

AMBASSADOR

ASBURY UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2020

1890

HUGHES MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

1929

MORE THAN WE COULD IMAGINE

Celebrate

Ignited



Ignited *The Campaign for*
ASBURY UNIVERSITY

This issue of the *Ambassador* magazine celebrates
"Ignited: The Campaign for Asbury University."

Having achieved a stunning 134.5% of its original goal,
Ignited has changed Asbury's trajectory for years to
come, impacting scholarships, facilities and the student
experience. To every donor, volunteer, prayer warrior,
and staff member who made this campaign a success
— thank you for investing in Asbury's mission.

\$83,366,947

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ASBURY UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE
VOL. 47 | ISSUE 2 | SUMMER 2020

ASBURY UNIVERSITY

is a private, Christian, liberal arts institution, providing academic excellence in a context of spiritual vitality. This nationally recognized, nondenominational university offers more than 50 undergraduate majors, plus degree-completion, graduate degrees and high school dual-enrollment programs to a student body of more than 1,900. Founded in 1890, the University's globally aware heritage has more than 22,000 living alumni who live and serve in all 50 states and more than 80 nations.

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President's Letter

Four years ago, at the launch of the public phase of the Ignited campaign during Reunion, I joined a panel of Asburians on the stage of Hughes Auditorium. We described the importance of the Ignited initiatives and how they related to students, faculty and staff. It was a moment of anticipation and dreaming. We were imagining what Asbury could be.

Four years later, we now see the fruit of our anticipation and the efforts of Dr. Sandra Gray and a host of Asbury leaders and alumni. Ignited, the most comprehensive campaign in Asbury's history, was an astounding success. With more than 8,500 donors, the campaign produced \$83 million dollars in giving, a breathtaking 34.5% increase over our campaign goal.

When I write *Ambassador* articles, it is a moment for me to take stock of where we have been and where we are presently. At this moment, I find myself entertaining a swirl of varying emotions. I am profoundly thankful for the success of the Ignited campaign and the extraordinary contributions of faithful women and men throughout the entire world. I am deeply grieved and saddened by the ongoing and recent expressions of racism, racial injustice and violence toward brown and black Americans. I am acutely alert to our challenges as we enter a new academic year — a persistent global pandemic, a polarized political environment and looming threats to the continuity of Christian higher education.

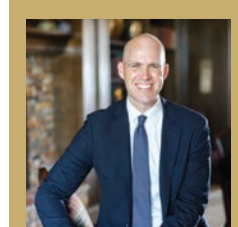
Yet I am also optimistically hopeful — enthusiastic about our new and returning staff and faculty and inspired by our leadership's plan as we enter Asbury's next chapter of Academic Excellence and Spiritual Vitality.

While there was great excitement and anticipation when we publicly launched Ignited, one memory rises above the rest. At the close of the evening, participants in the crowded Hughes Auditorium lit a candle and sang "How Great Thou Art." Absorbing the moment — the sights, sounds, lyrics and earnest participation — I found my soul echoing the very words of the hymn: "I scarce can take it in."

Today we stand at an important point in time. There is much to celebrate. There is much to lament. There is much to be alerted to. There is much to accomplish. In all these things — gratitude, sorrow, awareness, change and hope — may our starting point be, "My God, how great Thou art."

I am so deeply thankful and appreciative for the Asbury family. What a blessing to join with you in this sacred work. As our "soul sings," may the world see the fruit of the Spirit evident in our lives.

Kevin J. Brown, Ph.D.
President



COMING THIS FALL
A podcast from Asbury University President Kevin J. Brown and guests.

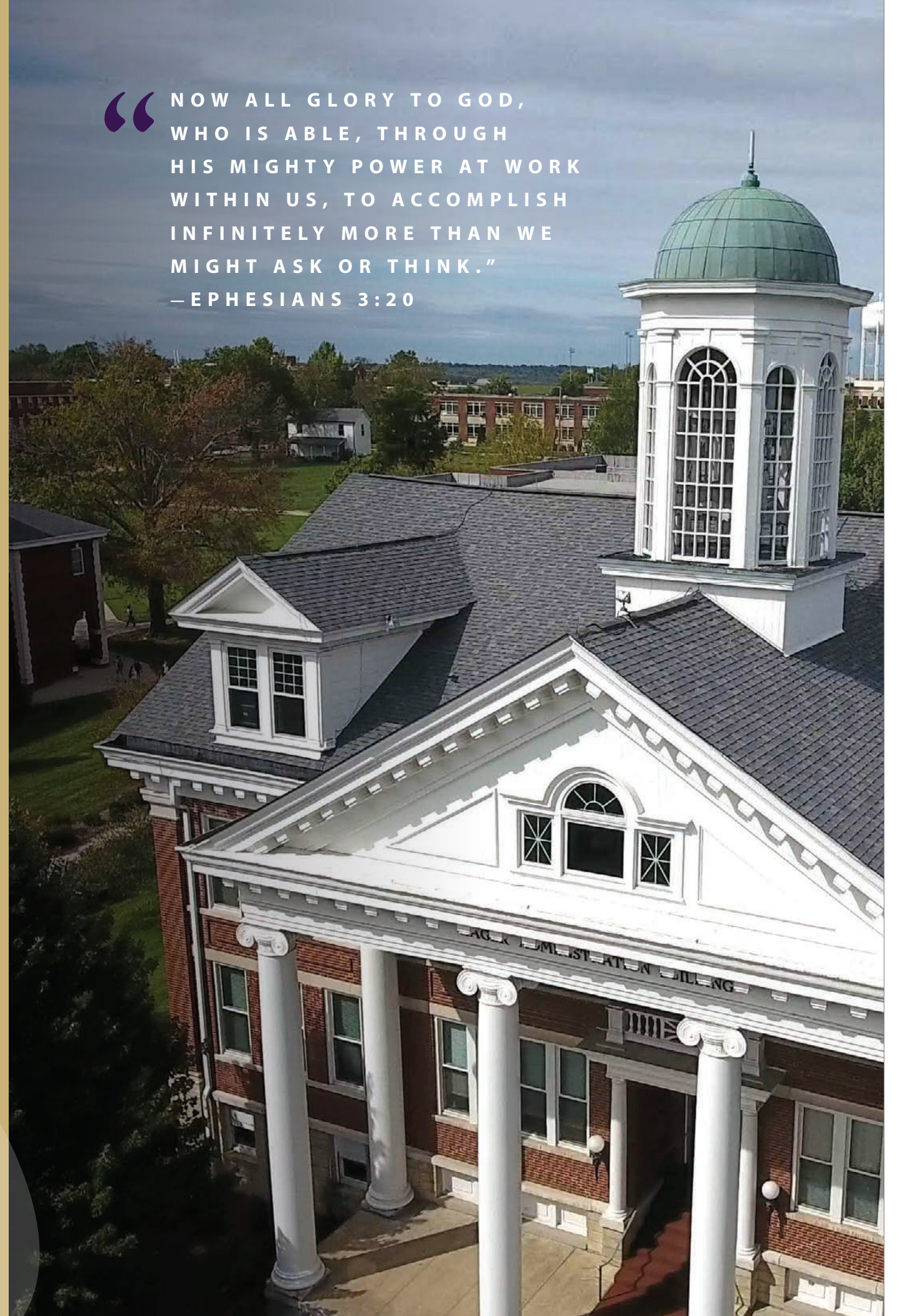




More Than We Could Imagine

AT EVERY STEP, GOD'S VISION FOR "IGNITED: THE CAMPAIGN FOR ASBURY UNIVERSITY" HAS BEEN MORE THAN WE COULD ASK, THINK OR IMAGINE.

