

ASBURY COLLEGE
AMBASSADOR

VOLUME 35, No. 1 | SPRING 2008

Together
We Resolve to Love

■ ASBURY COLLEGE
OPENS NEW CAMPUS
IN ORLANDO THIS FALL

■ ASBURY'S 100TH
REUNION
JUNE 19-22

■ LOVE POURED OUT
A LETTER FROM
THE PRESIDENT

CONTENTS

02 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

04 TOGETHER WE RESOLVE TO LOVE

A FELLOWSHIP OF THE FORGIVEN

FINDING MY PLACE

WHAT COULD GOD WANT FROM US?

UPROOTED FAITH

THE BEAUTY AND HOPE OF HOLINESS AT ASBURY

LOVE POURED OUT

20 CAMPUS NEWS

26 ALUMNI

AMBASSADOR

PRESIDENT

DR. SANDRA C. GRAY

VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

R. GREGORY SWANSON, JD '78

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

LISA FALIN '90 HARPER

DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI & PARENT RELATIONS

CAROLYN RIDLEY '81

EDITOR

KACIE POWELL

DESIGNER

KYLE J. SCHROEDER

PHOTOGRAPHY

DANIEL DONALDSON '09

KACIE POWELL

MATT SAWYER

ALUMNI NOTES

AMY NEILD '01 KINNELL

ASSISTANT STAFF WRITER

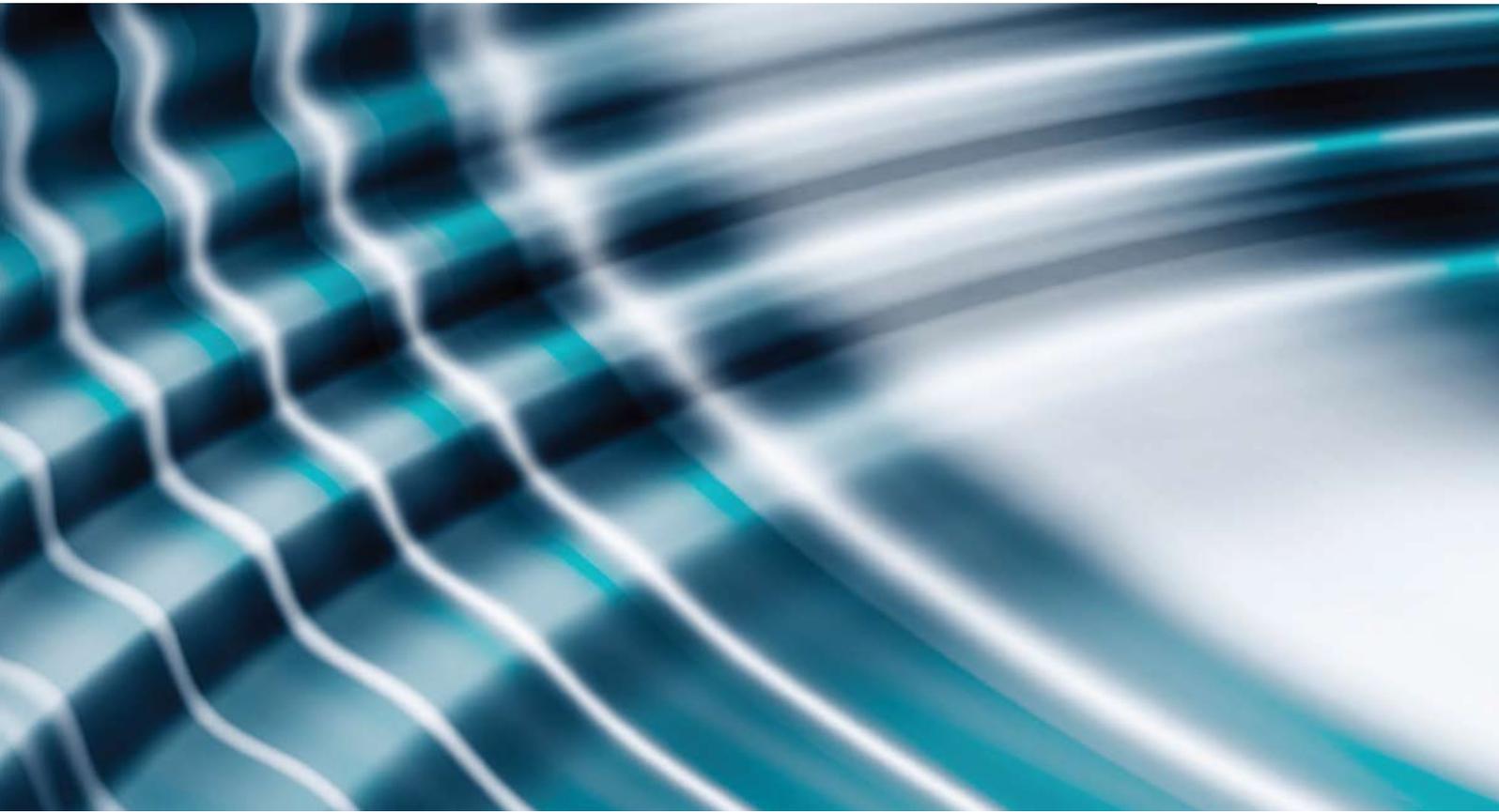
HEIDI HEATER '09

ASBURY COLLEGE is a private, independent, Christian, liberal arts institution, providing academic excellence in a context of spiritual vitality. This nationally recognized, nondenominational college offers programs in more than 49 majors of study and several graduate programs to a student body of approximately 1,400 students. Founded in 1890, the College's globally aware heritage has produced more than 20,000 living alumni who live and serve in all 50 of the United States and more than 70 nations.

The mission of Asbury College, as a Christian Liberal Arts College in the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition, is to equip men and women, through a commitment to academic excellence and spiritual vitality, for a lifetime of learning, leadership and service to the professions, society, the family and the Church, thereby preparing them to engage their cultures and advance the cause of Christ around the world.

SPRING 2008, VOLUME 35, No. 1 The *Ambassador* (USPS 356490) is published three times a year with an annual report by Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky. It serves as a quarterly linkage between the College and its constituency and builds loyalty and awareness of Asbury College so that readers will joyfully and sacrificially commit to Asbury College's vision and mission. If you are interested in making a bequest to Asbury College, use our full legal address: Asbury College, One Macklem Drive, Wilmore, Kentucky 40390-1198. For specific information, call (800) 888-1818, ext. 2104. Comments, alumni news and letters to the editor are welcome to the address below. Periodicals postage paid at Wilmore, Kentucky, and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send all address changes to the *Ambassador*; One Macklem Drive, Wilmore, Kentucky 40390-1198. Website: www.asbury.edu e-mail: ambassador@asbury.edu

Asbury College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national or ethnic origin, disability or religion in the admission of students and their access to educational programs and activities.



Together

We Resolve to Love

“One measure of God’s love in us is to look at our willingness to be one with the body of Christ. Only this kind of fellowship truly reveals Christ’s love.”

– Dr. Sandra Gray

The Greatest Of These Is Love

“The one that follows me shall not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

– John 8:12

“The one that follows me shall not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”¹

These are the words of Jesus and they teach us that we must imitate His life and character. In the opening article of this *Ambassador*, I want to address the topic of charity, or more specifically, love.

We often make reference to the two great commandments: (1) to love the Lord with all our heart, mind, soul and strength; and (2) to love our neighbor as our self.² I would suggest Jesus was actually giving just one commandment: to love the Lord with total abandonment, to love as He loves, and the second commandment simply is an outflow of the first. To love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength would necessarily mean that we love our neighbor as ourselves. That is, we cannot love God as the first commandment requires and not love our neighbor as ourselves.

In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul addresses the church at Corinth and gives a powerful truth about God’s unrelenting love. Perhaps it is time for all of us to invoke this passage for our daily living:

If I speak in the tongues of men and angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. I Corinthians 13:1-3

Evidence of love in our lives is characterized in these ways:

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth, always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.”³

Most of us read this as the way we are to love others, or even more narrowly, the way we want others to love us. However, the greater truth of this passage is that it is all about God’s love for us. This love is unrelenting, is ever in pursuit of the beloved, and is unconditional. This is the character of Jesus that we have been instructed to imitate. The life surrendered to the Lordship of Christ results in a willful self-abandonment such that we identify with God’s interest in others.

We are hopelessly incapable of living a life of love without the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. We must rely on faith in God’s promises of mercy because we still have weaknesses and frailties in our flesh. We are still of human nature. Thankfully, He does not judge us according to our human condition, but by our position. When we have given our hearts to Jesus, the Father has seated us with Christ, who is at the right hand of Father. If God judged us according to our condition, we would be daily converted and daily backslide. Every honest Christian must admit that his or her own condition is one that needs the ever-present Holy Spirit to guide, cleanse, purify and encourage.

In this wonderful love passage, Paul had been captured by this unrelenting love of God. Therefore, as he wrote to the church at Corinth, his message was of triumphant love. They were changed by the power of this unrelenting love. As we read Paul’s second letter to the church, we find sin’s power was broken and self was swallowed up by godly sorrow and their focus was now on giving rather than receiving. He chose to end the second letter with the prayer, “May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”⁴

At first, the Corinthians knew nothing of such fellowship. The church was rampant with individualism that carried over to spiritual gifts. Apparently, the Corinthians were

“For us to truly understand love, it must bring us into unity with others.”

