

MOODY  
Alumni News

Fall 2017



**Alumni Tour**

Celebrating 500 Years of the  
Protestant Reformation

# From the Executive Director



*Alumni Swiss  
Reformation  
Tour coming  
next March.*

Dear friends,

I have an exciting announcement. Come with us on our second Alumni tour next March—this time to beautiful Switzerland! Our Germany trip last spring was such a special time that we'd like to continue the journey. We'll trace the steps of prominent reformers like John Calvin and Ulrich Zwingli while enjoying the splendid scenery, food, and fellowship. See the ad on page 29.

Looking for work? For great job-hunting advice from Moody alumni, be sure to read "Life after Moody." Inside, you'll also read about some alumni with unusual resumés, including a trauma hospital chaplain, a modern-day circuit riding preacher, and the last of the great gospel singers from the live radio era.

Put Founder's Week 2018 on your calendar, and as always, we welcome your updates and prayer requests: [mbialum@moody.edu](mailto:mbialum@moody.edu) or (312) 329-4412.

Serving Christ together,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy K Hastings". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings  
Executive Director, Moody Alumni Association

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Moody Alumni News, Fall 2017 (Vol. 67, No. 2): Executive Director: Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings; Managing Editor: Linda Piepenbrink; Art Director: Lynn Gabalec; Alumni Notes Editor: Alexandria Hunter; Alumni Board of Directors: Cherie (Bruchan '75) Balog, Tobias Brown '05, Chris Drombetta '14, Steve Dutton '86, Peter Grant '83, Col. Joe Hilbert '93, David Lee '08, Tracy (McPhail '14) Reed; Julie (Carlen '80) Ross, Jim Shedd '72, Yvonne (Hurd '80) Wolf.

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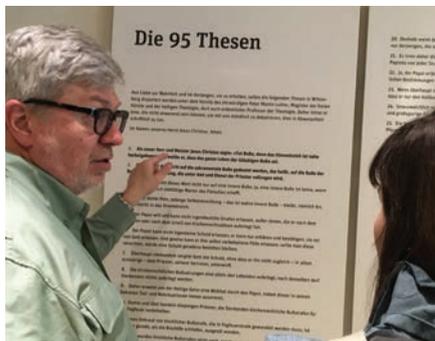
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## Alumni Reformation Tour

Last March, Moody alumni, students, and friends, along with **Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings**, celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation in Germany, touring famous sites such as the Wartburg Castle, J. S. Bach's house, and Martin Luther's church. Above, Dr. Michael McDuffee, a Moody professor of theology, discusses the baroque-period gold ornamentation in the Basilica of the Nativity of Our Lady in Regensburg, a church that remained Catholic after the Reformation. At the center of the altarpiece, above the crucifix, is a statue of Mary.



*Dr. Gregg Quiggle, a Moody professor of theology, talks with Anja, a Moody student from Switzerland, about Martin Luther's 95 Theses at the Castle Church in Wittenberg.*



*Three alumni are serving in Berlin: **Josh '02** and his wife, **Laura '03**, and **Leah '08**, who's married to a German Christian. They joined the Moody tour group for a traditional Luther dinner.*



The tour guide (left) explains Luther's conviction that indulgences cannot save a person. "Only grace through faith, and these are gifts from Jesus Christ and cannot be bought or earned," she said at Luther's Castle Church burial site. Luther's sermons centered on preaching Christ crucified, says Dr. Quiggle (below), explaining artist Lucas Cranach's altarpiece in Wittenberg's Town Church.



Outside the Stadtkirche (Town Church) in Wittenberg, the group observes a Kristallnacht memorial, remembering the 1938 Night of Broken Glass when Nazis burned Jewish neighborhoods and sent 30,000 Jewish men to concentration camps. The plaque says that six million Jews were murdered under the sign of the cross. In reality, Dr. McDuffee says, "they were crushed under the sign of the swastika." Much of the German church was silent during the Holocaust, but Dietrich Bonhoeffer and others were arrested for urging allegiance only to Christ, not to the state.



Linda Piepenbrink, managing editor of Alumni News, enjoys Munich's Marienplatz with Nancy Hastings.

# Moody Highlights

## Save the Date for Founder's Week 2018

Mark your calendar now to attend Founder's Week February 5–9, 2018. You'll enjoy powerful messages from respected Christian leaders, including **Mike Bullmore '79**, **Dennis Hollinger '69**, **James Ford Jr. '84**, Ed Stetzer, James MacDonald, and Moody's president, Dr. Paul Nyquist.

Founder's Week is a great time to see old friends. On Monday, February 5, reunion dinners will be

held for the big four classes of 1968 (50th), '78 (40th), '93 (25th), and 2008 (10th). Tuesday, February 6, includes the annual Alumni Banquet and class reunions for all class years ending in a 3 or 8. Visit Moody Bible Institute Class of (*insert your class year*) to join your class page on Facebook. Big four classes, watch for a specific mailing in September containing more details about the alumni activities.

## Christmastime at Moody

Celebrate the Christmas season at Moody with two special annual events.

Enjoy Handel's *Messiah* on Sunday, November 5, 2017, at 3:30 p.m. This outstanding oratorio concert includes a choir and orchestra primarily made up of students and alumni. **Note:** The concert, held in Torrey-Gray Auditorium, is scheduled a week earlier than in previous years. Tickets are \$16 (prime seating), \$14 (standard), and \$12 (reduced) beginning October 13. Visit [moody.edu/messiah](http://moody.edu/messiah).

Candlelight Carols, a wonderful mix of Christmas carols, original drama, and performances by Moody's music

ensembles, will be held at The Moody Church in Chicago on Friday, December 1, at 8 p.m., and Saturday, December 2, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Alumni may purchase up to four discounted tickets at \$10 each for the Friday performance. Come at 6 p.m. on Friday to mingle with alumni and President Paul Nyquist at a pre-performance alumni reception. To register for the reception and to request discounted tickets, contact the Alumni Office at (312) 329-4412, or email [mbialum@moody.edu](mailto:mbialum@moody.edu). For Saturday's performances, visit [candlelightcarols.com](http://candlelightcarols.com).

## Pray Online for Global Theological Education

Moody alumni are invited to join others online to pray for world missions and global theological education. The Prayer Center connects Christians with a prayer leader and weekly prayer services through a live video conference call or telephone call. This ministry is led by Dr. Jonathan Armstrong, who moved this summer from Moody Bible Institute in Spokane to the Chicago campus. For details, visit [aqueductproject.org/prayer-center](http://aqueductproject.org/prayer-center). Email questions to Martha Nehring at [martha.nehring@moody.edu](mailto:martha.nehring@moody.edu).



## Equipping Leaders for Complex Times

With churches facing daunting challenges today, Pastors' Conference helped energize and equip pastors and ministry leaders on Moody's Chicago campus May 22–25, 2017.

Main speakers included Crawford Loritts, Mark Bailey, Paul Nyquist, Colin Smith, Stephen Davey, Derwin Gray, Bruce Fong, Alex Montoya, and Erwin Lutzer.

Dr. Paul Nyquist, president of Moody Global Ministries, preached on Titus 3:2–8: “In a rude and crude and offensive world, regularly, constantly, and consistently remind your people that we’re to be kind to everyone without exception. If we were to do that, perhaps the church would be able to start changing the narrative in this country.”

For the first time, Pastors' Conference en Español took place simultaneously on Thursday, May 25. Speakers included Guillermo Serrano from Back to God International Ministries, **Paco Amador '94**, senior

pastor at New Life Community Church, and Daniel Carroll, professor of Old Testament at Wheaton College. They gave workshops in Spanish on such topics as pastoral care, biblical views on immigration, and ministry for second- and third-generation Hispanics.

Other workshops ranged from preaching to the post-Christian woman and mentoring as a pastoral practice to media and technology in ministry and how churches can holistically support the abused. The Barna Group presented “The State of Pastors,” addressing how today's faith leaders are navigating life and leadership in an age of complexity.

Music was led by **Dr. Feranda Williamson '15**, president of the Chicago Mass Choir (pictured above), **Tim Stafford '01** of The Moody Church, **Ayanda Khumalo '17**, **Jonathan McReynolds '15**, and Sergio Villanueva from Wheaton Bible Church.

# Moody Highlights

## Graduates Challenged to Be Change Agents

Moody's academic year concluded with four commencement exercises—two in Chicago, one in Spokane, Wash., and one in Plymouth, Mich. A total of 500 undergraduate and 135 seminary students took part in the ceremonies.

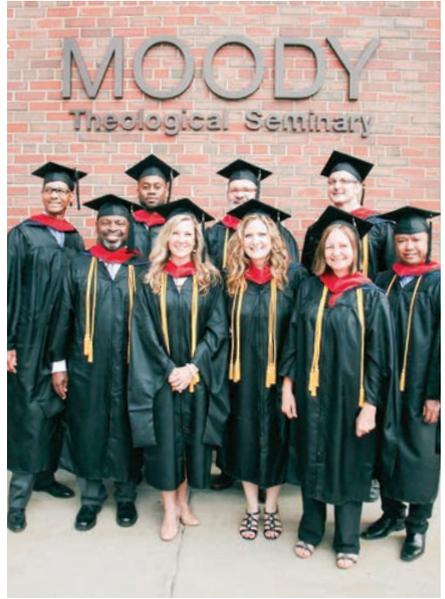
Nine students were commissioned by Moody Aviation in Spokane.

James P. Eckman, president emeritus and professor of history and biblical studies at Grace University in Omaha, Neb., gave the address at the Chicago ceremonies. Eckman challenged the graduating students to be change agents like Martin Luther, who started the Protestant Reformation 500 years ago when he nailed his 95 Theses to the Wittenberg Castle Church door. "As Luther stood for truth and was willing to pay the ultimate price, so you stand for truth. Be change agents for Jesus to produce another reformation of the church," he said. "Be that person whom God will use to transform people, transform the culture, and transform the world."

Moody awarded an honorary doctorate to Donnita Travis, founder of By the Hand Club for Kids, a holistic after-school program for Chicago children. The ministry started in 2001 and now serves 1,270 kids in five locations.

### Meeting Their Cohort

One of the Moody Bible Institute Distance Learning cohorts had 10 of its 18 members at graduation, most of them meeting in person for the first time after two years of online classes. They came together from Iowa, northern Virginia, Minnesota, Canada, and other places to receive



*From top left, Jermon Malone, Jeffery Beal, Benjamin Gengler, Donnie Collin, Spencer Felder, Heather Sneed, Samantha Postman, Judy Vande Zandschulp, and James Fortes. Candy Hambreck not pictured.*

their Master of Arts in Applied Biblical Studies. The group, which graduated in December 2016, developed camaraderie through discussion boards and Facebook, and also prayed for one another.

When **James Fortes** of Aurora, Ill., decided to quit the program with just one more class to go, his cohort noticed he hadn't submitted a major assignment for an Action Research Class and started praying for him. James ended up finishing his project and on graduation day at Moody he heard about his cohort's prayers. "I'm really thankful for this praying group of friends," he said.