“NOW ALL GLORY TO GOD, WHO IS ABLE, THROUGH HIS MIGHTY POWER AT WORK WITHIN US, TO ACCOMPLISH INFINITELY MORE THAN WE MIGHT ASK OR THINK.”
—EPHESIANS 3:20





SIX YEARS AGO, ASBURY UNIVERSITY LAUNCHED THE MOST AMBITIOUS CAMPAIGN IN ITS HISTORY — A \$62 MILLION PLAN TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS, FACILITIES AND THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE. IGNITED WAS ASBURY'S FIRST COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN, AND THE GOAL WAS MANY TIMES LARGER THAN ANYTHING ATTEMPTED BEFORE.

The entirety of the campaign (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2020) was charged with what many have called "divine surprises" — unexpected opportunities, challenges, re-orientations, blessings. We were surprised by unforeseen areas of growth; an outpouring of volunteer effort; a wealth of new ideas. The greatest surprise of all, though, might be just how far God's vision for Ignited exceeded our own.

At the end of a six-year campaign fueled by 8,544 donors and 319 volunteers, we are grateful beyond words to share that we have not only achieved our \$62 million goal, we have exceeded it by more than \$21.3 million.

The final result of "Ignited: The Campaign for Asbury University" is \$83,366,947 — 134.5% of the goal. The success of Ignited not only changes the future trajectory of Asbury, it is already making a powerful impact in students' lives through new scholarships, facilities, programming and more.

Support for Ignited has been overwhelming. Asbury saw an 84% increase in gifts received during Ignited over the previous 6-year period, and gift revenue (new gifts and pledges) averaged \$11,954,321 per year during Ignited compared to an average of \$6,353,572 in prior years, an 88% increase.

To every donor, volunteer and prayer warrior who made Ignited a success, we say thank you. Thank you for strengthening our mission, broadening our reach and changing the lives of students both today and for years to come.

"The way God has blessed Asbury through this campaign is astounding," said Dr. Mark Troyer, vice president for Institutional Advancement & Strategic Partnerships. "We are humbled, and we are grateful to every member of our worldwide Asbury family whose faithfulness and generosity have brought us here. The full impact of Ignited extends far beyond this moment. It means minds sharpened, hearts transformed and generations of Asburians yet to come who will be even better equipped to impact the world for Christ."

The resources provided by Ignited have undoubtedly transformed the University's ability to pursue its unchanged mission in innovative ways.

"The Ignited campaign has resourced us in a way to fulfill our mission in a 21st Century context — our institutional sustainability, our learning spaces, our social and communal spaces, and the recruitment of high-level faculty and students committed to academic excellence and spiritual vitality," said Asbury President Kevin J. Brown. "Over a century ago, our founder, John Wesley Hughes, said that Asbury exists to develop the whole person. The methods by which we fulfill our mission have changed and will change, but the mission remains."



I remember at the beginning of the campaign, we thought a \$62 million goal was really pushing the edge. Then God showed us that He truly can deliver immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. Praise be to our God who sees us struggling at the edge and takes us far beyond."

Larry Green '71
Campaign Steering Committee Member

Spiritually Focused

One of the campaign's guiding principles was eternal impact — "to meet people in heaven who came to know Jesus through this journey." Consequently, the campaign was rooted in prayer and the spiritual mission of Asbury remained front and center in all strategy and vision for the campaign.

"God has prepared Asbury University for such a time as this," said Dr. Sandra C. Gray, who was president of the University during the first five years of the campaign. "Through Ignited, we have embraced the bold vision He has for us, equipping our students to impact the world in every field of calling. Ignited powerfully supports Asbury's mission."

Asbury's spiritual and academic commitments work in tandem, and the campaign has powerfully energized both. Ignited deepens Asbury's commitment to academic excellence by driving innovation in new programming, upgrading facilities and learning spaces, strengthening faculty development and supporting internships, research opportunities and cross-disciplinary learning. It cultivates spiritual vitality by investing in the integration of faith and learning, growing ethnic diversity in the student body, supporting community programs and prioritizing relationships. Perhaps most importantly, scholarship funding makes the Asbury experience accessible to even more students, widening the impact of faith and service.



The Lord has been so very faithful to answer our prayers through the Ignited campaign and draw the lost to Himself. What a joy to know that this campaign has better equipped AU to continue sharing the hope of salvation throughout the world!"

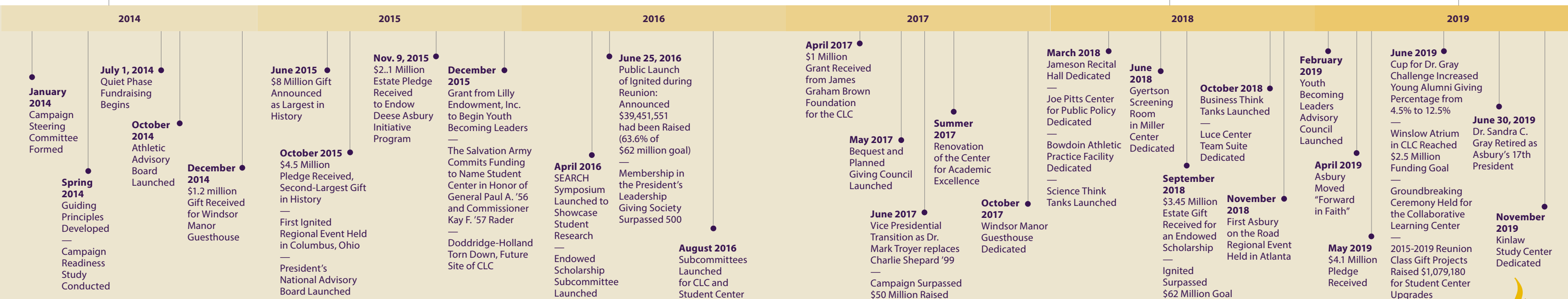
Jenna Heiner '09 Molnar
Campaign Steering Committee Member



Summer 2018
Donor-Funded Remodels of Kresge Lobby and Johnson Dining Hall

Read more about the impact Ignited has made on scholarships, facilities and the student experience on pages 12-19.

Milestones





Unexpected Blessings

Windsor Manor Guesthouse was just one of the many “divine surprises” to emerge from Ignited. Believing that a top-quality guesthouse would enhance Asbury’s ability to offer hospitality, an anonymous donor stepped forward with a proposal to fully fund and maintain a new facility. Windsor Manor, a name with special significance for the donor, is another avenue for Christian community at Asbury.

Dedicated in 2017, Windsor Manor has proved a blessing. The building not only extends hospitality to University guests at special invitation of the president, it also hosts student events, science and business think tanks, faculty awards, campus celebrations and more.



Asbury has a great history and solid foundation which have positioned it well to meet its mission today. The sacrificial donations made by many through the Ignited campaign will allow the University to meet the future challenges of Christian higher education and prepare future leaders, both academically and spiritually, to meet the ever-changing challenges of engaging their cultures and advancing the cause of Christ. We are grateful for all who have made the campaign a success.”

