able to go home for the holidays without too much difficulty, those from Asia or Africa may find it too expensive to travel such a distance for just a couple of weeks.

How can you help MK and international students?

- Go out of your way to connect them with other members of your church.
- Send them a letter or package.
- Donate your frequent-flyer miles to them.
- Ask them sincere questions about their family and culture.
- Invite them to spend holiday breaks with your family.
- Celebrate their birthdays with them.
- Work with your church to provide funding for them to return home over the holidays.
- Pray for them.

Looking for other ways to encourage these students? Contact Donna Messenger at dmessenger@cedarville.edu. She can connect you with specific students and provide unique ideas about how you can make their Cedarville experience that much more life-changing.

Take former Cedarville MK students Jeff ’95 and Tiffany (Trimble) Nelson ’95, who clearly remember how hard it was to spend the holidays away from their families — not to mention all the other adjustments that came as a result of their MK status. From their very first day on campus, Jeff and Tiffany realized how much their college experience would differ from that of their peers. And they also got a taste of some of the challenges the next four years would bring.

Tiffany grew up in the Amazon region of Brazil. Her parents, Glen ’67 and Beth (Ziegler) Trimble ’67, were on furlough while Tiffany finished her senior year at Cedarville High School. But when she began college, her parents and three younger sisters returned to Brazil.

Jeff’s parents, David ’72 and Rebecca (Hull) Nelson ’72, took a short furlough after his high school graduation to bring him to college. “They dropped me off, said goodbye, stayed for a couple weeks in New York, and then flew off to the other side of the world,” he said.

Missing Home

By the end of their first semester, many MKs get a broader and deeper education than the average student — not only picking up pop-culture references and American trends, but also learning that their peers in the U.S. are often wholly unaware of the culture the MKs call “home.”

Even if the adjustment process goes smoothly during the first months of college,

the winter break reminds MKs, once again, of how unique their college experience is. Both Jeff and Tiffany recall their first Christmas as Cedarville students. Tiffany ended up alone when all of her roommates headed home to be with family. To celebrate on Christmas Day, she invited several international students over for dinner, but only one student from Cambodia made it.

Jeff’s mom had bought a plane ticket for him to fly to the Philippines. But a few weeks before he was to leave, they learned the travel agent had gone bankrupt and skipped town. With no money to buy another ticket, Jeff spent Christmas with his grandparents in New York. His mother was devastated.

Unfortunately, Jeff’s and Tiffany’s Christmas stories aren’t that unusual. Many MKs, like Jeff, spend Christmas with family members in America — grandparents, an aunt or uncle, perhaps an older sibling. Often, caring churches and individuals provide a ticket or donate frequent-flyer miles for an MK to return home for Christmas, a huge blessing to both the students and their parents. But not all MKs have such a support base looking out for their needs or the opportunity to go home more than once during their college years.

Andrew Arthur ’09, who grew up in São Paulo, Brazil, said, “I usually went to my grandparents’ house in Ohio for Christmas. Other than that, I spent a lot of my holidays in Cedarville studying.”

And it’s not just the holiday season that makes MKs long for home. Nathan Dix ’11



from Portugal has been able to go back for Christmas each year, but Easter is the holiday that causes him to miss his family the most. He attends Emmanuel Baptist Church in Xenia, Ohio, and appreciates the church's commitment to caring for students away from home. "One of the families took the initiative to invite me over to their house on the first weekend I attended," he said. "The generosity they have shown by including me in their small-group fellowship every week has been a huge blessing."

Kimberly (Nikitin) Siemer '04 recalled, "I was able to go home to Budapest, Hungary, every Christmas, which was a really good thing. But on other holidays, I usually traveled to see extended family in Michigan or be with friends' families. It was especially hard to be away from my parents over Thanksgiving and Easter."

Finding Family

In addition to the local families and churches that encourage MKs and provide a home-like environment during college, Cedarville strives to meet the needs of these students through the organization Mu Kappa. A national fraternal association for missionary kids, Mu Kappa got its start in 1985 at Taylor University. A group of MKs realized no one understands the transitions they face in adjusting to North American life better than other MKs. Mu Kappa now has chapters on about 50 college campuses across the country.

Over the years, various Cedarville faculty and staff have been involved in the University chapter of Mu Kappa, assisting these students with the important changes in their lives. Brian Nester, director of missions involvement services, has served as Mu Kappa advisor for 15 years. Dr. Frank Jenista '68, professor of international

studies, and his wife, Barb (Lepine) '70, an adjunct instructor, also make a point of inviting MKs over on a regular basis. Having grown up in the Philippines, Dr. Jenista is called the "elder MK" on campus.

As members of Mu Kappa, Jeff and Tiffany credit the organization with helping to make their college experience a positive one. Not only that, Mu Kappa played a big role in bringing the two of them together. As they spent time with other MKs in the group, they also grew closer to one another. In fact, Mu Kappa was such a central aspect of their relationship and college experience that Jeff proposed to Tiffany at the Mu Kappa Christmas party of 1993. With 40 other MKs watching, as well as the faculty and staff sponsors, Tiffany said, "Yes!" to Jeff's request, and the room erupted with cheers and applause.

This level of support and community defined Jeff and Tiffany's Cedarville experience. As they explained, "Mu Kappa provided a family atmosphere for us when we were lonely for our own families."

For Jeff and Tiffany — and many other MKs — their unique University experience added a whole new dimension to the concept of "the Cedarville family." **i**

Donna Messenger is a missionary with Barnabas International as a Mu Kappa representative, working with colleges primarily in the Midwest. She lives in Cedarville and assists the University with ministry to MKs and international students. She has worked with MKs for more than 25 years, both in North America and overseas. You may contact her at dmessenger@cedarville.edu.

Many MKs and international students arrive in the United States for their first year of college with only a suitcase or two of clothing. They may need bedding, linens, toiletries, and other furnishings for their rooms. It would mean so much to a missionary family if you helped their son or daughter get situated at college!

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Unwrapping

THE Christmas Secret

An excerpt from the most recent book by Donna (Payne) VanLiere '89

I NEVER ASKED MY MOTHER about the man who was my father, but on my tenth Christmas I gathered my nerve as we put up our decorations. My heart pounded as we pulled Grandma's porcelain nativity pieces from a box of ornaments. I took a small cow from its packaging and placed it on the coffee table. I fumbled for the right words but knew I just had to come out with it. "Do you ever wish my father was here?" I asked, keeping my eyes on the bluish-white cow.

She worked in silence, her hands fluttering like moths. "There was a king once," she said, peering at me over her glasses. "On a whim he decided to place an enormous boulder in the middle of the road."

"How'd he get it there?" I asked, lifting a lamb from the tissue paper.

She paused. "I don't know. I'm sure he had an ox move it."

"It'd take more than one ox to move a huge boulder, wouldn't it?"

She sighed, pushing her glasses up on the bridge of her nose. "He had six oxen push the boulder."

"Now that seems like too many."

She shook her head and turned Mary just so on the table. "Okay. Four oxen moved the boulder. The king then threw buckets of water on each side of the rock so there was nothing but mud surrounding it. Many of his courtiers and soldiers grumbled about the enormous rock in the road as they walked through the mud around it. Wealthy merchants and dignitaries from neighboring kingdoms complained about the king and the conditions of the roads in his kingdom, yet no one would do anything about the gigantic roadblock." She added bits of straw around the nativity, pushing extra around each animal. "In time a peasant came along, carrying a sack over his back."

"What was in the sack?" I asked. "Candy?"

"Sure," she said, shoving the tissue paper back into the nativity box. "When he sees the boulder, he sets his bag of candy on the ground and finds a fallen tree branch, jamming it at the base of the rock, but guess what?"

"It won't budge," I said.

"Not an inch. So he climbed on top of the branch and jumped with all his might but ... ?"

"Nothing," I said, picking up the baby Jesus.

"Put Jesus back on the table," she said, pointing. "So the peasant looks all around him again, and way off in the distance he sees the oxen coming his way. The oxen smelled that sack of candy."



My eyes bulged. “How’d they smell that small sack of candy from way far away?”
“Oxen have big nostrils,” she said. “The peasant harnessed the oxen together with the fallen branch and vines, and in moments the boulder was moved away. To his astonishment the peasant discovered a small red, velvet bag filled with gold coins and a note inside it.”

