

SBUlife

Magazine of Southwest Baptist University Winter 2017



Paying it Forward

Inspired by the faculty from whom they learned, SBU alumni carry the torch by mentoring generations to follow

INSIDE:

2016

PRESIDENT'S

REPORT

» Be Social

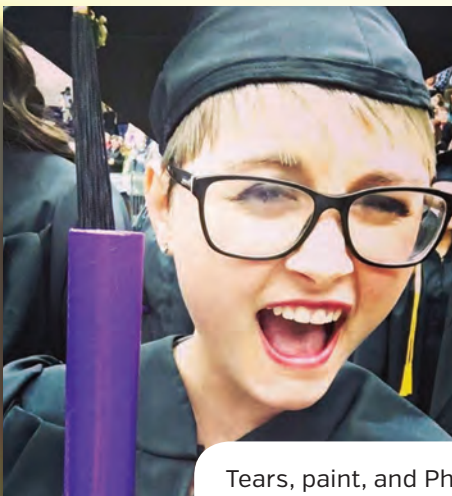
Read what students are sharing about SBU.



Happy Holidays from the SBU Tennis Teams #christmas #tennis #collegetennis #sbuniv #beatcatroar [via @sbu_mw_tennis on Instagram]

I graduate for the last time on Thursday night. Is this real life?! I'm so ready and excited! #BSN #SBUniv @SaraheFlagg

Writing in C. Pat Taylor for President. Everyone will get a hug and a smile and I don't see anything wrong with that. #sbuniv @charamagdalone



Tears, paint, and Photoshop somehow magically turned into a degree in Commercial Art with emphasis in Graphic Design #sbuniv #graduation #degree [via @jordanti23 on Instagram]



from friends to family before we knew it #highergroundsbu #sbuniv [via @oh_please17 on Instagram]

Check out **"The Hub"** – Southwest Baptist University's social media mash-up site showcasing what people are saying about SBU online. Go to social.SBUniv.edu to see Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and news release postings all in one place.

And be sure to use **#SBUniv** when you post about SBU on social media and you may see your post featured on "The Hub" as well!

Be social with SBU on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. **#SBUniv**



Paying it Forward	2
5 Questions with Robbie Bryant	4
Guess Who?	22
Keeping in Touch	23
SBU News	24

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

5

Volume 102 Issue 1
USPS 507-500

PRESIDENT
Dr. C. Pat Taylor

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Charlotte Highsmith Marsch '97

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Holly Bridge '08

DESIGNER
Alyssa Glasgow '15

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Denise Elson Tucker '89

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Alyssa Glasgow '15; Meg White

ADDRESS CHANGE
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
SBU 1600 University Avenue,
Bolivar, MO 65613-2597

HOW TO REACH US:
Phone: (417) 328-1803
Fax: (417) 328-1808
Web: www.SBUniv.edu
Email: cmarsch@SBUniv.edu
Mail: 1600 University Ave.
Bolivar, MO 65613-2597

SBUlife [USPS 507-500] is published in February, April, July, and November. It is distributed free for alumni, parents and friends of Southwest Baptist University by the Office of Marketing & Communications, 1600 University Ave., Bolivar, MO 65613. Periodical postage paid at Bolivar, Mo., and additional mailing offices.

SBUlife highlights the University's mission: to be a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society. SBU does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status in employment, admission, access to, or treatment in, its programs and activities, except to the extent permitted by religious exemptions recognized by law.

Inquiries concerning SBU's compliance with federal and state laws and guidelines regarding discrimination should be directed to the Vice President for Administration, the Vice President for Student Development, the Dean for Enrollment Management or the Director of Human Resources at 1600 University Avenue, Bolivar, Missouri 65613.



Paying it Fo

Inspired by the faculty from whom they learned, SBU alumni carry the torch by mentoring generations to follow



By Denise Elson Tucker '89

The mission of Southwest Baptist University is to prepare students to be servant leaders in a global society – a mission our faculty take to heart.

“My job is to show my students how it is done, model my passion genuinely each day, then push them to be all that God called them to be,” said Dr. Julie Bryant, associate professor of education.

That passion is ignited in all students at SBU as the groundwork is laid while they work toward their degrees and future careers, some of which include working with, and inspiring, youth and children.

“The interaction students have with faculty is extremely important to us here; something that we strongly value,” said Dr. Lee Skinkle, SBU provost. “The student-faculty interaction is a key component of the time that (students) will spend at SBU.”

And it is through these interactions that those relationships are nurtured.

“As I spend the couple of years I have with my students, I model for them how to teach, infusing my love of literacy into my own teaching,” Bryant said. “I hope my enthusiasm is contagious enough that it becomes a part of who they are in their own classrooms. I allow my students opportunities to practice teaching while I support them through feedback, additional modeling and encouragement.

“It does not take long, and they are ready. At this point, I pray for them, ask God to bless them, and then send them off to be the teachers they are called to be for Him.”

Bryant was instrumental in fostering a love for

teaching for Clara Maloy '09, and “a desire to do so with excellence.”

“Dr. Bryant was excited and passionate,” Maloy said. “She came in each day with a smile on her face, and it was then that I realized that is what truly sets the tone for the time you are with those students.”

Maloy has carried that with her in her teaching career, most currently at Central Christian School in St. Louis.

“My education at Southwest Baptist University was instrumental in my drive for excellence and my desire to pass that drive on to my fourth-graders,” Maloy said.

The impact a professor has on a student also applies in other areas of study such as youth ministry and psychology.

“Theology has to do with the way we see God and the world in relation to God,” said Dr. Don Denton, professor of theology. “The way we see these things shapes the way we live in the world. So, teaching these things can impact students as they come to see God and the world in new ways.”

And when students go out into the world, the mission continues beyond graduation. SBU alumni who work with students and youth inspire them to a higher purpose in life.

For those SBU alumni, the path to shaping the next generation – and beyond – wasn't a plan, but a calling.

Betsy Anderson '07 is the program director at Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services in southeast Arkansas, and much of the work she now does was shaped and nurtured by the faculty who taught her while pursuing her degrees in youth ministry and psychology with a counseling



Forward



Alumni share their stories on pages 9-20.

minor at SBU.

“My counseling minor was really instrumental in my development and growth during college and ultimately, God’s preparation for what I had no idea I would do someday,” Anderson said. “Dr. Richard Brewer and Bill Walkup were the heartbeat of all of that for me. They gave us so much more than a bachelor’s level degree in counseling.

“My ministry classes also gave me a great foundation of servant leadership, which influences my work every day. Dr. Duke Jones and Dr. Mike Fuhrman were critical examples for me.”

Equipping students is a key component to their growth, Jones says.

“There is a difference between teaching what is ideal versus what is real,” Jones said. “I share my mistakes in ministry, so students will not make the same mistakes,” Jones said. “I have a strong desire to equip students, which involves opportunities to participate in Kingdom building.”

Rob Whitten ’92 came to SBU feeling a call to do something with youth, and his time at SBU “helped crystallize what that would entail.”

Whitten, the Chief Culture Officer for Cornerstones of Care, a child welfare organization based in Kansas City, worked closely with Dr. Kevin Schriver, while pursuing his psychology degree.

“I had Dr. Schriver for a number of classes in my major,” said Whitten, who also holds a degree in music from SBU. “He was incredibly instrumental in helping me think about what came after graduation.”

And based on Schriver’s guidance, Whitten went on to graduate school where Schriver earned his master’s at the University of Central Missouri.

“I have always been mindful of my role in influencing students, not just in the world of academics, but also as they prepare for life,” said Schriver, dean of the College of Education and Social Sciences, “certainly in the realm of the professions of psychology, counseling, and the social services in general. I think, therefore, my purpose in the

classroom is not just convey the topic and content so that a student can just pass the test, but really utilize examples, perhaps ones I have experienced directly, so they can see it in real life.”

That guidance is felt even years after the student has graduated, as Darren Sutton ’91 can attest.

“Not only did SBU and Ms. (Betty Jo) Mulberry (former professor of religious education) prepare me for student ministry, but I found seminary (six years after graduation) to be a snap because they so thoroughly prepared me for ministry,” Sutton said.

And preparation is part of what drives SBU’s mission: “SBU is a Christ-centered, caring academic

community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society.”

“As a professor at SBU, it is my privilege and ministry to guide students as they develop knowledge and skills to excel in their chosen field and in life,” Walkup said. “It is an honor to guide them as they become the person God created them to be, just as my professors at SBU did for me.

“I believe SBU’s strength and future will be built on the fact that we are, and continue to focus on, being more ‘Mentor U’ than ‘Cyber U.’”

What keeps professors invested in SBU and the generations to come?

“I believe in it,” Bryant said. “SBU made me the teacher I am today. I want to pour into my students the way my professors poured into me. God has given me a place I get to use my calling to equip future teachers in a way that I also get to share His love on a daily basis. I pray for God’s blessings and favor to rest upon this place both now and in the years to come.

“Many students have received a God-honoring education at SBU, and I pray that many more will come here for that same blessing. I am delighted to be part of such an amazing heritage.” ■

“It is an honor to guide them as they become the person God created them to be, just as my professors at SBU did for me.”

5

Questions with **Robbie Bryant**



In each issue of SBULife magazine, we interview one of our staff members so you can meet the people who help make SBU a Christ-centered, caring academic community.

Last December, Robbie Bryant received the SBU Life Beautiful Award, an honor given annually to employees – one faculty member and one staff member – who exemplify a “life beautiful.” He has worked in SBU’s Physical Plant for 14 years and currently serves as the MEP maintenance supervisor.

As an employee of SBU’s Physical Plant, what are your responsibilities?

My responsibilities are overseeing the mechanical, electrical and plumbing maintenance on campus. I work with a great team of people to accomplish these tasks.

What is your favorite aspect of your job?

My favorite aspect of this job is easily the people I get to work with each day. I also like the challenge of this job in that no two days are alike. I am challenged physically, mentally, and even spiritually each day.

What are your hobbies – or something people might not know about you?

People may not know I am in a Bluegrass band. I play banjo, bass, guitar and mandolin. I am blessed to be able to share this hobby with my son, who plays fiddle in our band. My wife swore she would never marry a Bluegrass musician, but God, with His great sense of humor, gave her the blessings of a husband and son who are just that! Additionally, I really enjoy going in our travel trailer to go camping with the family. My

daughter is one of my little camping buddies. We make the most of the camper fun any time we can.

What do you think makes SBU unique?

SBU is unique in the fact that it is the best place I’ve ever worked! It is a rare place to work where if you have need of prayer, students, faculty, and staff across campus and our extensions, stand in agreement and lift you up in prayer. We are blessed indeed!

How has God been working in your life?

Looking back at my life, God has always been at work. However, more recently, He has truly made His mercy evident to me. On August 25, 2016, I was diagnosed with Stage IV prostate cancer that had spread to two places in my pelvis and a place on my sternum. God, in His love, has revealed to me His healing power. He has shown me how to stand still and let Him move. Standing still is one of the hardest things I’ve ever had to do in my life. Yet, God can do His best work when we get out of the way. God is performing a miracle in my body, healing me of cancer, and I will ring that bell claiming no evidence of disease, in Jesus’ name!



2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Featuring:

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

SBU FACTS AND FIGURES

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

SBU ALUMNI CARRY THE TORCH BY MENTORING CHILDREN AND YOUTH



DEAR ALUMNI, FRIENDS AND DONORS,

I am reminded daily that the greatest asset of SBU is its people — those who represent Christ and carry out the mission of preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society.

We send about 300 students on 25 global projects each year, taking the message of Christ around the world. It is also important to share that message of hope and love right here in Bolivar, Mo., and wherever our graduates' careers take them.

This issue of SBULife features alumni who, through a variety of careers, have a positive influence on today's children and youth, our next generation of leaders. These alumni are passing on the life lessons they received from faculty and staff while at SBU.

While we are able to feature just a few of our graduates in this section, I know that the SBU influence is far-reaching through thousands of SBU graduates.

As you read these stories, I hope that you will be encouraged that there is hope for the broken world in which we live. I hope that you are reminded of professors and staff who spent time with you and have had an impact on your life. I hope that you will take a moment to reflect on how God used your time at SBU to help shape you intellectually and spiritually.