Larry Brown '80
Chair, Board of Trustees
& Campaign Steering
Committee Member



JAN FEB MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JUL

2020

• **Coronavirus Pandemic**

March 6, 2020 •
Inauguration of
Kevin. J. Brown, Ph.D.
as Asbury’s 18th
President

• **Spring 2020**
Student Center
Phase 1 Upgrades
Began

June 27, 2020 •
Announced
“Almost Final”
Campaign Total
of \$73,057,401
during Virtual
Reunion

Summer 2020
Kinlaw Library
Renovated
to Add Offices
for Student
Development

July 2020 •
Fletcher-Early
Torn Down,
Future Site
of CLC

July 2020 •
\$10 Million Gift
Received for
the CLC and
Sciences



The Ignited campaign was a tremendous opportunity for all of us to experience anew and afresh God’s continuing provision for Asbury University. We were reminded again that the Holy Spirit is in fact the Divine Architect in all of our plans.”

C.E. Crouse '68
Campaign Steering Committee Member



A Volunteer-Led Campaign

In January 2014, **Charlie Shepard '99**, who served as vice president for Institutional Advancement from 2013-2017, gathered a team of volunteers to offer guidance as part of a campaign steering committee. **Dr. Walt '63 and Rowena Phillips '63 Shaw** served as co-chairs (see pages 11 and 20) along with **Greg Isaacs '83** (see page 15). Representing a wide array of backgrounds and professional experiences, the steering committee contributed practical expertise, vision and spiritual perspective, all of which were essential to the success of Ignited.

In addition to the co-chairs, campaign steering committee members included:

- **Dr. J.B. Crouse '55** Former President Emeritus, One Mission Society — Nicholasville, Ky. (J.B. passed away in 2014.)
- **Jessie Lois Amstutz '67 Webster** Retired, General Manager and CEO, LearnShare — Chicago, Ill.
- **C.E. Crouse '68** Retired, CPA, CapinCrouse — Wilmore, Ky.
- **Larry W. Green '71** Retired, Vice President, Novartis Pharmaceuticals — Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.
- **Sarah Louise Luce '72** Interior Design — Prospect, Ky.
- **Lt. Col. Ron Busroe '74** Retired, The Salvation Army — Apollo Beach, Fla.
- **Larry Brown '80** Retired, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers — Zelienople, Penn.
- **Dr. Stephen J. Behnke '94** Physician — Columbus, Ohio
- **Jenna Heiner '09 Molnar** Homemaker — Louisville, Ky.

Many other volunteers supported the campaign, contributing resources, lifting up the campaign in prayer and offering time and expertise. Read volunteers' names on pages 28-29 — all 319 of them.



Giving from the Heart

For many donors, Ignited offered a challenge to give in faith, joyfully offering resources back to God for Kingdom purpose. This was, in fact, a guiding principle of the campaign — “To unlock the power of God’s kingdom through His resources.” This was to be done by taking the focus off of money and placing it on God’s power, by connecting givers with a worthy opportunity for their gifts and by taking part in an identifiable movement of Biblical stewardship and generosity. In some respects, this approach could be called donor-centric. But perhaps it would be more accurate to call it a Kingdom-centered approach, directing the focus of donors and Asbury staff alike toward the larger purposes of mission and impact.

This was the case for campaign steering committee member Sarah Luce '72, who shared the following reflection.

An Offering

“Greg [Isaacs] encouraged each member of the campaign steering committee to expand our understanding of generous giving. I desired that my tithing experience grow from writing a check to worshipfully offering my contribution to God. One weekend, I found a plastic heart-shaped plate at a dollar store and decided to make it into an offering plate in my giving process. My tithe checks remained on the special heart plate until I had a deliberate time of prayer and reflection about the purpose of my tithe. Only after prayer would I put the checks into a mailbox. This discipline nurtured a sense of gratitude and participation in God’s work.

I once took the heart plate and my Asbury campaign check to Hughes Auditorium and prayerfully laid it on the altar before I turned it over to our Advancement team. That was a truly meaningful experience.”

Sarah Luce '72
Campaign Steering Committee Member





Continuing Momentum

The momentum created by Ignited does not end with the official close of the campaign. Instead, that energy continues to drive Asbury forward.

“Without the investment the Ignited campaign has made in Asbury’s future — including academic excellence and a commitment to our spiritual formation — our experience at Asbury would not be as unique and valuable as it is and continues to be,” said **Student Body President Demarion Johnson ’21**. “Thanks to the leadership and investment of Asbury alumni and other donors, Ignited has given opportunities for students to take what we learn in the classroom and apply it directly to the workforce through internship opportunities and other field experiences. Thank you for investing in current students and students to come. We are grateful.”

For President Brown, the continuing momentum of Ignited will be seen most clearly in the character of students who, thanks to donors’ investment, will be even better equipped to impact the world for Christ.

“I strongly believe that Asbury is a student’s story of belonging and becoming,” Brown said. “Belonging means forging life-long friendships and being woven into the fabric of God’s community of people. Becoming means growth and maturation in mind, heart and hands — cultivating a well-furnished mind, ‘learning to do right’ as it says in Isaiah chapter 1, following Jesus, and becoming the best version of ourselves. For these reasons and many more, there has never been a better time to be an Asburian.”

Read more about the continuing vision for Asbury University on page 27.



His will, His way and His timing!
Six years ago, as the Ignited campaign was launched, we could not have imagined what He would unfold. We simply stepped out in faith and month after month, year after year, watched the Lord not only fuel the vision but fulfill the promise. My heart overflows with praise and glory to the One who turns the unimaginable into glorious reality!

I knew from the beginning that Ignited was at the prompting of the Holy Spirit. Scripture talks about how the Lord **‘stretches out the heavens like a tent’ (Ps. 104:2)**, and I believe God’s vision for us to do a comprehensive campaign really enlarged the ‘tent’ of what He could do. Out of the campaign emerged opportunities we had not considered, but the Lord had placed them on the hearts of donors. He worked through all of His people to bring about a larger vision than we had imagined.”

Dr. Sandra C. Gray
President Emeritus, Asbury University

Historic \$10 Million Finishes CLC and Advances Sciences

A \$10 million gift made by Dr. Walt ’63 and Rowena Phillips ’63 Shaw is the largest single gift in Asbury’s history.

“It’s absolutely a miracle and amazing that we’re in the position we’re in,” said **Dr. Walt Shaw ’63**, reflecting on the \$10 million gift he and his wife, **Rowena Phillips ’63 Shaw**, just made to Asbury. “Few people ever get this opportunity. We’re in this position because of what I encountered at Asbury.”

As the Ignited campaign drew to a close, God blessed the Shaws with three unexpected gifts. The first was the skyrocketing value of Avanti Polar Lipids, the chemical company that has been their life’s work. The second was the acquisition of Avanti by an international healthcare company. The third gift was an ability to give back, in a remarkable way, to Asbury University, pushing the Ignited campaign dramatically further in its final days.

The \$10 million philanthropic investment is the largest single gift in Asbury’s history. It brings the Collaborative Learning Center to full funding (read more on page 14) and immediately enhances Asbury science programming as well.