I lay on the couch and threw a pillow high into the air and caught it. “What’d it say?”
She sat on the other end of the couch and put my feet in her lap. “It said, ‘Thank you for removing this boulder. Please keep this gold as a token of my appreciation. Signed, The King.’ And the peasant learned what all of us learn at one time or another.”


“What’s that?” I asked, looking at her.

“Every rock in the road can improve our lives, but we might have to get a little muddy before it does.” And that’s how she answered my question of if she ever wished my father lived with us.

There was nothing fancy about my mother or our Christmases together. With the exception of the tree, Grandma’s nativity, and the plastic Santa, we didn’t have any other decorations, and since there were only two of us, Mom would usually bake a chicken for our meal that day with a few roasted potatoes and beans. In the days leading up to Christmas, my mother would sit me down and we’d compose two letters: one to Santa that was filled with everything I could find in the J.C. Penney catalog and the other to God, thanking Him for everything we could think of. As I grew older, the letters dwindled to one, and we left it under the tree. “To remember,” Mom would say. By some accounts, I guess our day was pretty plain, but it felt magical to me.

On those magical Christmas days with my mother, I couldn’t imagine any rocks in my road. I never dreamed of stumbling along without an end in sight, but when I grew up that’s how I ended up living — day-to-day, survival of the fittest. I guess we’re all like that in some ways. We don’t dare look behind us but we’re not brave enough to look ahead. We’re just stuck. Right here. Waiting. I’m always waiting it seems — waiting for the right time, the right job, for the light to turn green, waiting on a call, in line, for a repair man, waiting for my past to catch up with me and for my future to begin.

I got to the point in my life where I was so tired of waiting and wanted to know that my life was not just leading *anywhere* but *somewhere*. I wanted that childhood sense of wonderment back. The crazy how, when, and why of life finally caught up with me, and I realized that there was no Oz, fairy-tale king, or Scrooge-waking-up-from-a-dream moment that was going to whisk me away from reality, and that’s when I wanted Christmas again. The Christmas of the simple tree and polishing the nativity with my shirtsleeve and holding my mother’s hand in church. I wanted to know that there was a reason and purpose not only behind the boulder in the road but buried beneath it so that when I unearthed it I could brush off that muddy gem and say, “So this is it!” In the moment, it seemed like the wait would never end, but looking back it all passed like a misty dream.

I never moved the boulder, by the way; I couldn’t. Several people helped me. Then I discovered the gift beneath it. 

★ “I wanted Christmas again. The Christmas of the simple tree and polishing the nativity with my shirtsleeve and holding my mother’s hand in church.”



Since graduating with a degree in communication arts, Donna (Payne) VanLiere '89 has touched the hearts of millions with her exemplary writing and speaking skills. She is the recipient of a Retailers Choice Award for Fiction, a Dove Award, and a Silver Angel Award.

A *New York Times* and *USA Today* best-selling author, Donna has published seven books, three of which were adapted into television movies. *The Christmas Shoes*, starring Rob Lowe and Kimberly Williams, first aired in December 2002. *The Christmas Hope* premieres December 13 on Lifetime and stars award-winning actress Madeleine Stowe. Donna’s memoir, titled *Finding Grace*, was released this fall and has garnered widespread acclaim. Her newest novel, *The Christmas Secret*, was released in November 2009.

Donna and her husband, Troy '89, live in Franklin, Tennessee, with their three children, Gracie, Kate, and David. To learn more about Donna and to purchase her books, visit her website at www.donnavanliere.com.





The Greatness of God

Tim Dowdy spoke in Cedarville's chapel services on September 23 and 24. The following comes from his message on the second day, which focused on 1 Kings 18. The full message can be heard at www.ThePath.fm/chapel.

We're all familiar with the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. At this point in Israel's history, the people have compromised their faithfulness to God, so He raises up the prophet Elijah. But of course King Ahab hates Elijah, and the two of them get to a point of challenge when they agree to have a standoff to see whether Baal or Yahweh is the true God. Although we may have heard this story many times before, it stands as a good reminder for us to make sure we're not distracted from the central message God is trying to communicate through it.

When we read this story, two things get our attention. First, we're struck by Elijah's uncompromising faithfulness. Against 450 prophets, he's willing to obey and honor God. He listens to God and stands up for Him despite what was happening around him. And he was a man of prayer, seeking God's heart.

The second thing we notice are the miracles. The prophets of Baal build their

**"When you wake up in the morning,
do you have a sense of wonder about
the God who made everything?"**

altar, lay their bull on it, and start calling on Baal, doing anything they can to manipulate their god into action. And absolutely nothing happens. Then Elijah drenches the altar with water and calls on the God of heaven, who sends fire to devour the offering, the altar, and everything around it to demonstrate that this was a supernatural event.

As we study this story, it's possible to become so fascinated with Elijah and the miracle that we miss what the text is really

telling us. The point of this story is the greatness of God — how wonderful it is to know Him, how mighty He is in power, how great He is in strength. He is the Lord Almighty, the One who reigns, the Lord of life. He has no rivals in power. He devoured the offering and demonstrated Himself to be all-powerful. Not only that, He has no rivals in knowledge. He knew exactly what needed to happen to turn the hearts of Israel back to Him. He also has no rivals in compassion. Elijah's prayer reveals the motive of God's heart in verse 37: "Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so these people will know that You, O Lord, are God, and that You are turning their hearts back again." And that's the whole point! Our God is unrivaled in compassion for us.

It's easy to read this story and say, "Elijah's a cool guy. Those miracles are awesome." But it's not about the story: It's all about God. My question for you today is simple: How great is your God? When you wake up in the morning, do you have a sense of wonder about the God who made everything, who holds everything together, who ordained the place and time that you should live? I would encourage you today, no matter what the environment looks like around you, never to lose the wonder of who God is and how He works. There's nothing better than knowing that your life is secure in the hands of Almighty God.

Tim Dowdy serves as senior pastor of Eagle's Landing First Baptist Church in McDonough, Georgia. You may contact him at tim@eagleslanding.org.



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While most Cedarville grads may not connect the crisp weather of football season to their college years, the University does in fact share in the sport's tradition. This leather helmet belonged to the Cedarville College football team, in existence from 1896 to 1933 and 1946 to 1953. Although better known for defeats rather than victories, the team nevertheless contributed to the school spirit on campus.



At a recent birthday dinner, Julie (Buckley) Macrae '93 opened a gift that keeps on giving — an endowed scholarship to Cedarville students.

A Gift to Give Away

by Carol Lee '96

A birthday celebration, dinner at a favorite restaurant, and time spent with Cedarville friends — but the best was still to come.

OVER THE YEARS, Julie (Buckley) Macrae '93 has received some amazing presents from her husband, Doug. But last December, he surprised her with a truly unique birthday gift: the Julie A. Macrae Endowed Scholarship.

The couple first inquired about establishing a Cedarville scholarship in 2006 but hadn't decided how exactly they wanted their gift to make a difference for students. Julie had no idea Doug planned to surprise her by establishing the award in her name.

Doug and Julie had given to Cedarville before, though not in this way. They had friends who supported students through scholarships, and Julie loved hearing about the letters and photos they received from their recipients. "They told us how much they enjoyed meeting and encouraging their students, and we knew we wanted to do that, too," Julie said.

On a lovely December evening, out for a birthday dinner with several Cedarville friends, Doug presented Julie with a black leather photo box. She knew immediately the significance of his gift: the box would soon hold notes and photos from Cedarville students helped by this new scholarship.

A Gift for the Soul

This wasn't the first meaningful gift Julie had received. In the early 1990s, Julie was a

Cedarville student taking out loans, working campus jobs, and struggling to afford college. Her father had left the family, forcing her mother to hold three jobs and raise the children on welfare and food stamps. There would be no "expected family contribution" evidenced on the federal financial aid forms.

One of Julie's campus jobs was cleaning the University's carpentry shop, where she met Leigh '54 and Helen Hunt. Leigh, then director of the physical plant and a perennial jokester, soon became a good friend. Helen worked in the same department, and Julie would often stop in after class to say "hello." These friendly visits turned into invitations to their house. Julie soon found a home away from home.