## Hangar on Spokane Campus Dedicated

The new Cuthbert Hangar was dedicated at Moody Aviation in Spokane, Wash., on April 27.

Among other gifts given toward the Cuthbert Hangar, the cornerstone gift that made it possible to purchase the hanger was given by John Cuthbert in memory of his late wife, Marita. "I hope this will encourage the growth of the training program for missionary pilots, so they can be effective in helping more people learn about Christ and the Bible," said Mr. Cuthbert who was present at the dedication.

John and Marita both came to Christ about 25 years ago through the ministry of Moody Radio. After learning about Moody Bible Institute, they decided to partner financially with Moody and have done so for more than 25 years. Marita's interest in airplanes sparked an interest in Moody Aviation, and John felt led by the Lord to contribute toward Moody's purchase of the hangar. Model airplanes built by Marita will be on display in the hangar.

"The Cuthbert hangar will lay the groundwork for the program to continue growing and improving, as we serve and prepare our students to enter the mission field," said

**Jim Conrad '98**, program manager of Missionary Aviation Technology. "It will give us a great opportunity to expand some of our maintenance training for our students, and give them great experience in aircraft-rebuild projects."

The Cuthbert Hangar is located immediately east of one of the two existing hangars at Felts Field and will be used for storage and aircraft maintenance.

The additional space also gives Moody Aviation the room needed to purchase and install three new flight simulators that model the four primary training aircraft used for student training. The flight simulators will be used for systems training with mechanics and for training pilots in both instrument and visual flight conditions. "They will be a huge benefit, as they allow us to do simulator training through the winter months, when we are limited by the weather in Spokane," Jim said.



*Ron Storm (right), Moody regional stewardship manager, thanks John Cuthbert for his cornerstone gift for the new hangar.*

The dedication ceremony included a formal recognition of the Cuthbert family, in which John was presented with a clock of remembrance. Present at the dedication were Rod Higgins, Spokane Valley mayor; Mike Munch, Spokane Valley City Councilman; and Matt Shea, Washington state representative. Partners of Moody Aviation, staff, and students also attended.

# Moody Highlights

## Women Equipped to Live Out God's Call

Moody Bible Institute introduced a one-day leadership conference for women, *Called: Equipping Women to Live Out His Call*, on April 1, 2017. The training day provided theological teaching and encouragement to women who serve in varying areas of leadership and influence.

The workshops were designed to help Christian women cultivate God's calling to mentor and teach younger women, teach God's Word, and make disciples.

"I loved seeing so many women who are leaders and hungry for teaching and training. It is clear that women ministry leaders need the encouragement and equipping this conference offered," said **Dr. Pamela (Kistler '79) MacRae '02 MA**, program head for Ministry to Women and leader of the conference. "Women need to be theologically trained and biblically equipped for the ministry the Lord asks them to do."

To that end, MacRae announced three new online ministry courses for women, beginning in fall 2017. The cohort-based program will offer courses in Old Testament, New Testament, and studying and teaching the Bible. Students will take one class

at a time and visit the Chicago campus twice for seminars. The classes can apply to a Moody Bible Institute Distance Learning degree program if desired.

Three of the Called conference speakers were Moody alumnae: MacRae, **Christy Spader '12**, team leader for Cru at Ohio University and in Southeast Ohio, and **Judy (Bubeck '81) Dunagan**, acquisitions editor for Moody Publishers.

For more information about the online Bible equipping classes for women, please email [pamela.macrae@moody.edu](mailto:pamela.macrae@moody.edu).



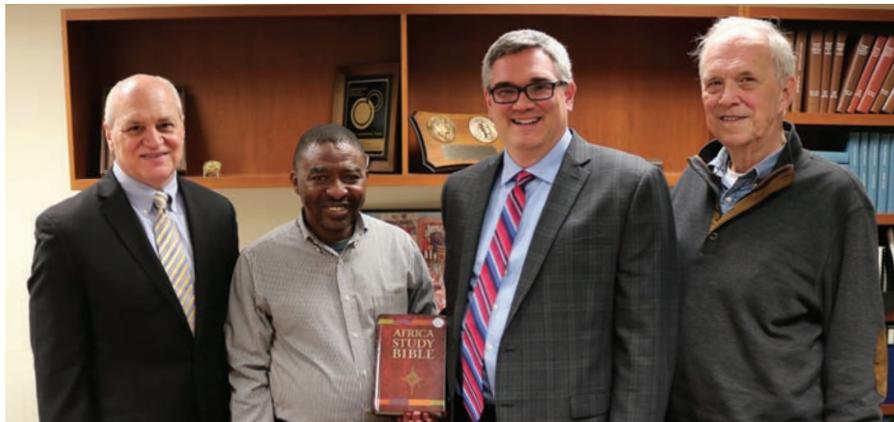
*Judy Dunagan, Pamela MacRae, and Christy Spader at the Called leadership conference.*

## New Book by Moody Alumnus Shortens Sermon Prep

*8 Hours or Less: Writing Faithful Sermons Faster* (Moody Publishers) by **Ryan Huguley '08**. If you're a pastor, you know how easily time can slip away. Huguley provides a day-by-day plan for dividing the work of sermon preparation into attainable goals, such as building a sermon frame, writing an

attention-getting introduction, inviting group input, and highlighting your notes. Huguley, pastor of Harvest Bible Chapel in Hickory, North Carolina, shares practical examples and pithy advice to help you prepare a sermon that's faithful to the text and effective for the listener.

## Moody Global Ministries Event Launches New Bible



**Celebrating the Africa Study Bible:** Moody President Paul Nyquist, John Jusu (supervising editor), Matthew Elliott (Oasis International president), and Ed Elliott (Oasis International founder).

The *Africa Study Bible* was recently unveiled at Moody Global Ministries' Chicago campus, celebrating the first English-language study Bible written by African scholars for an African context. Oasis International, founded by **Ed Elliott '62**, developed the Bible in partnership with Tyndale House Publishers and Urban Ministries, Inc.

"This is a very significant event in the history of the Church, and more specifically, a key milestone in the maturation of the African Church," said Moody's president, Dr. Paul Nyquist, who spoke at a celebratory dinner with leaders. "Moody is thrilled to be involved in this launch, using our voice and our influence to let the Church in the United States know about this new study Bible."

The *Africa Study Bible* uses a British English version of Tyndale's New Living Translation and includes more than 2,600 notes contributed by 350 pastors and scholars from 54 countries.

### Moody Spreads the News

Planning for the Moody event began last year after Ed Elliott, the 2012 Moody Alumnus of the Year, contacted Moody Radio about the new *Africa Study Bible*. Moody leaders went a step further, holding a strategy meeting in November 2016 with representatives from Oasis International and Tyndale House Publishers, the Bible's US distributor.

Their collaboration resulted in Moody hosting a two-day celebration that included a dinner, chapel, special music with Aaron Shust and **Ayanda Khumalo '17**, and an African Voices Conference featuring five of the African scholars who had contributed notes and articles to the *Africa Study Bible*.

Drs. Michael Glerup, Abel Ndjerareou, Priscilla Adoyo, John Jusu, and Tite Tienou not only shared their insights with audiences on Moody Radio but also taught Moody Bible Institute students and faculty in about 30 classes on Moody's Chicago

## Moody Highlights

campus following the unveiling during a student chapel on April 12. Topics included disciple-making, theology, the role of Western missionaries, and counseling—all in an African context.

### A Distinctively African Bible

While most Bible resources come from a Western perspective, the *Africa Study Bible* was created to reflect the knowledge, culture, and wisdom of Africa for the world. It also helps remedy the lack of contextualized materials for discipling African believers. Study notes include uniquely African issues such as rainmakers (1 Kings 17), the use of magic (Isaiah 47:9-14), and slavery (Philemon 1:20).

Glady's Mwititi, a clinical psychologist in Kenya and part of the founding committee for the study Bible, was excited that the launch took place at Moody. "I've sensed a receptivity from the Moody community, not only of the project but the whole idea of the *Africa Study Bible*," she said after speaking on Moody Radio's morning show in Chicago. "Moody to me represents the

center of balanced, missional, Christ-centered Christianity in America. I look at Moody as knowing what the faith is all about and turning out workers globally."

The study Bible's notes make connections to African rural life and family structure. "Think about this," Ed Elliott explained. "The people who wrote the notes for this grew up herding cattle, grew up without electricity, grew up with outdoor toilets, grew up with a dad who could well have been polygamous; they grew up in a culture very much like biblical culture. They have so much to share that you and I can't really understand the way they do."

Ed Elliott's son Matthew, president of Oasis International, added, "If there's one thing we Westerners can learn from African Christians, it's their bedrock belief in God and that He powerfully moves today in our world. May this Bible greatly benefit the Church in my country, the US, and throughout Africa."

## Alumnus Faculty and Editor Retires from Moody



**James Vincent ASP '78**, who retired from Moody Publishers after 35 years in April, could be called Moody's historian. Over the years, he revised and

updated *MBI: The Story of Moody Bible Institute* (1986) by **Gene Getz '52**, authored *A Vision with Wings: The Story of Missionary Aviation* (1992), and wrote *The MBI Story* (2011), which was published for Moody's 125th anniversary.

"It was a lot of fun," he says,

looking back on 26 years at Moody Publishers, 18 months with *Moody Monthly* (1988–90), and nine years on the Communications faculty (1979–88). "For me, Moody has always been about the message, and it's been a delight to convey that message to the students, then at the magazine, and at Moody Publishers."

Over the years, Jim has edited many books by pastors as well as biographies and even some fiction. Among his favorite projects to work on were *Unlocking the Bible* by Colin

Smith (“a four-volume series and a great overview, written extremely well”), *Living by the Book* by Howard and William Hendricks, and *The Moody Bible Commentary*, “a massive project almost seven years in the making,” he says. He felt honored to edit several books in *The 5 Love Languages* series by **Gary Chapman ’58** (“a real gentleman”), as well as books by Erwin Lutzer (“a tremendous man to work with”). He worked with Charles Ryrie on a revision of *So Great Salvation* and also enjoyed editing books by John MacArthur and Tony Evans.

Jim likes when authors think of him as their ally rather than an adversary. “Good editors are allies,” he explains. “We’re trying to make the message as crisp, as moving, as inspiring as possible.”

Jim earned his history degree from UCLA (journalism minor) and worked for a few years as a business editor in California. Then he completed the Advanced Studies Program at Moody Bible Institute. Afterward he taught on Moody’s Communications faculty. Later he served as an editor at *Moody Monthly* before he married Lori Shaw. He then joined Moody Publishers as general editor and later senior editor.

Besides a summer vacation in Australia with his oldest of three sons, Jim is enjoying spending more time with his family, as well as freelancing for Moody Publishers. “I enjoy that work, obviously,” he says. “Our books have always promoted God’s Word and have always promoted the Savior—and that’s what I find such a delight,” he says.