The Shaws have supported Asbury in many ways through the years, from serving as co-chairs of the Ignited campaign steering committee (see page 20) to sponsoring research, volunteering, donating science equipment, and sharing their experiences and expertise with students and faculty. Rowena says supporting Asbury’s mission of equipping students to impact the world for Christ is a natural choice.

“What else would we want to do with our money but grow the Kingdom of God?” she said. “Putting God first — there’s no other way to live.”

Walt and Rowena founded Avanti Polar Lipids while Walt was in graduate school. It was a decision sparked by necessity. The lipids Walt wanted to use for research were too difficult to obtain, so he decided he would learn how to produce them himself. His entrepreneurial spirit led to a production contract during graduate school for \$12,000 a year — “A fortune for a graduate student!” he said.



After graduation, the company he supplied cancelled the contract, but Walt saw an opportunity.

“I was thrilled because it was an exclusive contract,” Walt said. “I could now go sell these things myself. I came back, wrote a catalogue and rented a 900-square-foot garage. It was the hand of God.”

When they graduated from Asbury in 1963, Walt and Rowena could not have dreamed they would one day make a \$10 million gift to the University. But today, as they reflect on the remarkable ways God has led them to this point, they pray the gift will make an eternal impact.

“One of the guiding principles of Ignited was that we would meet people in heaven as a result of the campaign,” Walt said, his voice choking with emotion. “I just hope this money can contribute to that. We believe there will be lots of people, but even one would be an amazing story.”





Scholarships

Scholarships were intentionally selected as the Ignited category with the highest fundraising goal because we believe an expanded foundation of scholarship dollars is critical to Asbury's long-term viability.

In our uncertain political climate, the threat of legislative and legal regulations puts Christian institutions at risk if students lose access to federal and student financial aid.

Scholarships also allow us to compete nationally for exceptional students, thereby strengthening our institution through the quality, diversity and accomplishments of our student body.

While nearly 100 percent of Asbury students receive financial aid, the cost for education continues to rise.

"The cost of quality, Christian private higher education can be significant," said Ron Anderson, assistant vice president for Enrollment and director of Financial Aid. "Add to that the economic realities of our times, and an Asbury education can be a challenge. Many, many thanks go out to our donors and supporters who faithfully give and are investing to keep the Asbury dream alive for our students."

"We are overwhelmed with the generosity of our Asbury family who have provided over \$32 million toward scholarships in this campaign," Mark Troyer, vice president for Institutional Advancement & Strategic Partnerships, said of the results. "That's \$5 million over the original goal!"



OLIVIA RUCKRIEGEL '22

Of the more than \$32 million raised, \$15 million was designated to endowed scholarships and \$17 million to current use scholarships.

Gifts made to endowed scholarship funds are never spent; instead, those gifts are invested, and a portion of the income is awarded annually to students in perpetuity. Every dollar given to current use scholarships is awarded directly to students in support of their tuition.

Lives are already being changed through the gifts made to scholarships during Ignited. **Olivia Ruckriegel '22** is one of the 1,133 students who received aid from an endowed scholarship during the campaign.

"While at Asbury, I have grown in surrender, trust and humility. I have grown in my understanding of where the Lord has gifted me and am pursuing a call to student ministry," Olivia said. "After graduation, I want to get the life-changing Gospel into the hearts and homes of students as they transition through some of the toughest and most transformative years of their life."

Olivia's academic preparation and spiritual growth would not have been possible without donors' generosity. "The scholarship aid was truly an answered prayer in the midst of deciding whether or not I could financially afford Asbury. Thank you to those who have donated to scholarships. You have truly been a vessel of the Lord's provision, and my thanks goes beyond words."



MATTHEW ATKINS '93

A Lasting Legacy

One of the new Ignited scholarships is the **Dr. Ed and Martha McKinley Endowed Scholarship**, given by two couples and named in honor of retired faculty member Dr. Ed McKinley and his wife.

Matthew Atkins '93 was one of the scholarship donors. "Dr. and Mrs. McKinley impacted me more than I could ever be able to tell them with mere words," he said. "I felt like there just needed to be something connected to the University that would last forever. While I can't replace the impact that they directly had on students, the scholarship is a way for me to not only thank them for what they meant to me, but also to remind its recipients in the future of these two wonderful people."

Matthew recommends donor partnerships to those who want to endow a scholarship with a minimum commitment of \$30,000. "It makes the goal that much more attainable," he says. "You get to share the obligation rather than shouldering it yourself, and it allows you to connect with another alum in a very tangible way."



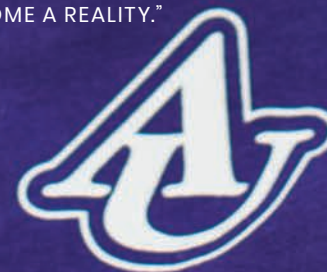
HOPE ODUBENA '23
Scholarship Recipient
HOMETOWN: LAGOS, NIGERIA
"RECEIVING SCHOLARSHIPS MADE MY HOPES OF COMING TO A COLLEGE WHERE I TRULY FEEL AT HOME A REALITY."

GOAL
\$27,000,000

RAISED
\$32,166,687

93 Scholarships
Established or Funded
1,133 Student Recipients
of Endowed Scholarships

119.1%
of Goal



Facilities

IGNITED IMPACT

Years of planning, fundraising and dreaming will take physical form on campus this fall as construction begins on Asbury's Collaborative Learning Center.

The CLC will bring together future entrepreneurs and scientists, healthcare professionals and marketing experts to learn from, and with, each other. With full funding achieved, the University will soon have a new home for the Howard and Beverly Dayton School of Business and the School of Science, Health and Mathematics.

In April 2019, Asbury moved "Forward in Faith" with plans to break ground for the CLC, even though funding had not been fully completed. The Board of Trustees had been inspired by the image of Joshua and the Israelites stepping into the Jordan River at flood stage. God had promised to be faithful to His people, but the waters did not recede until they entered the river. In a similar way, Asbury stepped out in faith to build the CLC, trusting that God would provide the resources. As the campaign drew to a close, funding was completed to build the CLC debt free.

This July, construction crews dismantled the Fletcher-Early Student Development Center, a building that originally served as a residence hall, to make room for the CLC. Programs previously housed in Fletcher-Early, such as the Center for Career and Calling, Intercultural Affairs, Residence Life, Campus Ministries and Conference Services, have moved into freshly renovated spaces, also funded by the Ignited campaign, in Kinlaw Library and the Student Center.

Dr. Steve Toadvine '82, vice president of Baptist Health Lexington Hospital, says today's healthcare industry needs professionals who have been equipped with the kind of collaborative understanding the CLC will provide.

"There's a need for physicians, and others in healthcare, who really understand the broad scope of the field," Toadvine said. "Healthcare in our country has become complex. It involves public policy, finance and large corporations. A foundation at an early level in college is ideal, and it's something the medical schools are now looking for."

The CLC will feature state-of-the-art technology and lab spaces, a 400-seat auditorium, breakout rooms for hosting conferences, common areas and sales training rooms.

Multiple naming opportunities celebrate people who have impacted the University. Funding has been completed to name the first floor of the CLC in memory of **Greg Isaacs '83**, a former member of the Board of Trustees and co-chair of the Ignited campaign steering committee. The CLC atrium will be named in memory of **Don Winslow '65**, a former Business professor, and a Biology lab has been named in honor of **Dr. Winston B. Smith '50**, one of this year's A Award recipients and long-time professor, coach and advisor.