"It meant so much to know they believed in me," she said. "My father was not in my life, and I had a rocky relationship with my mother. The Hunts' emotional support made an enormous difference in my life."

Little did she know the Hunts had more in mind. Though they had given financially to University buildings and projects before, they had never given directly to a student. Julie remembers sitting at their dining room table doing homework when the couple sat down on either side of her. They told her they wanted to help her more. The Hunts then invited Julie to live at their house and offered to help with her

“It’s always been on my heart to help students who have the ability and ambition to be at Cedarville but not the money.”



tuition. “That’s when I knew I was going to make it,” Julie recalled. “I saw my future, and I didn’t have to be scared anymore.”

A Gift for the Heart

After she graduated from Cedarville, Julie moved to Boston and took a job as a nanny for two small boys. Three years later, the boys’ mother moved out of the house and filed for divorce. At that time, Julie was in a serious relationship and attended a marriage conference with her boyfriend. She was struck by the way the presenter spoke of his love for his wife. He cherished her. He adored her. Julie turned and looked at the man she was close to marrying. She didn’t feel cherished. She didn’t feel adored.

“It didn’t take my degree in psychology to figure out why a girl without a father figure held on to this relationship,” she said. “God’s Spirit spoke to my heart and said, ‘Julie, he is not for you.’ And I knew I had to let go.”

After her boss’s divorce, Julie continued caring for the two young boys. Friends began to ask if she’d ever considered dating the boys’ father. “No way. I had never even thought about it,” Julie said. But as time passed, they both began to feel differently. After dating a year, they were engaged and married in 1997 with the boys’ blessing.

Doug and Julie Macrae are now the founding directors of Home Improvement Ministries (H.I.M.) — an organization that works to strengthen relationships — and they often speak at H.I.M. marriage conferences. In fall 2008, they spoke at a Cedarville chapel service about marriage and relationships. “We enjoy telling our story,” Julie said. “Doug is such a special gift in my life. When I’m awed by how much he loves me, I can hear God remind me, ‘Just think, Julie ... I love you even more!’”


A Gift for the Future

The seeds of the Julie A. Macrae Endowed Scholarship were planted long ago by special people in the Macraes’ lives. As a child, Doug first learned the value of

generosity from his grandparents. They would give their grandchildren a sum of money and let them choose how they would use it to bless someone else. Through this example in Doug’s life and the Hunts’ example in Julie’s, the Macraes learned to give back from what they’d received.

“It’s always been on my heart to help students who have the ability and ambition to be at Cedarville but not the money,” Julie said. “As difficult as it is to face withdrawing from school because of financial need, it’s even more difficult for students to return and finish, especially for upperclassmen. I know how scary it is when the money runs out and there’s nothing left. We want this scholarship to bless students who are in positions like I was when the Hunts supported me.”

The first in her family to graduate from college, Julie now enjoys helping other students finish what they started at Cedarville. Her scholarship was awarded for the first time this fall to a senior nursing major and a junior psychology major who have been working their way through college.

“We all have stories about the ways God has intervened in our lives,” Julie said. “How special it was to receive such a beautiful gift from Doug and celebrate with Cedarville friends who appreciated its meaning. I think of how far God has brought me, and I am filled with joy. And now He has enabled us to help someone else. I just smile when I think about it.” 

Doug and Julie (Buckley) Macrae '93 live in Weston, Massachusetts. Julie volunteers on the leadership team for Cedarville's Boston alumni chapter. You may contact her at julieamacrae@gmail.com.

Carol Lee '96 is the senior communication specialist for advancement at Cedarville. You may contact her at carollee@cedarville.edu.

Bring out the kid in a student this year.

Give to scholarships.

www.cedarville.edu/givingnow





I can still vividly remember my first time home for Thanksgiving break as a Cedarville student. I recall the feeling of excitement as I walked into the house after being at college for most of the quarter. The house never looked better, and the food never tasted so good. It was great to be home.

Now that I have a family of my own, we've learned that home is the best place to be on Christmas morning. There is something special about waking up and hearing the girls run downstairs to look under the Christmas tree and see what special things are waiting.

Celebrating Christmas always brings back wonderful holiday memories from our Cedarville days — from practicing for Oratorio Chorus and decorating our rooms for open houses to enjoying Little Town of Lights and riding home with friends after final exams. But the holiday memories we've made since those years are perhaps even greater, because of the depth of our understanding for what God did for us in sending His Son. Many years ago, a friend sent me a Christmas card that has become my favorite holiday poem:

If our greatest need had been information,
God would have sent us an educator.
If our greatest need had been technology,
God would have sent us a scientist.
If our greatest need had been money,
God would have sent us an economist.
If our greatest need had been pleasure,
God would have sent us an entertainer.
But our greatest need was forgiveness,
So God sent us a Savior.
— Author unknown

This holiday season, as you reflect on Immanuel and the many blessings God has brought you, consider the family He

has provided through Cedarville. Having our alumni come to campus for homecoming feels a lot like a big holiday family reunion — and Homecoming 2009 was no exception! From the start of chapel on Friday morning until the final chords of the Jazz Band concert on Saturday night, the excitement of being “home” filled the air!

“Celebrating Christmas always brings back wonderful holiday memories from our Cedarville days.”

My staff and I are fortunate to experience this family-feeling all year round as we interact with alumni through e-mail, campus activities, and chapter events. Michelle (Rigel) McCune '04 has been responsible for making many of these interactions possible. As she begins a family of her own, we'll miss her leadership, energy, and commitment to helping alumni stay connected with their Cedarville family.

We hope this issue of *Inspire* encourages you to bask in the joy of Christmas. As you prepare gifts, bake special treats, spend time with family, and reflect on God's blessings, may it all be motivated by gratitude for Christ's birth, because He makes it all possible.

Jeff Beste '87
Director of Alumni Relations

chapter focus — thank you, michelle!



Congratulations to Michelle (Rigel) McCune '04 as she transitions into a new position with outstanding benefits: motherhood! She and her husband, Adam '02, welcomed Tinsley William into their family on October 27.

Michelle has been the force behind tremendous growth in the alumni chapter program. In her five years as assistant director of alumni relations, she orchestrated the launch of 16 chapters, bringing the total to 23 across the United States. Thank you, Michelle, for your dedicated work in serving alumni!

"The alumni chapter program has begun to branch out to include prospective students and their families. Many students choose to attend Cedarville when they see what it means to be part of this family. Thanks to Michelle's leadership, Cedarville has strengthened relationships with alumni, present and future!"

— Jeff Beste '87, Director of Alumni Relations

"Every detail of every chapter event was intricately planned and every possible scenario anticipated. But what makes Michelle's skills so effective are her Christlike humility and attitude of service."

— Dr. Bill Brown, President of Cedarville University

"As chapter leader, I found working with Michelle an absolute joy. Not only was she there to provide whatever resources we needed to pull off a successful chapter event, but she also did it with contagious enthusiasm. Her commitment to supporting our chapter and serving the Lord in a fairly behind-the-scenes role was very obvious. Our team will greatly miss her. Blessings to you, Michelle, as you begin serving in a new role with a future alumnus!"

— Curtis Hoke '83, Leadership Team, South Central Pennsylvania Chapter

1960s



Stuart Chaffe '60 had the privilege of flying on an Honor Flight with 40 other World War II veterans to Washington, D.C., on August 16, 2008. These flights honor veterans by enabling them to visit the World War II Memorial on an expense-paid trip. Many of Stuart's family members are alumni of Cedarville, and he has great hopes that his four grandsons will follow in their footsteps.

1970s

Alice (Miller) McGhee '70 announces her new book *Peace in the Midst of Pain: A Biblical Perspective on Pain and Suffering*. This collection of meditations tries to demystify the question "Where is God when it hurts?"

Nancy Abels '79 celebrated 30 years of service at Shepherds Ministries in Union Grove, Wisconsin, on September 5, 2009. She serves as a case manager.

1980s

John Balaicuis '82 finished his formal medical training in psychiatry and sleep medicine in 2007. For the past two years, he has been writing on various topics and consulting independently in research and education.

Jennifer (Raught) Brock '83 is a part-time adjunct professor of English at the Penn State Worthington Scranton campus. She also works as a part-time public relations consultant for Abington Christian Academy. Jenny and her husband, David, have four children, Olivia (16), Samuel (14), Eden (12), and Grace (9). They live in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania.