## Alumnus Paul Hollinger Receives NRB Award



Longtime radio broadcaster **Paul Hollinger ’58** received the 2017 NRB William Ward Ayer Award for Distinguished Service March 2, 2017, during the National Religious Broadcaster’s International Christian Media Convention in Orlando, Fla.

Hollinger joined WDAC-FM in 1961, which led to more than 50 years of broadcasting and opened many doors for Christian service. He served on NRB’s board of directors for 40 years and also two terms on the Moody Alumni board of directors. Paul and **Sylvia (Ruoss ’58) Hollinger** constructed the first full-time Christian radio station in Papua New Guinea and helped fund other projects to

reach Russia and Ecuador.

Hollinger was grateful to receive the special service award. “Thank you for your grace and love. I pray the honor goes to Jesus Christ . . . I want to be His faithful servant and steward of the excellent award.”

NRB president and CEO Jerry Johnson said, “Paul is a longtime radio broadcaster who is passionate about his relationship with Jesus Christ and about sharing his testimony and the Word of Christ to those he encounters. We are honored to present this award to him, and also thankful for his past service on NRB’s board of directors.”

The award is named after pioneer broadcaster and pastor William Ward Ayer, who was NRB’s first president. Ayer was instrumental in the formation of the association in 1944.

# Life *after* Moody

Transitioning from college to career

by Linda Piepenbrink



*Sharing insights from the job hunt: Alumni Todd Berge '11, a pastor in Algonquin, Ill., Sarah Ladino, Shawn Procter, Pam MacRae, and Brian Ondracek.*

**Sarah (McLaughlin '07) Ladino** never expected to be teaching English at a secular college. **Brian Ondracek '79** had no idea God would use his pastoral training from Moody in a publishing career. **Shawn Procter '08** didn't know he'd serve as a waiter for a few years before eventually becoming program director of GRIP, an outreach in Chicago public schools. Yet all of them are now convinced that God used their Moody education and experiences to lead them into their current work.

“I love how the Holy Spirit knows what He’s doing. So don’t get stressed out,” said Shawn, one of several alumni who spoke to current students at a Life after Moody dinner and panel discussion hosted by the Alumni Association on April 6, 2017. Students joined alumni at tables represented by youth ministry, social work and counseling, and TESOL and missions.

## Finding Your Future

Shifting from college life to a career or ministry can be intimidating and uncertain. Consider these answers to common questions from alumni who made the transition.

### What was your biggest challenge in finding a job?

**Anginette Fullerton ’16**, with a BA in Ministry to Women, says, “The biggest challenge for me was not finding a job opening but discerning if I should take it.” While serving as a camp worship leader the summer after graduation, she was offered a position in high-school ministry at The Chapel in Akron, Ohio. “I was hoping for a clear sign from the Lord; He didn’t give me one. What He did give me was the opportunity and desire to fill a need in this ministry.”

For **Tyler Joldersma ’16**, the biggest challenge was facing rejection. Despite sending out resumes and going to interviews, he didn’t hear back from many employers. “To my wife it seemed like I had gotten another part-time job because I was spending so much time just trying to find one,” he says. Yet, “knowing I had a family to provide for helped me vigorously pursue a career after college.”

### How important is networking?

Tyler wanted to work in the marketplace but didn’t know where to start. An alumna who had graduated

a year earlier recommended Enterprise Rent-a-Car. “His reference was my ticket in,” Tyler says.

At Tyler’s first interview, the recruiter said, “I don’t know what it is, but everyone we’ve hired from Moody has done exceptionally well at the company.”

Tyler, who got the job, says, “Though it was a surprise to the recruiter, it was not at all to me.”



*Tyler Joldersma (right) with his boss, Ryan Miggins.*

### How did Moody help prepare you for your work or ministry?

“Moody prepared me to work missionally with people from many different countries,” says **Sarah Ladino ’07**, who is using her linguistics degree to teach ESL at Truman College in Chicago. “At first I felt guilty for not teaching overseas with a Christian organization. “But God has shown me confidence in Him. My students are from all over the world and from closed countries. I love exactly where I am.”

### How can you find a position that suits you best?

Tyler advises getting to know yourself—what motivates you, excites you, and gives you joy. “Think through some of your best memories and greatest accomplishments,” he suggests. “Ask your friends and family questions about yourself. Put all of your discoveries together, find out what

that motivating factor is, then find a job that requires it. After that, do everything you can to get that job.”

Sarah, who worked with refugees before getting her current job, says, “You may be looking for your dream job, but it might not be the first job you get. Be a learner. When you’re 35, you’ll most likely be doing something you like better.”



*Shawn Procter (second from right) builds relationships with public high school youth.*

As a student, **Pam (Kistler '79) MacRae '02 MA** heard that Moody was the best Bible college in the world. “I believe that’s true, but when I graduated, I didn’t know I had absorbed this sense of being superior and entitled for God to use me,” she says. Pam got married and thrived as a pastor’s wife, but when her husband, **Bob '75**, left the pastorate to work at Moody, she felt sidelined. “The Lord had to work that out of me. He taught me that anything God calls you to do is God’s mercy because you deserve none of it. He doesn’t need you to do His work. So wherever you go, be willing to serve in the lowest spot.”

### **How did you discover God’s will for your life?**

“I didn’t have a five- or ten-year plan,” Sarah says. “I was just taking steps of faith in obedience to what I knew was right in front of me, and following

Jesus and the desires God put on my heart. The Lord led me through doors step by step. I’ve been helped by the church and friends who’ve advised me and prayed for me.”

Pam, a Moody professor of pastoral studies, says, “One of the things I loved was studying, so when I had opportunity to go to school, I did. When I eventually was offered this position, I thought, Oh, that was what that was for. Now I look back and every dot’s connected.”

Tyler says, “God has a crazy plan for your life! If you put your all into it, He will do far more than you could ever imagine. I had no idea that our family would grow from three to five by the time I graduated. I had no idea I would find my dream job renting cars all day. I had no idea how hungry the marketplace is for Jesus. God will truly do amazing things if you trust in Him.”

### **Looking back, what would you tell your college-age self to do?**

“Be moldable,” says **Brian Ondracek '79**, CEO of Pioneer Clubs Ministries. “After 40 years in business, I’ve learned that change is really good. Don’t hold on to what you think life is supposed to be. We’re here and we’re gone. Lighten up. Build great relationships. Be involved in kingdom work.”

Sarah was an RA while at Moody and wanted everyone on her floor to like her. “I would tell myself to not get so caught up in how I’m perceived by people and to rest in who I am in Christ, whether others appreciate me or not.”

### **How did you overcome the feelings of being unprepared for your first job?**

“My first year of full-time ministry has not been the graceful ‘first flight’ I imagined it would be,” Anginette says, “yet Christ has constantly encouraged me with the reminder that He uses

weak, unlikely, clumsy, faithful people to do His work.”

Sarah says she felt over-confident when she began nonprofit work after graduation. “But the Lord humbled me; I was in an administrative assistant-type job that I wasn’t that good at. My boss mentored me on how to be a professional; how to respond to emails quickly, for example. I grew through mentorship.”

### **How would you encourage graduating seniors?**

“Have patience and persevere as you transition from college into professional work,” Anginette says. “Call to mind your transitions of the past—and know that your post-college transition will take time and effort. Persist in obeying Christ and hoping in Him, gathering with other Christians, learning and



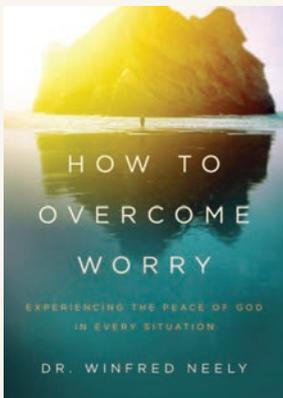
*Anginette Fullerton (far right) enjoys high school ministry to young women.*

working, failing and growing, because God is the same even if your life is changing and unclear. Keep to the way you’ve been trained, and trust Jesus as always.”

*Linda Piepenbrink is managing editor of Moody Alumni News.*

## HOW TO OVERCOME WORRY

### EXPERIENCING THE PEACE OF GOD IN EVERY SITUATION



Do you struggle with worry or anxious thoughts on a regular basis? Does your mind get fixated on the same concern over and over? Do you know you should stop worrying but repeatedly fail to do so? Dr. Winfred Neely presents a biblical and practical strategy from Philippians 4:6-7 as an antidote to worry.

**We’d like to send you *How to Overcome Worry* as our thanks for a gift of any amount. Reserve your copy today. Please fill out the attached card or respond online at [moodyalumni.org](http://moodyalumni.org).**



# Life and Death in the ER

Trauma chaplain learns through suffering

*by Anneliese Rider*

The emergency room floor was still being mopped of a gunshot victim's blood when a distraught loved one poked the hospital chaplain in the chest, asking, "Why did God allow my son to die?"

**Tim Robinson MA '08**, a trauma chaplain for Mercy Hospital in St. Louis, knows better than to answer the question directly. "It would be foolish for me to attempt to say something profound and try to teach them about God's sovereignty at that time."

Whether a patient comes into the trauma center suffering from a life-threatening car accident, gunshot wound, or stage four cancer, Tim collects information on the identity of the person, calls the next of kin, and helps family members with their anxiety. In 2016 Tim was directly involved in processing 200 deaths. "I can have up to five deaths in a 12-hour period," he explains. "My desire as a minister is to bring compassion into the situation."

Tim knows the importance of compassion after 18 years in the pulpit of three different churches, plus enduring pain in his personal life. Through painful experiences that caused him to contemplate taking his own life, he says he's become "a student of suffering," which has enabled him to better share God's love with suffering people.

### **Challenges at Church and Home**

Tim was a 26-year-old youth pastor at an Indiana church when the senior pastor unexpectedly resigned. For two-and-a-half years, Tim juggled both roles before he realized the work was too heavy and stressful. After delegating his youth duties to others, he served six more years. Meanwhile, his wife, Amy, had two children with serious but temporary complications at birth.

When Tim accepted an associate pastor position at a large community church in St. Louis, his fourth child, Bryce, was born with severe club foot and Down syndrome. Between multiple foot surgeries, Bryce began having life-threatening seizures that could only be controlled with medication. Tim and his wife prayed fervently for their son's health, but the problems continued. The increasing pressure of his home life made Tim grow weary of the everyday business of church meetings. "I became less and less patient with discussing trivial matters like the men's softball team or what color we should paint the nursery, while I was personally going through all these issues at home," he says.

When Bryce's health improved, Tim earned a Master of Arts in Ministry from Moody Theological Seminary. He also accepted his dream job as an English pastor at a Chinese church in St. Louis. Having grown up in Mexico where his father planted churches, he'd always wanted to work in a cross-cultural congregation.