Further naming opportunities remain for labs, sales training rooms, faculty offices and more. For a complete list, visit asbury.edu/ignited.



Greg Isaacs '83
Ignited campaign steering committee co-chair, pictured with his wife Cindy

Portrait of Faithfulness

As an active member of the Board of Trustees and Ignited campaign steering committee co-chair, **Greg Isaacs '83** left a legacy of enthusiasm for Asbury and its mission that can still be felt since his passing in 2018.

From the beginning of the campaign, Isaacs knew it was about more than numbers, though numbers were undoubtedly one of his areas of expertise. As an accountant, he loved the business world and embraced the phone calls, donor visits and personal touches that helped guide the steering committee's work.

"Greg helped cast the vision for the Ignited campaign and was instrumental in making sure that we bathed it in prayer," said Dr. Mark Troyer, vice president for Institutional Advancement & Strategic Partnerships. "He was an advocate for a 'big God-guided goal,' and knew we needed to set a fundraising goal that would require God's help."

Greg's wife, Cindy, knew that the impact Asbury had made on him as a student shaped him as a Christian, as a husband and father and as a professional.

"At one point he had gone on a mission trip and thought he would be called to the mission field," she said. "When he wasn't, he was disappointed, but discovered that being an accountant opened up a field that was different but just as important. He recognized you can be a missionary in your profession."

"He just loved Asbury," she continued. "It was the least he felt like he could do to try to motivate people to make it a better university and accessible to more people, with more programs and degrees to pursue. He told everyone it changed the trajectory of his life. He wanted to give back so that more lives could be impacted the way his was."

Greg passed away in 2018 after a long struggle with a chronic illness. Through the generosity of a donor and friend, the first floor of the Collaborative Learning Center has been named in his memory.

"His disease gave him a different perspective of what matters and helped him get his priorities in line," Cindy said. "He saw that life was short, and you have to fill it with what matters."





Facilities

IGNITED IMPACT

In addition to funding the CLC, the Ignited campaign has catalyzed a host of other campus improvements, upgrades, renovations and new facilities. Here are some of the ways the generosity of donors has transformed campus.

Facility Dedications

- Windsor Manor Guesthouse (1)
- Jameson Recital Hall (2)
- Joe Pitts Center for Public Policy (3)
- Bowdoin Athletic Practice Facility (4)
- Gyertson Screening Room (5)
- Luce Center Team Suite (6)
- Dennis F. Kinlaw Study Center (7)

Capital Upgrades

(not a complete listing)

- Center for Academic Excellence
- Luce Center
- Student Center, phase 1
- Johnson Cafeteria
- Kresge Hall Lobby
- Kinlaw Library
- Hughes Auditorium
- Art facilities
- Equine facilities

137.4%
of Goal

GOAL
\$24,000,000

RAISED
\$32,966,136

- 7 Facility Dedications
- 14 Capital Upgrades
- \$1,395,554 Raised by Reunion Gift Projects

6

4

5

DANIEL POE '21

3

7



1



2



4



5



3



7

Space to Succeed

When Daniel Poe began classes at Asbury as a freshman in 2017, he felt like a fish out of water his first semester. A first-generation college student, he worked full-time to pay his own way through school, living at home in Winchester, Ky., and commuting to stretch his funds further. He felt confident in choosing Music Education as his major. "I could see myself doing this and loving this for the rest of my life," he said. But between his work schedule and feeling intimidated about asking questions in class, his grades were suffering.

Three changes added up to a big difference for Daniel. First, he changed his approach to his classes.

"It's intimidating to walk in with peers who have known they want to do music all their lives and are ahead," he said. "But by the second semester, I'd decided: I pay for my education, and I'm going to get what I need out of this. I moved up to the second row and became that person with their hand in the air, asking every question."

Daniel also followed a professor's advice and made an appointment with the University's **Center for Academic Excellence (CAE)**. The Center, which was renovated and outfitted with new technology through the Ignited campaign, offers writing assistance, tutoring and academic coaching. By talking with staff members, Daniel realized that the problem was not mastering the material — he could explain the concepts clearly in conversation — but rather, managing his anxiety during written tests.

Finally, Daniel was awarded the John 11 Scholarship, a campaign-funded scholarship for students who are struggling academically. The additional financial aid allowed Daniel to drop some hours at work and pay off the car he used to travel to campus for classes, freeing both time and financial pressure.

In providing the funds for the John 11 Scholarship and the CAE renovations, two anonymous donors made it possible for Daniel, and others like him, to stay the course in pursuing God's call. His resolve has been tested, of course. Daniel let go of the goal of graduating with his class in order to better manage his course load and work responsibilities, and a collision with a drunk driver last November led to the tough decision to stay home this past spring to focus on physical therapy.

"It was hard in that moment not to be on track with my peers," he said, "but I don't have to be like everyone else. In two years, when I walk across that stage, I will know that I poured every ounce of my being into that degree."





IGNITED IMPACT



Asbury University equips students to be tomorrow's leaders, men and women rooted in the Word of God who are excellent in their chosen profession.

How do we do this? Through hiring and equipping the best teacher-scholars whose passion is to impact the world for Christ and through providing a holistic education for our students.

The experience category of Ignited successfully advances the student experience through investments made in academic and community life programs, faculty development and institutional sustainability.

A significant increase in professional development funds available has enabled faculty to deepen their knowledge in their subject area, present research findings and pursue innovative scholarship. Funding the vision to expand our faculty members' ability to be entrepreneurs in education has resulted in revenue-generating endeavors and expanded our missional influence and world reach.

Our students have not only benefited from gifts made to support faculty; they are also the recipients of gifts made to expand outside-the-classroom learning, including internships, research grants, study-abroad programs, stipends to competitions and conferences, and grants for students to serve in developing countries all over the world.

Ignited has also funded spiritual growth opportunities, women's ministries, athletics, the annual SEARCH Symposium, diversity initiatives, and service outreach opportunities.

Through the generosity of donors and wise investment strategies, the University's endowment grew 30% during the Ignited campaign. This is significant because giving to the general endowment provides a perpetual source of funding and provides the financial foundation on which the future of Asbury University depends.

"Success for Asbury means our graduates are engaging the world and making a Christ-driven difference," said Ignited steering committee member **Jessie Lois Amstutz '67 Webster**.



165.8%
of Goal

GOAL
\$11,000,000

RAISED
\$18,234,123

\$1,005,456 Invested in Athletics
30% Growth in Endowment
300% Increase in Faculty Development Funds

Experience



Keeping the School of Communication Arts on the Cutting Edge

It's difficult to quantify the impact **Laurie Ramsey '81 Jaffe** and her husband Michael continue to have on Asbury's School of Communication Arts and its students.

The Jaffes have invested in a variety of projects over the years.

"Their sponsorship funding has allowed us to continue to move forward with the Highbridge Film Festival," said **Dr. Jim Owens '79**, dean of the School of Communication Arts. "It has supported our students in high profile internships at places like Sports Illustrated in New York, the Globe in London and Alcon Entertainment in Los Angeles."

"Because of our experience producing a documentary, we understand the importance of telling stories through film," Laurie said. "We want to help provide a platform for student actors, crew and filmmakers to promote and showcase their work."