David Lindner '84 received his master's degree from Auburn University in May 2009. He continues his critical care and pulmonary medicine practice in Naples, Florida, where he is medical director of both Collier County Hospital Systems and his private practice. David and his wife, **Laura (McElroy) '85**, are the parents of two homeschooled children, Kiera (11) and Ethan (8).



Doug Iverson '87 and his wife, Cheryl, announce the adoption of Jonathan Hudson Le from China. He was welcomed into their family in February 2008, joining twin sisters Emma and Laura in Wisconsin.

recent events



July 10 — Raleigh Chapter Event
Alumni, parents, and prospective students enjoyed a HeartSong concert and dessert reception at Fellowship Baptist Church in Willow Spring, North Carolina.



July 17 — Philadelphia Chapter Event
Due Amici Italian Grill in Cinnaminson, New Jersey, was a great place for guests to have dinner and reminisce about their Cedarville years.

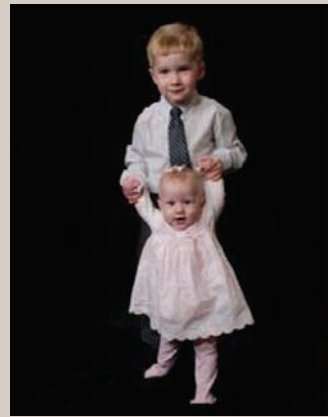


July 18 — South Central Pennsylvania Chapter Event
More than 100 alumni, students, and parents gathered on a beautiful day in Lancaster for a picnic in the park. Guests also prayed over the new students heading to the 'Ville in the fall.

1990s



Marla Bass '93 and Aaron Schmude were married July 29, 2007. They announce the birth of Orrin Wade on March 21, 2009.



Raechelle (Brooks) Perrin '94 and her husband, Douglas, announce the birth of Noemi Rae on June 3, 2008, who joined big brother Robert Gardner (5). Raechelle is a stay-at-home mom, and Doug works at the regional headquarters of State Farm Insurance.



Rusty '94 and **Lianne (Wright) Russell '96** announce the birth of Clay Matthew. He was born January 9, 2009, and welcomed home by his siblings, Adam (5) and Ellie (3). The family resides in Columbus, Ohio.



Chuck '94 and **Andrea (George) Willett '94** announce the birth of Alexandra Grace on May 29, 2009. They reside in Loveland, Colorado, and work in advertising.



Scott '97 and **Joanna (Halsey) Bradley '97** announce the birth of Rachel Marie on August 26, 2008. She joined her siblings, Hannah (7) and Seth (4), in Brownsburg, Indiana, where Scott is a senior research chemist for Eli Lilly and Company and Joanna stays home with their children.



Stephen Estep '97 was commissioned by Cedarville's communication arts department to write music for the spring 2009 production of the play *Tuesdays With Morrie*. Living in Xenia, Ohio, Stephen is a freelance accompanist, composer, web designer, and book and record dealer. He is also a critic for the classical music magazine *American Record Guide*.



Annual Photo Contest

The spring 2010 issue of *Inspire* will feature winners of the annual “Where in the World Is Cedarville?” photo contest. While you’re celebrating the holidays, enjoying a vacation, or gathering with friends and family, wear a Cedarville shirt or jacket and take a photo that captures your Cedarville spirit. Winners will receive \$50 gift certificates in categories such as Best Participation, Most Creative, and Farthest From Cedarville. Submission deadline is February 1. For rules and a complete list of categories, visit www.cedarville.edu/alumni/witw.

This unique photo of Jeff '97 and Angela (Boyce) Saunders '97 and their children at the Giraffe Center in Nairobi made them the overall winner in 2009!



Jonathan Hjembo '97 and Alison Brown were married on October 4, 2008. They reside in the Washington, D.C., area, where Jonathan is an analyst for TeleGeography and Alison owns an organic skin care company. Jonathan received his master's degree from The George Washington University in May 2009.



Jim '97 and **Stacie (Eldeen) Patten '98** announce the birth of Kayla Renee on March 10, 2009. She was welcomed home by Luke (4) and Jenna (2). Jim is the conference director of the National Association of Nouthetic Counselors in Indianapolis, Indiana, and Stacie stays home with the children.



Brett '97 and **Kim (Kleiman) Shilton '00** announce the birth of Méav Adele on March 12, 2009. Siblings Liam (6), Sada (3), and Iona (2) welcomed her home in Michigan.



Andy '97 and **Linda (Gilbert) Kuyper '98** announce the birth of Molly Janelle on December 27, 2007. She joins sisters Abby (7) and Emma (4) in Cleveland, Ohio. Andy works at Hyland Software, and Linda stays at home.

Beth (Amos) Pack '97 and her husband, Timothy, live in Canal Winchester, Ohio. They have two daughters, Joy Elizabeth (4) and Hope Elena (18 months). Beth enjoys being a wife and mother.



Michele Picuri '97 and Leo Butler were married on August 9, 2008. Michele is the proud stepmother of Ian and Megan Butler. They reside in Dayton, Ohio, where Michele is a job and family services specialist for the Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services and Leo is a deputy clerk at the Montgomery County Common Pleas Court.



Jeff '97 and **Melissa (Hewitt) Stanton '97** announce the birth of Isabella Pearl. She was born on May 5, 2008, and welcomed home by Caleb (7), KayleighAnne (5), and Helena (3). The family resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Jeff works in IT management and Melissa homeschools the kids.

recent events



July 25 — Maine Chapter Event
A park in Freeport was the perfect place for a summer picnic. The group enjoyed their time together but mourned the loss of Jon Basner '98, who passed away earlier that week.



August 1 — Chicago Chapter Event
The rain and cold couldn't keep these guests away! Alumni loved eating Italian beef sandwiches and hearing about campus news and upcoming events.



August 1 — Cincinnati Chapter Event
At Parky's Farm, Dr. and Mrs. Bill Brown joined 75 guests who gathered to hear a campus update and welcome students into the Cedarville family.



Jonathan '97 and Sarah (Jenks) Weber '97 have begun their second term of ministry in Belgium with Evangelical Baptist Missions, partnering with Belgians in church development ministry. They spent the summer in the States and enjoyed introducing their youngest son, Daniel (2), to family and friends.



Brian '97 and Laura (Refior) White '98 announce the adoption of Jocelyn Mae, born January 19, 2006, and the birth of twins Samuel Brian and Nathan James, born February 2, 2007. They joined their sister, Karis (6), in Noblesville, Indiana, where Brian is the head pastor of Harvest Bible Chapel of North Indianapolis.



Eric '98 and Kim (Bell) Crawford '97 adopted their son Evan Isaac Thanh from Vietnam on February 27, 2008. He was born August 31, 2006, and joined Kayla (11), Ethan (10), and Ellyn (7) in Columbus, Ohio.



Laura (Foeldvari) Cunningham '98 and her husband, Sean, announce the birth of Caitlin Beth on July 3, 2009. Sean and Laura were married on August 6, 2005, and reside in Lubbock, Texas.



Aaron Hutchison '98 and Jennifer Secor '01 were married on February 28, 2009. They both work at Cedarville University, where Aaron is an associate professor of chemistry and Jenny is an assistant professor of mathematics.



Jeremy '98 and Abigail (Howe) Toyer '98 announce the birth of Joy Tiffany on May 1, 2009, who joined big brothers Josh (6), Jared (4), and Jonathan (2).



Jonathan '99 and Amy (Carpenter) Murphy '00 announce the adoption of Ewen David. He was born on December 29, 2006, and arrived home in Hummelstown, Pennsylvania, on July 2, 2009. Jonathan is an optometrist, and Amy enjoys staying home with Ewen.

2000s



Jonathan Fuge '00 and Shelley Yahara '01 were married on June 18, 2005. They reside in Franklin, Indiana, where Jonathan is a design engineer and Shelley is a piano teacher and full-time mom. They announce the births of Caleb on November 17, 2006, and Katelyn on March 29, 2009.



Kerry Keane '00 and Chris Thatcher were married on June 20, 2009, and live in Waterloo, Iowa. Kerry is a middle school English teacher, and Chris is a software engineer.