But personal problems continued to plague him. While Tim was pastoring in St. Louis, he found out a family member had been sexually molested. This wounded loved one attempted suicide several times over the next few years. Tim was granted a brief sabbatical to care for family matters, but "I knew I didn't have the energy to keep pastoring," he says. Tim resigned, then took a job in sales to keep food on the table.

That year out of the pulpit shook him. Called into ministry at age 15, Tim felt like he had lost his identity. "I think I had too closely associated myself with being a pastor instead of being in Christ. I felt like a lost soul."

In 2010, the company downsized without notice and fired him. Soon,

Tim ran out of money, filed for bankruptcy, and his house went into foreclosure. “All these things started happening, bam bam bam,” he recalls. “It was one of those *It’s a Wonderful Life* moments where I thought I was worth more dead than alive.”

### Struggling through Suffering

Tim was despondent. With a \$300,000 life insurance policy to support the family, he planned to commit suicide when his wife, Amy, left town to visit her parents. So with his heart pounding, he began to carry out his plan. But one image kept coming to mind—his son Bryce standing at the top of the stairs, shouting, “Daddy’s home!”

“I could push everyone else out of my head but I couldn’t push him out,” Tim says. “In a strange way, my son with Down Syndrome became the blessing that pulled me out of the storm.”



*Amy and Tim Robinson, with son Bryce*

From that point on, Tim did whatever he could to make money—car detailing, yard work, and selling insurance. And, eventually, doors began to open for him to extend pastoral care to suffering friends. From that experience, Tim says, “I realized that there is an evangelistic responsibility to properly process my own suffering, because there are other people watching me, listening to me.”

### Sharing in their Sufferings

In 2012, Tim began serving as a chaplain at a small pediatric hospital, and after more training, he was offered a position at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis. Today, he’s primarily assigned to the Emergency Department and ICUs, but he responds to all in-house needs, assisting nursing staff with families in crisis. When a person who has attempted suicide is wheeled into the emergency room, Tim sees the terrible impact it has on a spouse and children. He is able to lend perspective, and sometimes he shares from his own experience. “You need an incredible amount of wisdom when you go down that path,” he says. If opportunities arise over time, he gently shares Christ.

His rigorous schedule isn’t easy. “I do not have the luxury of having an off-day when I’m in this role,” he says. “I have to maintain a close walk with the Lord to give me His sustaining presence.”

Tim says more biblically trained hospital chaplains are needed and hopes more Moody students will choose the field. He appreciates his Moody education because it gave him biblical tools to meet people’s spiritual and practical needs, and made him passionate about prayer.

“My prayers became more honest with God,” he says. “Instead of pretending I have it all together, I began asking God to help me let go of my agenda. I realized I needed to follow God and His agenda.”

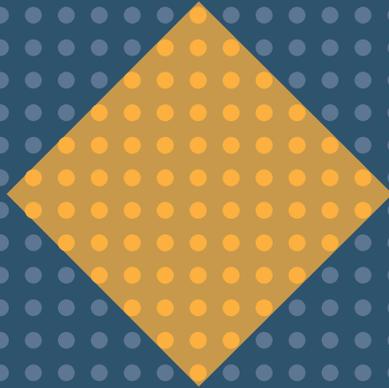
Now Tim looks back on his suffering with gratitude. “Suffering helps me have a humble dependence on God that I didn’t have five years ago or even a year ago,” he explains. “My suffering has helped me to help others in their pain.”

*Anneliese Rider is associate editor for Moody’s Integrated Marketing Communications department.*

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Demmin and Mary Sweetman



Richard and Victoria (Trillet) Sweetman



Bob and Marilyn (Sweetman) Brennan

# A Multi-Generational Prayer

## How God answered pleas to send a worker to Africa

by Linda Piepenbrink

**Richard '37** and **Victoria (Trillet '37) Sweetman** met at Moody and set their hearts on serving in Africa. But plans changed when Victoria was hit by a drunk driver and injured her back. Because she didn't pass the mission board's physical exam, she and Richard were not accepted for African service.

Instead, Richard took a pastorate in Baxter, Louisiana, and the Sweetmans started praying that one of their children would serve in Africa. Marilyn, their oldest of three, recalls, "I always felt that that was my job." Indeed, when she was 14, the Lord called her to missionary service.

Marilyn also knew she wanted to go to Moody. "My mom and dad always told me that they registered me there when I was six months old," she says with a laugh. Marilyn applied and got accepted for the fall of 1956 but was initially told the residence halls were

full. Instead she accepted a job in Washington D.C., handling President Dwight Eisenhower's press conferences. On Labor Day, however, she got a call saying a spot had opened up at Moody. So after the government debriefed her, she boarded a plane to Chicago and took a taxi to campus.

"When I walked through those Moody arches, I thought, *Man, this must be close to heaven!*" she recalls. "It was a tremendous thing that the Lord worked out."

Marilyn arrived after freshman orientation, but her aunt Lena and uncle **Paul White '38**, had given her the name of a young man from their Ohio church who was a senior at Moody. "Look him up and he'll show you around," Lena said.

So she did, and **Bob Brennan '57** walked with her to The Moody Church for the Sunday evening church service. The couple began a friendship that

deepened into love. Later, during Founder's Week, Bob felt called by God to be a missionary to Jewish people in Brazil. After he graduated in 1957, he and **Marilyn '56-'57** married, joined the Cleveland Hebrew Mission and later the Jewish Missions department of Baptist International Missions, serving in Brazil, but not Africa.

Now it was Bob and Marilyn's turn to pray that someone in their family would eventually go to the field of Africa. The Brennans spent 15 years in Brazil until 1976, when Bob became a director of the mission board and returned to the United States.

Their oldest son, **Bob Jr. '79**, went to Moody and studied foreign missions. Besides missions and Bible training, Bob Jr. enjoyed his practical Christian training: volunteering with the Good News Club, Open Air Campaigners, youth ministry on the west side, and evangelism near O'Hare Airport. He also played soccer at Moody and was recognized as an all-region NCCAA soccer player his senior year. "My memories of Moody are fantastic—some of the best years

of my life," Bob Jr. says. "Moody prepared me well. I wanted to be an MK teacher, which is what I ended up doing eventually."

But somehow he wasn't the answer to the generational prayer for a family member to serve in Africa. After teaching and youth pastoring in Atlanta for 10 years, Bob Jr. moved with his family back to São Paulo, Brazil, where he taught at Pan American Christian Academy, the same school he'd attended as a missionary kid. He and his wife, Anita, raised their four children there.

Meanwhile, his parents' prayer for a worker in Africa remained unanswered. Marilyn says, "The whole time, none of us were going to Africa."

### Prayer Answered

Eventually, Bob Jr. took a position as the head of a Christian high school in Allentown, Pa. The church they attended, Cedar Crest Bible Fellowship Church, set a goal to reach six tribes in Tanzania, Africa, with the good news.

"Through that outreach, my daughter Amanda's heart was stirred to go to Africa and join one of these



Four generations: Katie, Josh, and Amanda Brennan, Victoria Sweetman, Rachel Brennan, Bob Brennan Jr., and Marilyn Brennan.



Amanda's commissioning service



Amanda in Tanzania

teams,” Bob Jr. says. Amanda spent five weeks in Tanzania with a team from Africa Inland Mission. She returned for a commissioning service to send her back for a three-year term, and the service took place in Georgia, not far from Marilyn’s home.

“Finally, someone from the Sweetman family was going to be going to Africa. That was a real thrill,” says Marilyn. “The Lord’s timing was just different from ours.”

Also there to see Amanda’s send-off was her 95-year-old great-grandmother, Victoria Sweetman, the first Moody alum who had prayed that a family member would one day serve in Africa in her place. Marilyn shared the history of the longtime prayer with her visiting family members that day.



*Bob and Anita Brennan and family*

“Grandma Sweetman got to see with her own eyes, shortly before her Homegoing, the answer to prayer,” Bob Jr. says. Victoria Sweetman died at age 97. Amanda is now finishing a degree in international service and will return to Tanzania in 2018.

“In the midst of what sometimes seems to me as very circuitous routes, God knows what He’s doing, and he’s putting pieces together,” Bob Jr. explains. “When I’m totally at sea as to what’s happening, I can trust and rest that He is in charge, and He’s taking care of my family, and He’s accomplishing His purposes.”

## **A Moody Family Legacy**

Moody Bible Institute has long been in the Sweetmans’ blood. Marilyn reports, “Of the Sweetman family, counting those they’ve married, we’ve had 26 members who’ve attended Moody. We thank the Lord for leading us.”

In 1916 Demmin Sweetman began taking correspondence courses at Moody. He married Mary Grootenboer and sent his sons, **Huibert ’36** and **Richard ’37**, to Moody, where they met their wives. Huibert married **Gladys Kocher ’37**, while Richard married **Victoria Trillet ’37**. Demmin’s daughter Jeannette married **Herman Kamphouse ’38**, and Lena Sweetman married **Paul White ’38**, whose brother **Kenneth ’42** married **Blanche Nickerson ’41**.

Daughter Marie’s son, Floyd Ver Voorn, and his wife, Jean Weber Ver Voorn, attended evening school. Their son, Robert Ver Voorn, also attended evening school, and Robert’s wife, **Linda (Morris) ’87**, graduated from day school.

Richard and Victoria Sweetman had two children go to Moody: **Vicki Lynn (Sweetman) Drummond ’67 ’69** and Marilyn (Sweetman) Brennan Ulmer, who married **Robert (Bob) Brennan ’56-’57**. Marilyn and Bob had two children attend Moody: **Terri Lynn Brennan ’79 ’82** and **Robert (Bob) Brennan Jr. ’79**. When Bob died in 2007, shortly before his 50th Moody reunion, Marilyn went to the reunion in his place. In 2014 she remarried.

Paul and Lena’s children also attended Moody Bible Institute: **Paul D. White ’64** married **Jean Walker ’63**; **Philip John White ’65** married **Myrna Kinlaw ’68**; and **Priscilla White ’67-’68** married **Neal Hamilton ’67-’68**. Philip and Myrna’s daughter **Aimee White ’91** married **M. Scott Lilly ’90**.



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# The Circuit Riders



**How the Parkers discovered their mission field**

*by Linda Piepenbrink*

Early on Sunday mornings, **T.J. '11** and **Anna (Windle '11) Parker** buckle up their five young children in a minivan and drive to the first of three Methodist churches, where T.J. serves as a modern-day circuit-riding preacher.

Like the itinerant Methodist ministers who traveled on horseback from church to church in America's frontier, the Parkers bring God's Word to congregations in Montana and Idaho that have had little or no gospel exposure for decades.

"The pastors they had before hadn't really been teaching from the Bible, which I'm very, very passionate about," T.J. says. "My heart is preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ."

T.J. and Anna, both 28, never dreamed their mission field would be three small congregations of mostly retirees over the age of 60. But after a year, T.J. says, "we very much feel that God wants us here."