– Dr. Sandra C. Gray



coming to church only to edify themselves and chaos was the result. Paul called for order, instructing them, “Learn to hold your peace. Let someone else speak. Seek to edify the body and not just yourself.”⁶ Paul ties fellowship and unity to love. For us to truly understand love, it must bring us into unity with others. One measure of Christ’s love in us is to look at our willingness to be one with the body of Christ. Only this kind of fellowship truly reveals this kind of love.

There are many who have experienced the love of God but have never learned to enter into the fullness of that love. They know the doctrine of God’s love, yet they do not know what it means to be kept in the knowledge and assurance of His love for them. Understanding the depth of God’s love is the secret to an overcoming and victorious life.

The love of God is conveyed to us only through Jesus Christ. According to John, all of God’s love dwells in Jesus, and, “we have received all of His fullness.”⁵ It is not enough for us to know that God will always love us. His love must make a difference in the way we live our lives. And the greatest of these is Love. ■

¹ John 8:12

² Mark 12:30-31

³ 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

⁴ 2 Corinthians 13:14

⁵ John 1:16

⁶ World Challenge May 2006



Sandra C. Gray

Dr. Sandra C. Gray
President



A Fellowship Of The Forgiven

We are to love and forgive one another — whether it be a complete stranger or the very closest of friends. That is the way that life works best, and it is certainly the way that living in community reaches its zenith.

Part and parcel to who we are as spiritual beings is the privilege of dwelling in community. As Psalms 133:1 says, "...how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity..." Whether that blessed community comes to us in a church setting, at work, where we went to school, or in our homes, we dare not take Christian fellowship for granted. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes in his book *Life Together*, "...the physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength to the believer..." How we all should celebrate and give thanks to God for the reality of His presence and purpose in the life of Christian community.

This wonderful reality of Christian community is also spoken of in the book of James. "Real wisdom, God's wisdom, begins with a holy life and is characterized by getting along with others. It is gentle and reasonable, overflowing with mercy and blessings, not hot one day and cold the next, not two faced. You can develop a healthy, robust community that lives right with God and enjoy its results only if you do the hard work of getting along with each other, treating each other with dignity and honor." (James 3:17-18, *The Message*)

Now, in this blessed fellowship, there are those times when difficulties and differences arise and make unity a stretch and a strain. As James says, "...do the hard work of getting along...treating each other with dignity and honor." Asbury College alumnus Dr. E. Stanley Jones, class of 1907, said, "Here we enter a fellowship; sometimes we will agree to differ; always we will resolve to love and

unite to serve." This is certainly part of the main core of Christian community: that we would choose to love God first and foremost and then resolve to love others as we love ourselves. This is, as we all know, the greatest commandment and it is also the very basis for a healthy, Christ-centered community. We need to be ones who follow the example of Jesus' life and choose even daily to put others above ourselves and our own self interests.

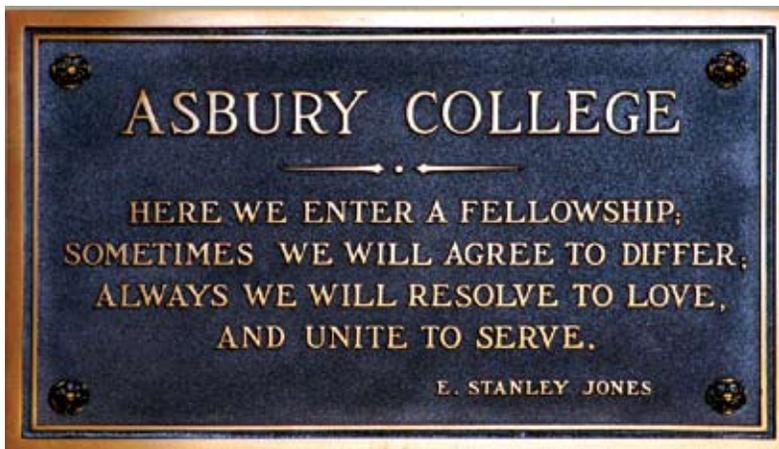
Bonhoeffer says, "As God has been so merciful to us extending forgiveness instead of the judgment we deserve...then, we too, are made ready to forgive all others..." The Christlike and selfless life is one that is motivated to forgive all others because of how much we ourselves have been forgiven. Because of this, members of the community of faith will choose to love and forgive others even before those individuals will think to ask for such a gracious gift. This is such a tremendous example of a truly Christian community for a watching world to see and desire.

I have to pause at this point and say that far too often the watching world has heard more about the Christian community than it has actually seen. This is a sad and tragic testimony for too many communities of faith and life. What an opportunity the Christian community has to show all others the difference that Jesus truly can and does make in the lives and relationships of His modern day disciples. This is where the hard work of getting along is fleshed out in daily life. Certainly, we have all experienced these injuries from others and have had the opportunity to extend the grace and forgiveness of the Lord Jesus. We also have been ones who have needed this from others.

This act of forgiveness is the crucial concept that holds community together. Without forgiveness there can be no true Christian community. We must look again and

“Christian community is not an ideal which we must realize; it is rather a reality created by God in Christ in which we may participate...”

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer



again to the life of Christ. What an example of forgiveness we have in Jesus Himself. Along these lines, Dr. E. Stanley Jones said, “The sublimest prayer that was ever prayed was embodied by the sublimest spirit ever shown, and that was our Lord Jesus when He prayed, ‘Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.’” Dr. Jones went on to say that the distinguishing mark of a Christian is the willingness to forgive injuries and our prayer should be, “Lord I surrender all hurts, all resentments, all retaliation ... Lord, I am free from hatred and resentment and I am free to love both friend and enemy... I am free to forgive, and as I forgive... thank God I am free!”

As I have been blessed to serve the Lord at Asbury College for the past twenty years, I have seen many

examples of love and forgiveness lived out in Christian community. No community is perfect. People have certainly been wounded here at Asbury College. There are times that the institution has asked for and received forgiveness over a situation or a circumstance that harmed someone. An injury, even if in ignorance, is an offense that needs reconciliation and restoration. That is true for individuals and it is equally true for an institution. I thank the Lord for the faithful example of forgiveness that I have witnessed in and through the Asbury community.

I could give account after account of many grace-filled experiences in and around the Asbury community of faith. Even during times of disagreement and discontent, there

has been the over arching banner of God’s love and grace that we share together. Here we do enter a fellowship. And sometimes we will disagree, maybe even vehemently, but always, ALWAYS, we should resolve to love. Forgiveness is key — key for the injured, as well as the one who caused the injury. When this happens, this forgiveness, it is a fellowship of those who love God first and foremost, and love others before themselves. It is the fellowship of those who are “free to forgive” and they “forgive to be free.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, “Christian community is not an ideal which we must realize; it is rather a reality created by God in Christ in which we may participate...” Let us then be the ones who participate with the plan and will of God as we “do the hard work of getting along” so that we each one will be used for the good of all others and for the ultimate glory of our Lord Jesus. Christian community truly is a fellowship of the forgiven. ■

– Rev. Stuart Smith ’77
Associate dean for campus ministries



Finding My Place

When I left Asbury College, I left very well prepared for a career in the medical sciences. I made some wonderful friends along the way, but I certainly didn't leave with a love for Asbury College.

My experience at the College wasn't exactly what I thought it would be – I simply did not feel like I fit in. My opinions were in the minority so I decided very quickly to keep quiet. I felt like the College was trying to shelter me by enclosing me in a protective bubble and that was the last thing I wanted.

My background offered me one perspective and the College another. My parents were missionaries so I lived with my aunt and uncle (also Asbury College alumni) and their family in the States. I went to a city-wide college prep high school with a large population of bright and very diverse students. I was exposed to a wide variety of opinions and discussions. I participated some in the civil rights movement. It was the 1960s and it was a tumultuous time in our history. Martin Luther King, Jr. was sharing his dream with the country just as we were being thrust into the Vietnam War.

It was a tumultuous time on our campus as well. There were four presidents in my four years at the College. It was a very difficult time – or at least it was for me. I felt like I couldn't be who I was but I knew I was to pursue a career in medicine. I loved my science classes and professors. I studied hard and kept my irritations, and what I now recognize as anger, to myself. We were not very tolerant of each other.

Sarcasm and cynicism were my weapons of choice. It wasn't until after I left Asbury that I realized what kind of person I had become. During my years in graduate school and in a wonderful church that was striving to live out God's love in the world of the '60s and '70s, I found a way to grow spiritually and integrate my faith into who I was. I don't think I visited Asbury, nor was I very interested in what was happening on campus. I knew I had received a good education but was hurt and disconnected.

Several years later, my husband and I returned to Kentucky. We both obtained faculty positions at the University of Kentucky and began attending the Wilmore United Methodist Church. Every time we passed the College, all of the old animosity returned. However, I began to wonder about my college classmates. I cared about my friends and there were those who still cared about me. In time, those enduring fellowships brought me back to the campus to discover that as I had grown and changed, so had the College.

It was after our 25th class reunion that I finally understood that I could be myself and enjoy seeing my old friends – all of them! I am just so impressed with their achievements, accomplishments and commitment to showing God's love in the world. God has used them in such varied ways. It makes me proud that Shirley Culver '67 DeWolf has Desmond Tutu on her speed dial as she continues to work in Africa. And I know that Morris Hintzman '67 founded Metro Ministries in Florida to assist homeless and needy families. The list goes on. I am so impressed with how God works in the lives of so many Asburians who are committed to Him.

“I knew I had received a good education but I was hurt and disconnected.”