These alumni trustees were on campus for their most recent board meetings. Pictured left to right: Beth Prentice '79, Dr. Randy Wilcox '81, Jeff Willetts '82, Debby (Zaller) Stephens '78, Dr. Dominic McKinley '92, William "Bill" Williams '77, and William "Chip" Bernhard, Jr. '77

Giving Back to Cedarville

The Cedarville University Board of Trustees greatly benefits from its alumni members who provide a unique perspective on the University. These 12 alums bring expertise and broad experience to their roles — not to mention their desire to continue investing in the institution that influenced them as students. The board includes a specially designated alumni representative who also serves on the Alumni Council. This year, Beth Prentice '79 was appointed to this role. Please continue to pray for all of the board members as they guide the University toward dynamic Kingdom service.

Alumni Serving on the Board of Trustees

William "Chip" Bernhard, Jr. '77 <i>(trustee since 1991)</i>	Dr. Dominic McKinley '92 <i>(trustee since 2006)</i>	Dr. W. David Warren '64 <i>(trustee since 1998)</i>
Dr. Kezia (McNeal) Curry '92 <i>(trustee since 2006)</i>	Randy Patten '71 <i>(trustee since 1987)</i>	Randy Wilcox '81 <i>(trustee since 2008)</i>
James Engemann '66 <i>(trustee since 1993)</i>	Beth Prentice '79 <i>(trustee since 2009)</i>	Jeff Willetts '82 <i>(trustee since 2006)</i>
Mary Howard '81 <i>(trustee since 2004)</i>	Debby (Zaller) Stephens '78 <i>(trustee since 2001)</i>	William "Bill" Williams '77 <i>(trustee since 2006)</i>



Brittany (Smith) Napier '00 and her husband, James, welcomed Piper Hannah on April 6, 2009. Brittany is excited about her new career as a stay-at-home mom, and Jim continues his job as a software director in Atlanta, Georgia.



Jordan Patrick '00 was ordained by Grace Baptist Church in Canton, Ohio, on April 26, 2009. As the youth and Christian education pastor, he has served there since July 2004.

recent events



August 7 — Grand Rapids Chapter Event
Dr. Bill Brown enjoyed the company of 150 guests in Holland, Michigan, for a catered picnic. The rain didn't keep the group from having a great time!



August 10 — Elkhart Regional Event
More than 50 alumni and other guests gathered at a park in Goshen, Indiana, for a pizza dinner and to meet current Cedarville students.



August 11 — Detroit Regional Event
More than 75 guests fellowshiped at First Baptist Church in Rochester, Michigan, to reconnect and hear a campus update.



Janene (Pereira) Bradley '01 and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of Josiah Paul, born on November 24, 2008, and welcomed home by Isaiah (3). Chris is a flight test engineer and Janene enjoys staying home with the boys. They reside at Edwards Air Force Base in California.



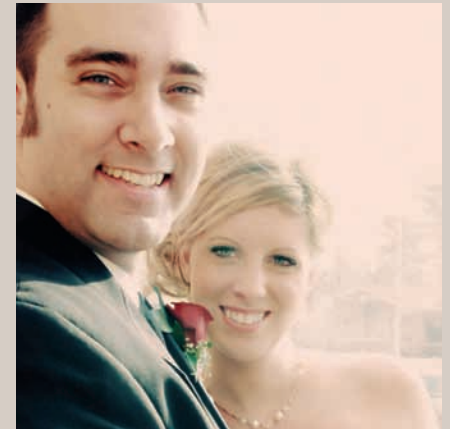
Jeremy '02 and Katie (Eichholz) Bustle '03 announce the birth of Clayton Gage on November 12, 2008. He was welcomed home by Tyson (3) and Brennen (1). Jeremy is a surgical technologist, and Katie is a stay-at-home mom. They reside in Mason, Ohio.



Andrea Gensel '02 and David Gluck were married on April 18, 2009. They live in Peoria, Illinois, where Andrea is a purchasing auditor for Caterpillar, Inc.



Nikki (Fortener) James '02 and her husband, Chip, announce the birth of Georgia Nicole on May 21, 2009. Nikki enjoys staying at home with Georgia and Johanna (3). They reside in Springboro, Ohio.



Justin Tubbs '02 and Abi Cook '08 were married on February 7, 2009. They live in Kettering, Ohio, where Justin is a computer programmer. Abi is pursuing music full time as the lead singer of her R&B band Abi Cook & Crew. They just released their second full-length album in April 2009.

A 2003 graduate announces the publication of her book *The Clouds Are Big With Mercy*. Under the pseudonym Alicia Adams, she tells the story of her experience with obsessive-compulsive disorder and depression and of God's faithfulness throughout the journey.



Greg '03 and Amber (Young) Anderson '03 announce the birth of Samuel Courage Anderson on September 2, 2008. They reside in Arlington, Texas, where Greg attends Dallas Theological Seminary.



Andrea (McCormick) Cruz-Santiago '04 and her husband, Filemon, announce the birth of Emmanuel David on October 19, 2008. Andrea teaches math for a pilot program that targets at-risk teenagers through an online learning community. They live in Livonia, Michigan.



Jamie (Huffman) Jones '04 and her husband, Lindsey, announce the birth of Adam Landry on December 26, 2008. They reside in Princeton, West Virginia, where Lindsey is an elementary special education teacher. Jamie works from home as the director of development for Mercer Christian Academy.



Dan '04 and Lindsey (Ellis) Alburger '04 announce the birth of Jackson Daniel on November 1, 2008. They reside in Baltimore, Maryland, where Dan is a substitute teacher for Baltimore County Schools and Lindsey is a pediatric nurse at Johns Hopkins.



Luke '04 and Anna (Woodhams) Heinz '05 announce the birth of Noah Maximus on March 6, 2009. Luke is a financial controller. After working in the international adoption field, Anna now enjoys the full-time job of caring for their son. They reside in Broadview Heights, Ohio.



Brent Miller '04 has passed the Professional Engineering (PE) exam and is now a licensed professional engineer. He works as an electrical engineer at Stanley Consultants in Iowa.

alumni spotlight alumni spotlight alumni spotlight alumni spotlight alumni spotlight alumni spotlight alumni spotlight alumni spotlight



Exploring the Benefits of Pain

What can we learn from suffering? For Dr. David Henderson '00, that question led to his latest accomplishment. He recently joined forces with best-selling author Dr. Paul Meier to write a book about suffering, titled *Finding Purpose Beyond Our Pain*. In fact, when he first met Dr. Meier, David told him this is the book he would write if God limited him to just one.

"I've been trying to relieve mental and emotional suffering through psychiatry," David said, "and I've realized there are some things that are unavoidable and necessary in order for us to grow spiritually." With that in mind, he wrote about what he considers to be the seven universal life struggles: injustice, rejection, loneliness, loss, failure, discipline, and death.

A Cedarville native, David cut his University experience short when he decided to go right into medical school at Wright State University without a bachelor's degree. He followed that up with a residency at the University of South Carolina. Then, a call from a friend set him on a different course. Wanting to incorporate his faith into his psychiatric practice, David found himself at Dallas Theological Seminary, where he met Dr. Meier.

Besides writing, speaking, and managing his practice, David is married to Angela (Primo) '00, whom he met at Cedarville in a freshman communication course. "The first day of class," David explained, "Professor Gary Barker '86 said he always had one couple meet there and get married. Well, we were that couple, and we invited him to our wedding!"

The Hendersons live in Dallas with their two children. Released in November 2009, *Finding Purpose Beyond Our Pain* is published by Thomas Nelson. You may contact David at livingstonepresumed@yahoo.com and visit his website at www.drdauidhenderson.com.

recent events



August 23 — Colorado Chapter Event
Faith Day with the Colorado Rockies was a great event for more than 100 alumni and guests. The Rockies won, and MercyMe provided a post-game concert.



August 28 — Boston Chapter Event
The home of Doug and Julie (Buckley) Macrae '93 is always a favorite for alumni gatherings. Many of the guests were prospective students who enjoyed hearing from Dr. Bill Brown.



September 5 — Indianapolis Chapter Event
Fifty alumni and guests joined a group of current students for a concert at Marsh Symphony on the Prairie at Conner Prairie in Fishers, Indiana. Many stayed for the great fireworks show afterward.