The Jaffes' support also helps bring industry professionals to campus and provides opportunities for students and faculty to travel to key events such as conferences and film festivals.

"My husband and I have been blown away by the vision and life-changing impact of the Communication Arts program," Laurie said.





Two Asbury alumni and the company they created reflect both a foundation in Asbury's past and

a vision of the future.

One Sunday evening more than 50 years ago, **Walt '63** and **Rowena Phillips '63 Shaw** attended a men's choir concert and shared a meal at a hamburger joint in Nicholasville, Ky. It was the beginning of a relationship that has endured and thrived. They had, as the saying goes, good chemistry.

What they could not know at the time was just how good their match would prove to be for chemistry. Today, the company they founded and recently sold, Avanti Polar Lipids, Inc., creates lipid products for researchers around the world, including a pharmaceutical-grade product that is a critical component for a vaccine for COVID-19. Neither could they have guessed at the crucial ways they would advance Asbury in the future, serving as co-chairs of the Ignited campaign steering committee.

As with many big things, the Shaws began with small steps of faith and diligence. After graduating from Asbury, he studied chemistry, she studied music. Walt attended graduate school at Ohio State University. His academic foundation helped him to excel even in the much larger program there.

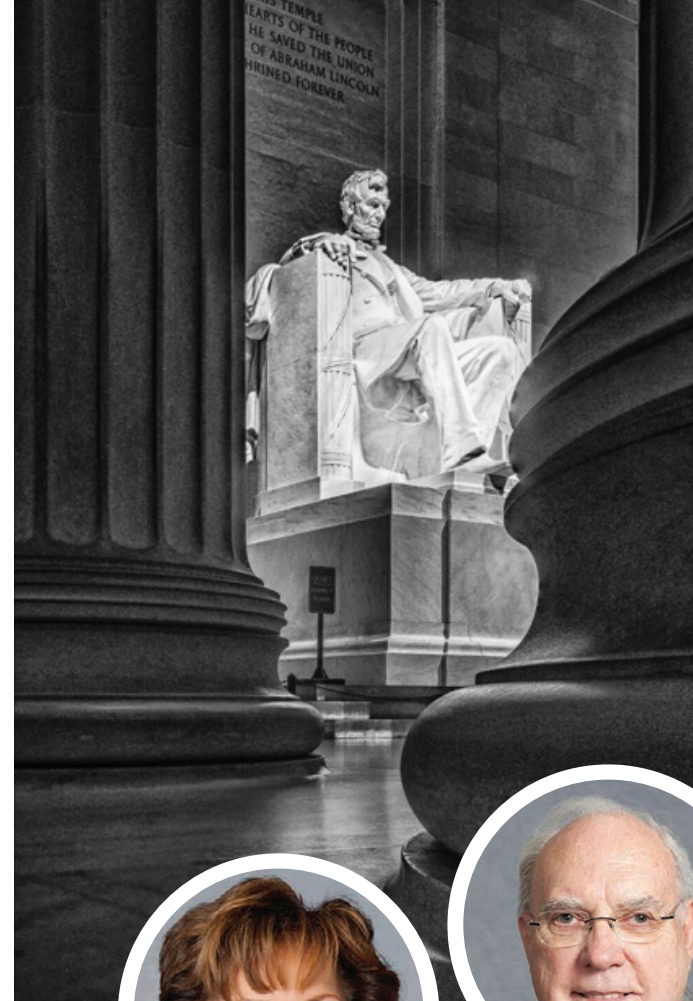
"Paul Ray taught me organic chemistry," Walt said. "When I went to Ohio State, I was extremely well prepared. At any other school besides Asbury, there wouldn't have been a Paul Ray, and I wouldn't have been as grounded. I was able to do well, which is the basis of the success in chemistry we were able to have in starting and developing the company."

After finishing at Ohio State, Walt accepted a position as a lab director at Medical College of Virginia, where he gained experience in purifying large quantities of lipids. He and two partners founded a company to capitalize on this experience and skill, and Avanti was born. Over the coming months, the Shaws would buy out their partners, move to Alabama for Walt to pursue a doctoral degree, and continue to invest in their vision for the company. Once their children reached school age, Rowena spent her days at Avanti as well, taking orders and shipping materials from their basement.

The company that began in a 900-square-foot rented lab today operates out of FDA-inspected and approved facilities on a 25-acre campus. Guiding the company through the years was an unwavering commitment to quality in their products and a creative partnership with their customers.

In 2014, Walt and Rowena joined with **Greg Isaacs '83** (see page 15) to become co-chairs of "Ignited: The Campaign for Asbury University." Their leadership in the campaign has been multifaceted, and includes lecturing in science classes, speaking in Chapel, donating scientific instruments, helping with student research projects and sharing meals with students.

"It's an unusual experience, to see how the campaign came together, and to be part of it was thrilling," Walt said. "The interaction with the students we've had as part of the campaign committee has been extraordinary."



PHOTOGRAPH BY WALT SHAW



"A graduate of Asbury needs to be grounded in their choice of studies and be the best in the world today. They're representing a school grounded in Jesus Christ and holiness. They need to know what they believe and why. Coming from a liberal arts school that is holiness-based, you can't just egg along. You've got to be the best there is."

Rowena Phillips '63 Shaw

PICTURED WITH WALT

Their role in the campaign was fueled by the same passion for excellence that helped Avanti grow and a deep appreciation for Christian community. As a student, Rowena found that being able to study music under skilled professors, and in the company of believers from different backgrounds and places, was itself a testimony of God's goodness. She believes that witness is just as essential today.

"A graduate of Asbury needs to be grounded in their choice of studies and be the best in the world today," she said. "They're representing a school grounded in Jesus Christ and holiness. They need to know what they believe and why. Coming from a liberal arts school that is holiness-based, you can't just egg along. You've got to be the best there is."

With a business that spans the worlds of science and entrepreneurship, Walt and Rowena have learned through life experience many of the skills Asbury University hopes to develop in its students through campaign-funded initiatives. For example, the Collaborative Learning Center will bring together students in the Dayton School of Business and the School of Science, Health and Mathematics. This type of collaboration matters because the knowledge, values and community fostered at Asbury become avenues through which God moves to accomplish His purposes.

"I gave a Chapel message on seeing the unseen," Walt said. "It's the idea that the guidance you have when you leave Asbury is the unseen hand that guides you. If our starting point had not been Asbury, we would not be sitting here talking today. I can think of lots of miracles between when I started at Asbury, met Rowena, married Rowena, went to grad school, went to Medical College of Virginia. That's when the whole basis for Avanti was put together, but I would not have been there, at that time, without Asbury."

"The hand of God has directed us from the time we started at Asbury until now," he said. "Any more, there's miracles almost daily."





God's got this.

I am so humbled to be at Asbury during this time of celebrating God's blessing. Across our country, this is a period of uncertainty and reflection, but it is also evident that God is in control. I love that He gives us hints — sometimes billboards in our paths — that say, "I've got this!"

This column will be a bit of a personal note. When I said yes to stepping into the vice president for Advancement role in the middle of this campaign, it was not an easy decision for my wife Diane and me to make. We love Asbury and its mission deeply. It is a place that has educated each of our three now-adult children. We have made lifelong friends here in the 30 years we have called Asbury home. But to jump into a project that was one of Asbury's most audacious endeavors was a stretch of our abilities, faith and human understanding.