– Mary Vore '68



A few years ago, I was surprised and very pleased to be asked to serve on the Alumni Board. It was a wonderful experience that allowed me to see and understand even more how much I had changed, and how much the College had changed. The College’s mission statement says to “engage cultures and advance the cause of Christ around the world.” I can see this being lived out in the lives of alumni, faculty, staff and current students. My dream for Asbury College is a student body of diverse opinions, races and backgrounds, debating, talking and all striving to find their place and role in this world to serve God and act out His love.

I can now be my true self when I visit the College. I can speak with great pleasure to the science majors and meet members of the Alumni Board to discuss current issues. I am truly proud of the College and where it wants to go and be. ■

– Mary Vore '68, Ph.D.,
professor and director of the
Graduate Center for Toxicology
at the University of Kentucky



What Could God Want From Us?

Excerpts from student-led revival chapel services, *The Pursuit*

God Pursuing Humankind

What could God want from us? Love. Love is the foundation of God. God is love. God created man to love, and just as much as we have fallen into sin and death, God has fallen deeper and deeper in love with us! God is not dormant, my friends. He does not sit on His throne of Heaven and wait for us to come to Him with the correct sacrifices, the right words, the right postures or the right righteousness we can conjure up. God comes out to us! In the story of the Prodigal Son, the father does not wait for the son to come to him and make his own appeals, then, thinking it over, decides reluctantly to forgive his son. NO! The father stands expectantly at the gate of the house, looking urgently over all the land. He is searching the roads, looking for even the slightest shadow or hint of his son's return. And when that glorious hour comes, the father, seeing the faintest outline of his son on the horizon, with all the speed and intensity he could muster, runs out to his son, embraces him and brings him home in celebration. Why? LOVE! The love of the Father for each and every one of us today is the exact same thing. He stands at the brink of your life, looking ever so longingly that you might make one turn toward Him, choose to desire Him yet again. And then, seeing your muddled and bruised face looking up, He swoops down with the speed of lightning to capture again your heart and set you free into new life!

God comes out to us. God holds nothing back! Now we see the light. Love. The things we have always wanted aren't in the things we have been chasing, but in the One who has been chasing us!

– Dan Baer '08

Vice president for spiritual life (Student Congress)



“And then, seeing your muddied and bruised face looking up, He swoops down with the speed of lightning to capture again your heart and set you free!”

– Dan Baer '08





What Could God Want From Us?

Excerpts from student-led revival chapel services, *The Pursuit*

Humankind Pursuing God

When I think of pursuit, the illustration that comes to my mind most distinctly is little kids. Throughout high school, I spent three years working in a day care center. Now let me tell you, they were a wild bunch — except for this one little guy, Evan. He wasn't your typical boy. While most of the boys were hitting each other, climbing up slides and breaking all the rules, Evan just wanted to be held.

One day I was holding him and all of a sudden I heard Evan's dad say, "Evan." Now, if you've ever held a little kid when they don't want to be held anymore, you know what they do. They lift up their arms and they just slide through your arms. So I was holding Evan and he did that — he slid right through my arms. I'm a tall guy, so Evan falls two or three feet to the ground. In an instant, he was back up, running to his dad who was standing there with his arms open wide.

I don't know if you've ever had the privilege of seeing that embrace, but there's this energy between a parent and a child. There is something that is unmistakable;

yet it is unidentifiable; something between them that you can't even describe. Heaven help the little kid that's in Evan's way on his path to his dad. Simply, he loves his dad and knows his dad loves him.

Why do we pursue God? We pursue God because He first pursued us. God, as our heavenly father and creator, loved us first. There really would be no reason to love God unless He loved us first. He created us for this pursuit of love.

But some of us don't want to pursue God. There are things that get in the way of truly seeking Him. At our very essence, we want that relationship with God. When it comes to actually putting that love in the works, we really don't want the relationship badly enough to pursue Him with all our hearts. When we are broken of ourselves and in our sin, that's when we're ready to do what it takes to truly pursue God.

Many of us have not yet fully acknowledged that God loves us — and that gets in the way of us loving Him. That is something I struggle with a lot. I can't say that I've had the best relationship with

my dad. My parents have been divorced since I can remember. In about the 7th or 8th grade, I made the decision to stop talking to my dad. He tried, but I just ignored him. I figured if it couldn't be a great relationship, then I might as well not have it at all.

During my first semester at Asbury, God was trying to teach me a really big lesson on forgiveness. I felt God saying, "Forgive your dad." So, for the first time in five years, I sent him a letter. It was one of those letters that you really don't want to send because you know you've made a mistake. Since then, we've been working on our relationship.

Last summer, I agreed to see my dad during Thanksgiving. At this point, if you've done the math, I hadn't seen him for about seven years. To be honest, I was nervous. It was really awkward at first, but the week was good. It was really great to spend time with him. As I was about to leave, my dad said, "Tristan, I love you. And I'm so proud of the man that you've become. I never want to spend so much time away from you ever again."

“We have to realize that our value and worth come from God loving us.
God doesn’t love us because we have value and worth.”

— Tristan Fretwell '09



I remember hearing that and thinking that for the first time I really accepted and acknowledged that my dad loved me. I cried for the first 30 minutes of the flight – not tears of sadness or regret, but tears of joy.

I believe God really loves us and He wants us to acknowledge that love. I have to acknowledge that God pursues me. Pursuing God is the answer our spirit accepts and produces when we accept and acknowledge that God first pursued us. We need to realize that our

value and worth come from God loving us. God doesn’t love us because we have value and worth.

In Philippians 3:12, it says, “not that I’ve already obtained all of this or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that which Christ Jesus took hold of me.” I love that Paul doesn’t say, “I walk toward God.” He says, “I press on,” which means he’s pressing against something. We live in a world that is constantly pressing against us, telling us not to pursue God. Press on. ■

—Tristan Fretwell '09, Student Ambassador

Uprooted Faith



Biloxi, Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast

“That was the day my faith withered, choked and nearly died.”

—Heidi Raass '97 Spencer

The phone rang loudly amidst the sounds of packing tape being swiped across boxes and the shouts of our movers' voices. Nearly five months pregnant with our second child, I stumbled over the contents of my bedroom closet, now strewn across the floor, as I dashed to take the call. Our doctor's voice greeted me. “The results from your amniocentesis have come back,” she said. “Unfortunately, the child you are carrying has Down syndrome.”

I barely remember the rest of the conversation as I repeated the words, “Down syndrome,” to my husband, William “Spence” '96 Spencer, who stood silently next to me. In addition to this chromosomal abnormality, our baby boy had two large holes in his heart. Only open heart surgery would save his life upon birth. That is, if we chose to keep him.

“You can terminate,” the doctor continued. “Many people in this situation choose that option. It's probably best.” It is amazing how one short phone call can change a life. Thoughts of the handicapped bus that would take him to school, a college education that would never be, a life destined for words like “special needs,” and taunting children who would ridicule him as “different” flooded my mind. And yet, I knew what was right. “No,” I said, tearfully. “We will keep our baby.” That was the day my faith withered, choked and nearly died.

In the book of Mark, Jesus recounts the parable of the four soils. Seed scattered on rocky ground dies, He says, and so it was with me. My lack of faith surprised even me.

This news of our second child's condition came one hot, Florida, August day in 2004. The very next day we moved across the state for Spence to start a new career as an active-duty United States Air Force chaplain. I tried

to remain upbeat and positive for our healthy firstborn daughter who, though three years old, could sense the sadness in her parents. Meanwhile, I prayed earnestly for the baby I carried, but didn't sense anyone on the other side was hearing me. I begged the God I had always known to heal our baby or just show up in some way, some how. Yet the doctor's reports were always bad and God's faithfulness seemed, at best, like a distant memory.



Baby Samuel in the neonatal intensive care unit

In December, our son, Samuel David Spencer, was born with a head full of peach-blond hair and brilliant blue eyes. He was truly beautiful — so handsome we almost denied the fact that he had a severe congenital heart defect and a chromosomal abnormality. However, one day into his life, he turned blue and was whisked from our hands into the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Shands Hospital at the University of Florida.

The NICU was a place we would call home for the next month. We celebrated Christmas at Samuel's bedside and rang in the New Year to the sound of beeping heart monitors. It wasn't long before all of our options had been exhausted and we were told Sam needed his open-heart



Uprooted Faith *Continued*

surgery immediately. In mid January, Samuel was flown by air ambulance to Miami Children's Hospital for surgery the following day.

As we kissed him goodbye at the operating room doors, I once again begged a God I hoped was listening to spare Sam's life. I didn't know how I could handle losing this tiny 5-pound miracle that had made it so far.

That was the day my rocky faith found good soil.

The six-hour operation was a success. The surgeon was able to repair his heart and Sam would live. I whispered a prayer of gratitude to Jesus. He had heard my cries.

Upon bringing Samuel home, the Air Force announced it was moving us yet again to Biloxi, Mississippi, after only seven months in our previous assignment. With a fragile newborn and a resilient three-year-old, Spence and I repacked and moved again.

Though it was unexpected, we loved living in Mississippi. The chapel staff on base was strong, and their faith in Jesus was contagious. Of course, as a chaplain's wife, I hid my struggles to keep the faith. Though I could talk the talk, I was just beginning the road of raising a child with special needs. I could not understand how such a big God could be so silent in the presence of my suffering.

That August, the suffering of not only my world, but the world of the Gulf Coast, was magnified. In late August 2005, we realized that Hurricane Katrina was headed straight for Biloxi, and we evacuated hours before the first winds hit our shores. The hurricane devastated our entire

community. Seventy percent of the base was damaged, and most of our friends lost their homes.