In order for SBU to continue to be successful in providing our students quality Christ-centered education, the University must continue to update and expand our learning spaces to provide the best learning environment possible. To this end, the University completed three major renovation and construction projects recently:

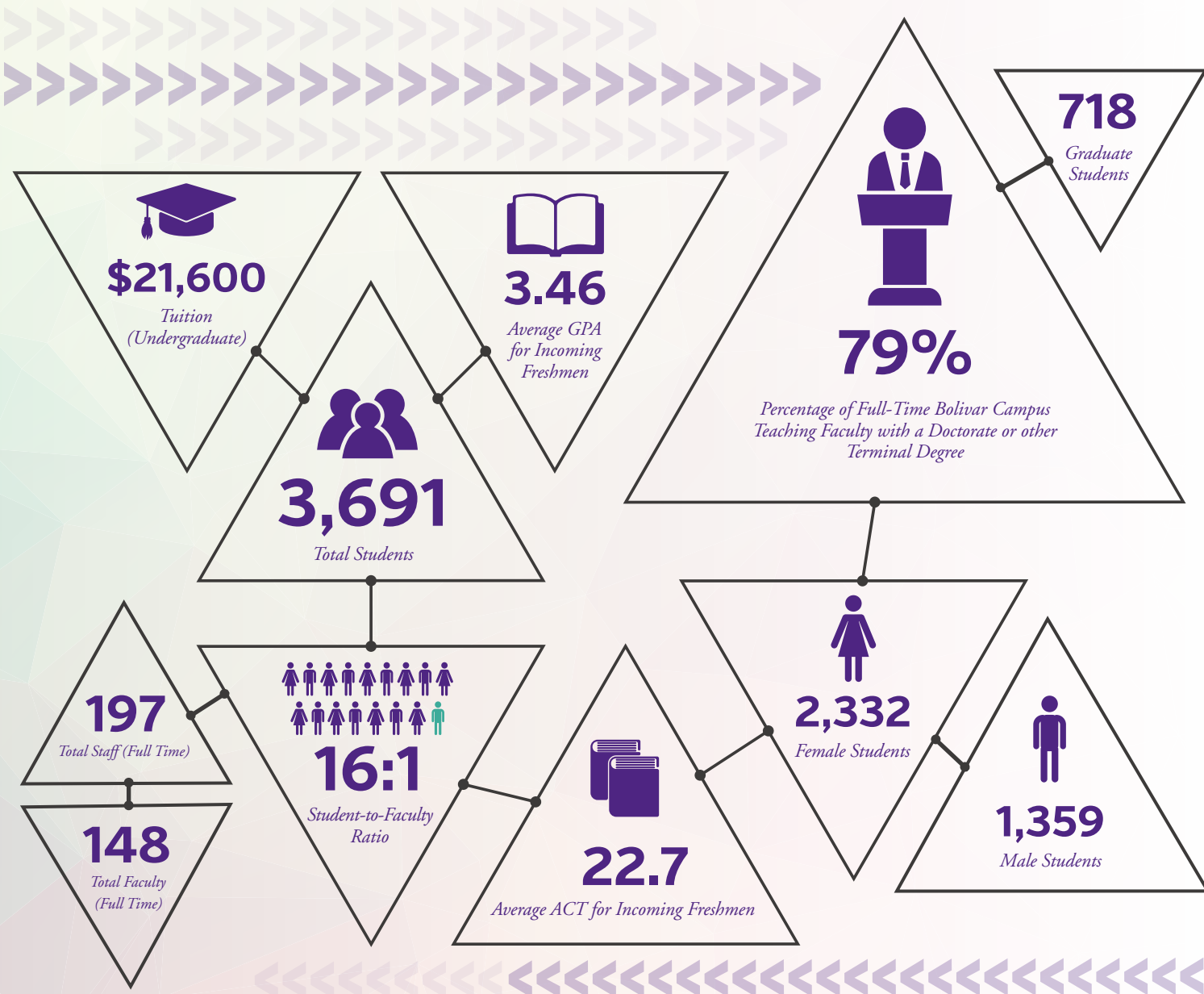
- Renovation and expansion of the Gene Taylor National Free Enterprise Center is completed. Students, faculty and staff are excited about new collaborative learning spaces, both in classrooms and in smaller student study areas.
- The Judy Taylor Physical Therapy Garden and physical therapy faculty clinic were completed in recent months. Through this clinic, our students will be better prepared for clinical experiences, and community members will benefit from services received at the pro bono clinic. The garden is a touching tribute to Judy, who certainly would have appreciated the beauty of the garden, but even more so the purpose — to assist patients with gait difficulties by incorporating a variety of terrains, ramps and walking paths.
- On our Springfield campus, we added a second building, the Nurse Training Center, that includes a state-of-the-art simulation lab and learning resource center. The facility is among the best in the state. It also houses additional office space, meeting space and classroom space for our growing healthcare programs.

Thank you for your support of these projects. Indeed, the greatest asset of Southwest Baptist University is its people — and that includes you, our alumni and donors. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for SBU's Christ-centered, caring academic community.

C. Pat Taylor

Sincerely,
C. Pat Taylor





BUDGET FIGURES

Revenue Budget

	2016-17 Final Budget	
Tuition & Fees	\$45,227,210	80.14%
Missouri Baptist Convention	\$1,175,000	2.08%
Other Undesignated Gifting	\$717,275	1.27%
Investment Earnings	\$315,330	0.56%
Financial Aid Revenue	\$1,154,811	2.05%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$497,495	0.88%
Auxiliary Enterprise Revenue	\$7,344,879	13.02%
TOTAL	\$56,432,000	100.00%

Expense Summary

Educational and General		
Total Instructional and Departmental	\$15,696,344	27.81%
Organized Activities	\$3,228,666	5.72%
Total Library	\$1,327,043	2.35%
Total Student Services	\$3,089,512	5.47%
Total Operation/Maintenance of Plant	\$3,137,311	5.56%
Total Administration	\$1,844,810	3.27%
Staff Benefits	\$1,181,517	2.09%
Total General Institutional	\$2,988,929	5.30%
Total Student Aid	\$18,166,408	32.19%
Debt Retirement	\$750,490	1.33%
Contingency	\$468,112	0.83%
Total Educational and General	\$51,879,142	91.93%
Total Auxiliary Enterprises	\$4,552,858	8.07%
TOTAL EXPENSE BUDGET	\$56,432,000	100.00%

Annual Gift Clubs

Heritage Society \$50,000 and Above

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Adams
The Late Mr. Gilbert F. Beutler
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Chaney Estate
Ruth Heyenbrock Estate
The Late Mrs. Carolyn Mott
Elaine Simpson Trust

Legacy Society \$20,000 - \$49,999

Dr. Ed Clark
Mr. Charles and Rev. Barbara Clemmons
Dr. Wayne Gott
Dr. and Mrs. Pete Herschend
Dr. and Mrs. Wayne M. Hutchins
Mrs. Jill McLoud
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Nostrand
The Late Dr. and Mrs. Wilbur Tappmeyer

Distinguished Leadership Council \$10,000 - \$19,999

Mr. and Mrs. David Bennett
Dr. and Mrs. John F. Best
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Clark
Mrs. Kathleen Craig
Dr. and Mrs. David D. Cribbs
Mrs. Virginia Dorth and the Late
Mr. Philip Dorth
Dr. and Mrs. Jimmy L. Edwards
Dr. and Mrs. Don Fahrni
Dr. and Mrs. Phillip E. Franz
The Late Mr. Dennis Gott
Dr. and Mrs. Don Jump
Ms. Ronda Miller
Mr. Tony V. Richerson
Dr. C. Pat Taylor
Brig. General Parker C. Thompson

President's Council \$5,000 - \$9,999

Dr. Carol S. Bevier
Dr. and Mrs. Gary E. Black, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Davis
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Davison
Mr. and Mrs. Owen A. Fox
Dr. and Mrs. David Gipson
Dr. and Mrs. Brian Hopwood
Drs. Doug and Jana Horner
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ingold

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Jans
Mr. and Mrs. Chris C. Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Owens
Mrs. Arlene D. Palmer
Mr. and Mrs. Halleck Rhea
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Roller
Dr. and Mrs. James Sammons
Dr. and Mrs. Edward N. Sickafus
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Singer
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Stephens
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley D. Tippin

Provost's Club \$1,000 - \$4,999

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher M. Allison
Mr. Gordon Allison
Ms. Megan L. Ast
Mrs. Shelby L. Babcock
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Bailey
Drs. Don and Pat Baker
Ms. Stefani J. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bell
Mr. Lex Blue
Dr. and Mrs. Roy Blunt
Mr. and Mrs. David M. Bolton
Mr. David A. Bowlick
Mr. Joseph F. Brand
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Brantley
Ms. Olivia J. Brinkman
Mr. and Mrs. Brad Brotherton
Mr. Andrew R. Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Gary C. Brown
Ms. Sandra L. Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Burnham
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burrell
Mr. Jordan P. Burrows
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Burton
Mr. Terrance R. Callahan
Dr. and Mrs. Charles D. Campbell
Mr. Matthew S. Catron
Mrs. Tammy L. Chute
Dr. and Mrs. Dan Cochran
Mr. James Coffman
Ms. Elizabeth Coleman
Ms. Mary Beth Cook
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Coram
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Corson
Mr. John and Dr. Ronda Credille
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cripps
Mr. Thomas R. Cristoffer

Dr. and Mrs. Dennis Crowder
Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Cudworth
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew M. Curley
Ms. Julia M. DePaolo
Ms. Heather A. Dickson
Dr. and Mrs. Joe Dillsaver
Mr. and Mrs. Jarrod K. Dortch
Ms. Kathryn R. Doshier
Mrs. Joycelyn A. Dowdy
Dr. Victoria L. Draper
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Driskill
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Dudley
Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Dutile
Mrs. Clytice C. Duzan
Mr. and Mrs. Todd J. Earl
Mr. Paul Eddy
Mr. and Mrs. Russ Emory
Dr. Gerald S. Etheredge
Mr. Austin J. Evans
Ms. Terri Fallin
Dr. and Mrs. Harlie K. Gallatin
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Garrett
Mr. and Mrs. Adam George
Col. and Mrs. Gary Gilmore
Mr. Herbert Glascock
Mr. Scott Glascock
Dr. and Mrs. David Glass
Ms. Phebe K. Goldsmith
Ms. Victoria R. Gonzalez
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Goode
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Grabowski
Mr. and Mrs. Robin Guyer
Mrs. Berniece Hamilton
Ms. Victoria A. Harbison
Mr. and Mrs. Randall K. Harris
Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Harris
Ms. Larissa M. Harrison
Dr. and Mrs. Dwight Haun
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hays
Ms. Kia Her
Mr. Johnny Herndon
Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Hilbert
Ms. Chelsea B. Hilbert
Mr. and Mrs. Duane Hileman
Mr. and Mrs. David H. Hill
Mr. and Mrs. Don F. Hodson
Dr. and Mrs. Franklyn D. Holley
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Honeycutt
Mr. and Mrs. Brent Hopkins
Dr. Jeff L. Huck
Ms. Nancy J. Hudson

Ms. Franceska Hughes
Dr. and Mrs. Eugene A. Hutcheson
Mr. Austin M. Jenkins
Dr. and Mrs. Roy Jerrell
Mrs. Nancy Jester
Dr. and Mrs. Brad S. Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Conway Jones
Dr. and Mrs. John Jones
Dr. and Mrs. Kevin J. Jones
Drs. Duke and Melinda Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Jones
Mr. Rick and Dr. Janet Juhlin
Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Kaczmarek
Dr. and Mrs. Monte Kahler
Rev. and Mrs. Howard Karr
Mr. Gary Kelb
Ms. Katelyn A. Kestner
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Kifer
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Killian
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Kimberling
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Kirksey
Dr. and Mrs. Bob Kitchin
Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. Klaassen
Dr. Margaret A. Kort
Mrs. Rhonda Land
Mr. Joe and Dr. Allison Langford
Ms. Diane M. Lauff
Dr. and Mrs. Ray Leininger
Mr. Albert Lemke
Dr. and Mrs. Bill F. Little
Mr. Dennis and Dr. Pat Long
Ms. Michelle K. Lunyou
Mr. Steven Lynch
Mr. Sean Mahon
Mr. William Mar
Dr. and Mrs. Bob Marti
Mr. Eugene W. Martin
Ms. Georgie F. Mathias
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Matter
Ms. Alyssa D. May
Ms. Lastashia R. May
Mr. Kyle McCann
Mr. Michael McCarthy
Ms. Annie E. McGehee
Dr. and Mrs. Bob McGlasson
Ms. Ethel McIndoo
Mr. Michael S. McIntosh
Mr. and Mrs. Steven R. McMahan
Drs. Scott and Beverly McNeal
Ms. Dana K. Medley-Vogel
Mr. Roger L. Mills

Mr. Austin L. Mitchell
 Mr. John O. Mitchell
 Mr. Scott Murphy
 Mr. and Mrs. Loren J. Murray, Jr.
 Ms. Nancy Myers
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Neil
 Mr. John J. Nicholas, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve Nicholson
 Mr. Keenan O'Brien
 Ms. Maura I. O'Brien
 Mr. and Mrs. Luke Oldweiler
 Dr. Rose Mary Owens
 Mr. and Mrs. Julian Pace
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Park
 Ms. Jenna A. Parrish
 Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Pedersen
 Mr. Jordan P. Peterson
 Mr. Nick Pettit
 Mr. and Mrs. Mike Pitts
 Mr. Steven L. Plank
 Dr. Marsha N. Powell
 Ms. Suzanne Powers
 Mr. and Mrs. John Presley
 Mr. John C. Raines
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Rains
 Dr. Walter Rarrick
 Mr. Josiah R. Reese
 Dr. and Mrs. Charles M. Renno
 Mr. and Mrs. Bill Roberts
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Robidou
 Mr. Clayton G. Robrahn
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Ross
 Mr. and Mrs. Allan Schilter
 Mr. Quint and Dr. Becky Schoeneberg
 Mr. Michael Seise
 Ms. Joann Shafer
 Mr. and Mrs. Jody Shelenhamer
 Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Sloan
 Mr. and Mrs. Randy Smart
 Mr. Robert O. Smith
 Mr. Mel Steele
 Mr. and Mrs. Mike Stephens
 Rev. and Mrs. Gregory Stewart
 Dr. and Mrs. Cary Summers
 Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Sundberg
 Mrs. Marvel D. Surrette
 Mrs. Celesia Taylor
 Mr. Yonas Tekeste
 Mr. Rubie R. Tindall
 Mr. Florian Toma
 Mr. Bill Tyre
 Dr. Betty A. Van Blair
 Dr. Kayla E. Vance
 Mr. and Mrs. James E. Vermillion
 Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Vestal
 Mr. and Mrs. Micheal Vineyard
 Mr. Clarence H. Vinson
 Mr. Peter Vold
 Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Walker



Leah Allen Capps '85

Minister of Family Equipping
 Second Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.