The last three years, however, have confirmed why we have made Asbury our home and our ministry. We've talked about so many "divine surprises" and enjoyed so many encouraging days with people who love Jesus. God's love and blessings for this community are indeed beyond what we can imagine. We have treasured the priceless privilege of sitting down to dinner with families and friends, both old and new, and talking about how

God, through Asbury, has impacted lives. The encouragement (and prodding) from our beloved Greg Isaacs, Walt and Rowena Shaw and the other members of the campaign steering committee has been uplifting. Our Board of Trustees, our volunteers, Dr. Gray, Dr. Brown, our Advancement team, our 8,500 donors and even more prayer warriors — you are all part of a family that want Asbury to be the best for our students.

THANK YOU ALL for the privilege Diane and I have had in walking this journey together with you. The next chapters may not be easy, but we look forward to the momentum, the impact, the continued conversations and seeing the next indicators that we have a God who can provide more than we can ask or imagine. He's got this! If you are reading this article (and thanks for getting this far), thank you for being part of the story. We hope you continue writing it with us. We are simply smiling at God's goodness today.

Dr. Mark Troyer
Vice President for Institutional Advancement & Strategic Partnerships



ASBURY STUDENTS shared during an event in Atlanta, Ga.



DURING THE 6-YEAR CAMPAIGN

165 President, Ignited and Alumni events were hosted.



DR. DAN STRAIT led a talk on English poet George Herbert during Reunion 2019.



ASBURY PRESIDENT KEVIN J. BROWN (then an Asbury Business professor) spoke during an event in Columbus, Ohio.

Asbury on the Road

Events connected alumni and friends with Asbury's mission.

From coffee with professors to dinner with the president, a plethora of events engaged alumni and friends in Asbury's mission during the Ignited campaign.

Special venues included a cruise in Alaska, The Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C., The Salvation Army USA National Headquarters in Alexandria, Va., a tailgate party for an Asbury vs. UK Wildcats men's basketball exhibition game and many others. Unique event types included golf scrambles, dinners,

concerts, theater productions, reunions, family outings to movies, conferences and seminars, science and business think tanks and much more.

Events represented a diverse array of venues and formats, but they shared common goals — fostering community, providing fellowship, engaging alumni, parents and friends in Asbury's ongoing mission and celebrating God's faithfulness together.

"It is always a joy to be at an event and see the wonderful things that happen when Asburians get together," said Lisa Falin '90 Harper, director of Alumni Relations. "Whether it's at Reunion, an athletic event, a think tank or just a gathering of alumni, we love to provide space for old friendships to flourish, new friendships to form and for all of us to fellowship and worship together."



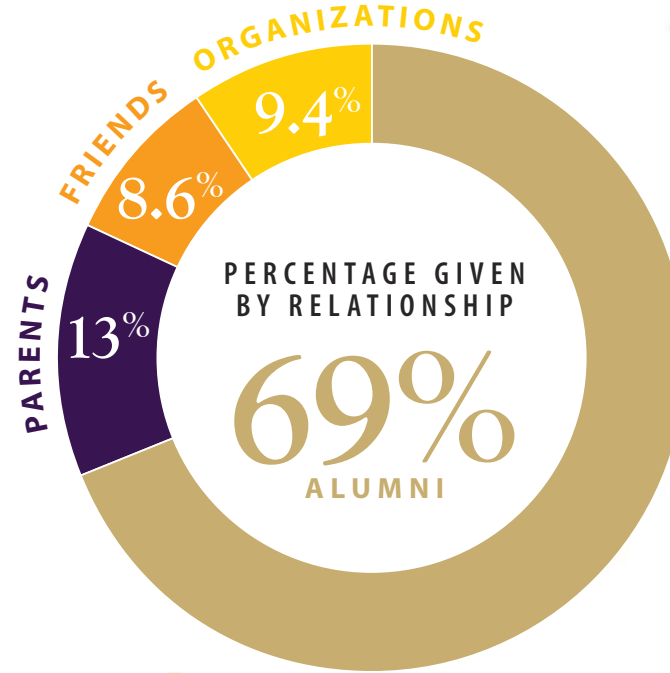


IGNITED BY THE NUMBERS

17 DONORS OF \$1 MILLION OR MORE

3,930 FIRST-TIME DONORS

8,544 donors from 50 states, D.C., 1 U.S. territory & 17 countries



PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP GIVING SOCIETY

134.3% GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP

1,296 MEMBERS

MORE THAN 5,190 ATTENDED 165 PRESIDENT, IGNITED & ALUMNI EVENTS

779
HOUSEHOLDS MADE A GIFT EVERY YEAR

557
MEMBERS IN THE JOHN WESLEY HUGHES SOCIETY

319
VOLUNTEERS

10
ADVISORY COUNCILS





Gray Named President Emeritus



DR. SANDRA C. GRAY

Former President Sandra C. Gray is honored with a first-of-its-kind distinction.

Honoring Dr. Sandra C. Gray's contributions to Asbury University, President Kevin J. Brown and the Board of Trustees have named Gray president emeritus of Asbury University. The designation, which is the first of its kind in Asbury's history, both recognizes Gray's achievements and allows her to serve as an ambassador for the University.

"The Board of Trustees and current President Brown hold Dr. Gray in very high esteem, are very appreciative of her past efforts on behalf of the University and look forward to her future involvement," said Board of Trustees Chair **Larry Brown '80**.

As president emeritus, Gray serves at the pleasure of President Brown and the Board of Trustees. Her role will include maintaining and developing relationships and representing the University to external constituencies.

"Asbury continues to reap the benefits of seeds planted by Dr. Gray in years past," President Brown said. "It is both exciting and appropriate for her to have this position of honor."

During Gray's tenure, Asbury's student body grew in numbers and diversity, and Asbury established new academic programs and facilities and made the transition from college to university. Gray also led Asbury through the launch and much of the duration of the Ignited campaign, articulating Asbury's mission and spiritual vision for the campaign with tireless clarity.

"This speaks to the value Dr. Gray had in her role as president, and it certainly speaks to the good relationship she had with the Board," Larry Brown said. "Even more so, it speaks to the relationship that she has with current President Brown. They have known each other for years and have incredible mutual respect. Dr. Gray is in a position to be able to fill this role in a meaningful way."

For Gray's part, she is honored to have continued involvement with Asbury and looks forward to where God will lead.

"I'm deeply honored, moved and humbled by this distinction," Gray said. "I am committed to Asbury; it's just been my calling. It really is a great honor. I thank the Board for their recognition, and will certainly do all that I can, with the Lord's help, to continue to represent Asbury well."



DR. KEVIN J. BROWN

CONTINUING VISION
ASBURY IN 2020 AND BEYOND

A Q&A with Asbury President Kevin J. Brown

How has the Ignited campaign changed Asbury's trajectory?

First, as it relates to our facilities, it elevates important future-centric programs by providing 21st Century teaching and learning spaces for our students. This relates not only to science and business, but also to our liberal arts curriculum and to collaborative, interdisciplinary efforts across campus. That is the future of education, and Ignited allows us to take a significant step in that direction.

Further, with more than \$32 million raised for scholarships, the campaign has provided a sustainable, affordable pathway of education for today's students who will be tomorrow's leaders and change agents.