We were among the fortunate few. Our house, though damaged, still stood. It stood enough for us to live in so we could offer a hand to our neighbors in much worse conditions. That's when I dug down deep and my faith finally took root. While I felt that Jesus had left during one tragedy, a year later a new understanding of God began to reemerge.

This time God looked different than I had remembered. He was a little older, a little weathered, a little more resilient and, perhaps, a little more real. I became the hands of Jesus as Spence and I comforted a woman standing in front of her collapsed home. I saw Jesus in action while watching Spence lead dozens of Airmen in clearing away piles of debris day after day in our community.

I saw Jesus in the face of my neighbor's 10-year-old daughter as she and I sifted through her doll collection, now soiled and mildewed, in her bedroom where the ceiling had caved in. "At least my family is okay," she said bravely. I found Jesus through my own daughter's tears when she realized her pre-school had been destroyed, and she boldly said, "God will rebuild my school, Mommy."

In 2006, nearly a year after Katrina's aftermath, Spence and I stood at his 10-year Asbury College reunion, marveling at the dozens of smiling faces around us. I didn't feel like smiling. In addition to dealing with a special needs son and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, we had recently moved, yet again, to Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. In addition to our move, I had just discovered I was

“I wondered if the smiles of my former college mates were genuine, or if their faith had faltered on rocky ground like mind had.”

—Heidi Raass '97 Spencer

pregnant again, only to miscarry a month later — just days before the college reunion. I wondered if the smiles of my former college mates were genuine, or if their faith had faltered on rocky ground like mind had. Everyone looked so perfect and seemed to “have it all together.”

Late one evening Spence and I chatted with a couple we had known in college. The husband reminded us that he had a sister with special needs, and he and his wife shared their family’s struggles with this situation. It was comforting to hear an honest, “mask-free” discussion from other Asburians regarding the challenges of life. The next day I sat on the College’s semi-circle with another dear friend discussing her battle with infertility.

Perhaps I wasn’t the only one to have rocky faith with fledgling roots. Perhaps this kind of faith could still make a difference for Christ.

Not long after the Asbury reunion, a Colonel on base came to Spence for counseling and, through a series of circumstances, found Christ. As she sat at my kitchen table months after her conversion, this woman, now a dear friend of ours, said to us, “You know, Heidi, I would have never approached Spence for counseling if it weren’t for your son, Sam. I knew Spence could understand my pain because of what you two have experienced. I am a Christian today because you two have walked the road of suffering and have honestly shared about it.”



Spencer Family with the addition of their healthy baby boy, Thomas Raass, born Nov. 8, 2007.

Filled with joy and tears, I realized my confusion, doubt, lack of faith and our painful quest to recapture what we thought was lost, had actually made a difference. This messy and “not-so-together” faith — had not only sprouted roots, it was yielding a harvest. ■

—Heidi Raass '97 Spencer
Director of special needs ministries at Fairhaven Church



The Beauty and Hope of Holiness at Asbury

As people are seated in Hughes Auditorium on the campus of Asbury College, their attention is directed immediately to the words above the organ, “Holiness unto the Lord.” This statement is rooted in Asbury’s Wesleyan Holiness tradition and is at the very core of Asbury’s spiritual and institutional identity. While the meaning of “Holiness unto the Lord” is not immediately clear without a greater context in which to understand it, these words point to a beautiful possibility and hope in the present life. As such, let us take a moment to explore the reality to which it points.

To begin, we recognize the deepest longing of the human heart is to be fully God’s. Within each of us is the desire to love God without reservation, to live in faithful obedience to Him, and to give ourselves selflessly in love and service to other people, just as Christ did. This is the human yearning for holiness.

Every Christian knows this longing. It wells up inside of us at different times and in various ways. It comes to us in quiet moments of personal devotion or public worship when our souls experience God’s holy presence. It arises in moments of frustration when our best intentions to follow Christ falter and we fail God once again. It comes to us in moments of weariness from the unresolved conflict between our sinful impulses and the desire to follow God’s will. And it arises in moments when we serve others but recognize our service is motivated by selfish ambitions. Time and again, as we go through life, our heart’s cry for holiness comes to the fore.

This longing should not come as any shock to us. In explaining the two greatest commandments and the summation of Old Testament law, Jesus taught that we are created by God to love God with all of our being and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Holiness is “nothing more and nothing less” than the fulfillment of Jesus’ teaching here. We are made to give ourselves to God and other

people in love. Because we are made in the image and likeness of God, even though marred by sin, we are capable by God’s grace of reflecting divine love and walking in the righteousness of love. This longing is the way we are “wired” as human beings.

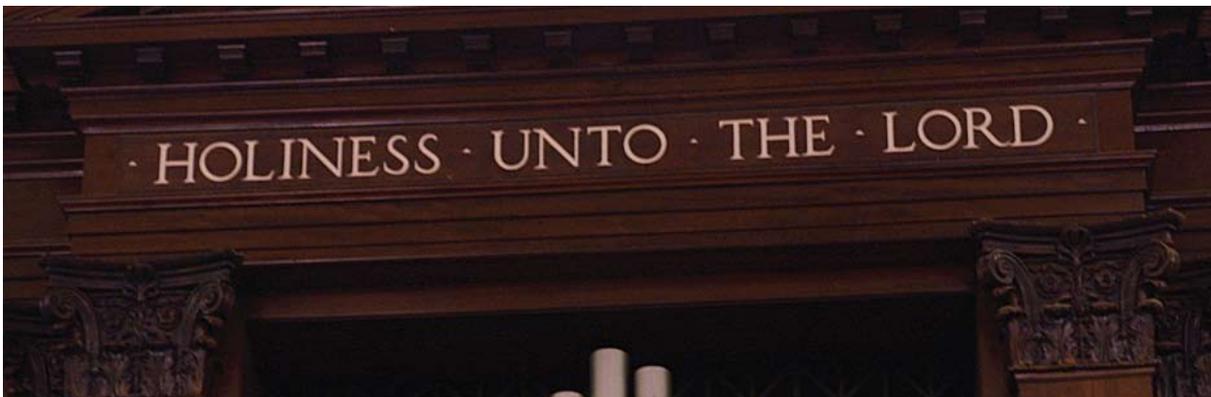
However, we recognize immediately the disparity between our internal motivations, outward actions and the holiest desires of our heart. While we may see love as our life’s purpose, we also know the apparent impossibility of fully walking in that love. Because of human sinfulness, the natural bent or proclivity of our heart is to love ourselves more than God and neighbor. While we may have a desire to love and serve God, our desire to please ourselves is stronger. As such, holy love does not come easily to us, but with great struggle. We naturally balk at the righteous requirements of love. Even when we want to serve God and to give ourselves selflessly to others, when “the rubber hits the road,” we falter all too often.

As Christians, therefore, we find ourselves in a frustrating predicament. One part of us longs to give ourselves completely to God and others in love, while another part, propelled by the natural inclination of our heart, seeks our own selfish ends. As such, we find that we do not have the internal power and resources to truly follow Christ. No amount of human will power can bring about the love for which we are made. We may desire to be a Christian, but not have the power to live the life to which we are called. We may desire to follow Christ in love, but not have the wherewithal to do so.

At this point a question must be asked. Is there something God can do in our present lives to liberate the holiest longings of our heart? Is there grace available through the life, death, resurrection, and exaltation of Jesus Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that can heal the distorted conditions of our lives?

“We are made to give ourselves to God and other people in love.”

—Dr. Chris Bounds '88



Even if we don't believe holy love is possible in our present lives, we must admit the idea is attractive. The prospect of a life defined by self-giving love of God and neighbor, which is the essence of holiness, is deeply beautiful. This is even more true for those who are confronted continually with their own depth of sin and grow exhausted with the ongoing internal war between “flesh” and “Spirit,” for those who yearn to be fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ, yet lack the inner resources to be so, and for those who long for the full manifestation of the fruit of the Spirit in their lives. To resolve the conflict of a divided life seems admittedly like a glorious dream and a stunning answer to our heart's prayer.

However, what if the holiest longings of our heart can be realized in our present life? What if God makes possible the exchange of our “bent toward sinning” with a propensity to love God and neighbor, empowering us to walk in the righteousness of love? Wouldn't we want to take advantage of it? The good news of Jesus Christ is God can set us free to love.

Asbury College, and the Wesleyan Holiness tradition of which she is a part, stands in a long line of historic witnesses within the Church of Jesus Christ that has believed,

proclaimed, and helped people enter into this experience of holiness. Over the course of her life, Asbury has called this work of God's grace “Christian perfection,” “perfect love,” “baptism of the Holy Spirit,” “full salvation,” “entire sanctification,” “the deeper Christian life,” and “fullness of the Spirit.” However, no name is as important as the reality to which it points. Thankfully, Asbury continues to stand as a beacon of hope for the realization of our heart's holiest desires in the present life and to assist us in the experience of it.

Because of Asbury College's optimism in God's healing grace for our lives, because she believes God enables holy living, she places the statement “Holiness unto the Lord” front and center of her spiritual and institutional life, as seen in Hughes Auditorium. This declaration and confession is not a source of pride, but a humble witness to the power of God “to save to the uttermost,” and an exhortation to struggling Christians to believe God to bring about the deepest longing of the human heart. By God's grace, may the message of holiness at Asbury College continue to be a means of God's transforming grace in the lives of all she touches. ■

—Dr. Chris Bounds '88
Associate professor of theology at
Indiana Wesleyan University
Trustee, Asbury College

Love Poured Out



“As President, I extend the hand of fellowship and unity to each of you.”