By Denise Elson Tucker '89

Leah Capps loves teaching.

For six years, she taught second grade in the Ozark, Mo., school district, and taught for a total of 13 years, after receiving her degree in elementary education from SBU in 1985.

"I love seeing a child accomplish a hard task and then see what they have achieved," Capps said.

But something changed in 2002. Capps sensed that God had other plans for her.

"I felt a restlessness that I was supposed to be willing to step out and be ready for something to change in my career," Capps said. "When Dr. (John) Marshall – pastor of Second Baptist Church in Springfield, Mo. – called and asked me to meet with him to consider coming on staff at Second, I had a peace that this is what God had been preparing me for.

"But I was scared. My husband, Allen, was far more convinced that I could do this than I was."

Capps first joined the Second Baptist staff as Minister of Preschool Education and served in that capacity for 13½ years before becoming Minister of Family Equipping – a role she has been in for 1½ years.

Now Capps loves helping and teaching families.

"My desire is to make the time that these young children are at church, worth it for both them and their parents," Capps said. "The spiritual development of families is a hot topic right now. If we can help a parent feel equipped in their marriage, parenting skills, spiritual development, finances, etc., the entire family wins.

"I get to know them when they are embarking on their parenting journey," Capps said. "Their desire to be the parents God created them to be looks different for each family.

"I love developing a relationship with the child as well as the parent. I try to be available to the parents; to answer questions, to encourage them on a hard day, to pray with them when the struggles they are facing are hard, and to laugh with them. My team strives to develop programs that meet the needs of families."

Capps discovered her path under the direction of Dr. Twila Smith and Dr. Don Allen.

"They both worked to get to know their students," Capps said. "They knew strengths as well as weaknesses. They taught me that teaching is about showing your students that they can do anything – they just have to discover their path."



Rob Whitten '92

Chief Culture Officer Cornerstones of Care, Kansas City, Mo.

By Denise Elson Tucker '89

Before Rob Whitten became Chief Culture Officer for Cornerstones of Care, he began as a therapist at the company he has been part of for almost 20 years.

Whitten provided individual, family and group therapy to adolescent males with emotional and behavioral challenges, and over time moved into roles as clinical director, vice president of operations and eventually, CCO.

Whitten, who earned degrees in psychology and music at SBU, says it's important to find something you are passionate about and that you find meaningful.

"As much as I enjoy my current role, I also value the years I spent as a therapist working one-on-one with kids and families," Whitten said. "That work provided an incredibly strong foundation on which I built the work I am doing today."

In Whitten's position with Cornerstones of Care, he is in charge of setting the cultural and clinical course of an organization of more than 900 employees who daily work with hundreds of children.

"Some of that effort is preventive – working to strengthen young families with parenting skills and other resources," Whitten said. "For others, the work is about restoration and healing – helping families through times of crisis and assisting in putting the pieces back together."

The work always has been, and continues to be, rewarding for Whitten. His current role allows him to significantly shape the work of the organization, which serves close to 12,000 children and families per year.

"Every day I get to see children, youth, and young adults working through past trauma and other challenges," Whitten said. "I get to see children, who have been removed from their homes due to behaviors, return to their families. I get to see children without families get adopted. I get to see older youth – who by all intents and purposes, should fail – instead, graduate high school or work toward college or a vocation.

"Watching this constant growth and change is amazing."

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Walkup
Ms. Arnita Walls
Rev. and Mrs. Granville H. Watson, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Buell Weathers
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Welch
Mr. and Mrs. James H. Westbrooks
Ms. Heather M. Wharton
Ms. Thomara M. White-Briscoe
Mr. Scott Wilkinson
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Williams
Ms. Rachel K. Wilson
Mrs. Susan E. Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Don Woods, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wooldridge
Rev. and Mrs. Richard Wright
Mrs. Rebecca D. Young
Mrs. Nancy Zelle

Founders' Club

\$500 - \$999

Dr. and Mrs. Donald K. Allcorn
Mr. Rodney Allen
Mr. Brett L. Allen
Ms. Shelby G. Barta
Mr. Iven Bassett
Ms. Bailey B. Baumann
Ms. Martha L. Benson
Ms. Evelyn Bernhardt
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bernhardt
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Blaylock
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bolerjack
Ms. Sharon Bowen
Dr. and Mrs. Frank D. Bowers
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Boynton
Drs. Alan and Dana Branson
Mr. and Mrs. Levi Bridge
Ms. Summer D. Bright
Ms. Rosemary Britt
Mr. Andrew D. Brown
Mr. William G. Buckner
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Burnett
Mr. and Mrs. Kellen Burns
Mr. Jason L. Buschert
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry L. Bush
Mr. Chandler T. Cain
Mr. and Mrs. Brad Cain
Mr. Mark Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Cantrell
Mr. and Mrs. Austin Carriger
Dr. Ann L. Cascarelle
Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Catron
Mr. Keith C. Chace
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Chase
Mr. Glen Chambers
Mr. Phil Christensen
Ms. Rita L. Clair
Mr. Kenneth J. Clark
Mr. Steve Cloud
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Coffey
Mrs. Jim Cook
Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Cooper

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Daniels
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin M. Day
Mrs. Joyce Derryberry
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Diamond
Ms. Kathleen Dimick
Mrs. Lucille B. Donnell
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Dressler
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Driskill
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Drury
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Easley, Jr.
Ms. Alexis N. Edwards
Mr. Tyler L. Engel
Mr. John R. Engstrom
Mr. Robert D. Erickson
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Evans
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Evans
Mr. and Mrs. Judah Fansler
Mr. Andrew M. Faulkner
Ms. Phoebe C. Finley
Mr. Kevin Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Brent D. Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Franklin
Mr. and Mrs. John Frazier
Mr. Derwin Freeman
Ms. Beth A. Frink
Mrs. Diana L. Gallamore
Mr. and Mrs. Carlos T. Gallegos
Mrs. Sharon S. Garretson
Mr. Chris Garrett
Ms. Danielle L. Gillean
Dr. Betty J. Gipson
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Glidwell
Mr. Alex G. Gockman
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Goff
Mr. David C. Grady
Mr. Joseph W. Gravely
Ms. Loretta M. Greaves
Ms. Karen A. Greene
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Grempler
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Ham
Mrs. Cindy Harbison
Ms. Mary S. Harris
Ms. Missy L. Hayes
Mr. Richard Henderson
Mr. Joseph C. Hepburn
Mr. Jimmie Hickman
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Hisky
Mr. James Hohenbary
Mr. Jerrin J. Holland
Ms. Maria Huck
Mrs. Barbara Huddle
Ms. Ellen M. Jackson
Mr. Jerry L. Jerome
Mr. and Mrs. James Jones
Mr. Max Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Jones

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Kaylor
Mr. Jerry Keith
Rev. and Mrs. Ron Kemp
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kliment
Mr. and Mrs. David Kramer
Dr. and Mrs. Abel D. Lacquement
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lay
Dr. and Mrs. Ray Leininger
Mr. Scott Lenhart
Dr. Deona Lilly
Ms. Rebecca E. Litzinger
Ms. Dianna Locke
Mr. and Mrs. Joshua R. Lopez
Mr. and Mrs. Danny E. Lough
Mr. and Mrs. George W. Lunn, Sr.
Ms. Cheryl A. Luper
Mr. John Maddux
Ms. Katherine E. Mahon
Ms. Betty Malan
Mr. Larry Mallette
Mr. Tracy Manly
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin W. Marcum
Dr. and Mrs. Bobby L. Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mayfield
Mr. and Mrs. Nick McAvoy
Dr. and Mrs. Doran McCarty
Mr. and Mrs. James McGlaughlin
Mr. and Mrs. Jim McManigle
Mr. James E. McMillian
Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Meadows
Mr. Mark Miget
Mr. and Mrs. Kenton D. Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Millsap
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Moore
Mrs. Elisa S. Morey
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Morley
Ms. Whitney J. Morris
Mr. Jim Morris
Mr. and Mrs. George W. Morrison
Mr. and Mrs. David Moy
Ms. Betty J. Mulbery
Ms. Mary Lou Myers
Dr. and Mrs. Gustavo Nix
Mr. and Mrs. Reggie Noot
Mrs. Eva J. O'Brien
Dr. and Mrs. Kwasi Ofori-Yeboah
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ogle
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Oldweiler
Mr. Bryse A. Paffile
Dr. and Mrs. Wendell Page
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Penland
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Pettit
Ms. Savana G. Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Phillips

Ms. Ceckia A. Pierce
Mr. George Portokalis
Dr. and Mrs. Ken Pottenger
Rev. and Mrs. Paul Powell
Ms. Nettie J. Prine
Mr. and Mrs. Taylor D. Qualls
Mr. Scott E. Radford
Ms. Brenna Randall
Mr. Robert M. Ratliff, Jr.
Mrs. Lois Mitchem Richter
Ms. Cheyanne C. Roach
Ms. Terri L. Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. Abe Rohrbach
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Roller
Ms. Tali B. Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Rosenbohm
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Rowden
Mr. Caleb A. Rutledge
Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Ryan
Ms. Jazmine L. Sales
Mr. and Mrs. Candido K. Sanchez
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Sanders
Mr. Nathaniel Q. Sawyer
Mr. Jerry Schneider
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy F. Scowden
Mr. Jerry B. Shelenhamer
Dr. and Mrs. Joe B. Shelton
Mrs. Holly Sindors
Dr. and Mrs. Ron Smith
Mr. Mike Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen L. Smith
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Sneed
Mrs. Peggy M. Springer
Mr. and Mrs. Jordan St. Clair
Mr. Pete Stack
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Statton
Rev. J. K. Stehouwer
Ms. Lexie L. Stevenson
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Sullinger
Mrs. Roberta J. Sweet
Mr. Wendell Swenson
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Swortwood, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Symonds
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron D. Tallant
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Tally
Ms. Cinasee A. Tapee
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Tate
Mr. and Mrs. Neal Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. Tenbroeke
Ms. Alexis D. Tennis
Mr. and Mrs. James Thorne
Mr. Sam L. Timbrook
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Toler
Mr. Daniel Torrence
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tummons
Rev. and Mrs. Keith Vawter

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Vestal
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Vierkant
Ms. Elizabeth A. Wade
Mrs. Jami Walker
Ms. Linda Walker
Mrs. Linda A. Wallace
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walters
Ms. Shuyi Wang
Mrs. Joyce Whitfield-Baker
Mr. Raymond H. Wieler
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Williams
Ms. Phyllis A. Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Wilson
Ms. Louise Wimberly
Dr. Naomi S. Wingert
Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Wolhoy
Mr. and Mrs. Larry L. Wollard
Mr. Dolph Woodman
Dr. and Mrs. Bob E. Woolley
Ms. Jennifer A. Wooster
Mr. Charles Wooster, Jr.
Mr. Richard Young

**Bearcat Club
\$250 - \$499**

Ms. Kathleen M. Adams
Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Akins
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Allee
Mrs. Aletha D. Allen
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Altman
Ms. Brenna M. Andersen
Mrs. Julie Andersen
Mr. Randall Antle
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Appletoft
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Arbaugh
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Asubonteng, Sr.
Mr. John Atchison
Mr. Gerald Awadzi
Mr. and Mrs. Kendall R. Ayers
Ms. Jane E. Bailey
Mr. Rick Banks
Mr. and Mrs. Devan C. Barger
Mr. Herb Barritt
Mr. and Mrs. Kim Barta
Mr. Rahul Basho
Mr. Ronald Bauer
Dr. and Mrs. Bing Bayer
Mr. Richard Becker
Mr. and Mrs. David Beckett
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Bell
Mr. Gary Bernhardt
Cmdr. and Mrs. Michael G. Berry
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Betts
Mrs. Linda Bex
Ms. Elise C. Blankenship
Mr. and Mrs. Ted P. Blaser