### **Planning for Foreign Missions**

T.J. and Anna both grew up wanting to be missionaries. Anna, a missionary kid from Bolivia, was eight years old when she felt called to overseas missions. T.J. felt called at age 16 and applied to Moody after a friend told him that Moody is the number one missionary-sending school in the country. He had been to China and visited again during a Moody Men's Choir tour. T.J. and Anna met at the start of their senior year at Moody while doing a class missions project tutoring Tibetans in Chicago. They continued working with South Asian communities until they married in 2012 and then moved to Colorado to work in a church and run the children's ministries.

With intentions of becoming missionaries to Tibet, the Parkers joined a mission agency in 2014

and spent six months on deputation. They drove across the United States with three kids in a travel trailer to tell pastors and lay leaders their plans.

But while crisscrossing the country, visiting small churches and pastors' conferences from Chicago to Texas to Washington, they noticed a common theme. "We ran into aging pastors who were just exhausted, ready to retire. And very few young people were willing to step in and take their place," T.J. says. "They weren't working together, and it broke our hearts."

Anna adds, "We were hoping it was an isolated event. But as we traveled, pretty much every church that we went to had the same thing going on."

Their travels opened their eyes to a bleak reality: "Wow, America really needs pastors," T.J. says. "While Latin America, Africa, and Asia are starting their missionary expansion into the world, American churches are dying at an astounding rate."

They visited Anna's parents in Texas and sought counsel and prayer from her dad and other relatives. T.J. and Anna were already scheduled to begin intense wilderness missionary training, but a different plan was emerging for their lives.

"God began to impress on our hearts that our desire to spread the gospel was not limited to overseas travel. He began to show us that there is a mission field right here in America," T.J. says. So they canceled their wilderness training and resigned from the mission agency.

T.J., who majored in linguistics at Moody, knew he needed more pastoral training. Soon he was offered a year-long paid pastoral internship at Trout Creek Community Church in Trout Creek, Mont. Just before he and his family moved to Montana in 2015, however, he volunteered to work on the mission agency building's roof

and fell 25 feet, averting death but smashing his foot. With more than 40 pins and screws in his foot, he was wheelchair-bound and then on crutches for months.

The internship was delayed a few months, but “that roof fall ended up being a blessing,” he says, “because I was able to focus more on my internship studies.” It also gave T.J. time to confirm his calling and place of service. Anna says, “I could see him, day to day, growing stronger spiritually and emotionally.”

While T.J. studied and served at Trout Creek Community Church, the United Methodists called the church and requested a pastor to fill in at three churches. T.J. was recommended and agreed to serve.

## A New Mission Begins

After their first Sunday service at 7:30 a.m. in Noxon, Mont., the Parker family proceeds west to a second church in Heron, Mont., then crosses the Pacific time zone for their third church service in Clark Fork, Idaho, where they also live. “The time change makes it not quite so late in the day,” says T.J., who finishes the circuit at 12:30 p.m. after a 50-mile round trip. Besides preaching, he leads the singing and teaches three weekly Bible studies, including one that concludes with soup at the Parker residence.

“It’s rural, a place where the gospel needed to come, and it’s a lot like what I thought being a missionary would feel like,” he says. This rural pastoral role can be challenging.



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Since T.J. is only paid part-time for his labor, the Parkers must live modestly and purchase goods at thrift stores. And their family has grown. Anna gave birth to their fifth child in May.

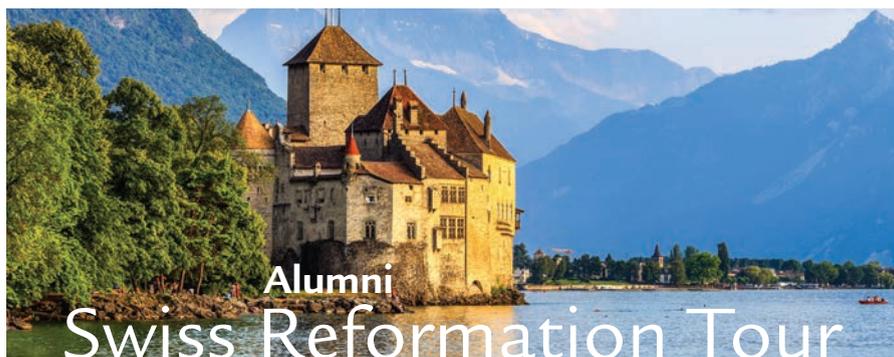
### **Preaching the Word**

T.J. remains convinced of the great need for effective pastoral ministry in this portion of the United States. He immediately noticed the effect of wrong doctrine. “At the core, the churches had gotten away from the inspiration of Scripture, causing a slew of other problems.” He says his Moody education played a “massive role” in helping him work through doctrinal questions. T.J. and Anna are grateful that their congregations have the opportunity to hear expository

preaching from God’s Word each week.

“I came into it from the beginning telling them I’m not Methodist,” T.J. says. “I believe in the Bible; I teach the Bible. I will teach you what I believe the Bible is saying, and I think you should read the Bible yourself to see if what I’m saying is right or not.”

That seems fine with the people, who are happy with their pastor and are beginning to bring their Bibles to church. “If you asked anyone in my congregation if they were Christians, they would all say yes, but when you start talking to them about the Bible and Jesus and the gospel and what it is, you start to see that they don’t really know. So my goal has been to teach those things, so that they do know,” T.J. says.



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# Helen McAlerney Barth

**Gospel Singer**

*by Kevin Mungons*



When Helen McAlerney auditioned for Moody Radio in 1940, the station manager frowned and marked her application with a bold NG—as in, No Good. Then she sang for a Moody campus event, but classmates thought she sounded like a blues singer (which was true). And at her second Moody Radio tryout, she was awarded the same red-letter rejection. Later, after she became one of the most famous gospel singers in the country, she could tell the story with all of its irony. It took three auditions to get hired, but once she did, her career soared.

**Helen McAlerney Barth '39** of Bristol, Indiana, died on February 27, 2017. Undoubtedly the last of the great gospel singers from the live radio era, she was 98.

Helen Lillian McAlerney grew up in Moline, Illinois, where her mother had escaped an abusive relationship to raise her three children. At the height of the Great Depression, Helen dropped out of high school and began working full time, though she was only 16. She also joined her church choir, where she met a trumpet player who led a local swing band. Despite her lack of formal training, Helen had the voice he needed.

“My ideal at that time was Kate Smith,” Helen said. “Whenever she came to the Orpheum Theater in Davenport, Iowa, I never missed her. I knew that she had never had any voice training, and I thought, ‘If she can make it, I can make it.’”

The band was good but Helen was the real star—curly red hair, blue eyes, and a magnetic personality that lit up the bandstand. Soon she had her own show on WHBF radio, singing live requests from the Harms Hotel. Listeners bombarded her with postcards asking for popular songs of the day, forcing her to become a quick study and prodigious sight

reader. But she drew the line when they asked her to sing gospel songs. “That wasn’t my type of program,” she said at the time, still unaware of her future career.

After singing in local YWCA shows, Helen became interested in social work, a full-time career that required further training. The financial hurdle of a college education seemed insurmountable until friends told her of Moody’s tuition-paid classes. And Moody would allow her to enroll without a high school diploma. The solution seemed ideal to Helen, who recognized a rising tension in her singing career. It was one thing for her to play local gigs at the Legion Hall and Moose Lodge, but her next step would take her straight to the bar and nightclub circuit. “Although I sang with the orchestra, dancing and drinking and smoking had no allurements for me. I admitted to myself that my life was a most unhappy one.”

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**“I used to try to be happy while singing with the dance orchestra. But honestly, my life was void of a song until I met Christ face to face.”**

---

She arrived at Moody in 1939, landed a job serving milkshakes at the Sweet Shop, and bumped into a surprise during her first freshman orientation meeting.

She had grown up in church, had listened to the weekly sermons, and had sung all the hymns with her church choir, but she was entirely unprepared for her classmates’ impromptu testimonies. They gave heartfelt expressions of the gospel at work, transforming lives. “I thought I had met the requirements of an entrance into Heaven,” Helen said. “The most

important thing I lacked, but didn't realize until then, was the message that Jesus Himself had said to Nicodemus: "Ye must be born again."

For Helen, student orientation helped her find Christ: "For the first time, I truly believed that Jesus had died for me, and I asked Him to come into my heart and life. I knew that as I got up off of my knees that I, too, could give a testimony that Jesus was now my Personal Savior."

Helen arrived at Moody during a period of rapid campus development. Construction workers had just finished Crowell Hall, including three floors devoted to WMBI. The two largest studios were live performance spaces, including galleries so audiences could watch the productions. With more than 200 live shows per week, Moody Radio became a magnet for the best sacred musicians in the country. At the same time Helen was arriving, Dr. Will Houghton was recruiting George Beverly Shea as a full-time radio singer.

Whatever struggles Helen might have had with the auditions, her third try was successful and she certainly had a radio-friendly voice. While classically trained singers with big opera voices had a difficult time adapting to early radio microphones, Helen's voice seemed to resonate with warmth and sincerity. She was immediately popular and joined the station full time after her 1942 graduation. She sang two live solo programs each week, sang in a radio ensemble, and frequently worked with Shea, who called her "Miss Mac."

Her early career was boosted by **Alfred B. Smith '37**, a music publishing entrepreneur who later served as Alumni Association president. Tapping into the Youth for Christ trend, Smith founded Singspiration Music to produce radio-friendly songbooks and recordings. He signed Shea and Helen to the new label; both would

make dozens of recordings.

Helen's local fame extended well past the Moody campus and beyond the confines of Christian radio. It seemed like everyone listened to her show—even Tommy Dorsey, the trombone-playing leader of the country's hottest swing band, famously billed as "The Sentimental Gentleman of Swing." Dorsey had been listening to Helen's program on the radio. One summer afternoon in 1943 he dropped by the Moody Radio studio, asking to meet Helen and then floating an even bigger idea. Would she join his band?

Later, when Helen told the story to a magazine writer, the whole scheme



*Rev. Reinhold and Helen Barth, 1945*

seemed far-fetched. Dorsey's band performed in Chicago dance halls like the Trianon and Aragon, places Moody students could not even visit, so it didn't take long for Helen to politely decline his overture. Still, Dorsey's respect for her talent was another indication of her rising career. And for Helen, one final offer from the jazz world had given her the chance to cut ties for good.

By the time she married Rev. Reinhold Barth on May 20, 1944, Helen was a full-fledged radio celebrity. No part of her life was normal. Imagine a wedding ceremony at The Moody Church with

more than 1,750 guests in attendance, where Moody Radio's Wendell P. Loveless gave the bride away, Torrey Johnson read the vows, and George Beverly Shea sang solos!