—Dr. Sandra C. Gray

The Gospel of John, Chapter 12, illustrates an abandoned, selfless love in the story of Mary of Bethany. You will recall just before Passover, at a dinner in Jesus’ honor, Mary took a jar of very expensive perfume, anointed and massaged Jesus’ feet, and then wiped His feet with her hair. Scripture says the house was filled with the fragrance of perfume.

As President of Asbury College, my desire is that we allow the love of Jesus to penetrate and fill our spirit such that the overflow would spill out and the fragrance fill “our house.” The result of this love exchange, Jesus’ love in us and our love being poured out to Him, is that love will flow to others. It is my prayer that Asbury College will be known as a place where love abounds. This is the mark of one who deeply loves Jesus. And ... this is the mark of an institution that is seeking to live the Spirit-filled life. If we do not FIRST love, then our influence in every other way is compromised. When the disciples asked Jesus which of the commandments was the most important, His response was, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your mind and all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than this.” (Mark 12:30-31)

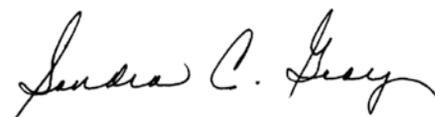
Over the years, there no doubt have been circumstances and occasions in which the fragrance on campus has not been pleasing; words were spoken and actions taken that were hurtful. There are those who feel alienated

from and even abandoned by the Asbury fellowship. Any unkind or critical spirit, or lack of love one for another is not in keeping with Christ’s example and word to us in how we are to relate to one another. As President, I extend the hand of fellowship and unity to each of you. I am discovering more each day of the treasure that is ours as Asburians. We need each other, and Christ needs us to be in harmony and fellowship with one another. We need not agree on everything, but we must agree to love. Most will recall the words of E. Stanley Jones at the entrance of Hughes auditorium: “Here we enter a fellowship; sometimes we will agree to differ; always we will resolve to love, and unite to serve.”

My commitment to you, our alumni and friends, is that with God’s help we will be an institution that always resolves to love. Giving expression to love is not an option if we are to live the life Christ calls us to live. This is embedded in our doctrinal statement and theological position and is what we teach.

The more we love, the greater is our work. Our commitment to academic excellence and spiritual vitality depends upon it and the Kingdom of God depends upon it.

May the fragrance of love poured out fill this place. ■



Dr. Sandra C. Gray
President

The Pursuit; Student-led revival

Asbury College held its first **student-led revival** in March. “Our main focus is God’s passionate pursuit of us in His love, grace and mercy and our response and devoted pursuit of Him through humility and sacrifice,” said **Dan Baer ’08, vice president for spiritual life**. The theme, “The Pursuit,” is taken from Philippians 3:12. Services were held during chapel Monday and Wednesday, along with evening services. Members of the revival week taskforce included: **Dan Baer, David Brenneman ’10, Kathy Connolly ’09, Christy Humason ’10, Sarah McQueen ’09 and Emily Moore ’08.**



17 Students and 12 countries

This summer the **Asbury Initiative Grant** program will send 17 students to 12 countries for six–eight weeks on an all-expenses paid, international internship. In its fifth year, the Grant has sent more than 60 students to developing countries all over the world. Students participating this summer are: **Stephen Brooks ’09, Columbia; Angela Burns ’09, India; Caitlyn Chesney ’10, India; Janna Dongell ’08, Romania; Samantha Hargett ’10, South Africa; Sharon Holonia ’08, India; Rebecca Kempton ’09, Romania; Brook Lombardi ’08, Dominican Republic; Rebecca Lyons ’08, Thailand; Kayla Mangrich ’09, South Korea; Sarah McKeown ’10, South Africa; Christina Nelson ’08, Kenya; Timothy Parker ’08, Peru; Scott Simon ’09, Nepal; Emily Stevens ’09, China; Kristin Vance ’08, Malawi; and Rebekah Witzer ’09, China.**

Asbury College campus in Orlando

ACHIEVE, Asbury College’s adult degree completion program, is partnering with the Asbury Theological Seminary to use their campus in Orlando. During the next academic year 2008-09, the College plans to offer three **ACHIEVE** programs in Orlando with hopes of adding more in the future. This new opportunity is the College’s next step in extending the mission and influence of the institution, as well as growing enrollment. The programs to be offered in Orlando are management and ethics, leadership and ministry, and elementary education. This partnership will enable our degree completion students to receive a bachelor’s degree and feed directly into the Seminary or other graduate programs. For more information about the **ACHIEVE** program, visit www.asbury.edu/achieve.



INSTITUTIONAL

Asbury College launches associate arts degree program for 2008

Asbury College announces a new associate in arts degree program beginning fall 2008. For an associate degree, students must complete 60 semester hours and retain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average. A student who completes an associate degree can easily transfer credits to other institutions. This degree is especially beneficial for those who wish to receive a spiritual foundation at Asbury College then complete their degree in a program not currently offered by the College. The required 60 hours will consist of 39 hours of general education requirements and 21 hours of an emphasis from any one of Asbury College's 37 offered minors.



ASBURY COLLEGE

Master of Social Work

College launches MSW program

Asbury College is developing a master of social work program with fall 2008 as the target launch. The College will be one of only four institutions in the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities to offer this degree. "When the idea was proposed, we said if any Christian College in the U.S. were to develop a graduate program in social work, there was no question that it should be Asbury College," said Dr. Bill Descoteaux '72, director of the College's MSW program. "Asbury College's heritage of holiness of heart and life is a rock solid foundation for social work education."

The mission of the Asbury College MSW Program arises from a belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all persons. This belief is sustained by the College's commitment to historic orthodox Christianity as expressed in the Wesleyan tradition's core emphases on personal and social holiness, resulting in love for all persons individually and for the world, with particular concern for the poor, the vulnerable and the exploited; a passion to seek justice and an understanding that God's grace provides all persons with transforming potential. Graduates will be prepared for theologically informed advanced social work practice in national and global contexts that is agency or church-based.

The social work mission is to respond to the brokenness of the world within individuals, relationships, groups and communities. As Christians, we know God has a special concern for those who are hurting and have social, emotional and material needs.

Descoteaux said, "Many problems experienced with individuals or groups are the result of disconnectedness with people, groups and the social institutions that we all live within and are a part of."

Social work seeks to improve and strengthen the fit of the social environment and persons so that people have the support needed to become the persons God intends. The profession grew out of the church and her response to the Gospel imperative to care for the vulnerable. Descoteaux said, "Our Wesleyan understanding that God desires to restore us to a relationship of whole-hearted, perfect love for Him is always demonstrated socially in loving our neighbors. As we have experienced grace, we will extend grace to those around us. Personal holiness always translates into a social holiness and this has been an underlying dynamic within the Christian church and especially within the Wesleyan Holiness movement."

The master of social work program is full-time.

Applicants are not required to have an undergraduate degree in social work. The program will teach social work knowledge, skills and values, as well as provide internships in churches and social service agencies. All of the professors have graduate degrees in social work and experience in the social work field. **To learn more, contact Dr. Descoteaux at msw@asbury.edu.**

Asbury College announces new registrar

Asbury College announces **Bill Hall, Jr. '91** as the new registrar. Hall, formerly the learning resources manager at the College, will transition into this new position during the spring semester. His duties as registrar include ensuring the integrity of the academic credits given and degrees earned by providing administrative supervision of the registrar's office. **Dr. Timothy L. Thomas** remains as the associate academic dean of the College.

Stuart Smith to take on new responsibilities

Campus Chaplain **Stuart Smith '77** is taking on new challenges beginning July 1, 2008. After a 20-year career in student development and campus ministries, Smith will be joining the office of institutional advancement. Vice President for Institutional Advancement **Greg Swanson '78** said, "We are so pleased to welcome Rev. Smith as part of our team. He has made a tremendous impact in the lives of our current students and alumni as campus chaplain. This new role gives him the opportunity to reconnect and build new relationships with alumni and friends of the College by working to advance Asbury College and provide opportunities for future students."

The Collegian recognized at KIPA

The **Collegian** won 35 awards at the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association's (KIPA) annual awards ceremony this year. First place winners included: feature story, **Michaela Lee Riley '08**; feature photo, **Brooke Collins '07**; investigative reporting, **Anna Haggard '09**; deadline writing contest, **Anna Haggard '09**; copy editing deadline contest, **Matthew Tidman '08**; editorials, Collegian Staff; house ad, Collegian Staff; advertising campaign, Collegian Staff; sports game story, **Tyler Young '08**; and sports feature story, **Tyler Young '08**.

ACADEMICS

Hansel and Gretel

The music and theatre departments combined efforts to produce *Hansel and Gretel*, an opera by Engleburt Humperdink, in February. The leads were **Megan Parker '09** as Gretel and **Kristen Reynolds '08** as Hansel.

This production was co-produced by **Professor Jeff Day** and **Dr. Beatrice Holz**.



Math Modeling

This Valentine's Day, 15 Asbury College students had a date with a model—a math model that is. Five teams participated in the **Mathematical Contest in Modeling** that proposes real-world questions for college students to find mathematical solutions. The questions range from plotting the propagation of the AIDS virus in Africa to finding the most efficient way to move passengers through security at La Guardia International Airport. Asbury College has participated in the modeling contest since 1987. Results will be posted on the College's website.