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Rev. and Mrs. Lee Borders
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Boutwell
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Bradshaw
Mrs. Marvel Brandt
Mr. and Mrs. Stoney N. Brandt
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey L. Bressler
Mr. and Mrs. Tomas H. Brock
Mr. and Mrs. Leland Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Brown
Ms. Michaela S. Brown
Mr. Wesson M. Brown
Miss Maeanne Browning
Mr. and Mrs. Steven H. Brueckner
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bryan
Ms. Charlotte Buck
Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Burgess
Ms. Lydia J. Burnett
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey B. Burnette
Mr. Brian Burns
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis L. Busch
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Campbell
Rev. and Mrs. Nolan D. Carrier
Mr. Mark Carroll
Mr. Harold E. Chamberlain
Mr. Gene Chamberlain
Ms. Kyleen M. Chambers
Mr. and Mrs. Ted W. Chapman
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Chatman
Mr. Bryan and Dr. Robin Coffey
Ms. Elizabeth A. Coleman
Mr. and Mrs. William Conley
Ms. Lauren E. Cook
Ms. Kaleigh E. Cooper
Mr. Donald Corn
Dr. Paul R. Corts
Mr. Anton Coy
Mr. and Mrs. Darrol Cribbs
Ms. Kali N. Crockett
Mr. Dan Dallmann
Ms. Elise N. Darrell
Mrs. Patsy and the Late Dr. David Davila
Dr. and Mrs. Marvin Davison
Ms. Betty Deen
Mrs. Nicole L. Dees
Mr. and Mrs. Brent W. DeRossett
Mr. Derek M. Deuwall
Ms. Maura P. Doe
Lt. Col. Daniel Dubbs
Ms. Nicole K. Duncan
Mr. Douglas Earls
Mr. Kenneth Eaves
Mr. David Eaves
Mr. Scott Eby
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Erickson
Mr. and Mrs. Evans
Mr. Thomas J. Fisher
Mrs. DeAnna M. Fite
Mr. Jonathan W. Foley
Ms. Claudia S. Fonseca

Mr. Bradley D. Hoefelman
Ms. Samantha M. Francis
Mr. and Mrs. Ward Franz
Mrs. Sara Freeman
Dr. and Mrs. Mike Fuhrman
Ms. Anne Gagnon
Ms. Judith E. Gallegos
Ms. Kay H. Garland
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Getty
Mrs. Doreen Gibson
Ms. Hannah J. Gibson
Mr. and Mrs. Andy Gidaro
Mrs. Kathryn Giesler
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Gimple
Dr. and Mrs. David Ginnings
Mr. Bruce Gosser
Mr. Donald R. Gowin
Mrs. Autumn A. Graber
Mr. and Mrs. Jim R. Grabowski
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Graves
Mr. Clayton E. Gray
Mrs. Jenny Greyn
Ms. Trinity N. Griffin
Mrs. Anita Groner
Mr. Bernard A. Gross
Mr. R. G. Gump
Mr. Timothy G. Hale
Mr. and Mrs. Billy L. Hanger
Mr. and Mrs. Kale D. Harbaugh
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Harless
Mrs. Kelly Harper
Ms. Debbie Harris
Mr. Larry Hartley
Ms. Kylie R. Heim
Mr. Bob Herndon
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin G. Hess
Ms. Carol Hill
Dr. and Mrs. Larry Hodges
Mr. Candis A. Hoesch
Ms. Davelyn Hood
Mr. Greg Horton
Ms. Jessica A. Huck
Mr. and Mrs. Miles Hudson
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hughes
Mr. Harold J. Hughes
Rev. William C. Hutchins
Ms. Debra Hutjens
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hyde
Mr. Jeffrey Ingeman
Ms. Eva-Nell K. Jackson
Mr. John A. Jansen
Mr. Thomas W. Jeffries
Mr. Douglas J. Jerome
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Jerome
Mr. and Mrs. T.J. John
Mrs. Amy G. Johnson
Ms. Lydia J. Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Jim G. Jones
Mr. Randall Kalinowski

Mr. and Mrs. Myron Kaufman
Mr. Clyde K. Kelleher
Mr. Ivas Kerans
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kim
Mr. C. Nathaniel Kimberling
Ms. Kailynn T. Kneibert
Mrs. Cindy Koester
Ms. Cecily M. Krehbiel
Mrs. Marilyn E. Kulmus
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Kuykendall
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Lane
Mr. and Mrs. Turner Lawson
Mr. and Mrs. Craig Lehman
Mr. Kevin S. Leiby
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Lewis
Mr. Tracy Limberg
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Linehan
Ms. Erika N. Loney
Mr. Lance J. Long
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Love
Mr. Carl and Dr. Dianna Lowe
Ms. Hannah M. Luallin
Rev. and Mrs. Henry Luckel
Mr. Montgomery Mahon
Mr. and Mrs. David Marsch
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Martin
Ms. Abigail D. Martin
Mr. David Martin
Mr. Jay Martin
Mr. Jordan Mason
Mr. and Mrs. Troy L. Mayfield
Mr. Joshua M. Mayfield
Mr. Mac McDermott
Mrs. Angela L. McDonald
Rev. and Mrs. Martin Micke
Mr. Harold E. Milford, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby J. Miller
Ms. Heather Miller
Ms. LeAnna Miller
Mr. William C. Mills
Mrs. Barbara Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Morris
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Mott
Mr. Stephan J. Munsell
Mrs. Patricia Munsell
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Murray
Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Nance
Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Nicewarner
Ms. Kelsey S. Nichol
Mr. Willie A. Nobles Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. Lane Nutt
Mr. Curtis O'Brien
Mr. Kelly L. O'Connor
Mrs. Elma G. O'Dell
Mr. and Mrs. Lou Odom
Mr. Joshua C. Oldweiler
Ms. Zion G. Opprecht
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Parrish
Ms. Mary Peaslee

Mr. Paul Peters
Mr. Ryan L. Peterson
Mr. Robert Plott
Dr. Jeremy Popek
Mr. Cody W. Powell
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Prier
Mr. Jeff Prier
Mr. and Mrs. Cleburn Priest
Ms. Susan E. Prine
Mr. Charles C. Ray
Ms. Buthaina Richeh
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Ricker Jr
Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Riddle
Mr. Claude Robertson
Ms. Lorabelle Rogado
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Rose
Ms. Marresa L. Ross
Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Ruhala
Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Russell
Mr. John W. Russell
Mr. Jonathan M. Ryan
Ms. KayCee J. Ryan
Dr. Christine Saladino
Mr. Tony J. Savage, Jr.
Mr. Dustin SchAAF
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Schriver
Dr. and Mrs. Kevin Schriver
Mrs. Cheryl Schweigert
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Scifres
Mr. Edward E. Seabough
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Sherman
Ms. Jessica M. Sherrill
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Shipman
Mr. and Mrs. James Shrimpton
Mr. David F. Slaughter
Ms. Kathryn A. Smart
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Smith
Mrs. C. Beth Snowden
Mrs. Mary Speedone
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Spencer
Dr. and Mrs. Don A. Spurgeon
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Spurgeon
Ms. Sarah E. Spurgeon
Mr. and Mrs. John St. Clair
Mr. Matthew L. Standage
Mr. Ryan T. Steel
Mr. Gerald F. Stephens
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stevens
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Stewart
Ms. Grace E. Stott
Mr. E. E. Stricklin
Mr. J. K. Sturgeon
Mr. Virgil G. Swenson
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Swink
Ms. Mary Tankersly
Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Tate
Mr. Nathaniel J. TenBroeke
Dr. and Mrs. Jerry H. Thornsberry

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne G. Till
Mr. and Mrs. John Timbrook
Mr. Jim Toliver
Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Toler
Mr. and Mrs. Gil Trout
Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Tsuruda
Rev. Leroy Tucker
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Turner
Dr. and Mrs. Sam Upton
Rev. and Mrs. Gary S. Urich
Ms. Claire E. Van Doren

Ms. Susan Vandevoort
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Vellia
Ms. Hailey A. Vernon
Ms. Donna Voisin
Mr. Lawrence W. Vossel
Mrs. Helen M. Votaw
Ms. Toni N. Wade
Ms. Judy Walden
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walters
Dr. and Mrs. Edward W. Walton
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Warden

Ms. Noella J. Wehner
Mr. and Mrs. Randall Weldy
Mr. Danny Wells
Ms. Lisa Wermuth
Mr. and Mrs. Larry F. Whatley
Mr. and Mrs. Darrell White
Ms. Kirstin A. Whitener
Mr. Gordon T. Wienecke
Ms. Lu Rae Wilkins
Ms. Della Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Williams

Dr. and Mrs. Leroy Winkle
Mrs. Karen L. Wittmaier
Mr. Tyler J. Woods
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wooster
Ms. Rebekah R. Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Wrinkle
Ms. Patricia A. Yelton
Mr. Jordan K. Young
Mrs. Noel L. Young-Speno
Ms. Laura K. Zimmer



Betsy Bryan Anderson '07

Program Director, Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services, Arkansas

By Denise Elson Tucker '89

Six years ago, Betsy Anderson and her husband, Michael, left full-time church ministry to answer the call to be houseparents.

After graduating from SBU in 2007 with degrees in youth ministry and psychology, with a counseling minor, Betsy became the associate youth director at First Covenant Church in Salina, Kan. She served there for almost four years before she and her husband moved to southeast Arkansas.

Betsy started work at Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services, where she served as a case manager and supervisor. The Andersons were in the process of becoming foster parents when they learned about houseparenting.

"We realized we could be devoting our whole life pouring into these kids, which had been a growing burden on both of our hearts for some time, without having to juggle full-time jobs and foster parenting," Anderson said.

In Anderson's work at the faith-based children's home, she serves many children in foster care, as well as youth in the juvenile justice system. She and her husband serve on the leadership team as volunteers for a state-wide non-profit – The Call – that recruits, trains and supports foster and adoptive parents.

She also works with overlooked youth in the schools, churches and communities of southeast Arkansas who have "been dealt cards no one ever should have to face."

"By providing intentional, therapeutic intervention for the trauma and a loving, structured support system, we hope they will be 'first generationers' of a different story," Anderson said, "whether it's the first to graduate from high school, attend/complete college, attain a full-time job, cultivate healthy relationships void of abuse. The list goes on of all the life change that is possible for these kids and their current and future families."

Her work through Vera Lloyd may be "on the complete other end of the spectrum (of a church vocation)," but much of what she does is the same at the core.

"As houseparents, we had the opportunity to truly empty ourselves daily for the sake of reaching the kids," Anderson said. "So many of the hundreds of girls we had in our home are living more peaceful, whole and fulfilling lives today – several of them have experienced the love of Jesus in a life-changing way."

"Some of our girls are parents now, and it's really rewarding to see them being this loving, nurturing parent that they themselves never had – breaking the cycles and chains."

Annual Corporate Foundation Gift Clubs

Heritage Society

\$50,000 and Above

Community Foundation of the Ozarks, Springfield, Mo.
First Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo.
Fred C. & Katherine B. Andersen Foundation, Bayport, Minn.
Hagan Scholarship Foundation, Columbia, Mo.
J.E. & L.E. Mabee Foundation, Tulsa, Okla.
Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, Mo.
Robert W. Plaster Foundation, Lebanon, Mo.

Legacy Society

\$20,000 - \$49,999

City of Springfield, Springfield, Mo.
Missouri Baptist Foundation, Jefferson City, Mo.
Missouri Colleges Fund Inc., Jefferson City, Mo.
MSU Department of Military Science, Springfield, Mo.
Musgrave Foundation, Springfield, Mo.
Nellie Nicholas Scholarship Trust, Springfield, Mo.
Scholarship America Foundation, Saint Peter, Minn.
Sunderland Foundation, Overland Park, Kan.
TUA Glenn Nursing Scholarship, Providence, R.I.

Distinguished Leadership Council

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Tahlequah, Okla.
Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation, Reston, Va.
Empire District Electric Company, Joplin, Mo.
First Baptist Church, Clinton, Mo.
Frank L. and Sue J. Brooks Estate, Madison, Miss.
Fresh Ideas Food Service Management, Columbia, Mo.
Gammill Family Foundation, West Plains, Mo.
Gold Mechanical Inc., Springfield, Mo.
Henry and Lucille Straus Scholarship, Springfield, Mo.
Jack Henry & Associates, Monett, Mo.
Judson Young Memorial Education Foundation, Salem, Mo.
Kauffman Scholars Inc., Kansas City, Mo.
Lebanon R-III School District, Lebanon, Mo.
Missouri National Guard, Jefferson City, Mo.
Oak Star Bank, Springfield, Mo.
O'Reilly Automotive Inc., Springfield, Mo.
Ottis & Reuben Trogdon Scholarship, Kansas City, Mo.
Ozark Action Inc., West Plains, Mo.
Rhodes Concrete and Construction, Bolivar, Mo.
Arch W. Shaw Foundation, Birch Tree, Mo.
Smith-Glynn-Callaway Foundation, Springfield, Mo.
Southern Sun Electric Corporation, Springfield, Mo.
Windstream Communications Inc., Little Rock, Ark.

President's Council

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Army Emergency Relief, Alexandria, Va.
Artisan Construction Services Inc., Springfield, Mo.
Bank of Bolivar, Bolivar, Mo.
Chickasaw Nation, Ada, Okla.
CIS Data Services LLC, Springfield, Mo.
Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Shawnee, Okla.
Citizens Memorial Hospital, Bolivar, Mo.
CMH Foundation, Bolivar, Mo.