Gillian (Mocas) Nance '04 and her husband, William, announce the births of their two children: Marissa Louise on March 14, 2007, and Isaiah Robert on September 16, 2008.



Wayne Fannon '05 and Emily Kurtz were married on June 20, 2009. Wayne works as an electrical engineer in Ashland, Ohio. Emily works as a middle school intervention specialist and is completing her master's degree at Malone University. They live in Smithville, Ohio.



Chris '05 and **Elizabeth (Dudick) Hamm '04** announce the birth of Tessa Rose, born on December 11, 2008, and welcomed home by Heather Joan (1). The family resides in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



Matt Reno '05 and **Marcee Hart '05** were married on July 30, 2005. They reside in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where Matt is a youth pastor at Calvary Baptist Church. Marcee is a stay-at-home mother. Titus William joined their family on September 5, 2009.



Stuart II '05 and **Hannah (Ballou) Sheldon '04** announce the birth of Stuart Nils Sheldon III on January 24, 2009. They live in Saint Paris, Ohio, where Stuart is a design engineer for KTH Parts Industries and works with Honda to design new vehicles. Hannah worked as an electrical engineer and is now a full-time mom.



Greg '05 and **Rachel (Marley) Vrugink '05** announce the birth of Abigail Hope. She was born on February 3, 2009, and joined her brother, Christian (18 months). Greg is the youth director at Dayton Chinese Christian Church in Ohio, and Rachel enjoys staying at home with their children.

Alumna of the Year

Nadine (Terrill) Hennesey '87

Nadine Hennesey's mission is to shine a light of hope for children orphaned by the 1999 war in Kosovo. In 2001, she founded the House of Laughter Educational Center in Mitrovica. The center offers classes in English, math, history, computers, and character training and provides five hot meals each week for approximately 160 children.

Nadine's vision for the House of Laughter has expanded, and she is now working to start the Kosovo Leadership Academy, a private school for grades one through 12. Other new initiatives she is involved with include a teacher training center and a community ethics course, Careers With Character.

After graduating from Cedarville, Nadine held teaching positions in Ohio, Michigan, and Florida before joining the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (ABWE) in 1994 for a short-term teaching opportunity in Peru. She joined ABWE full time in 1999 and moved to Albania where she designed and taught curriculum for children at an orphanage.

What drives her to take on such big tasks? Simply this: God is trustworthy. "He is the same yesterday, today, and forever," she said. "He asks us to do things we know we cannot do, but when we take that step of faith, He does it through us."

Young Alumnus of the Year

Stephanie Carlton '02

Before becoming involved in politics, Stephanie Carlton worked as a labor and delivery nurse at Georgetown University Hospital. Two years later, she joined the staff of Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Okla.), writing the Patients' Choice Act, a comprehensive health care reform bill praised by *The Wall Street Journal*.

Stephanie now serves as health policy advisor for Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas), a member of the United States Senate Finance Committee. This group makes key decisions about health care reform with jurisdiction over Medicare and Medicaid. During the 2008 presidential campaign, Stephanie was selected to brief Sen. John McCain on health care issues.

"Cedarville taught me that being a Christian doesn't always mean serving the Lord in Christian ministry," she said. "God also calls us to serve Him in other ways to impact the world. For me, that has meant influencing national politics."

Distinguished Educator Award

Dr. Frank Jenista '68

A missionary kid from the Philippines, Frank Jenista arrived at Cedarville hoping to specialize in Asian studies. Although the University did not offer this program, he soon found caring professors — Dr. J. Murray Murdoch and Dr. Allen Monroe, in particular — who developed courses just for him.

A few years after graduation, Frank became a United States diplomat serving in Japan, Indonesia, New Zealand, South America, and the Philippines. He received numerous Honor Awards for exceptional service over his 25-year diplomatic career, and he is regarded as one of the Department of State's foremost Philippine specialists.



Pictured left to right: Dr. Frank Jenista '68, Kim Ahlgrim, Nadine (Terrill) Hennesey '87, Marvin Troyer '61, Stephanie Carlton '02, and Justin Spann '06

In 2000, Frank retired to accept an appointment as professor of international studies at Cedarville, teaching courses on international relations, global issues, diplomacy, Asia, and Latin America. He also chairs Cedarville's International Task Force to encourage greater global engagement throughout Cedarville's academic curriculum. He and his wife, Barb (Lepine) '70, have three children.

Distinguished Service Award

Marvin Troyer '61

As a married student, Marv Troyer attended morning classes so he could be home with his young son while his wife, Jan, worked evening shifts as a nurse. He also found time to nurture his pastoral calling by preaching in prisons and orphanages and serving as president of his senior class.

After graduation, Marv started a church in Churubusco, Indiana, and he hasn't stopped ministering to people since. In addition to pastoring for more than 40 years, he also served as chaplain for the Oakland Athletics baseball team, directed Cedarville's Champions of Character program through the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, and provided leadership on several organization boards, including Cedarville, Calumet Baptist Schools, and the Indiana Fellowship of Regular Baptist Churches.

Now in his retirement years, Marv leads the Senior Jackets, a University fitness program that encourages a healthy lifestyle for local senior citizens. He and Jan have four children and six grandchildren and recently celebrated 51 years of marriage.

Impact Award

Justin Spann '06

As a student, Justin Spann rose to leadership positions in nearly every activity he pursued. By his senior year, he had served as a resident assistant,

attended National Christian Minority Student Leadership Conferences, become a team leader with HeartSong touring teams, and student-directed OneVoice Gospel Choir.

His student involvement opened up the opportunity for a staff position in Cedarville's Christian ministries division, where Justin now directs OneVoice full time. "I love my job," he said, "because I spend so much time with students. I'm far enough ahead of them to be able to offer advice, but I'm young enough to relate to their circumstances."

Justin is grateful for the love and support of his family, especially his mother who was his hero and biggest cheerleader. He looks forward to starting a family of his own with his wife, Latice (Strickland) '07.

Honorary Alumna of the Year

Kim Ahlgrim

When Kim Ahlgrim married her husband, Tom '82, she didn't just marry into the Ahlgrim family: she married into the Cedarville family as well!

Kim began working at the University in 1990 as resident director of Printy Hall. She pursued a master's degree in counseling and in 1995 became a student life counselor. Since 2004, Kim has directed The Cove, Cedarville's academic enrichment center.

In each of these roles, Kim's advocacy for students has influenced hundreds of lives. In 2007, a Cedarville graduate established the Kimberly S. Ahlgrim Counseling Scholarship in gratitude for Kim. With contagious enthusiasm, Kim works tirelessly to create a supportive and welcoming Cedarville experience for the entire student body.

"In my 20 years at Cedarville," Kim said, "I have been blessed by long-term relationships with students, friends, and colleagues. Cedarville has become my second family."

Kim and Tom have two children, Brianna '13 and Blake.

recent events



September 12 — Houston Chapter Event
The Houston Chapter had a great first event! Guests enjoyed the chicken and fajita buffet at Pappasito's Cantina while sharing Cedarville memories.



September 18–19 — Chapter Leadership Training
Thirteen alumni chapter leadership team members from all around the country came to campus to brainstorm ideas for future chapter events and learn how to make their local chapters more effective.

upcoming events

January 29
Cincinnati, Ohio | Reception at the Ohio Music Education Association Conference

February 4
Phoenix, Arizona | Regional Event with Dr. Bill Brown

February 10
Tampa, Florida | Regional Event with Dr. Bill Brown

February 11–15
Friends for Life Cruise with Dr. Bill Brown

March 1
Nashville, Tennessee | Chapter Event with Dr. Bill Brown

March 20
Honolulu, Hawaii | Regional Event

March 20
Liberty Township, Ohio | Chapter Event

For more events, visit www.cedarville.edu/alumnievents.
(All event information is subject to change.)



Dan '05 and Stacy (Rosser) Wilkins '05 announce the birth of Arianna Grace on February 24, 2009. She was welcomed home by big sister Marissa (3). Dan works for Cash America, and Stacy enjoys staying home with the girls in Dayton, Ohio.



Jonathan Lett '06 and Amy Dennis '09 were married on August 15, 2008. Amy is a registered nurse at Duke University Medical Center. After serving three years as a campus minister with The Navigators, Jonathan is now pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Duke University Divinity School. They reside in Durham, North Carolina.