Professor honored in Hong Kong

Hong Kong Baptist University recognized **Jim Owens '79**, a professor of media communication at Asbury College, for his assistance in involving HKBU as an **official Olympic Broadcast Training Center** for the Beijing Olympics. Owens taught workshops at the University to prepare the students for the Olympic Games. HKBU is a sister institution of Asbury College and participates in a student exchange program with the College. HKBU is home to approximately 6,000 full-time students. Asbury College media communications students have been working the Olympic Games since 1984. A group of 50 current students head to Beijing this summer.

Asbury Students learn Chinese

Zheng Yanhong and **Liu Yuan** are spending the year in the United States **teaching Mandarin** to elementary, middle and high school students in the Jessamine County school district, as well as at the College as part of the world languages department. Many of the Asbury students enrolled in Chinese courses are headed to Beijing this summer to broadcast the Olympics. **Stephanie Craker '08** voluntarily taught Chinese last year to more than 70 students. Chinese classes were added in fall 2007.



Student presents at UK art museum

Art student Jodie Nichols '09 presented **Rembrandt: The Translation of a Personal Faith into Visual Art** at the University of Kentucky Art Museum's "Art at Noon" lecture series. Nichols spoke Jan. 9, 2008 at the art museum.

Media Com student wins prestigious CINE award

Whit Bussey, a media communications major, won a prestigious **CINE Golden Eagle Award** for his film "Wherever You Go." This film was co-produced by Brock Smith '08.



A "Super Bowl" success

Asbury College alumnus **Justin Ladd '07** does a better voice over for Justin Timberlake than the pop star himself. Or at least that's what was determined for a recent Pepsi commercial premiered for the 2008 Super Bowl. Ladd, who works as an assistant producer at Nomad Editing in Santa Monica, Calif., was asked

to "fill-in" for Justin Timberlake as his company edited together the commercial. Ladd's voice was later supposed to be replaced with Timberlake's. However, the agents from Pepsi decided that they liked Ladd's impersonation better than Timberlake's actual voice and kept the original edit.



Ichthus, June 11-14

Asbury College, the college sponsor of Ichthus, will house campus guests, host a dodgeball tournament with the band Alabaster Box and audition hundreds of vocalists for a chance to perform live on Main Stage. Don't forget to bring your youth group to the Asbury College tent and get a free tee!



Don't miss the Asbury College **centennial reunion** scheduled for **June 19-21** with **special reunions** for the **art department** and **The Salvation Army**. See the reunion brochure insert.

Senior "Actor of the Year" has big plans

Senior **Mitch Colley** is a successful aspiring actor at Asbury College who competed against more than 5,000 actors to win the title, **Actor of the Year** at the International Model and Talent Association in Los Angeles. Colley said, "Everything I learned and applied in the L.A. competition, I learned from **Jeff Day** [assistant

professor of theatre]. I made it to L.A. because of Asbury College's theater and cinema performance program and the hands-on training and experience with Professor Day."

ROTC program continues to grow

Asbury College, in partnership with the University of Kentucky, continues to offer an opportunity for current students to consider a career in either the Army or the Air Force. In a **ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corps)** program of approximately 60 students across Central Kentucky, the College is the number one producer of Army chaplains and hopes to grow this number even more. Opportunities for scholarships, stipends and free room and board are available. For more information, contact the admissions office at admissions@asbury.edu.

ATHLETICS

For more information on athletics, visit www.asbury.edu/athletics.

McCullough to coach softball program



Asbury College announced **Larry McCullough** as the new head coach of the reinstated **softball program**. The program will compete nationally in the NAIA and on the conference level in the KAC. Coach McCullough is

currently recruiting the new softball team. The team's first game will be Feb. 15, 2009.



Baseball

The **baseball team** opened their season on February 16 in a doubleheader against Taylor University. On Feb. 25, the team earned its first win against Cedarville University, 9-5. At press time, the team's record is 4-7 with wins against Georgetown, Atlanta Christian and Southern Polytechnic. The team consists of 30 members, including 23 freshmen who signed in conjunction with the reinstatement of the program.



Basketball (Men's & Women's)

Asbury College hosted the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference men's and women's basketball tournaments, Feb. 28-Mar. 1. The women ended their season at 13-16 for the year. Junior **Anna Stephenson** was named to the KIAC All-Conference team. **Michael Spann, Ben Spann** and **Brett Johnson** were named to the KIAC All-Conference team. Senior **Derek**

Bland and junior **Michael Spann** each topped the 1,000-point mark for their careers during the season, marking the 11th and 12th members of the 1,000-point club for men's basketball. The men went on to capture the NCCAA Mid East Region title against Oakland City and competed in the NCCAA tournament.



Swimming & Diving

Head coach **Dorothy Kempf** was recognized as the NAIA Women's National Coach of the Year. At the NAIA **Swimming & Diving** Championships in San Antonio, Texas, the College finished sixth among women's teams and ninth in the men's while capturing two individual national championships: senior **Caitlynn Taylor** in diving and junior **Matt Hood** in swimming.

Tennis

The men's and women's tennis teams kicked off the season. Under the direction of **David Merrill**, the team plays with returning seniors **Mike Newlin, Jeremy Duncan** and **Brittany Richardson**.

FACULTY

English

Dr. Chuck Gobin, chair of the English department, presented his paper, "Carnivalized Truth: Parodic Portraits in Books One and Two of Pope's *Dunciad*" at the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies meeting.

Professor of English **Devin Brown** was a keynote speaker at the Conference of the Kentucky Council of Teachers of English and Language Arts. Brown's book, *Inside Prince Caspian*, was recently published in preparation for the release of the movie, **Prince Caspian**. Brown has been invited to be a seminar leader for a one-week seminar at the Oxford home of C.S. Lewis, as well.



Professor of English **Daniel Strait** published "Making Room at McSorley's Wonderful Saloon" in *The Chesterton Review*.

Dr. Marcia Hurlow, professor of English and journalism, won the Backwards City Review Press chapbook award for her collection of poems. In addition, Nimrod accepted "Une Pomme de Discorde" and The Great American Poetry Show accepted "To What Habit Do You Attribute the Longevity of Your Marriage."

Art

Dr. Linda Stratford, chair of the art department, conducted a module on art and faith over the Christmas Break for Impact 360, an evangelical organization based in Atlanta, Ga., which equips college-age students with Christian perspectives on a variety of fields.

Christian Ministries and Missions

Dr. John Morley '84, instructor for Christian ministries and missions, presented, "Creating an Environment for Growth: Using Classical Spiritual Disciplines to Meet the Postmodern Generation" at the Ivy Jungle campus ministry national conference.

World Languages

Prof. Rachel Coleman, instructor of Spanish, has three articles in print: "A Return to Sabbath Rest," published in *Women at the Well*, "Gracia sobre gracia," published in *Bendiciones*, and "Scripture and Community: A Gracious Gift from God," published in *High Calling*.

Music

The Asbury College Concert Choir and the Collegium Musicum Vocal Ensemble presented a concert as part of **The Cathedral Series** at Christ the King church in Lexington. The choirs combined to sing Gregorio Allegri's 17th century setting of the *Miserere* (Psalm 51), originally sung by the Papal Choir of the Sistine Chapel during Holy Week. **Dr. Bea Holz**, professor of music education and voice, and **Dr. Vicki Bell**, professor of music theory, directed these choirs.

Education

Lexington Leadership Foundation honored **Prof. Roszaly Akins**, instructor of education, as a Street Saint for her work with African American male students at Leestown Middle School.

Dr. Linda Young, professor of education, with daughter, Christine, presented, "Beyond Grease: The American Musical Brings Literacy to Life in the Classroom," at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention in New York City.

Behavioral Sciences

Dr. Michael Cuckler, instructor of sociology, defended his doctoral dissertation titled, "Examining Effective Church Outreach to Boomers, Xers and Millennials."

Prof. Steve Dawson, assistant professor of social work, presented "Caregiving for Caregivers" at Asbury Theological Seminary.

HPERA

Dr. Rita Pritchett '69, associate professor of physical education, presented "Interscholastic Athletics: What's our Goal?" to the Association of Christian Schools International Convention. She was also the keynote speaker at the College's annual women's retreat held in February.

Administration

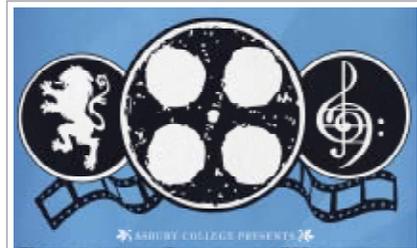
Dr. Mark Troyer, vice president for student development, was the keynote speaker at the Association for Christian Schools International's conference for International School Administrators in Panang, Malaysia.

STAY CONNECTED.

Online Community To Launch Summer '08

- Search the alumni directory
- Get an @asburyalumni.org email address
- Share stories, updates and prayer requests
- Register for special events
- Create your own personal page
- Participate in group discussions and blogs
- View giving history and make secure gifts online

This summer we're introducing an interactive online community, an easy and fun way for you to stay connected — with former roommates, classmates, professors and the College. So look for more information. Funding for this project is being provided by the Alumni Reunion Class Gift.



ENGAGING CULTURE WEEKEND

April 24-26, 2008

Thursday, April 24: **Spring Classics Concert** with composer Bruce Broughton, Hughes Auditorium, 7:30 pm ; "Aslan" Student Art Show, Student Center, 4 pm.

Friday, April 25: **Narnia Night**, celebrating Prince Caspian, Hughes Auditorium, 7 pm. Admission is free and open to the public.