During several years while her husband served as a local pastor and evangelist, Helen continued her Moody radio broadcasts and recording projects. From 1950 to 1955 they ministered in Germany as Youth for Christ missionaries. Helen appeared with Billy Graham during these years, singing at London's Harringay Arena and Olympic Stadium in Berlin. Returning home, Reinhold continued traveling as an evangelist, where he deeply valued Helen's contributions as a soloist. She won awards, including the National Evangelical Film Foundation "Christian Oscar" awards for Best Solo Album and Best Children's Album.

Later in life, Helen formed "The King's Daughters" with her daughter, Sharon, and two granddaughters, Bethany and Christine; they ministered at church events and retirement homes. The years flew by and the Barths eventually retired to Goshen, Indiana. Ever vivacious, Helen was 81 when she was crowned the Senior Fair Queen at the Elkhart County 4-H Fair! She was surprised to see fans lined up, wanting autographs for their old albums. By the time Reinhold passed away in 2007, Helen had finally sung her last concert.

In 2002 her son had given her a laptop computer and a printer ("Items I never expected to own . . . certainly not at 83!"). She sat down and proceeded to type a 10-page letter to Moody's president, Dr. Joseph Stowell.

"The influence of the Moody Bible Institute on my life cannot begin to be measured," she wrote. "Only eternity will reveal the multiple lives that have been touched because of the doors God began to open for me while I



*The Barth family, 1956*

was there. I am eternally grateful to the Lord that I first heard the message of this 'so great salvation' during my first days at Moody."

And she told Stowell that she was still receiving fan mail, more than 60 years later, from listeners who heard her sing on WMBI.

"I used to try to be happy while singing with the dance orchestra," she explained. "But honestly, my life was void of a song until I met Christ face to face. I realize so much more joy in singing the message of salvation, the Good News that so many needy hearts are waiting for."

Helen McAlerney Barth had no idea she would live until she was 98—no idea that she would outlive all of the gospel singers who sang on live radio in the early 1940s. But back in 1942 when she started signing autographs (always awkward for her), she began adding a verse under her name: Psalm 104:33-34. "I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. My meditation of Him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the LORD."

*Kevin Mungons is editorial manager for Moody's Integrated Marketing Communications department.*

## Life & Ministry Notes

### 2010s

**Benjamin Szumskyj '15** recently published *The Pilgrim's Digress: Why Christians Should Avoid the Fantasy and Horror Genres* (Ichthus Publications). As a former editor of fantasy and horror fiction, he drew from his personal experiences to warn about the spiritual dangers and false teachings associated with those genres. He continues to teach at-risk Christian college students and speak in local churches. Benjamin also leads a Bible study and is prayerfully considering the pursuit of a pastorate or church plant.

**Jay Noble '14** is working as a law enforcement deputy sheriff and leading the men's ministry at Grace Baptist Church in Tampa, Fla. Additionally, Jay and his wife, Ali, teach the gospel through devotionals and Bible studies on their website.

@ nobleministries.us



In December 2016 **Kent Davis '11-'13** opened SCE Fitness in Spokane, Wash., after finishing his first Ironman triathlon in 2015.

As a certified personal trainer and top-10 Spartan finisher, Kent uses his gym (outfitted with fitness equipment and obstacle courses) as a ministry to reach athletes training for American Ninja Warrior and Spartan races. Kent and his wife, **Heather (Reece '12)**, live in Spokane.

**Ryan '11** and **Cheryl '14 (Tate) Hatch** are seeking land in southern Wisconsin



on which to build Shalam Sanctuary, a place of rejuvenation and rest for the trauma survivors they serve. Currently located in a Chicago suburb, Ryan and Cheryl provide round-the-clock relational support for trauma survivors and help connect them with counseling. A few years after graduating from Moody, **Carissa Remillard '11** also joined their team as a Shalam missionary and board member.

www.shalam.org

**Steven Sabens '10** recently created a chaplain program for the Fairbanks Police Department in Fairbanks, Alaska. The program launched in May 2016 with five volunteer chaplains. Steven's ministry involves counseling, providing spiritual guidance, and giving invocations at police ceremonies. Prior to beginning his chaplain ministry, Steven served in the United States Army, the Fairbanks North Star School District, and the Fairbanks Rescue Mission. After graduating from Moody, Steven earned a master's in pastoral counseling from Liberty University.

**Joseph Schmidt '10** began serving as the pastor of youth and family ministries at Milton Baptist Church in Milton, Ky. He and his wife, Courtney, are both students at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Joseph is pursuing



his Master of Divinity in Christian Ministry, and Courtney is working toward a Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling. Since

graduation from Moody, Joseph has published *Gospel-Centered Evangelism: A Theology and Practice of International Evangelism* (onemilliontracts.com) and *Adventures in Evangelism* (Amazon). Joseph and Courtney have also served a two-year term as domestic missionaries.

## 2000s

**Nate '02** and Ivy **Cheeseman** are currently on home assignment with Wycliffe Bible Translators, visiting churches and raising support to return to the field in August. Nate gives linguistic training to nationals in closed countries; the nationals then return to their home communities as Bible translators. Beginning in 2011, Nate and Ivy moved overseas to investigate which languages in Mainland Southeast Asia are still without a Bible translation. Nate, who began serving with Wycliffe after he graduated from Moody, met Ivy at Wycliffe headquarters in Orlando, Fla.



**David Crossett '05** recently began practicing with the law firm of Antanavage Farbiarz in Hamburg, Pa.

David specializes in civil litigation and practices in both state and federal courts. Additionally, he is active with Alliance Defending

Freedom, as well as a member of the Blackstone Legal Fellowship. David views his legal career as a convergence of legal interpretation, counseling, and teaching. Prior to his current practice, David served as a high school teacher in Chicago's inner city and a counselor at a residential drug treatment center. Following his graduation from Moody, David studied at Virginia's Regent University School of Law and served on its *Law Review*.

David and his wife, **Cheryl (Stickler '05)**, have three children: Sophia (5), Jennifer (3), and Samuel (1).



**Robert '06** and **Casandra '06 (Brewer) Recio** reside in Temecula, Calif., where Robert was installed as senior pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church (PCA) in November 2016. Casandra blogs at [reformedmama.com](http://reformedmama.com) with the goal of encouraging parents seeking to bring up their children in the promises of the Lord. The Recios have three children: Lucy (6), David (4), and Samuel (2).

**Thomas '08** and **Joy (Yost '07-'09) Seidel** live in Aurora, Ill., where Thomas teaches piano. Additionally, Thomas and Joy have a family ministry that encourages couples to allow God to bless them with as many children as He desires. The ministry also informs people about the abortive nature of certain forms of birth control.

## Life & Ministry Notes

The Seidels have five children: Josephine (6), Andrew (5), Tod (3), Daniel (2), and Eden (1).

### 1990s



**Daren Busenitz '99** became the Midwest region vice president of World Impact in July 2016. Daren gives oversight to World Impact's mission to empower Christian leaders among the urban poor in Dallas, Denver, St. Louis, Wichita, Kan., and Topeka, Kan. Daren and his wife, Tina, have been serving with World Impact for the past 18 years. They have two sons, Jackson (7) and Justus (4).



**Kristin (Siirtola '99) Neva** published her first novel, *Snow Country, A Copper Island Novel*, which explores themes of formulaic Christianity, suffering, hope, and grace. Earlier, she worked in an inner-city ministry in Milwaukee. After her husband, Todd, was diagnosed with ALS, Kristin became his full-time

caregiver in addition to being a stay-at-home mom to their children, Sara (11) and Isaac (7). She and her husband, Todd, continue to blog about their family's journey with terminal illness.

 [nevastory.com](http://nevastory.com)

 [kirstenneva.com](http://kirstenneva.com)



**Roger Zuch '93**, who lives in Los Angeles, has written several Sherlock Holmes stories under the pseudonym, Roger Riccard.

Published by England's Baker Street Studios, his novels include *The Case of the Poisoned Lily* and *The Case of the Twain Papers*, which was included at the London Museum Sherlock Holmes exhibition in 2015–16; as well as a collection of short stories: *Sherlock Holmes Adventures for the Twelve Days of Christmas* and *Sherlock Holmes Further Adventures for the Twelve Days of Christmas*. Roger has also contributed his short stories to an anthology series edited by David Marcum and published by MX Publishing, including "A Perpetrator in a Pear Tree" and two others. Roger has used his Moody education along with degrees in journalism and history from California State University–Northridge to teach adult Sunday School classes and to enhance his career as a Human Resources director.

### 1980s

**David A. R. White '89**, Moody alumnus and producer of *The Case for Christ*, hosted the film's national



premiere on April 6, 2017, in Chicago. Based on the best-selling book by the same title, the film focuses on the spiritual journey of former *Chicago Tribune* reporter Lee Strobel, who investigated the biblical claims of Christ after his wife's conversion.

The movie played in about 1,400 theaters nationwide and "has impacted a lot of people's lives," says David, who was profiled in *Alumni News* (spring 2017). "All in all, the reviews have been very strong on this film, and it's resonated as an honest journey of one man's faith."

David, shown with his wife, Andrea, says Pure Flix will release a movie about Samson in the fall, as well as new, original content on pureflix.com, such as a family-friendly stand-up comedy show and season two of *Encounter*. "We try to find stories that bring people to the Lord," he says. "But we also want to tell those stories as objectively and organically as possible, so each one connects to the human spirit when people watch it."



**Gregory '89 and Deborah (White '87) Nichols** have been serving with Greater Europe Mission in Prague, Czech Republic, for 16 years.

Gregory provides leadership to field leaders and teaches at the International Baptist Theological Seminary. Deborah recently began working with a refugee ministry and helped open Dignity, a refugee center. Previously, the Nicholoses served at the Odessa Baptist Theological Seminary, ministering in Ukraine for 10 years.



**Kellie Cameron '85** completed her master's degree in business administration in November 2016. She is taking a year off from school before pursuing a doctorate.



**Bill '85 and Norma Jean '85 Jancewicz** have been serving the Aboriginal Canadians for 28 years through Wycliffe Bible

translators. Currently they serve the Naskapi language community in Quebec, Canada. Their team translated the New Testament into Naskapi in 2007, and are continuing translation work on the Old Testament. They also host workshops and onsite training for translators.

The Jancewiczes have three children: Benjamin (Tamika) Jancewicz, Elizabeth (Eric) Stevenson, and Nicodemus Jancewicz.

**Dave Drescher '84**, pastor of Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church since 2001, recently moved his church into a new building in Blue Earth, Minn. After meeting in many different

## Life & Ministry Notes

buildings over the past 20 years, the congregation is glad to have its own building. Prior to pastoring Cornerstone, Dave helped plant a church in Maquoketa, Iowa, serving there for seven and a half years. He also served in Ottumwa, Iowa, for four years. Following his time at Moody and Trinity International College, Dave's first pastorate was in Gratiot, Wis.