Allison West '06 and Brian Gahlon were married on March 21, 2009. Allison is a graphic designer, and Brian is a teacher. They live in Edina, Minnesota.



Phil Buben '07 and Jessica Gallas '08 were married on July 25, 2008. They reside in St. Louis, Missouri.



Caleb Fletcher '07 and Kathleen Picard '07 were married on April 26, 2008. They now live in Greenville, North Carolina, where Caleb is an insurance agent in management training for AFLAC. Kathleen is a graduate student at East Carolina University, pursuing her master's degree in school counseling.



David Van Schepen '09 and Lindsay Di Donato '08 were married on June 6, 2009. They reside in West Milford, New Jersey, where David is a mechanical engineer for the U.S. Department of Defense and Lindsay is a marketer at a medical devices company.

In Memory

We extend our condolences to the families and friends of these dear loved ones.

Orval Labig '39, of Xenia, Ohio, passed away on April 20, 2009. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, receiving five battle stars and earning the rank of major. Orval worked as a school administrator and served with the Greene County Auditors Office after his retirement. He was a charter member of North Side Christian Church and a member of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association and the Greene County Teachers Association. He is survived by four children, 13 grandchildren, and 27 great-grandchildren.



Donald Staggs '52 passed away on July 17, 2009. While at Cedarville, Don majored in education and was captain of the football team. He went on to serve in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War,

earn a master's degree, and conduct two years of doctoral study. In his 40-year career in education, he worked as a high school teacher, coach, principal, superintendent, and personnel and business director at various schools. He is survived by his wife, Wanda; one daughter; four sons; and 12 grandchildren.



Joan (Carter) Stephens '65, of Sebring, Florida, went home to be with her Savior on April 28, 2009. She taught English at the high school and college levels, was an avid reader, and enjoyed writing articles for Christian publications. Joan is survived by her husband, **Marvin '65**; one daughter, **Jennifer Winsor '92**; two sons, Jason and **Nathan '00**; and six grandchildren.



Jonathan Basner '98 went home to be with the Lord on July 24, 2009, after a three-year battle with cancer. He graduated with a degree in Christian education and received his master's degree from Talbot School of Theology. After working as a resident director at Cedarville for two years, Jon became the youth pastor and later associate pastor at First Baptist Church of Waldoboro, Maine. He leaves behind a wife, **Lisa (Cook) '98**, and two children, Jillian (7) and Josiah (4). Lisa is asking those who knew Jon to e-mail memories of him to basner98@localnet.com.

To send your updates, visit www.cedarville.edu/inspire or e-mail alumni@cedarville.edu. You may also send them to Alumni Relations, 251 N. Main St., Cedarville, OH 45314. Deadlines are December 15 for the spring issue, April 15 for the summer issue, and August 15 for the fall/winter issue. The editorial staff has full discretion regarding submissions.

Career Opportunity: Cedarville University Director of Admissions

With record-level applications and our new financial aid program, these are exciting days in the Cedarville admissions office. While we rejoice with current director Scott Van Loo '98 in his appointment as vice president for enrollment management at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, we are also seeking the right candidate to fill this strategic position on campus. To learn more, visit www.cedarville.edu/admposition.

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DeMaurice Smith Leads NFL Players Association

DeMaurice (De) Smith '85 was unanimously elected in March as executive director of the National Football League Players Association (NFLPA). Although De was an NCCAA All-American in track and field at Cedarville, he never played football beyond the high school level. He was considered a long shot for the position, as other leading candidates had played professional football and knew the league inside out. But in just a few months, De Smith impressed players with his character, leadership, and a detailed plan to represent their best interests. After the election, Drew Brees, NFLPA vice president and quarterback for the New Orleans Saints, said, "We found the right guy — a guy everybody believes in and trusts ... we found our leader."

Previously, De worked as a trial lawyer and litigation partner with the firm Patton Boggs in Washington, D.C. He also served on the Board of Governors for the D.C. Bar Association and has been named to several notable lists, including Best Lawyers in America and *Washingtonian* magazine's Young Guns: Top 40 Lawyers Under 40. He has been a frequent legal commentator on MSNBC's "Hardball," CNN, NBC, Court-TV, and Fox.

In his new role, De's immediate priority is to represent the Players Association in contract negotiations with team owners and the league, ultimately trying to prevent a lockout. In his first few months on the job, he visited every team in the league to meet the athletes and begin working with them to change the business of this billion-dollar industry.

"De Smith impressed players with his character, leadership, and a detailed plan to represent their best interests."



Photo credit: Patton Boggs



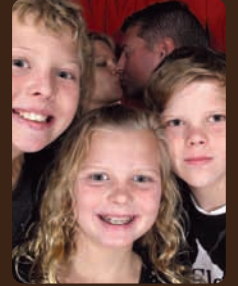
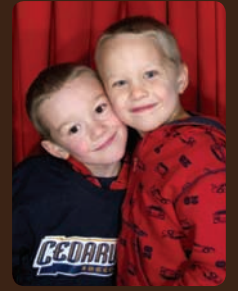
Homecoming 2009 — *Picture This!*



Homecoming 2009 brought the largest homecoming turnout in Cedarville history! With more than 700 families, the campus was teeming with alumni, friends, and family who came back to celebrate on October 2 and 3.

The weekend's events included a 5K race, the homecoming parade, varsity athletic games, performances of *The Miracle Worker*, and a joint concert with The Demerits and the University Jazz Band. Guests especially enjoyed the first-ever all-alumni CU by the Lake Party. Contributing to the "Picture This!" theme, free photo booths allowed guests to capture memories of the weekend.

"With record attendance and gorgeous weather, this year's homecoming was a huge success!" said Jeff Beste '87, director of alumni relations. "Throughout the weekend, I frequently heard alums say how thankful they are for their years at Cedarville and how excited they are to know that current students are having the same life-changing experience."





by Dr. Thomas Cornman

AS A NEW FACE AT CEDARVILLE, I realize I'm a stranger to most members of the University family. So, I'd like to provide some background on who I am and where I've come from. But more importantly, I want to explain why I chose Cedarville and why I'm excited about the future of this institution.

I grew up in southeastern Pennsylvania, where I came to know the Lord as a child. After graduating from Philadelphia College of Bible, I married my high school sweetheart, Sue. We then packed up all we owned in a 4- by 6-foot trailer — it wasn't much — and moved cross-country to attend Talbot School of Theology at Biola University. Three years later, after I earned a Master of Divinity in church history, we headed back to Philadelphia for graduate school. While completing my master's degree in religion at Temple University, I was invited to join the faculty at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. Excited by the prospect, we moved to Illinois, and I began what would become a long career at Moody.

In fall 2008, a lot of things seemed to happen at once. Our son, David, announced he was going to ask his girlfriend to marry him; our daughter, Laura, decided to change directions in her art studies at Biola; and I learned of a job opening at Cedarville. It soon became clear that God was moving us to Ohio after years of contented life in Chicago.

Through the winter and spring, we discovered how many changes would converge over the summer.

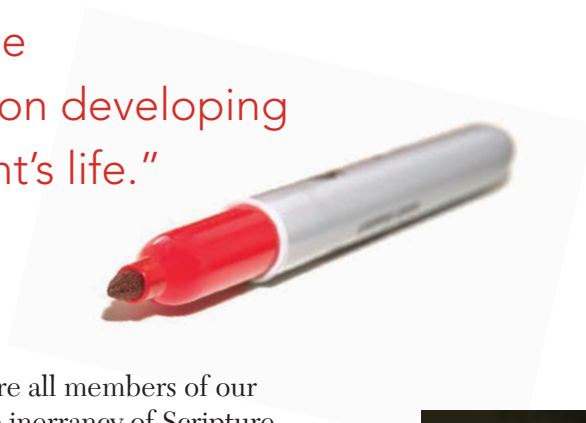
Laura extended her semester at Biola to take advantage of a unique art opportunity. I traveled to China for three-and-a-half weeks and taught summer school in June; David got married on June 19; and just five days later the movers packed up our earthly belongings — now almost a full moving van — for the drive to Cedarville! But before any of that happened, we had to make some difficult, but necessary, decisions. What should we discard? What items would we need for a new and very different house?