Saturday, April 26: **The Fourth Annual Highbridge Film Festival**, Hughes Auditorium, 7 pm. Tickets are \$5 per person.

The Engaging Culture Weekend is made possible by the Lilly Grant, many generous sponsors, Professor Greg Bandy '76 and the Special Events Class at Asbury College, the Communication Arts, Music and Art Departments.

For more information, visit:

Narnia Night Online:
www.asbury.edu/cslewis

Highbridge Film Festival Online:
www.highbridgefilmfestival.com

Shaping their Future

What I enjoy most about my service at Asbury College are the opportunities I have to interact with students, parents and alumni. I love listening to them share their fond memories of professors, classmates, chapel services, the Dine-A-Mite restaurant, the “rules” (and how they bent them), missions trips, class ball, athletics, musicals and so much more. I also thank the Lord that I get to hear story after story of how God has used Asburians to transform lives.

To celebrate God’s faithfulness, we put together a short video that highlights some memorable moments throughout our history. You can watch the video online at www.asbury.edu/development/through-years.

Like Dr. Gray, I believe the Lord has great plans for the future of Asbury College. We are an institution with a God-ordained mission that can affect eternity. We’re continually challenging our students to see their learning, not as an end in itself, but as part of a calling to bring God’s amazing grace into a deeply hurting world.

It is from this deep love for our mission and our students that I ask for support from the Asbury College family. First and foremost, we covet your prayers for the leadership, faculty, staff and students. Pray that we will clearly discern God’s direction for the future of Asbury College and that He will reveal His love for us in deep ways. Join us in celebrating the Lord’s blessings and pray that He will continue to increase our enrollment and expand our program offerings and locations.

We also value your partnership in attracting prospective students. You form a world-wide network of recruiters who can share your love for Asbury College with high school students and their families. Encourage them to visit campus and to learn more about us on our website.



Asbury College would not be in existence today without the financial support of generations of Asburians. As we face the challenges of preparing Christian leadership, we are ready for continuing and expanding service. The obstacle that remains is garnering the financial resources essential to keep tuition affordable, the academic programs current and campus facilities updated.

Please prayerfully consider investing in the lives of our students by making a gift to Asbury College today, using the reply envelope at the center of the magazine. You can also make a secure gift online at www.asbury.edu/giving. As you make a gift, please pray that the Lord would multiply the impact of your dollars, transform lives, and advance His Kingdom around the world.

You are helping to shape the future of the young people that God sends us. Thank you for partnering with us.

– R. Gregory Swanson, JD '78

Vice president for institutional advancement and general counsel

CLASS NOTES

1950

A choral anthem, "Be Still, My Soul," SATB, Optional organ, flute arrangements; Arr. Schramm; Shawnee Pres, (Flammer Music) has been published in honor of **Eleanor Burriss '57 Cobb** by the First United Methodist Church of Arab, Ala., for her 37 years of dedication and service as organist/pianist.

1960

Ann Jones '66 Babel published her first children's book, *His Lamb I Am*. Ann and husband, Ernie, live at 16660 Mountain Rd., Montpelier, VA 23192. E-mail: erababel@embarqmail.com.

Denton Cormany '66 offers a weekly devotion on the Internet through Crossroad Fellowship at www.crossroads.org/Luke10_lifestyle.htm. Denton and Robin have been involved with Campus Crusade for Christ for more than 35 years. They reside in the Raleigh, N.C. area.

Stephen Hoard '68 received the master's of art in pastoral counseling from the Athenaeum of Ohio, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary in October. He currently works at the Professional Pastoral Counseling Institute in suburban Cincinnati. **Joanna Allen '69 Hoard** is in her 17th year as a realtor for Sibcy Cline Realtors.

1970

Joanne Davis '76 received the 2008 Ken Freedman Outstanding Advisor Award for her work as the undergraduate program advisor for the UK College of Nursing.

Gordon Sheffer '76 is now serving in his 7th year as the Director of Operations Services for Kids Alive International, based in Valparaiso, Ind. Kids Alive is an evangelical Christian, non-governmental organization that has rescued more than 6,000 children-at-risk in 17 developing countries and provides for their holistic needs through children's homes, care centers and schools. E-mail: gordon@kidsalive.org

Lance Underwood '76 was selected as Stanislaus County Teacher of the Year for 2007. In his 31st year, Lance teaches two bands, orchestra and choir at Roosevelt Junior High School in Modesto, Calif. He also oversees 22 elementary choirs and four junior high school choirs as chairman of K-8 Vocal Music for Modesto City Schools.

Mimi Johnson '78 Tucker is minister of music at Community United Methodist Church in Vincennes, Ind. Address: 1708 N. 13th St., Vincennes, IN 47591.

1980

James Thomas '84 has recently joined Troutman Sanders LLP as a partner in their Intellectual Property practice group in Raleigh, N.C.

Jacob Hanselman '86 was recently given the David C. Crotty Award for the Outstanding Republican Man in Orange County, Fla.

Maria C. Rutherford '86 graduated with her M.Ed. from Regent University's College of Education. She now is pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Kentucky. She serves as an instructor for the Behavioral Science Division in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education at Bluegrass Community and Technical College in Lexington, Ky. E-mail: maria.rutherford@kctcs.edu

Steve '70 and Diane Pittenger '86 Woodcock have moved to Anderson, Ind. Diane is the director of clinical services at Triple L Youth Ranch, a treatment center for adolescent girls. She has also developed a program called "Model Me A Role" whose mission is to encourage and empower the girls as well as teach them skills for living. Steve is working in the chaplaincy program at the Madison County jail. He is also writing a book which should be published later this year. E-mail: diane@triplelyouthranch.org

Traci Nichols '89 Bishop received the C.E.D.A.R. (Coal Education Development and Resources) Teacher of the Year award. She has also been working with C.E.D.A.R. and the Challenger Learning Center of Hazard, Ky., in creating an upcoming project at the Learning Center entitled "Mission to Mars." Traci and her husband, Jerry, also adopted Jonathan Franklin on November 1, 2007. Jonathan was born on April 25, 2007, in Antigua, Guatemala.

John Michael '89 and Jennifer Brooks announce the birth of Spencer John on Jan. 22, 2008 in Sarasota, Fla.

Brothers **Bradd '89 and Scott '91 Falkenberg** recently qualified for their first Boston Marathon and will be competing there on April 21, 2008. To qualify for Boston, runners must meet the designated time standard which corresponds

to their age group. Bradd qualified on Sept. 29, 2007 at the Akron Marathon, and Scott qualified at the Columbus Marathon on Oct. 21, 2007.

1990

Mike '93 and Kara Pennington '95 Goodman announce the birth of Ripley Marie on July 11, 2007. The family lives in Georgetown, Texas where Mike runs his own painting company and subcontracts for disaster relief. Kara taught high school English for ten years and is now at home.

Eric and Vonda Carlisle '96 Bryce welcomed Lola Lynell on June 14, 2007.

Eric and Melissa Collins '96 Decker announce the birth of Emma Nicole on May 22, 2007

Gary and Michelle Chubb '96 Heiland announce the birth of Emily Grace on Oct. 18, 2007.

William '96 and Heidi Raass '97 Spencer welcomed Thomas Raass on Nov. 8, 2007.

Glenn Stallsmith '96 recently received his M.A. in ethnomusicology from Bethel University (Minn.) and has been recognized as a certified Ethnomusicology Training Specialist by the International Council of Ethnomusicologists. Glenn and his wife, **Sarah Mitchell '96 Stallsmith**, serve as missionary ethnomusicologists with Wycliffe Bible Translators in the Philippines.

Ernest and Kathleen Klinger '96 Wince announce the birth of Audrey Kathleen on June 19, 2006. Address: 11 Leisure Lane, Weaverville, NC 28787

Wade '97 and Jennifer Hill '97 Grimes announce the birth of Elliot Wade on Nov. 28 in Boone, N.C.

Brian Hurley '97 recently accepted a position as a staff chaplain at Lakeland Regional Medical Center in Lakeland, Fla. Phone: (863) 797-5856, E-mail: brian_hurley@asburyseminary.edu

Neil '97 and Shauna Stewart '01 Noah announce the birth of Kylie Grace on Oct. 9, 2007.

Jeff and Amy Thomas '97 Wills announce the birth of Rebecca Grace on Nov. 8, 2007.

Ivan and Jessica Hill '98 Aviles announce the birth of Malia Raquel, on Aug. 6, 2007. E-mail: jessica.aviles@yahoo.com

Todd and Jennifer Schroeder '98 Johnson announce the birth of Elijah Robert on July 31, 2007.

Marcia Corbin '98 Westover and her family have moved from Texas to West Virginia. Address: 129 Spanos Drive, Charles Town, WV 25414. E-mail: westovers@gmail.com. Marcia enjoys being a stay at home mom to their 3 kids: Katerina (7), Corbin (7), and Emma (5). She and Stephen will be celebrating 10 years of marriage in May.

Dr. Marshall Wise '98 married Christina Shuman in March 2007 and completed his allergy fellowship at Vanderbilt University. He's joined Allergy and Asthma Associates of the Bluegrass, Lexington, Ky. E-mail: marshallwise@hotmail.com

Steve '99 and Charity Lukac '00 Bailey announce the birth of Grace Joy on Sept. 25, 2007. Grandparents: John '71 and Linda Sherbon '73 Bailey, Great-grandmother: Dorothy Cope '45 Bailey.

Duncan '99 and Elizabeth Floyd '99 Gerding announce the birth of John "Jack" Kendrick on Oct. 14, 2007.