### 1970s

**Michael Wickens '78** retired from Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area in central Illinois on December 31, 2016, after 18 years of service as the site superintendent. Mike is now working part-time at the Springfield Center for Biblical Counseling as a marriage counselor. He first became interested in counseling in 2009, while working with high school dropouts at his job and serving on the elder board at Southern View Chapel in Springfield, Ill. Mike and his wife **Virginia (Dyer '78)** live in Springfield, where they raised three daughters, two of whom attended Moody: **Heather Wickens '06** and **Andrea (Wickens '09) Zumhagen**.



**Collin '76** and **Gloria (Guth '76) Seitz** live in Plymouth, Ind., where Collin is a senior associate pastor at Crossroads

Evangelical Free Church. Gloria teaches art classes for children through her business, New Creations Art Classes. They have four children and six grandchildren.

**Dennis Ball '74-'74** is the chair of the American National Committee. Additionally, he serves as the president of the American Party of America.



**Jim Uttley Jr. '70** has served as editor of *Indian Life*, a bimonthly "good news" newspaper for North America's indigenous

communities, published by Indian Life Ministries in Winnipeg, Manitoba, since 1995. He says, "Our desire is to see North America's first peoples find hope, healing, and honor through coming to know Jesus as Creator, Savior, and Greatest Chief." Since 2004, he has also served with Wiconi, a ministry of Indigenous Pathways. Jim recently celebrated his 39th wedding anniversary with his wife, Jan, whom he met while serving in Haiti. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

### 1960s

**Duane Gregory '67** and his wife, Trish, have served with Word of Life missionaries for more than 30 years, serving part-time in the Tidewater area of Virginia for the past three years. They are working to establish a base for the next Word of Life missionary who comes to the area. Previously, they served in central Virginia and in northern New England, where Duane planted several churches in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Before they joined Word of Life, Duane pastored for seven years in Lake City, Ill., and for 10 years in Long Island, N.Y.

**Roy '67** and **Caroline (Landis '67) Mazelin** are active in their local church in Sarasota, Fla. The two met at Moody while preparing for the mission field. They served with the Evangelical Mennonite Mission in the Dominican Republic, where they constructed a studio for Dominicans to record radio programs for use on government stations. After Roy received more education in broadcast engineering in Berne, Ind., they moved to Aruba in 1972. Roy worked alongside TEAM's **Robert Catteau '67** in the engineering department at Radio Victoria. Because of Roy's health problems, they had to return to the United States. Caroline has sold real estate for the past 34 years; they have two sons and eight grandchildren.

**Sharon Turner '67** celebrated 45 years serving with the Navigators in January 2017. Her ministry involved developing multicultural ministries in Detroit and reaching out through serving, evangelism, and discipleship. In fall 2016, she moved home to Iowa and is continuing to minister to her family and community. Before working with the Navigators, Sharon taught at Moody Evening School for five years. Additionally, she worked with young professionals in Chicago for 15 years and oversaw the beginning of the small group ministry at Park Community Church.

**William Bray '66** recently released his latest book, *Called to All* (West Bow Press), which recounts his personal experience of surrendering to God's call on his life and also challenges the next generation of missionary ministers.



**Carol (Ashby) Nevin '66**, widow of Dr. Paul Nevin, Moody faculty member for 32 years, received her certification as a life coach

with the John Maxwell Team in March 2017. She now does one-on-one coaching, speaking, and group growth facilitation for leadership development. With a master's of psychology from Wheaton Graduate School (1985), she is also a part-time social worker at Family Empowerment Centers in Chicago. Carol's children virtually grew up at Moody. Now adults, Dr. Timothy Nevin teaches African history at Cuttington University in Gbarnga, Liberia; Ruth (Nevin) Torres, who served as a missionary in northeast Spain for 14 years, is a real estate agent in Oswego, Ill.; and Joy (Nevin) Axelson does French translation work and owns Axelson Realty in Northbrook, Ill. Carol delights in spending time with her six grandchildren.

 [johncmaxwellgroup.com/  
carolnevin](http://johncmaxwellgroup.com/carolnevin)

**W. Don Landis '65** and his wife, Beverly, celebrated 50 years of marriage in February 2017. Don currently serves as both the president of Jackson Hole Bible College in Wilson, Wyo., and the senior pastor of Community Bible Church in Jackson, Wyo. Don also serves as the board chair for Answers in Genesis. He recently was the contributing editor of *The Genius of Ancient Man* and *Secrets of Ancient Man* (New Leaf Publishing Group), which explore

## Life & Ministry Notes

the commonalities of ancient civilizations through a biblical perspective. Don's brothers, **David Landis '69**, **Dean Landis '81**, and **Douglas Landis '83**, also attended Moody.

**Alvin Louie '64** has been preaching in Asian American churches throughout the San Francisco and Oakland Bay areas for the past 11 years. Additionally, he has served as a part-time funeral assistant to several funeral homes in the Oakland East Bay since 2006. Prior to this, he served as the head pastor at Chinese Independent Baptist Church in Oakland, Calif; head pastor at First Chinese Bible Church in San Antonio; youth pastor at Chinese Bible Church in Oakland, Calif.; assistant pastor at San Francisco Bible Church in San Francisco; and youth pastor and assistant pastor at Chinese Christian Union Church in Chicago.



**Tommy '63 and Susan (Littlefield-Anderson '63) Jenkins** have worked with Montana's Crow Indians for the past 13 years,

living among the Crow for seven of those years. Tommy retired from pastoring Grace Bible Church in San Marcos, Texas, which he founded in 1969. He has published two books about the spiritual and historical heritage of the Crow Indians: *Crow Heritage and the Jesus Road* and *He Talks Up to God*.

Susan's first husband, **LTJG Denis Leon Anderson '63**, was a Navy pilot. He was lost over Laos on

January 11, 1968. His remains were found and interred in Arlington National Cemetery in 2003. Former Moody professor Dr. David Gotaas participated in the memorial service.

📧 [sower.sue@gmail.com](mailto:sower.sue@gmail.com)

**W. Earl Appleby '60** and his wife, **Mary (Van Norman '61)**, live in Spokane, Wash., where they enjoy fellowship with many of the Moody Spokane and Moody Aviation staff members. Earl published his first book, *He Came to Make Us Holy: The Sanctifying Work of the Holy Spirit* ([thebookpatch.com](http://thebookpatch.com)), in August 2016. Earl retired in 2009 after 45 years of pastoral ministry, interim assignments, and service as a hospice chaplain.

### 1950s

**Dick Woodworth '57** has been involved in prison ministry for the past four years, leading a Bible study at the Franklin County Regional Jail in Frankfort, Ky. Dick previously served as a Midwest area representative for Bibles International, a Bible translation ministry, from which he retired in 2012. Dick served as the pastor at Riverside Baptist in Decatur, Ill., for 19 years. He also spent 18 years pastoring in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he served as chair of a mission agency and helped establish the Baptist Academy, one of the largest area Christian schools. Following his education at Moody, Dick married **Sharon (Wilken '57)**, and later attended Midwestern Bible College and Grace Seminary. Dick and Sharon have been married for 60 years and have five children.

## 1940s

**Margery Fuller '43** celebrated her 100th birthday on April 3. She resides in the SIM Retirement Village in Sebring, Fla., enjoying fellowship with many co-workers from Nigeria, where she served as a missionary in Nigeria for 36 years. While in Nigeria, Margery served in the Christian Education department of SIM, participated in Bible correspondence ministry, and taught English to university students. In the early years of her ministry, she taught in the Hausa language in northern Nigeria, where she developed a local educational system. She retired from the field in 1981 to care for her aging mother and started a ladies' Bible study group in her apartment complex.

## Births



To **Sean '15** and **Mandi Miller**, a daughter, Charlotte Jane, born January 6, 2017. Charlotte joins her sisters, Maddy and

Riley-Grace. Sean and Mandi are full-time missionaries with Child Evangelism Fellowship, serving national CEF leaders across the Caribbean.

 [amomentwiththemillers.com](http://amomentwiththemillers.com)

To **Kai '05** and **Libby (Luginbill '04) Elmer**, a son, Collin Wayne Elmer, born August 3, 2016. Collin joins his sister, Raegan Evy.

Libby is a stay-at-home mom to Collin and Raegan, while Kai works



at Fair Trade Services, a Christian record label in Brentwood, Tenn.

## Marriages



**Jon '15** and **Olivia (Hunter '16) Ciotta** were married on June 11, 2016, at King's Chapel in Arrington, Tenn. The Ciottas live

in Milford, N.J., where Jon serves as the director of students at South Ridge Community Church. Olivia teaches Sunday School and volunteers in the middle-school and high-school ministries.

## Gatherings



Several alumni enjoyed dinner with Alumni Board member **Peter Grant '83** in Scotland. From left: **Peter**

## Life & Ministry Notes

**Grant '83**, Cheryl Frith, **Mike Frith '92**, Morag Leitch, **Ian Leitch '69**, **Steven Hutchison '03**, Heather Hutchison, Ian and **Katie '05 Roberts**, **Heather Holdsworth '10**, **Adrian Holdsworth '10**, Louise Bell and **Robert Bell '10**.

In October 2016, team leaders from Camino Global (formerly CAM International and Central America Mission) gathered for meetings. Several Moody alumni were able to reconnect during the conference.



*Camino Global gathering (from left): Rich Musgrave '73, Sara (Davenport '73) Musgrave, Glenn Stewart '78, BA '10, Judy (Marr '78) Stewart BA '10, Gail (Cassel '61) McKelvey, Jim McKelvey '62, Tim Blyker '89, Scott Yingling '88, Ruth (Kendal '89) Yingling, BA '92, and Stew Grewatz MABS '94.*

Moody graduates from 2000 (and one from 2001) gathered over New Year's weekend for a mini-reunion at Camp Assurance near Wayne, Neb. **Kurt '00** and **Denna (Halulko '01) Busenitz** and their five children (Daniel, Annalise, Abigail, Naomi, and Miriam) are church planters with RHMA (Rural Home Missionary Association) in the Sandhills region of Nebraska. Kurt pastors Sandhills Church of Hope and Denna helps with the music ministry. **Rachel Wynn '00** is the executive

assistant at a critical access hospital in south central Wisconsin. She also maintains a private music studio (piano and organ lessons) and serves as the director of music at her church. **Victor** and **Lori (Jones '00) Selemani** and their five children (Victoria, Clara, Joshua, David, and Mikayla) were in the United States on furlough from Africa where they direct evangelistic and discipleship training schools at the YWAM base in Nampula, Mozambique. **Scott** and **Tomika (Finch '00) Rogers** shared photos of their July 2016 wedding in their home state of Virginia. Tomika, who taught ESL in Australia for 12 years, teaches ESL to nearby international students and also has her own cake business, Sugar Mission. **Shannon** and **Marie (Gums '00) Arduser** direct camp ministries and have two daughters, Pearl and Sicily.