Cocopah Indian Tribe, Somerton, Ariz.
Concord Baptist Church, Jefferson City, Mo.
Do Something Inc., New York, N.Y.
El Dorado Promise, El Dorado, Ark.
Elks National Foundation, Chicago, Ill.
First Baptist Church, Arnold, Mo.
Foster Care to Success, Sterling, Va.
Helitech, Belleville, Ill.
International Scholarship & Tuition Services Inc., Nashville, Tenn.
MFA Foundation, Columbia, Mo.
Mid-Missouri Bank, Bolivar, Mo.
Miles Memorial Fund, Bolivar, Mo.
Missouri Masonic Scholarship Fund, Columbia, Mo.
New Site Baptist Church, Monett, Mo.
Opal M. Huffman Charitable Trust, Kansas City, Mo.
Second Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
South Central Missouri Community Action, Winona, Mo.
Stanberry R-II High School, Stanberry, Mo.
The Doe Run Company, Viburnum, Mo.
Tulsa Community Foundation, Tulsa, Okla.
Tyson Family Foundation, Springdale, Ark.
Wells Fargo Matching Gifts Program, Saint Paul, Minn.
Wellspring Fellowship, Bolivar, Mo.
Wilkerson's Commercial Flooring, Springfield, Mo.
William R. Edgar Charitable Foundation, Saint Louis, Mo.

Provost's Club

\$1,000 to \$4,999

AGA, Alexandria, Va.
Alliance Christian Fellowship, Bolivar, Mo.
Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty, Chicago, Ill.
American Red Cross, Charlotte, N.C.
Arkansas Baptist Foundation, Little Rock, Ark.
Asbury United Methodist Church, Tulsa, Okla.
Ava R-I School District, Ava, Mo.
Ava United Methodist Church, Ava, Mo.
Ava's Grace Scholarship Foundation, Saint Louis, Mo.
Bank of Advance, Advance, Mo.
Baptist Foundation of Illinois, Springfield, Ill.
Baptist General Convention of Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo.
Baptist Trinity Lutheran Legacy Foundation, Kansas City, Mo.
BD Medical, Franklin Lakes, N.J.
Beattie Scholarship Trust Fund, Saint Joseph, Mo.
Benton High School Foundation, Saint Joseph, Mo.
BKD LLP, Springfield, Mo.
Blu Current Credit Union, Springfield, Mo.
Brunswick Foundation, Lake Forest, Ill.
Cabool Saddle Club, Cabool, Mo.
Calvary Baptist Church, Manning, Iowa
Calvary Baptist Church, Neosho, Mo.
Calvary Chapel of Blue Island, Blue Island, Ill.
Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo.
Carl and Anna Carson Memorial Scholarship, Bolivar, Mo.
CFFRV, Aurora, Ill.
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Durant, Okla.
Christian Service Foundation, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Claremore Assembly of God, Claremore, Okla.
Claude & Ada Low Foundation, Springfield, Mo.

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Clearwater R-I Schools, Piedmont, Mo.
 Clever R-V School District, Clever, Mo.
 Club Bear Inc., Republic, Mo.
 Commerce Bank, Bolivar, Mo.
 ConocoPhillips Company, Houston, Texas
 Crete Public Schools Trust, Crete, Neb.
 Cystic Fibrosis Association, West Plains, Mo.
 Deer Run LLC, Green Ridge, Mo.
 Delta R-V High School, Delta, Mo.
 Doniphan Senior High School, Doniphan, Mo.
 Dunklin R-V School District, Herculaneum, Mo.
 El Dorado Springs Ministerial Association, El Dorado Springs, Mo.
 Farmers State Bank, Bolivar, Mo.
 FCS Financial, Jefferson City, Mo.
 Fee Fee Baptist Church, Bridgeton, Mo.
 Fellowship of the Concerned, Liberty, Mo.
 Finley Charitable Foundation, Lamar, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Hermitage, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Thayer, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Richland, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Bismarck, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Independence, Kan.
 First Baptist Church, Lebanon, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Neosho, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Newport, Ark.
 First Baptist Church, Peculiar, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Wellington, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, West Plains, Mo.
 First Christian Church, Rolla, Mo.
 First Day Free Will Baptist Church, Cabool, Mo.
 First Southern Baptist Church, Stockton, Mo.
 First United Methodist Church, Canon City, Colo.
 Foresters Financial, Buffalo, N.Y.
 Former Agents of the FBI Foundation, Dumfries, Va.
 FRHS Athletic Booster Scholar Fund, Keller, Texas
 Future Leadership Foundation, Jefferson City, Mo.
 Gascosage Electric Cooperative, Dixon, Mo.
 Grand Prairie School District, Grand Prairie, Texas
 Hall Family Foundation, Kansas City, Mo.
 Higher Education and Ministry, Nashville, Tenn.
 HJM Innovations LLC, Elkland, Mo.
 Hollister Tiger Booster Club, Hollister, Mo.
 Hopewell Baptist Church, New Bloomfield, Mo.
 Hopewell Baptist Church, Quincy, Mo.
 Humansville Christian Church, Humansville, Mo.
 Hutchins Advertising LLC, Springfield, Mo.
 IMA Heartland Council, Kansas City, Mo.
 Integrity Tax and Accounting, Bolivar, Mo.
 Intel Foundation, Princeton, N.J.
 Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines, Iowa
 Iron County C-IV Schools, Viburnum, Mo.
 Jack J. Isgur Foundation, Kansas City, Mo.
 Jera Foundation, Rosebud, Mo.
 John Byron Corbin Charitable Trust, Nevada, Mo.
 John Lyons Sr. Scholarship Foundation, Washington, D.C.
 Kids' Chance Inc., Saint Louis, Mo.
 L & M Cattleman's Association, Ewing, Mo.
 Laclede Electric Trust, Lebanon, Mo.
 Lakeland R-III School, Deepwater, Mo.
 Las Brisas 1, Inc., Malden, Mo.
 Lebanon Area Foundation, Lebanon, Mo.
 Lenexa Baptist Church, Lenexa, Kan.



Libby Boyles Owens '91

Executive Director St. Joseph Pregnancy Resource Clinic

By Denise Elson Tucker '89

Libby Owens speaks for those who do not have a voice.

Owens, who earned her B.A. in communication from SBU in 1991, is the executive director of the St. Joseph (Mo.) Pregnancy Resource Clinic. Through the clinic, she helps pregnant, at-risk women in the community, as well as providing post-abortion recovery support with free clinic services and classes.

"It is an honor to protect the miracle of life for voiceless, unborn babies," Owens said. "I love it when women gain confidence and choose life. It is a blessing to see lives transformed even in the most challenging circumstances."

During 2016, 165 babies were born to women receiving crisis pregnancy services through the St. Joseph PRC. Owens enjoys being able to help provide the guidance these women and their babies need.

"My job is all about life," Owens said. "I work so unborn babies are given the opportunity to live. Often, the next generation begins at St. Joseph Pregnancy Resource Clinic, when a woman at a crossroads in her pregnancy, decides to carry her baby to term."

As an undergraduate at SBU, Owens never saw herself in the position she is currently in, but says she has always enjoyed helping others.

"The best way to do that is when I am using my abilities for the Lord," Owens said.

And the confidence to utilize those abilities, including how to communicate with the women who come to her clinic, was nurtured by the late Dr. Bob Derryberry, professor of speech and communication.

"On several occasions, Dr. Derryberry would challenge me to see my speaking abilities beyond my limited perspective," Owens said. "His instruction gave me a desire to understand the art of communicating effectively."

Owens also uses that guidance to inspire others who are in similar situations of influencing the next generation.

"I would advise any leaders of non-for-profit organizations to be mindful of the mission and services provided," Owens said. "There is always benefit in seeking Godly wisdom and genuinely caring about those you serve. I often pray for the unborn babies and the women in crisis pregnancies."

And she remains motivated to persevere for unborn babies.

"Now I have the responsibility to 'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute,' – Proverbs 31:8," Owens said.

"There is great joy in striving to serve God and protect these miracles of life."



Darren Sutton '91

Central Director of Student Ministries
Parkview Christian Church, Orland Park, Ill.

By Denise Elson Tucker '89

During his 30 years in student ministry, Darren Sutton has been asked about when he would become a “real” pastor and start preaching, suggesting that maybe he is getting too old to work with students.

“I knew when I was 13 that God had called me to student ministry,” Sutton said. “I’ve never seen myself anywhere else, and I’m thankful that God hasn’t, either.”

Sutton’s ministry has taken him to churches in Arizona, Texas, Virginia, Missouri, Florida and most recently, Orland Park, Ill.

His wife, Katie, says there are hundreds of teenagers, parents and volunteers who would say that Darren had a part in helping them toward a life-long relationship with Jesus Christ. Many of his former students and volunteers have gone on to be vocational student pastors, missionaries, staff pastors, while others continue to volunteer in their church’s student ministries.

“I’m so fortunate that I get to directly influence teenagers, but I also get to influence other adults who influence them,” Sutton said. “God has opened doors for me to write and speak about student ministry, faith culture among teenagers, and how to influence adults who influence kids on a national level.”

Student ministry, and how it is presented, has changed a lot over Sutton’s career.

“I’ve been doing the same thing for almost 30 years now, just in different

packaging,” Sutton said. “When I started in youth ministry, outreach was a ticket to a pizza party. Following Columbine, it was a worship movement that helped kids feel intimately connected to Christ.

“Now, as we turn another generational corner, I’m creating spaces where students can discuss, openly, their dubiety about Jesus or faith, while earning the right to share Truth with them over time.”

The greatest influence on Sutton’s philosophies and practices in his career came from Betty Jo Mulberry, former professor of religious education.

“Ms. Mulberry challenged me to think outside the box regarding student ministry,” Sutton said. “She was the first person to ever push me to think about how current culture affects how we accomplish ministry with students and how that might change over time.

“She absolutely made excellence a part of the regular conversation – if this is for Jesus, we should be making it excellent. And, she declared that you never get too old to work with students.”

Sutton said he didn’t appreciate Mulberry for the wisdom she instilled during his time at SBU.

“I’m pretty sure I thought I knew more than she did because I was young and she... wasn’t,” Sutton said. “But within a few years of graduation, I realized that everything I was becoming in youth ministry was influenced by her. I could never express my gratitude.”

Liberty North High School, Liberty, Mo.
Lincoln Elks Lodge #80, Lincoln, Neb.
Living Water International, Sugar Land, Texas
Macks Creek Alumni Scholarship, Macks Creek, Mo.
Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Alexandria, Va.
Mary Robinson Charitable Trust, Providence, R.I.
McCartney Scholarship Trust, Newport, Ark.
Meek Charitable Trust, Springfield, Mo.
Melva Palmer Ellis Memorial, Lebanon, Mo.
MIAAA, Warrensburg, Mo.
Miami Public Schools Enrichment Foundation, Miami, Okla.
Midlothian Baptist Church, Midlothian, Va.
Miller Management Systems LLC, Kansas City, Mo.
Missouri Association of Rural Education, Warrensburg, Mo.
Missouri Insurance Education Foundation, Jefferson City, Mo.
Missouri Society of CPAs, Saint Louis, Mo.
Missouri Water Well Association, Dixon, Mo.
Montgomery Family Foundation Inc., Carrollton, Ga.
Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Lake Ozark, Mo.
Mount Vernon R-V School District, Mt Vernon, Mo.
Mountain Mover Ministries, Lees Summit, Mo.
Mutual Insurance Company, Louisville, Ky.
National Merit Scholarship, Evanston, Ill.
National Propane Gas Foundation, Washington, D.C.
New Home Baptist Church, Newburg, Mo.
New Hope Baptist Church, Sedalia, Mo.
Nichols Foundation, Canton, Mo.
North Nodaway Education Foundation, Hopkins, Mo.
North Shore Baptist Church, Rocky Mt, Mo.
Nucor Steel Arkansas, Blytheville, Ark.
Odd Fellows Home Association, Fulton, Mo.
P.E.O. Scholarship Grant, Liberty, Mo.
Palmyra Chamber of Commerce, Palmyra, Mo.
Physical Therapy Specialists, West Plains, Mo.
Plano Independent School District, Plano, Texas
Pleasant Home Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
Prairie View Sunday School, Shelbyville, Mo.
Purdy FFA Alumni, Purdy, Mo.
Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
Riverwood Bible Church, Jackson, Miss.
Ross’s Floor Covering, Bolivar, Mo.
Royal Neighbors America Scholarship, Rock Island, Ill.
Russellville High School, Russellville, Ark.
Saint Luke’s Health System, Kansas City, Mo.
Salem Memorial Hospital, Salem, Mo.
School of the Osage Foundation, Lake Ozark, Mo.
Shelter Insurance Foundation, Columbia, Mo.
Siloam Springs School District, Siloam Springs, Ark.
Simmons Bank, Stockton, Mo.
Skaggs Foundation, Branson, Mo.
Smokers Outlet LLC, Glendale, Ariz.
South County Baptist Church Foundation, Saint Louis, Mo.
Southside Baptist Church, Aurora, Mo.
Speedwell Southern Baptist Church, El Dorado Springs, Mo.
St. Louis Carpenters’ District, Saint Louis, Mo.
St. Louis Community Foundation, Saint Louis, Mo.
State Farm Companies Foundation, Princeton, N.J.
State Street Foundation, Princeton, N.J.
Sterling Investment Advisors LLC, Bolivar, Mo.
Tabernacle Baptist Church, Piedmont, Mo.
Temple Baptist Church, Sullivan, Mo.