Needless to say, the past few months have been a blur in the Cornman household. We've settled into our new home, and I'm starting to learn the acronyms, buildings, and organizational charts of Cedarville. I've enjoyed meeting the people here — Shannon, who cleans my office each morning; Kim, who set up my office computer as part of her busy day; Jim, who introduced me to the woodworking specialty stores in the area; and many more. Sue and I also are sensing the heart of Cedarville University and are enthused by what we see and feel here.

A Vision for the Future

What first attracted us to Cedarville was the strong commitment to God's Word and the focus on developing a Christian worldview in each student's life. In the days ahead, I pray that, by God's grace, we would see a continued commitment to these important hallmarks. Strengthening our Bible minor for each

“What first attracted us to Cedarville was the strong commitment to God’s Word and the focus on developing a Christian worldview in each student’s life.”



student is critical. In addition, we must continue to affirm the value of our co-curricular activities such as chapel, ministries, and discipleship groups.

Cedarville has a rich heritage, and the future is bright. We recently launched the undergraduate portion of our new pharmacy program, and a Master of Science in Nursing program is set to begin in fall 2010. Since I believe Cedarville’s future must include additional graduate programs, we will determine where Cedarville has unique opportunities to contribute to Christian higher education.

In addition, we will explore Cedarville’s future in online education and the development of hybrid study programs, utilizing online technology coupled with face-to-face instruction. We’ll determine how those who cannot study on Cedarville’s campus can benefit from our course offerings. We’ll pursue all future initiatives while enhancing the strong residential undergraduate programs for which Cedarville is known.

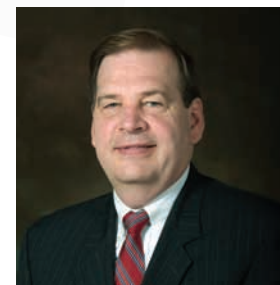
A Calling for the Next Century

The University faces an important move, one that has been underway for a while now: our relocation to the 21st century. We will continue to be a Christ-

centered university where all members of our community embrace the inerrancy of Scripture and preeminence of Christ. Our academic programs will remain rigorous. Our intentionality will be a hallmark of our strategic advancement. And balance will always characterize our approach to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and student life.

We must be ready to look for new ways to advance these values. This might mean reshaping or even eliminating some programs and activities we’ve come to expect. It will mean stretching ourselves to begin new endeavors. I realize this can be challenging for all of us.

But through it all, we must remain focused on students. Our goal is to propel them toward biblical literacy, critical thinking, and responsible living in church and society. A firm commitment to biblical faith and engaging the intellectual imagination of students should be at the heart of Cedarville. This is the best way to guide them toward accomplishing great things — bringing glory to God and influencing people. Join me in asking God to continue building Cedarville University into such a place. **i**



Dr. Thomas Cornman began his responsibilities as academic vice president in July 2009. He and his wife, Sue, have two children, David and Laura, and reside in Springfield, Ohio. You may contact him at tcornman@cedarville.edu.

Phil Bassett Trains Teachers in China

It’s no small thing to leave a comfortable home in small-town Ohio for the bustling culture of Beijing, China. But former Cedarville education professor Dr. Phil Bassett saw an opportunity to be involved in ministry there and couldn’t pass it up.

After 13 years at Cedarville, Phil left in 2004 to take a position running a master’s degree program and serving as director of teacher training for International Schools of China. Having helped recruit and send teachers to China from Cedarville for 10 years, Phil decided he “wanted to be a part of this great work of the Lord.”

It’s a job he’s well-prepared for, having been instrumental in starting Cedarville’s Master of Education program. He continues to teach at the University as an adjunct professor during alternate summers.

“Living in China is very interesting, perplexing, and sometimes frustrating,” Phil said. “But knowing Chinese believers is a huge blessing. The growth of the church here is one of the major events in church history. To be a part of that is humbling and exciting.”

Phil and his wife, Susan, have seven children, four of whom graduated from Cedarville. Their youngest son, Matthew, will begin classes in January.

To contact Phil or find out more about teaching with International Schools of China, e-mail pbassett@ldi-cn.com or visit www.ldichina.com.





We Are the Reason

by Dr. William E. Brown

Dr. Brown's Top Picks

■ Book

One Month to Live: Thirty Days to a No-Regrets Life by Kerry and Chris Shook
Would you live differently if you knew you only had 30 days to live? Why not live that way all the time? This book is great for a group study and accountability.

■ Website

www.crosswalk.com
Crosswalk is one of the best-known sites for practical Christian thinking and living. Sign up for daily or weekly e-mails on news, persecution, family, and more.

■ Podcast

The Coolest Stuff on the Planet
Free on iTunes, this weekly podcast shows you incredible places around the world. Each episode is about five minutes long. You must watch it to appreciate it!

■ Movie

Marty (1955)
In this Oscar-winning film, Ernest Borgnine plays a butcher from the Bronx who meets a lonely schoolteacher. It offers sweet yet profound commentary on valuing individuals for who they are, not how they look.

“It’s me!”

Her words caught me by surprise. The woman on stage for the Christmas program had just asked the Christian pop-culture question: What is the reason for the season? I was expecting — as was everyone else in the audience — for her to say, “Jesus!” But instead she cried, “It’s me!”

“Such arrogance!” I thought. We’ve all seen the bumper stickers and the roadside billboards that remind us “Jesus is the reason for the season.” What was she thinking?

But the more she talked about the awesome realities behind the Christmas story, the more I began to think she was on to something. After all, the angel proclaimed on the night of Jesus’ birth, “I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people” (Luke 2:10).

We have embraced “Jesus is the reason for the season” as a tagline to counter the consumerization and secularization of the Christmas season. Although this may be a helpful reminder for us, we also need to recognize that the angelic celebration did not merely announce *that* God became a man but *how* and *why* He became a man.

When God chose to walk among humanity, He presented the most captivating drama to be played out in history. Author Dorothy Sayers chided Christians for getting so used to God’s story that they grew bored with the spectacular reality of His presence. Lest there be any confusion, God made certain we understood that Jesus is indeed Immanuel, “God with us” (Matt. 1:23).

Jesus came into the world in the usual way. Far from a sterile, painless, holy appearance, Mary suffered the agonies of childbirth and the joys of delivery. Don’t dismiss this incredible picture. Jesus was born — *born!* — just as you and I were born. He wasn’t transported, translated, transformed, or beamed down. He was born as a baby, a human being.

An angel spoke to Joseph in a dream to reassure him about Mary’s unexplainable pregnancy. The baby, the angel said, “will save His people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21). This is why He came. Another angel (maybe the same one) summed it all up in one profound statement to, of all people, the humble shepherds in the field: “A Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11).

More than a one-act play, the birth of Jesus represents the beginning of something — something violent and beautiful, mysterious and meaningful. The Creator God became a man so He could suffer a humiliating death to pay for the sins of the world. For *our* sins.

So maybe it’s not so wrong to say the reason for the season is ... us.

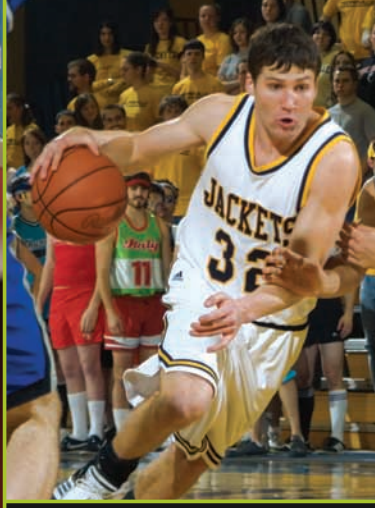
“Embracing the power of words while standing firm on the Word of God.”

It's a rare university that can offer you a world-class educational experience within a vibrant, Christ-centered learning community, but Cedarville is just such a place.

Step onto our campus, and join 3,000 students in a daily celebration of faith. Step up to the challenges of top-ranked academic programs, and enjoy exceptional learning opportunities that can take you around the world. Step into the future as a Cedarville graduate, and you'll be sought after by the best businesses and graduate schools.

Discover a University that will equip you for a lifetime of leadership, service, and success. Find out for yourself what makes Cedarville so unique.

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ALUMNI

BASKETBALL WEEKEND

Saturday, February 6, 2010



Back the Jackets!

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or calling 1-800-837-2566.