*Alumni seated (left): Denna (Halulko) Busenitz; Rachel Wynn; Lori (Jones) Selemani; Tomika (Finch) Rogers; and Marie (Gums) Arduser. Alumni standing (left): Kurt Busenitz.*

From March 20 to 24, 2017, Moody alumni serving in Peru from four agencies (South America Mission, Wycliffe/JAARS, Proclaim Aviation, and Scalpel at the Cross) attended the South America Mission's annual field conference in Lima, Peru. Front row,

from left: **David Boogaard '08** holding daughter Jubilee, **Stephanie (Barreto '04) Boogaard**, **David Powell '80**, **Rachel (Pedersen '79-'80) Powell**, **Joy (Rast '95) Carrera**, **William Carrera '91**. Back row, left: **Jon Armstrong '94**, **David Simmons '75**, **Craig Gahagen '87**, **Daniel Porch '82**, and **David Broucek '70**. Not pictured: **David Speyers '05**.



### What's New with You?

Send the details of your recent transitions, ministry updates and accomplishments, family announcements—and, if possible, a good quality photo—by email to [alumnews@moody.edu](mailto:alumnews@moody.edu) or by mail to Moody Alumni Association, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, IL 60610-3284. Questions? Call the Alumni Association Office at (312) 329-4412.

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## Present with the Lord

### 1980s

**Myra Wilson ES '75-'80**, age 69,  
March 22, 2017.

A devoted wife and mother, Myra attended Moody Bible Institute and Chicago State University after her three children reached college age. She was a member of The Moody Church for 34 years, serving as a Sunday school teacher and deaconess. She also volunteered as a camp counselor, Vacation Bible School teacher, and Awana leader.

Born on August 25, 1949, in Charlotte, N.C., she and Julius, whom she met in high school after he returned from the Navy, lived on Chicago's South Side and were married almost 50 years. "She was bold and beautiful, and thoroughly loved by God," Julius says.

Myra was preceded in death by her father, Hogan Jackson, and two brothers. She is survived by her husband, Julius; her children Vanessa, Alicia (Aaron), and Jonathan (Kelley); her mother and stepfather, Melba and Johnnie Huff; one sister; and five grandchildren.

### 1970s



**Barry Olson '70**,  
age 73, January 1,  
2017.

Barry planted Home Church of Hollister, in Hollister, Calif.,

serving as pastor for 14 years until his retirement. Before he and his wife, Claudia, moved to Hollister, Barry opened a real estate office in 1982.

He also spent 11 years teaching science and coaching tennis, basketball, and soccer at Valley Christian High School and Junior High in San Jose, Calif. In 1979, he received the Science Teacher of the Year award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Raised in Norway, Barry obtained a degree in agricultural economics from Michigan State University before attending Moody, where he was student body president his second year. He then earned a master's degree in Christian Education from Wheaton College.

Barry is survived by Claudia, his wife of 41 years; four siblings; three children; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

### 1960s

**Richard Robart '69**, age 82, December 7, 2016, Kansas City, Mo.

Richard and his wife, Phyllis, served with Grace Missions in Japan until 1979. They met in 1956 at language school in Japan, after Richard had served in the United States Army Infantry in Korea (1953-55). They were married in 1961. Richard earned his degree from Moody in 1969 through correspondence courses and during furloughs in the States.

Richard is survived by his wife; his children, Daniel (Rachel) Robart and Mary Sue (Dan) Reed; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; several siblings, and extended family members.

**H. Joseph Miller '64**, age 79, January 19, 2017.

Joe, a pastor and church planter, got his start at Moody, preaching



in rescue missions and serving in a local church. After completing his education at Grand Rapids Baptist College in 1966, he became

an assistant pastor in Gary, Ind. He then served under Joseph Stowell II at First Baptist Church in Hackensack, N.J., stepping in as interim pastor when Stowell left to become the national representative of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches. In 1971, Joe relocated to Lakeland, Fla., to pastor Fellowship Baptist Church, and in 1974, he took the role of professor and academic dean at Spurgeon Baptist Bible College. Joe later served with Church Building Consultants and founded Discovering Life Ministries. He started *The Church Planter*, a newsletter that was published as *Building the Church* (Bob Jones University Press). Joe also wrote Bible studies for Regular Baptist Press, “Ministry Tools” (a *Baptist Bulletin* column), and the book *Managing Life*.

During his retirement, Joe started the Helping Hands ministry at Starkey Road Baptist Church in Seminole, Fla. He also taught adult Bible study classes and sang in the church choir.

Joe is survived by Helen, his wife of 60 years; four children: Mikel Miller, Pam Hubbell, Martin Miller, and Rebecca Miller; and four grandchildren.

**Margaret “Peggy” (O’Neil ’61) Perry**, age 75, December 19, 2016, Bakersfield, Calif.

Born in Michigan, Peggy graduated from Moody with a major in Children’s

Ministry. She worked as a secretary for Garrett Theological Seminary in Chicago and as a legal secretary for various law firms. She moved to California, working for the City of Alhambra and the West End Communications Authority in San Bernardino County.

Peggy was a contributing editor for *Dog World* magazine for 10 years. She showed Samoyeds for 20 years and published eight volumes about breeding and raising them. Peggy also held her amateur radio operator’s license for 30 years. One of Peggy’s greatest joys was singing with her husband, William, in the Bear Valley Church choir in Bear Valley Springs, Calif.

Peggy is survived by her husband, William, and his children: Leighann (Bruce) Watkins, Kristin (Andrew) McHale, and Danny (Lilia) Perry.

## 1950s



**Janet (Miller ’57) Montague**, age 82, December 26, 2016, Zephyrhills, Fla.

Janet and her late husband, **Chuck**

**’56**, served in a variety of capacities in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan for 57 years. Janet continued to serve as the VBS director at Community Bible Church after her husband’s death in 2013.

Before her death, Janet completed her memoirs, *Lest I Forget*, which recount stories of God’s faithfulness to her and her husband.

Janet was preceded in death by her husband, Chuck, and two siblings.

## Present with the Lord

She is survived by three siblings, including **Donna (Montague '52) Rose**; children, Heidi (Shawn) Sloan, **Randy Montague '84**, and Jenny (Kevin) Kruger; five grandchildren; as well as several nieces and nephews.

**Evelyn (Himsel '54) Norton**, age 90, February 6, 2017, Verona, Wis.

After her time at Moody, Evelyn served as the first director of Child Evangelism Fellowship in Madison, Wis. She and her husband, Rodney, were married in 1964 and lived in Minneapolis where Evelyn continued serving with CEF. Evelyn and Rodney retired to Verona, Wis., in 2006.

Evelyn was preceded in death by her husband; and a brother and sister-in-law. She is survived by nieces, nephews, and extended family members.



**Irving Barker '53**, age 91, January 19, 2016, Hudsonville, Mich.

Irving was a teacher and principal in

Wyoming, Mich., for 30 years. He also served in WWII with the US Army Air Corps in England. Additionally, he was part owner of Marne Hardware and Implement with his father. After attending Moody, Irving married **Marilyn (Lowing '55-'56)** and studied at Calvin College and the University of Michigan.

Irving is survived by his wife of 62 years; their children: Nancy (Daniel) Rittenhouse, **Ronald '78** and **Jacqueline (Piell '72) Barker**, David (Cheryl) Barker, Marcia (Lee) Bratton, Gregory (Kimberly) Barker, and Julie

(Brian) Chambers; 19 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

**Mary (Bellows) Allen '52**, age 85, February 10, 2017, Princeton, Ill.

Mary was actively involved with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Mayflower Society. She was very interested in genealogical research and enjoyed sewing and crafts. While Mary's husband, **Robert H. Allen '52**, served as a pastor, Mary taught Sunday school and volunteered in VBS. Mary and Robert met while attending Moody and were married on August 3, 1951. During her childhood, Mary lived with several aunts and uncles, as well as in a children's home while her father served in WWII.

Mary was preceded in death by her brother, Roger; one daughter-in-law; and her daughter, Donna. Mary is survived by her husband; her children, Robert Allen and Vonette Miller; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; one sister; as well as many nieces and nephews.

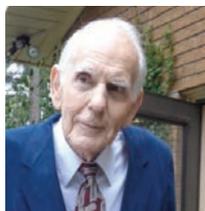
**Velma (Matter '49-'50) White**, age 87, December 31, 2016, Sterling Heights, Mich.

Following her time at Moody, Velma served as a youth mentor at Asbury III Church. She was a charter member of Fairhaven Church and served as a deaconess, church secretary, and Sunday School teacher.

Velma was preceded in death by her husband James, two siblings, and her son, Philip. She is survived by her children, Les White, Miriam Shumaker, and **Becky (White '90) Engel**; seven grandchildren, including **Christina Engel '17**; and three great-grandchildren.

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## 1940s



**Donald Van Hoozier '46**, age 92, August 16, 2016, Macon, Ga.

Don became the pastor of

High Point Baptist Church in Macon, Ga., in 1953 and served until his retirement in 2008 at the age of 84.

Born in Bulls Gap, Tenn., Don attended Moody and Wheaton College, then moved to Macon, where he served at Mikado Baptist Church with E. C. Sheehand and Avondale Baptist Church with E. M. Clapp. He then pastored High Point Baptist Church for 55 years.

Don is survived by his wife of 29 years, Dr. Charlotte Cox Van Hoozier, and many spiritual children.

**Gwendolyn (Ray '44) Greene**, age 97, March 14, 2017, Avon, Ind.

Gwendolyn and her husband, Dave, served in South Africa and Swaziland under The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM) for nearly 40 years. They were involved in church planting and theological education at the Union Bible Institute. Gwen served as a nurse, choir director, dietician, and librarian.

Dave later became the chairman of TEAM's South Africa/Swaziland field, during which time Gwen served as the hostess at the mission headquarters in Johannesburg, entertaining missionaries, officials, and pastors. In 1985 they retired to Rockville, Ind., where Gwen assisted Dave in his interim pastorates and served as a pianist.

Gwen was preceded in death by her husband, Dave, one sister, and two brothers. She is survived by her children: Lynda Merer, Karin (Joe) Johansson, Jennifer (Howard) Duncan, and Charles Greene; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

## 1930s

### Faculty

Dr. Harold Foos, age 81, January 5, 2017, Wheaton, Ill.

Dr. Foos taught Bible and theology at Moody Bible Institute for 34 years. Additionally, he worked for *Moody Magazine* as a book review editor and for Moody Radio as a Radio School of the Bible teacher. After retiring from Moody, Dr. Foos continued his ministry by filling pulpits around Chicago.

He is survived by his wife, Janet; their three sons: John (Cristi), David (Monique), and Daniel (Crystal); and six grandchildren.

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## Submissions

*To submit an alumni death notice, please send the obituary and, if possible, an attached photo (highest resolution possible) to [alumnews@moody.edu](mailto:alumnews@moody.edu). Include the deceased person's full name, maiden name, if appropriate, class year/years attended, age, date of death, location of death (city and state), relatives or related alumni, ministry focus in life, and other pertinent information. We may edit your submission for accuracy and length if needed. Questions? Call the Alumni Association Office at (312) 329-4412.*



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