The Ellis Foundation, Fort Scott, Kan.
 The Pearl Foundation, Springfield, Mo.
 The Presser Foundation, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Thomas & Dorothy Leavey Foundation, Los Angeles, Calif.
 Town & Country Supermarkets, Salem, Mo.
 Truman Heartland Community Foundation, Independence, Mo.
 Twin Rivers Baptist Association, Wright City, Mo.
 United Daughters of the Confederacy, Anderson, S.C.
 United Freewill Baptist Church, West Plains, Mo.
 US Bank Foundation, Minneapolis, Minn.
 US Foods Inc., Salem, Mo.
 Ventura College Foundation, Ventura, Calif.
 Wal-Mart Distribution Center, Saint James, Mo.
 Walmart Store #27, Salem, Mo.
 Webster & Virginia Thomas Scholarship, Tipton, Mo.
 White River Valley Electric Trust, Branson, Mo.
 William Butterworth Foundation, Moline, Ill.
 William T. King Scholar Trust, Saint Joseph, Mo.
 Windgate Charitable Foundation, Siloam Springs, Ark.
 Windsor Baptist Church, Imperial, Mo.

Founders' Club
\$500 - \$999

Adrian Christian Church, Adrian, Mo.
 Aldrich Christian Church, Bolivar, Mo.
 Alton R-IV School District, Alton, Mo.
 Amarillo Area Foundation, Amarillo, Texas
 American Legion Auxiliary, Salem, Mo.
 Amy Baptist Church, Caulfield, Mo.
 Anna Star Chapter #522, Anna, Ill.
 Ashland Greenwood High School, Ashland, Neb.
 Bear State Bank, Harrison, Ark.
 Believers Life Care Group, Fort Worth, Texas
 Blue Springs Christian Church, Blue Springs, Mo.
 Bowers Service Company, Carthage, Mo.
 Brighton Baptist Church, Brighton, Mo.
 Bronson Healthcare Group, Kalamazoo, Mich.
 Bryant Crosspointe Church, Bryant, Ark.
 Bud Jones Memorial Scholarship, Odessa, Mo.
 C-Metro Inc., Maumelle, Ark.
 Calvary Baptist Church, Edwardsville, Ill.
 Calvary Baptist Church, Odessa, Mo.
 Capital Region Medical Center, Jefferson City, Mo.
 Carlton Company, Holden, Mo.
 Clinton J Carr Foundation Inc., Lebanon, Mo.
 The Catalyst Church, Springfield, Mo.
 Chaffee Public School Foundation, Cape Girardeau, Mo.
 Christ Lutheran Church, Overland Park, Kan.
 Church of God Holiness, Lowry City, Mo.
 City of Maumelle Youth Council, Maumelle, Ark.
 Clintonville Lodge #482, El Dorado Springs, Mo.
 Closer Walk Church, Ridgedale, Mo.
 Clover Road Christian Church, Hannibal, Mo.
 Colten Powell Memorial Scholarship, Clarksburg, Mo.
 Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, Kansas City, Mo.
 Community Trust of Troy, Troy, Mo.
 Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Kearney, Mo.
 Diamond R-IV High School, Diamond, Mo.
 Dixon Community Scholarship Fund, Dixon, Mo.
 Elliott, Robinson and Company LLP, Springfield, Mo.
 Evers and Company CPAs, Jefferson City, Mo.



Clara Madden Maloy '09

Fourth-grade teacher
 Central Christian School in St. Louis

By Denise Elson Tucker '89

Clara Maloy always knew she would be a teacher.

Both of her parents are secondary teachers and she loved spending time in their classrooms at the end of each day or during the summer.

"Our days now look much different, but I am grateful for the passion they fostered in me by being examples," said Maloy, who earned her degree in early childhood and elementary education from SBU in 2009.

For the past four years, Maloy has taught fourth grade at Central Christian School in St. Louis. Central Christian is a private school with an enrollment of 276 students who come from 43 different ZIP codes in St. Louis. Maloy embraces the school's diversity.

"There is something different about Central Christian School that I never experienced before I walked through the doors," Maloy said. "Our diversity is something that we celebrate. Our differences remind us that the God we serve is creative with us all and He delights in us.

"So we strive to foster diversity and use it as a tool to learn from one another and grow up in Christ together."

Part of Central Christian's curriculum includes "The Young Peacemaker," which focuses on what Scripture says about being a peacemaker. Maloy's class discusses conflict and the implications, whether good or bad.

"This year, in particular, my fourth-graders were incredibly profound in one of our first lessons about what conflict is and what conflict is not," Maloy said. "My kids mentioned things like 'conflict is: brave, a relationship builder, a time to slow down and listen. Conflict is not: always negative, always kind, a reason to run, or too big for God.'

"I believe that through these lessons, God is using me to prepare my kids in a really practical way for countless situations they will walk through."

Being a positive part of a student's life is key to impacting their future, Maloy says, and being a Christian school educator, allows her to take that further.

"I am able to shepherd the whole child," Maloy says. "Our curriculum goes beyond academia and we can look at all we do through a biblical worldview. ...I don't have to sacrifice academia to teach who Jesus is and how we can weave His story throughout all that is taught in my classroom and school."

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fair Play R-II Schools, Fair Play, Mo.
 Faith Baptist Church, Lees Summit, Mo.
 Family Church, White Hall, Ark.
 Farmington Elks Lodge #1765, Farmington, Mo.
 Fellowship Bible Church, San Antonio, Texas
 First Baptist Church, Appleton City, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Baxter Springs, Kan.
 First Baptist Church, Bentonville, Ark.
 First Baptist Church, Independence, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Braymer, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Camdenton, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Cameron, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Carl Junction, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Centralia, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Eldon, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Hamilton, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Jenks, Okla.
 First Baptist Church, Jonesboro, Ark.
 First Baptist Church, Linn, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Marshall, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Maryville, Ill.
 First Baptist Church, Nixa, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Pevely, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Pierce City, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Richland, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Rolla, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Seneca, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, St. Charles, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Union, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Versailles, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Winfield, Mo.
 First Christian Church, El Dorado Springs, Mo.
 First Freewill Baptist, Purdy, Mo.
 First National Bank, Camdenton, Mo.
 First Southern Baptist Church, Kimberling City, Mo.
 Fisher Properties Inc., Holts Summit, Mo.
 Five Star Paving LLC, Humansville, Mo.
 Foundation for Springfield Public Schools, Springfield, Mo.
 Friends of Children Everywhere, Kokomo, Ind.
 Friendship Baptist Church, Dexter, Mo.
 Gift of Hope Inc., Forsyth, Mo.
 Glenview Assembly of God Church, Granite City, Ill.
 Gospel Light Freewill Baptist Church, Bonne Terre, Mo.
 Grandview R-II School District, Hillsboro, Mo.
 Grant Avenue Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
 Griffith Family Charitable Foundation, Neodesha, Kan.
 Harrison High School, Harrison, Ark.
 Henderson Baptist Church, Rogersville, Mo.
 Highland Area Community Foundation, Highland, Ill.
 Hillcrest Baptist Church, Lebanon, Mo.
 Honey Creek Baptist Church, Wolfe City, Texas
 Illinois Baptist State Association, Springfield, Ill.
 Independence School District Foundation, Independence, Mo.
 Jones Construction, Salem, Mo.
 Journey Church, Springfield, Mo.
 Keeling Foundation for Kids Inc., Bolivar, Mo.
 Kickapoo Voiture 760 40 & 8, Springfield, Mo.
 Berryville Kiwanis Club, Berryville, Ark.
 KLL Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Shawnee Mission, Kan.
 L and S Fencing and Excavating LLC, Garfield, Ark.

Lael Ministries Inc., Saint Louis, Mo.
 Liberty Baptist Church, Miami, Okla.
 Lighthouse Baptist Church, Saint Ann, Mo.
 Lighthouse Children's Theatre, El Dorado Springs, Mo.
 Linden Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.
 Lone Star Baptist Church, Willard, Mo.
 Macks Creek R-V Schools, Macks Creek, Mo.
 Maplewood Baptist Church, Maplewood, Mo.
 Marble Creek United Baptist Church, Arcadia, Mo.
 McDonalds of Salem, Rolla, Mo.
 Members First Community Credit Union, Quincy, Ill.
 Millcreek Baptist Church, Silex, Mo.
 Montgomery Broyles Memorial Scholarship, Springdale, Ark.
 Morningside Bible Church, Sioux City, Iowa
 Mundial Seeds Inc., Santa Maria, Calif.
 National Christian Foundation Heart, Olathe, Kan.
 National Council of Jewish Women, Prairie Village, Kan.
 New Covenant Community Church, Lincoln, Neb.
 New Heights Church, Fayetteville, Ark.
 New Hope Fellowship, Green Forest, Ark.
 Nixa General Baptist Church, Nixa, Mo.
 North Platte Foundation, Dearborn, Mo.
 Northeast Baptist Church, Clinton, Mo.
 Norwood R-I School District, Norwood, Mo.
 Oak Grove Baptist Church, Salem, Mo.
 Osceola Community Church, Osceola, Mo.
 Our Lady of the Lake Church, Branson, Mo.
 Owensville Christian Church, Owensville, Mo.
 Park Baptist Church, Brookfield, Mo.
 Pea Ridge School District 109, Pea Ridge, Ark.
 Platte Woods United Methodist Church, Kansas City, Mo.
 Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, Salem, Mo.
 Polk County Mutual Insurance, Bolivar, Mo.
 Redford Baptist Church, Redford, Mo.
 Regions Bank, Fairview Heights, Ill.
 Relevant Church, Springfield, Mo.
 Robinson Baptist Church, Siloam Springs, Ark.
 Salem United Methodist Church, Salem, Mo.
 Second Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Mo.
 SEMO Electric Foundation Inc., Sikeston, Mo.
 Sharon Baptist Church, Wichita, Kan.
 Sheldon Baptist Church, Sheldon, Mo.
 Skupa Agency Inc., Campbell, Neb.
 Sleeper United Methodist Church, Lebanon, Mo.
 Southside Baptist Church, Charleston, Mo.
 Spring River Baptist Association, Joplin, Mo.
 Temple Baptist Church, Poplar Bluff, Mo.
 Thomas M Paul Memorial Scholarship, Saint Joseph, Mo.
 Tidwell Concrete Inc., Springfield, Mo.
 Tower View Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.
 Treehouse Condo Rentals Inc., Branson, Mo.
 Trinity Baptist Church, Willow Springs, Mo.
 Trinity Baptist Church, Reedsburg, WI
 Valley Springs First Baptist Church, Valley Springs, Ark.
 Verona Baptist Church, Verona, Mo.
 VFW Post 5923, Camdenton, Mo.
 Victor Baptist Church, Branson, Mo.
 Warrenville Bible Chapel, Warrenville, Ill.
 West Central Electric Coop Inc., Higginsville, Mo.
 Westside Church of the Nazarene, Olathe, Kan.

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Willard Tigers Booster Club, Willard, Mo.
 Willow Springs Scholarship Club, Willow Springs, Mo.
 Word of Life Community Church, Kansas City, Mo.
 Wyandotte County Christian Church, Kansas City, Kan.

Bearcat Club

\$250 - \$499

First Baptist Church, Adult II Class, Monroe City, Mo.
 Aiden McVicker Charitable Fund, Cameron, Mo.
 Association of Retired SBU Personnel, Bolivar, Mo.
 AT&T Services Inc., Washington, D.C.
 B & M Interiors Inc., Iberia, Mo.
 Blue Valley Baptist Church, Overland Park, Kan.
 Bolivar Ready Mix & Materials Inc., Bolivar, Mo.
 Bolivar Rotary Club, Bolivar, Mo.
 Brownfield Baptist Church, Richland, Mo.
 Builders Glass & Products, Springfield, Mo.
 Calvary Freewill Baptist, Springdale, Ark.
 Camdenton R-III Foundation, Camdenton, Mo.
 Camdenton Reorganized District R-III, Camdenton, Mo.
 Canaan Baptist Church, Saint Louis, Mo.
 Capital West Christian Church, Jefferson City, Mo.
 Castlewood Baptist Church, Ballwin, Mo.
 Chatham Baptist Church, Chatham, Ill.
 Commerce Bank of Springfield, Springfield, Mo.
 Crane R-III School District, Crane, Mo.
 Cross Timbers Southern Baptist Church, Cross Timbers, Mo.
 Crosspointe Baptist Church, Lees Summit, Mo.
 Davis Memorial Scholarship, Paris, Mo.
 Dorrisville Baptist Church, Harrisburg, Ill.
 Emmaus, Springfield, Mo.
 Evans Memorial Scholarship, Butler, Mo.
 Evergreen Baptist Church, Bixby, Okla.
 Everton Community Church, Everton, Mo.
 Fairview Christian Church, Carthage, Mo.
 Farmington PTSA, Farmington, Ark.
 First Assembly of God Church, Bolivar, Mo.
 First Baptist Church of Buckhorn, Waynesville, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Adair, Okla.
 First Baptist Church, Dexter, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Iberia, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Harrisonville, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Jasper, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Licking, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Marceline, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Mascoutah, Ill.
 First Baptist Church, Republic, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Richland, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Waynesville, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Weaubleau, Mo.
 First Evangelical Free Church, Ballwin, Mo.
 Frontenac School District #249, Frontenac, Kan.
 Grace Baptist Church, Richland, Mo.
 Hartville R-II School District, Hartville, Mo.
 Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo.
 Independence Baptist Church, Richland, Mo.
 Independent Colleges and Universities, Jefferson City, Mo.
 Jack Ruble Memorial Scholarship, Piedmont, Mo.
 Kate Duncan Smith DAR School, Grant, Ala.
 Kids First Education Foundation, Wellington, Mo.
 Kings Point Baptist Church, Lockwood, Mo.
 Lake Area Civic Association, Camdenton, Mo.