Amy Jones '99 married Lt. Karl Haywood on Oct. 6 at the United States Naval Academy chapel in Annapolis, Md. The couple resides in Panama City Beach, Fla.

Dawn Tevis '99 Lippman was awarded her master of liberal studies in literary nonfiction and Appalachian studies in December 2007 from the University of Minnesota.

Larry and Catherine Nairn '99 Moore announce the birth of Kara Elizabeth on Oct. 2, 2007.

Robert '99 and Jill Snelson announce the birth of Abigail Grace on Nov. 10, 2007.

2000

Josh '01 and Julia Outhwaite '00 Winn announce the birth of Gabriel Dawson on July 9, 2007.

Daniel '01 and Molly Law announce the birth of Sophia Liore on Sept. 21, 2007.

Sam '02 and Ashley Hulbert '04 Brockington announce the birth of Olivia Lee on January 25, 2008

Jonathan '01 and Heidi Bond '02 Wyman welcomed Emily Adelaide on Nov. 6, 2007.

Tommy Frank '02 will begin his master of fine arts in ceramics at Bowling Green State University in the Fall.

Matthew Grimm '02 co-produced and directed the documentary "The Everlasting Stream" that

aired nationally on PBS this November 2007. Matt won two Telly Awards and was nominated for an Emmy Award for the program. **Sarah Garrard '02 Grimm** successfully completed physician assistant school at the University of Kentucky last August and is now working for a cardiology group in Lexington, Ky.

Bethany Reynolds '02 and Marc Corradino were married on Nov. 17, 2007 and reside in Goodlettsville, Tenn., where Bethany is a counselor and Marc a graphic designer.

Trent '03 and Emily Biederman '04 Ellsworth announce the birth of Adeline Rose on Christmas Eve, 2007.

David and Audrey Wade '03 Plumlee proudly welcomed Milena Elizabeth on Feb. 18, 2008.

Bill '04 and Kimberly Cutler '03 Weaver announce the birth of son Reese Warren on Dec. 5, 2007.

Emily Harris '04 ran the Kilimanjaro 1/2 Marathon on March 2 in Moshi, Tanzania. She received a medal for finishing in the top 700.

Brendan Byrne '05 (son of Dr. Dwight Byrne '74 and Karen) received his master of arts in teaching with honors from Wesley College in December 2007. He will continue his studies fall 2008 at the University of York, Heslington, York, Yorkshire, England. He will be working on a master's degree in renaissance literature 1500 – 1700. E-mail: Brendan0007@yahoo.com

Beth Henson '05 married Josh Creek on Aug. 18, 2007 in Scottsville, Ky. Beth taught English for two years in China after graduating from Asbury. She and Josh now reside in Kentucky and started a new business: www.studiobythecreeks.com

Steve Thorson '05 and Melissa Crosby '06 were married June 2007. They now live in Atlanta, Ga. where Steve is working as a web designer for Paste Magazine and Melissa is an English teacher at Parkview High School. Melissa is also currently working on her master's degree in secondary English education.

Have news?

E-mail alumni@asbury.edu



Together We Invest In the Future

When you set up a charitable gift annuity with Asbury College, you not only receive income for life—you also significantly impact our future.

Here are just a few of the benefits: **Guaranteed Lifetime Income.** A charitable gift annuity gives you the benefit of a fixed income every year for life (and another person's, if you choose).

Tax Savings. You will receive a charitable tax deduction in the year of your gift. Subsequently, part of the annual income is tax-free until you reach your life expectancy.

Personal Satisfaction. Not only will you accomplish your charitable gift objectives, you will be personally helping to further the mission of Asbury College.

If you would like to learn more about the benefits of charitable gift annuities, more information is available at absolutely no obligation. Please contact Greg Swanson at 800-888-1818 EXT 2104 or visit

ASBURY.GIFTLGACY.COM

IN MEMORIAM

Alumni

Ralph W. Blodgett '27, minister, oldest living alum at 104, Dec. 5, 2007, Westfield, IN

Mildred Westerfield '27 Petrie Graham, business, Golden Grad at 101, Feb. 5, 2008, Terre Haute, IN

H.W. Webster '30, Army Chaplain, Sept. 22, 2007, Santa Ana, CA

Ruth Neumeister '33 Kocher, homemaker, Sept. 26, 2007, Lakewood, OH

Alice Southern '39 Lee, homemaker, Sept. 4, 2007, Altoona, FL

Evelyn Sutherland '40 Hughes, homemaker, Sept. 28, 2007, Winter Haven, FL

Easter Lilly King '40, civil service, Oct. 4, 2007, Franklin Springs, GA

Lois Bailey '40 Richardson, homemaker, Jan. 6, 2008, Chesapeake, VA

Lillian Lewis '42 Crouse, homemaker, Nov. 21, 2007, Wilmore, KY

Elizabeth Lein '44 Porteous, nurse, Dec. 30, 2007, Largo, FL

Virginia Merriel '47 Spoonamore, Nov. 2, 2007, Ft. Wright, KY

Carl E. Waggoner '48, missionary, Dec. 20, 2007, Lancaster, OH

Ruth Hildie '49 Braswell, teacher, Sept. 12, 2007, Yucaipa, CA

Emma Anderson '49 Osborn, missionary, Sept. 19, 2007, Lebanon, OH

Mary Adams '50 Shy, teacher, Nov. 10, 2007, Liberty, MO

Jack W. Wease '50, minister, Jan. 29, 2008, Oskaloosa, IA

Tommie Milam '51 Wood, homemaker, Nov. 4, 2007, Richmond, VA

Martin G. Seitz '52, minister, father of Prof. Marty Seitz, Feb. 17, 2008, Reese, MI

Richard "Dick" A. Brewer '53, minister, Jan. 8, 2008, Rancho Mirage, CA

Barbara Aultman '53 Rogers, homemaker, Dec. 26, 2007, Jasper, GA

Geneva DeYoung '54, missionary, Jan. 31, 2008, Kissimmee, FL

Charles K. Yates '55, business, Dec. 14, 2007, Virginia Beach, VA

Ira Miller McCord '58, teacher, Oct. 2, 2007, West Palm Beach, FL

Lorena Hicks '58 Nattress, teacher, Aug. 28, 2007, Freeport, OH

Marvin T. Thome '58, pharmacist, Nov. 28, 2007, Tucker, GA

Larry A. Draper '60, minister, Oct. 29, 2007, Fredericktown, OH

Sharon Lee Ferguson '62, teacher, May 24, 2007, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Larry D. Lehman '62, school administrator, Dec. 7, 2007, Eaton, OH

James Curtis Slagg '70, minister, Nov. 2, 2007, Montgomery City, MO

Charles Hilderbrand '73, physician, May 18, 2007, Stone Mountain, GA

Steven Serrin '87, architect and evangelist, Oct. 26, 2007, Longwood, FL

Mr. Jim Greeson, parent, June 15, 2007, Huntington, WV

Rev. Clement Hixenbaugh, Jan. 25, 2008, Lima, OH

Mrs. Betty Holder Guillerman, July 30, 2007, Covington, LA

Mr. Ted Walter Hahn, Dec. 18, 2007, Nicholasville, KY

Mrs. Hazel Roughton Harvey, parent, Jan. 11, 2008, Lexington, KY

Mr. Charles W. Kjellin, parent, Nov. 21, 2007, Marion, KS

Mrs. Frances M. Owens, parent, Nov. 26, 2007, Ft. Myers, FL

Mrs. Deborah Catherine Pullinger, parent, Dec. 23, 2007, Orange City, FL

Mr. Nathan M. Smythe, parent, May 4, 2007, Springfield, MO

Mrs. Mildred White Willison, former art faculty at Asbury, Jan. 24, 2008, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Mr. Ervin C. Zamzow, parent, July 31, 2007, Fond Du Lac, WI

Friends

Mr. Carl B. Alexander, Aug. 11, 2007, Mount Union, PA

Mr. Andrew Allender, former College staff, Dec. 3, 2007, Lexington, KY

Mr. Stanley E. Baston, parent, Nov. 13, 2007, Lakewood, NJ

Mrs. Mary Young Dean, former music faculty at Asbury, July 30, 2007, Indio, CA

Mr. Leonard Free, parent, Nov. 13, 2007, Mansfield, OH

Mr. Henry Garnaat, parent, Oct. 27, 2007, Jackson, MI

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 17-18	Spring Admissions Preview; Hamlet, Doddridge-Holland Theatre
April 18-20	Regional Events in N.C. with Dr. Sandra Gray
April 18-19	Jym Jam, Luce Center
April 21-22, 28-29	Reunion Phonathon
April 23	Lexington Luncheon with Leland Conway '98
April 24-26	Engaging Culture Weekend
April 28	Honors Convocation, Hughes
April 29	Athletic Department Awards & Hall of Fame
May 2	Last Day of Classes
May 3	Junior/Senior
May 11	Commencement—Dr. Lloyd Ogilvie
May 12-13	Regional Events in Indiana with Dr. Gray
June 12-14	Ichthus 2008— www.ichthusfestival.org
June 19-22	Reunion 2008—Registration information in this issue!
June 22-27	Wilmore Camp Meeting: Dr. Charles Lake '62 & Dr. Steve Seamands '70
July 5	Asbury Day at Taylor County Camp Meeting
July 12	Asbury Day at Indian Springs Camp Meeting

REMINDER:
ASBURY'S 100TH
REUNION

SEE YOU
THERE!
(JUNE 19-22)