Pamela Lynn Bryson Foster '05, '09

Science teacher at Spokane (Mo.) High School

By Denise Elson Tucker '89

Teacher, youth leader, parent, foster parent.

These are just a few of the hats that Pamela Foster wears – all of which Foster, and her husband, have been passionate about for many years – and areas in which she has an impact on the lives of the next generation.

“I love teaching because I hope to make an impact on the future,” said Foster, who earned her bachelor’s degrees in chemistry and education in 2005 and her master’s in educational leadership in 2009, both from SBU. “As educators, we have the responsibility in shaping and developing the students to become the leaders of the future.

“I love youth ministry because we work with students from all walks of life, teaching them about Christ, deepening their understanding of Scripture.

“As a foster parent, I love giving a family and support to kids who need it.”

Foster had wanted to be a teacher since she was a child. She considered being a doctor, lawyer or nurse, but those pursuits were for financial purposes. Her passion has always been to teach and work with youth.

She and her husband have struggled to conceive, but in spite of that struggle, they always considered adoption.

“We started fostering and decided to do therapeutic for teen boys, and traditional for 0-3-years of age,” Foster said. “We work with kids who have experienced trauma some-

times beyond comprehension. We try to help them embrace adulthood, embrace opportunities and choices they have before them.”

During that time, the Fosters adopted a 20-month-old boy (now 6 years) and an 8-month-old girl (now 5), but continued to take in foster children.

“We work with caseworkers, the team, therapists and others to bring these boys a long distance in a short time,” Foster said. “We pray as they move through their adult years, that something we said or did will remain with them and make a positive impact on their future.”

Among the SBU faculty who had a positive influence on Foster during her college years and her future, Dr. Gary Gray stands out for Foster.

“I learned so much from him that has made me the educator I am today,” Foster said. “I didn’t just learn content, but how to be a teacher who demonstrates the love of Christ throughout their teaching.”

And, with so much on her plate, how does Foster keep going?

“My passion and calling given by God is what keeps me going,” Foster said. “My husband is a rock for me. The task of pouring into youth is never done; there is always a need.

“However, it is not about me. It is about what God can do through me, as He is far more powerful than anything I am capable of.”

Lake of the Ozarks Idiots Club, Camdenton, Mo.
 Lowry City Community Betterment, Lowry City, Mo.
 Charles Lyons Memorial Foundation, Inc., Lexington, Mo.
 Macedonia Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
 Morgan County R-2 Alumni Association, Gravois Mills, Mo.
 Mount Gilead Church, Olney, Ill.
 Nevada High School Scholarship Foundation, Nevada, Mo.
 New Providence Baptist Church, Oronogo, Mo.
 Newport Baptist Church, Lamar, Mo.
 Northwest Region Association Inc., Saint Joseph, Mo.
 Oakstar Bank, Bolivar, Mo.
 Osage Beach Police Department, Osage Beach, Mo.
 PEO Chapter BT, Riverton, Kan.
 Pilgrim Rest Church, Mountain View, Mo.
 Printers Ink LLC, Springfield, Mo.

Reedley Asa Inc., Reedley, Calif.
 Shippy Memorial Scholarship, Warrensburg, Mo.
 SSHS Scholarship Fund, Siloam Springs, Ark.
 Smithville R-II School District, Smithville, Mo.
 South Haven Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
 Southern Hills Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo.
 Saint Clair County State Bank, Osceola, Mo.
 Summit Community Church, O Fallon, Mo.
 Trinity Baptist Church, Willow Springs, Mo.
 Union County Home and Community Education, Anna, Ill.
 Union Hall Baptist Church, El Dorado Springs, Mo.
 Utica Baptist Church, Utica, Mo.
 Viola Baptist Church, Shell Knob, Mo.
 Warren Baptist Church, Monroe City, Mo.
 Whitewater Chapter No. 174 O.E.S., Leopold, Mo.



Randy Buffington '79

Minister of Worship, First Baptist Church, Lee's Summit, Mo.

By Denise Elson Tucker '89

Randy Buffington has served as a minister of worship since he graduated from SBU with a degree in music education in 1979.

His work has taken him to Missouri churches in Lamar, Springfield, Warrensburg, Independence, and now at First Baptist Church in Lee's Summit, where he works with the youth choirs.

"Hopefully, they (the youth) will learn that through service to others and loving people, regardless of who they are or what circumstances they are in, they can either help change lives for the better or just let those people know they are loved," Buffington said.

"And hopefully, Christ will be glorified through those actions."

While an undergraduate at SBU, Dr. Duncan Couch, Susan and George Baker, Dr. Ted Harris and Delrae Glidwell encouraged Buffington to believe in himself.

"They helped me see that even a young man with limited talents, such as me, could make an impact on other people as long as I loved them and helped them to see their potential for higher service," Buffington said. "These teachers never

stopped encouraging me and pushing me to learn and grow and love."

The impact of Buffington's dedication is still being felt, having served in the ministry for almost 40 years.

"He was my youth music director over 25 years ago, and he still has a heart and passion for youth," Erika (Lukens) Wheeler '94 said. "Randy was such a blessing in my life as a teenager, and he kept all of us kids wanting to come back for more.

"As an adult, I have kept in touch with Randy all these years later. He is just a joy to be around and still has such a vibrant, full ministry at his home church (Lee's Summit)."

And Buffington appreciates hearing from the youth he has taught and mentored during his career.

"I am basing this on anecdotal evidence, but the kids I have ministered to over the years are pretty consistent in following up and attending and serving churches of their own as adults," Buffington said.

"It's been nice to hear back from them over the years about how much youth choir meant to them and how it helped shape their faith and their service."

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS: Don Fahrni '68, *chairman*; Phillip Franz, *vice chairman*; Randy Johnson '77, *secretary*

David Bennett '72, *Businessman, Joplin*
Joe Brand, *Businessman, Salem*
David Brown '88, *Pastor, Lebanon*
Syndee Chase, *Businesswoman, Lebanon*
Todd Decker '83, *Pastor, Neosho*
Jerry Dudley, *Pastor, St. Charles*
Jim Evans '74, *Businessman, Blue Springs*
Kevin Farr, *Pastor, Steelville*
Don Fahrni '68, *Businessman, Russellville*
Phillip Franz, *Businessman, West Plains*
Susan Gilmore '79, *Educator, Mt. Vernon*
Jana Horner '89, *Physician, Bolivar*
Wayne Hutchins '51, *Retired Businessman, Springfield*

Bob Ingold '72, *Attorney, Springfield*
Randy Johnson '77, *Pastor, Republic*
Don Jump '64, *Dentist, Bolivar*
Durwin Kicker '85, *Pastor, Marshfield*
Charles Kimball '83, *Pastor, Ballwin*
Ronda Miller, *Businesswoman, Camdenton*
Rick Moore '85, *Educator, Kansas City*
Donna Neil, *Businesswoman, Springfield*
Ryan Palmer '96, *Pastor, Springfield*
Mark Rains '70, *Attorney, Blue Springs*
Rebecca Randles '85, *Attorney, Kansas City*
Billy Russell '85, *Pastor, Bolivar*

ADMINISTRATION

C. Pat Taylor, Ed.D., *President*
Darren Crowder '98, M.A., *Dean of Enrollment Management*
Rob Harris '88, Ed.D., *Vice President for Student Development*
Brad Johnson, Ed.D., *Vice President for University Relations*
Allison Langford, Ed.D., *Associate Provost for Teaching and Learning*
Bob McGlasson, Ed.D., *Associate Provost and Vice President of Operations for the Mercy College of Nursing & Health Sciences*
Tara Parson '03, C.P.A., *Chief Financial Officer and Vice President for Administration*
Mike Pitts '85, M.B.A. '10, *Director of Athletics*
J. Lee Skinkle, Ph.D., *Provost*

DEANS

Troy Bethards '93, D.B.A., *Robert W. Plaster College of Business and Computer Science*
Kezia Lilly '96, D.N.P., R.N., *Mercy College of Nursing & Health Sciences*
Rodney Reeves '79, Ph.D., *The Courts Redford College of Theology & Ministry*
Kevin Schriver '83, Psy.D., *College of Education & Social Sciences*
Perry A. Tompkins, Ph.D., *College of Science and Mathematics*
Ed Walton, Ed.D., *University Libraries*
Jeff Waters, D.M.A., *Geneva Casebolt College of Music, Arts & Letters*

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Holly Bridge '08, *Director of Alumni Engagement*
Theresa Daniels, *Director of Donor Relations*
Jim Grabowski '08, *Development Officer*
Jack Hays, *Fundraising Consultant*
Kristina Hottes '11, M.B.A. '13, *Assistant Director of Development Services*
Penny Marr, *Assistant Director of Stewardship Services*
Granville Watson, *Fundraising Consultant*
Steve Whisler '71, *Fundraising Consultant*

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

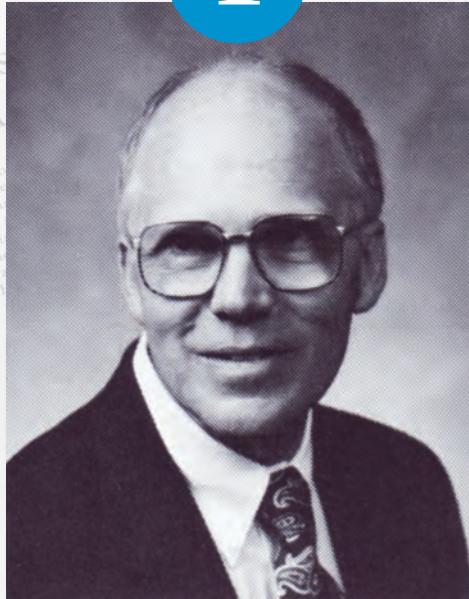
Alyssa Glasgow '15, *Graphic Designer*
Charlotte Highsmith Marsch '97, *Director of Marketing and Communications*
Denise Elson Tucker '89, *Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications*
Jeff Weseloh '09, M.B.A. '13, *Director of Athletics Media Relations*
Rebekah Wright '10, *Assistant Director for Digital Marketing*

Guess Who?

Throughout the years, SBU faculty and staff have greatly influenced the lives of students who come to our campus. Those students become alumni who go on to impact future generations for God's Kingdom.

Can you recognize any of the former SWBC/SBU faculty and staff pictured below?

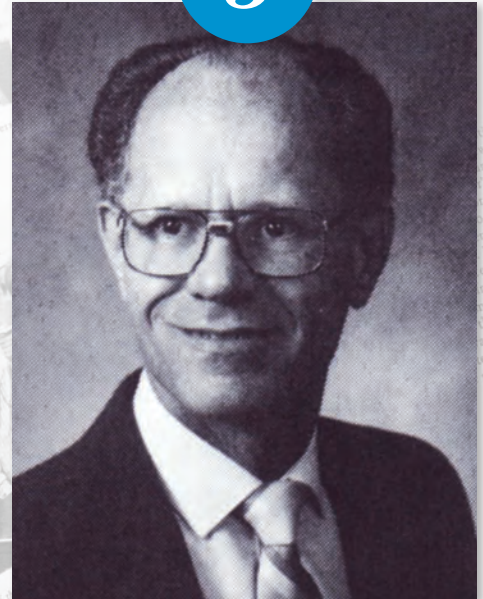
1



2



3



Everyone who correctly identifies at least one of these employees will be entered into a prize drawing. Submit your guesses by email to **SBUcommunications@gmail.com** or by mail to: Office of Marketing and Communications, 1600 University Ave., Bolivar MO 65613.

Entries must be received by Friday, March 17.

Thank you to all who participated in the previous Guess Who contest.
The pictured SBU employees were Julia Campbell, Chris Keller and Mark Grabowski.

The following all submitted correct responses: Marita [McCampbell] Avilez, Larry Froelich, Julia Campbell, Nick Wilson, Amy Varner, Ivan Peterson, Jeremiah Greever, David Thiessen, Stan Sullinger, Russ Batten, Kristina Palmer, Juanita Boro, Gloria Simpson, Angela Crites, Cinda Smith, Megan Carry, Pattie [Wilson] Reitz, and Brian Zipfel

Congratulations to Kristina Palmer who won the prize package!

1950s

William L. Hooper '51, Ph.D., professor emeritus of music at SBU, was one of four winners of the Missouri Composers Project 2017 competition, which is part of the Mizzou New Music Initiative. The winners receive a \$500 honorarium from the Singuefield Charitable Foundation. The 85-year-old's choral composition, "Crucifixus," was selected as one of the works that will be performed by the Columbia Civic Orchestra and the Columbia Chamber Choir at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, March 19, at Broadway Christian Church, 2601 W. Broadway, Columbia, Mo. Admission to the concert is free and open to the public.

1960s

Ronnie Lowry '68 is retired and resides in Jacksonville, Fla. He would love to hear from other SBU alumni from 1968-1970. He can be reached at ronnie.lowry@outlook.com.

1970s

Jackie Bursmeyer '71 retired on May 1, 2016 from serving as a missionary for 38 years with the International Mission Board in Chile and the Americas. She can be reached at jsbursmeyer@yahoo.com.

Stanley Smith '71 and his wife, Lynda, reside in Harrisburg, Pa. Stanley currently serves as the Interim Executive Director-Treasurer of the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey. He can be reached at StankSmith@aol.com.

Larry Scantlan '78 and his wife, Donna, live in Wentzville, Mo. Larry retired in 2014 from the IT industry and is now a professional entertainer performing at more than 30 nursing homes and assisted living/independent living facilities throughout St. Louis and St. Charles counties. Larry can be reached at scanco@charter.net.

1980s

Todd DeFore '85 lives in Glen Allen, Va., and can be reached at rebd41@gmail.com.

Jana Kolthoff '88 lives in Saint Peters, Mo., and has three children, Tyler Wienecke (22), Rachel Wienecke (19) and Sean Wienecke (13). Jana would love to hear from her friends and can be reached at jlwien@gmail.com.

1990s

Patrick '90 and **Cindy Payton '90** live in Midland, Texas, where Patrick is senior pastor at Stonegate Fellowship, a church founded 17 years ago and the largest Baptist church start in state history.

Mark Cooper '90 is currently a leader of Bible Study Fellowship. He has two nieces and two nephews. He lives at 6700 E. 135 St., Grandview, Mo, and would love to hear from his friends at SBU.

Darren '91 and **Katie (Wilmoth) Sutton '91** reside in Frankfort, Ill., and have three children, Isaac (21), Timmy (19) and Max (16). Darren recently joined the staff at Parkview Christian Church in Orland Park, Ill., where he serves as Central Director of Student Ministries. He is a regular contributor to youthministry.com, Group Magazine, and has authored or contributed to 15 books and resources for youth ministry. He can be reached at veteranyp@gmail.com.

Mark Zaragoza '95 lives in Midlothian, Texas, and recently accepted a position at UT Southwestern Medical Center as a Certified Medical Office Assistant. He also works as an EMT for AMR North Dallas. He can be reached at zaragoza.mark@gmail.com.

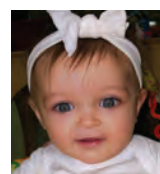
Misty (Burge) Wiseman '96 and her husband, Michael, live in Poplar Bluff, Mo., and have three children. Misty can be reached at mistywiseman@pb.k12.mo.us.

2000s

Jason '00 and **Carrie (Fitzwater) Williamson '00** live in Beasley, Texas. They have three children, Jayna (10), Josiah (6) and Judah (5). The family can be reached at jwilliamson36@att.net.

Carissa (Petersen) Palmberg '06 and her husband, Karl, have two children, Russell (2) and Ava (1). The family lives in Brandon, S.D., and can be reached at carissa.palmberg@gmail.com.

Future Bearcats



Sarah (Mercer) Ballard '01 and her husband Josh welcomed Lyla Jean Ballard on April 28, 2016. Lyla's big brother Isaac is proud of his baby sister.

Jennifer (Bonds) Ebers '10 and her husband, Andrew, have one daughter, Elena Jane (10 months).

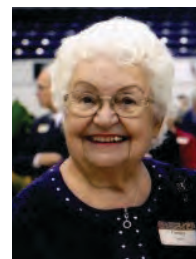
Rebecca (Brightwell) Cross '10 and her husband, Nathan, welcomed their first child, Zadie McKay, on December 30, 2016.

In Memory

Karen J. (Stapp) Hatcher '56 passed away on Dec. 8, 2016, at Integris Grove Hospital after a long illness. She received her A.A. degree on May 11, 1956.

Ben Brown '65, '67 passed away at his home with his family by his side on February 7, 2017. He graduated from SWBC with the first four-year class and went on to receive a master of divinity from Midwest Baptist Theological Seminary. The last 57 years of his life were spent preaching the Gospel. At the time of his passing, he was serving as minister to senior adults at Calvary Baptist Church in Republic, Mo. He is survived by his wife, Freida, two sons, and two daughters, including his daughter, Joy Brown, who serves as secretary for the education department at SBU.

Carolyn Mott '50 passed away February 6, 2017 at the age of 86. She is survived by four daughters, 13 grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren. Carolyn was a long-time SBU supporter and received the Life Service Award from SBU in 2005. Memorial contributions may be made to the Martha Carolyn Mott Music Scholarship at Southwest Baptist University.



HOME COMING 2017 | SEPTEMBER 22-23

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for **HOME COMING 2017** on the SBU Campus!

Nominations are open for the Edwin Lightfoot Distinguished Alumni Award and Life Service Awards to be given during Homecoming 2017! Deadline to submit nominations is March 10, 2017. For details, go to <http://www.SBUniv.edu/alumni/alumni-association/index.php> or contact Holly Bridge, director of alumni engagement, at **(417) 328-1806** or alumni@SBUniv.edu.

Historic Season for SBU Football

Southwest Baptist University wrapped up its most successful season in program history in 2016, with a conference co-championship, its first trip to postseason play, a national ranking and multiple postseason honors.

The Bearcats finished the season with a 10-2 record and ranked No. 22 in NCAA Division II. Their historic season came to an end with a 63-35 opening-round loss at home to the Colorado School of Mines on Nov. 19.

SBU junior running back Bubba Jenkins earned second-team All-America honors from the Don Hansen Football Committee, first-team All-Region honors by Don Hansen and second-team All-Region from the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association; freshman offensive lineman Sammy Zeqiraj was named All-America honorable mention; head coach Robert Clardy '08 was named Great Lakes Valley Conference Coach of the Year,

and sophomore quarterback T.J. Edwards earned GLVC Offensive Player of the Year honors.

Picked to finish fifth in 2016's GLVC Preseason Poll following a 4-6 record in 2015, the Clardy-led Bearcats shared the GLVC Championship with Truman State University. SBU also had four unanimous All-GLVC first-team selections. The Bearcats had a league-high 10 first-team selections and 19 total honorees.

The Bearcats also re-wrote the program's record book, setting 28 different marks. Jenkins led the way for SBU, establishing six records, while senior punter Austin Molitor set four records. As a team, the Bearcats set or extended 13 team records, with nine of those on the offensive side of the ball.

SBU opens the 2017 season on Aug. 31, at Eastern New Mexico. The Bearcats' home opener is Sept. 9 against Mississippi College.



SBU junior running back Bubba Jenkins

eSports launched for 2016-17 school year

Southwest Baptist University became one of about 15 colleges and universities in the nation to offer eSports as a varsity athletics program, including scholarships for varsity athletes.

As a varsity program, SBU is a charter member of The National Association of Collegiate eSports (NACe), a new organization founded and initially funded by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). NACe is the governing organization for varsity collegiate eSports programs.

ESports, or "electronic sports," is an emerging, competitive gaming scene in which teams compete in popular video game titles. SBU's first varsity team competes in League of Legends, a five-player team game in which the team works together to destroy an enemy team's base.

"SBU has taken several steps over the last year in our intramural eSports program,

which led to this dream coming to fruition," said Chris Allison '16, director of SBU's Meyer Wellness and Sports Center. "Our Spring 2016 intramural success in our Xbox One arena has led to our expansion into the varsity eSports world."

The pilot program was so successful in engaging a student population that SBU's Executive Cabinet approved the creation of a varsity eSports team.

"Gamers have existed for decades on college campuses, competing online and against each other in the solitude of their dorm rooms," said Allison, who serves as SBU's eSports head coach. "This new program will not only give us the opportunity to highlight the skills of our players, compete intercollegiately and create on-campus community, but it presents us with the opportunity to offer scholarships to high-level players and provide them with an equally high-level education."

SBU competes in the Collegiate StarLeague, which is comprised of about 600 U.S. schools and has been facilitating collegiate eSports competition since 2009.

The team finished its inaugural season's fall split with a record of 4-3.

Collegiate StarLeague, the hosting organization for League of Legends collegiate competition, runs the competitive season during both the fall and spring semesters. Competition begins with a "fall split," where teams are randomly arranged in divisions and compete in a round-robin structure.

This fall, SBU competed in the Midwest Division 9 with teams from University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Mississippi State University, Columbia College and Washington University-St. Louis.

The fall split standings are used to reorganize divisions for the spring split. SBU has advanced to a single-elimination playoff in March.

More than 200 students graduate from SBU in Bolivar

Southwest Baptist University graduated 214 students at two winter 2016 commencement ceremonies.

Dr. Carolyn Bishop, president of the Consortium for Global Education, delivered the commencement address at the Bolivar ceremony on Dec. 16. Dr. Bishop began her work with CGE, an international education organization, in 1997.

Tyler Hernandez, a psychology graduate from Bloomington, Calif., delivered the Bob R. Derryberry Senior Address. Dustin Surber, a music

education graduate from Marshfield, Mo., presented the senior music performance. Surber performed "Corner of the Sky," from the musical "Pippin," by Stephen Schwartz.

The Mercy College of Nursing and Health Sciences of SBU held its commencement on Dec. 15, at Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Springfield.

Logan Williams, ASN graduate, delivered the Springfield campus commencement address. ASN graduate Benande Molme sang "How Great Thou Art," accompanied by Gerald Adams, also an ASN graduate.

SBU honors Bryants with Life Beautiful Awards

Robbie Bryant, MEP maintenance supervisor, and his wife, Dr. Julie Bryant '97, associate professor of education, received the Staff and Faculty Life Beautiful Awards during the annual employee Christmas banquet in December.

Staff Life Beautiful

Robbie Bryant has worked in SBU's Physical Plant for 14 years and currently is the MEP maintenance supervisor. He attends Lakeside Assembly of God Church, where he serves as the lead musician for the worship team. In addition, he serves in the music ministry of First Baptist Church of Bolivar at the Esquire, where he sings, plays instruments and acts in various skits.

"He understands the value and importance of ensuring a comfortable, functional work environment for SBU's students, faculty and staff," said SBU President Dr. C. Pat Taylor. "He is known always to have a pleasant demeanor with anyone with whom he has contact, treating everyone with respect, dignity and understanding.

"As one co-worker noted, 'He is a great example of a Christian

family man; he loves his wife and children as Christ loves us.'" He also is a member of the "Highway 32 Bluegrass" band, ministering at churches around the state through Christian bluegrass music.



Robbie Bryant (left), Staff Life Beautiful Award recipient; Dr. Julie Bryant (right), Faculty Life Beautiful Award recipient

Faculty Life Beautiful

Dr. Julie Bryant '97 has been a member of the SBU faculty since 2002 when she began as an instructor of education. Before coming to SBU, she taught kindergarten and first grade at School of the Osage. She currently is an associate professor of education, the Lewis E. Schollian Chair of Education and Faculty Senate president.

"Dr. (Lee) Skinkle has shared with me how impressed he has been by her spirit of enthusiasm and cooperation, and what a pleasure it is to work with her," Dr. Taylor said. "She is truly an asset to our University.

"From one of her colleagues: 'She is a blessing to all with whom she works. She constantly seeks ways to improve her instruction, care more deeply for the students, while engaging

in many activities throughout campus. She always brings smiles to faces across campus.'"

She is a member of Lakeside Assembly of God Church in Pittsburg. The Bryants have two children, Jaron and Jaylee.

Bolivar Chamber selects SBU as Large Business of the Year

Southwest Baptist University received the Large Business of the Year award from the Bolivar Area Chamber of Commerce in November.

"One of the neat things about when a prospective student visits our campus is when making that decision to attend SBU, they look at the community," said Dr. Rob Harris, vice president for student development, when he accepted the award. "They go and eat at places in Bolivar and they find out if this is the community they want to be in. Time and time and time again, we hear, 'We like it here. We like the caring atmosphere.' So people of Bolivar and businesses, thank you

for this award and thank you for your efforts to make this community thrive."

SBU President Dr. C. Pat Taylor was unable to accept the award because he was out of town on personal business, but he was thrilled to hear that SBU had received the award.

"For years, SBU has enjoyed being part of the Bolivar community, and it is always our goal to be a positive contributor to Bolivar and the people who live here," Taylor said.

→ BE A LIFE-CHANGER!

An investment made by donors to SBU's Annual Scholarship Fund helps equip students like Noella, with the tools necessary to make a difference in the world. SBU students will join a network of Bearcats boldly following Christ as they live out His love in their workplaces, neighborhoods and communities.

Will you consider donating to the Annual Scholarship Fund this year? SBU students are calling now to tell you how your gift changes the lives of many SBU students.

Every donation makes a difference! A gift of any size to the Annual Scholarship Fund will impact students in a **BIG** way.

1 ONLINE
giveto.SBUniv.edu

2 MAIL
University Relations
1600 University Ave.
Bolivar, MO 65613

3 PHONE
[417] 328-1801

SBU's Annual Scholarship
Fund **2017 Phonathon Goal:**

\$115,000



MEET NOELLA
PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY MAJOR
KANSAS CITY, MO

I want to donate to SBU's Annual Scholarship Fund:

Enclosed is my one-time gift of _____, payable to Southwest Baptist University.

I pledge _____, to be paid over _____ months.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