Thanks to Ignited, spaces are being altered and improved to heighten the student experience and facilitate one of Asbury's many important features: community.

Finally, the campaign has allowed us to continue to recruit and retain some of the top Christian faculty in the country — a significant part of students' intellectual, spiritual and social growth during their time at Asbury.

Ignited has come to an end, but in some ways, it's just the beginning of a new chapter at Asbury. How do you hope this new chapter will read?

This is ambitious, but I want Asbury to be an education for the future — the best programs populated by the best faculty and staff providing students with the best formative intellectual and spiritual experience in the country.

With the close of the campaign, what's next for Asbury in terms of strategic initiatives?

I want us to grow in ethnic diversity. That includes both diversity in students and diversity in our faculty, staff and administration.

Sustainability will be very important in the future. There are a significant number of social, political, economic and cultural shifts taking place around us that may threaten the continuity of Christian education.

Tomorrow's future will be less predictable than in years past. That is not necessarily a bad thing — it just means that the speed by which change occurs has accelerated. Therefore, we need to keep up with this change, but we also need to be equally focused on teaching the perennial skills, competencies, capacities, sensibilities and virtues to our students — characteristics that endure change and make our students relevant regardless of place, time or context. These include problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, wise decision making, having a service mentality. We don't know what 2030 or 2040 will be like, but someone who has those capacities will be just fine.





319

The Ignited campaign would not have been possible without the contributions of our volunteers — all 319 of them. Join us in celebrating their selflessness, dedication and commitment.

Ignited Volunteer Wall of Fame

319 alumni, parents and friends volunteered to advance the mission of Asbury University during the Ignited campaign. The following individuals served as a member of the Board of Trustees, President's National Advisory Board, Alumni Board, Ignited Campaign Steering Committee, Ignited Subcommittee, Business Think Tank, Science Think Tank, Reunion Class Gift Committee, Planned Giving Council, Athletic Advisory Board, Young Alumni Committee or Youth Becoming Leaders Advisory Board. **(D) indicated those who are now deceased.**

Kevin Adkins
Aaron Ammerman '95
Dr. Roger Amstutz '62
Larry Andrews '75
Daniel Andrus '83
Andrew Atkins '97
Matthew Atkins '93
Rev. Lisa Friedeman '77
Ausley
Maj. Carl Avery '84
Maj. Kathryn Holz '88 Avery
Lisa Corbett '86 Bacon
Dr. Debra Ratliff '80 Bailey
Sarah Matthews '09 Bailie
Melanie Bakaysa '03
Clint Baldwin '94
Ron Ball '72
James Banter '13
Dr. Ken Banter '79
Mary Jean McKenzie '76
Banter
Sarah Hammerlee '13
Banter
Steve Barber '79
Dr. Dorothy Barbo '54
Commr. Todd Bassett '61
Ted Batson '86
Rev. Tom Beach '60
Carlton Beall '01
Ashleigh Lindsay '98 Behnke
Dr. Steve Behnke '94
Ed Bentley '74
Eric Bentley '02
Rob Bergman '02
Natalia Berkey '19
Dr. Elaine Davis '98 Bernius
Dr. Dave Billing '65
Maj. Beth Dennis '82 Birks
Maj. John Birks '82
Rev. Jason Blankenship '07
Steven Bodden '84
Larry Boss '87
Dr. Chris Bounds '88

Lt. Col. Mel Bowdan
Linda Lanker '77 Boyette
Rev. Dr. David Brazelton '65
Rev. Bob Bridges '69
Carol Kraus '82 Britton
Ben Brown '87
Dr. Harvey Brown '72
Larry Brown '80
Nathan Brown '98
Lt. Col. Ron Busroe '74
Allison Shuey '05 Buzard
Sarah Paff '02 Byun
Anna McFadden '05
Campbell
Dr. Tim Campbell '99
Clayton Carpenter '62
Rev. Carlton Casey '57
Dr. Shawn Casselberry '98
Melanie Wood '76
Cavanaugh
Emily Barlage '09 Cellier
Kathy Nelson '84 Chambers
Eva-Elizabeth Chisholm '09
Chuck Cole '83
Robin Watkins '82 Cole
Andrew Coleman '98
Taylor Bobb '12
Collingsworth
Barry Cook
Brian Cook '98
Dr. Paul Cooney '92
Deni Moegerle '75 Corbett
Dr. Jeremy Corbett '01
Dr. Steve Corbett '76
Dr. Phyllis Davidson '46
Corbitt (D)
Mike Couvion '89
Dr. Ron Creque '91
Dr. Andrew Crisologo '10
Christy Humason '10
Crisologo
Chad Crouch '93
C. E. Crouse '68

Dr. J. B. Crouse '55 (D)
Jon Crouse '86
Humaira Tufail '90 Dale
Joanne Davis '76
Bill De Loache
Rebecca De Loache
Dr. Michael DeHart '99
Dr. David Ditto '72
Perry Dougherty '91
Carol Douglas '76
Dr. Stephen Dupree '85
Rachel Snow '01 Dvorak
Jeff Edwards '86
Dr. Russell Edwards '48
Julie James '90 Eurey
Vanessa Hamblin '81
Fletcher
Jeff Ford '75
Bill Foust '65
Tristan Fretwell '09
Rufus Friday
Elijah Friedeman '15
Becky Schultz '01 Friesen
Dr. Ted Gabrielsen '55
Gary Gamble '65
Dr. Waldon Garriss '81
Jeff Gehring '97
Suzanne O'Neal '65 Gehring
Heather Music '89 Gentry
Kimberly Kyriakidis '92
George
Michael George '07
Anna Giaritelli '11
Dr. Emerson Gilbert '59
Dr. Brian Gillispie '94
Dr. Billy Glover '74
Ashleigh Graves-Roesler '07
Larry Green '71
Daniel Groves '91
Dr. David Hager '68
Scott Harkless '99
Tiffany Walz '08 Hassler
Kay Burrus '82 Hayden

Hal Heiner
Dr. Max Hickman '56 (D)
Shirley Maier '56 Hickman
Jamie Corbett '04 Higdon
Dr. Kate High '51
Rachel Hodges '60 Hilbert
Valerie Parr '79 Hill
Greg Hintz '90
Kirk Hintz '87
Dr. Morris Hintzman '67
Jo Butts '88 Hoag
Stephen Horn '04
Joshua Howard '10
Charlie Hunter '11
CJ Hunter '81
Nancy Donehoo '81 Hunter
Dan Hutchens '75
Dr. Amanda Russell '63
Hutcherson
Ken Hutcherson '63
Jarrod Ingles '14
Greg Isaacs '83 (D)
Dr. Mary Vore '68 Iwamoto
Betsy Stoffregen '01
Jackson
Laurie Ramsey '81 Jaffe
Dr. Scott Janney '80
Jay Jeffrey '95
Ande Jelley '02
Joshua Joerg '95
Merlin Johnson '58
Dr. Dee Jones
Dr. Jeannie Corbitt '76 Jones
Jim Jones '88
Dr. Raleigh Jones
Gwen Jurisich '02
Paul Kanneman '78
Ked Kantz '02
Dr. Andy Keith '64
Lovell Brasel '46 Kesner (D)
Cindy McLendon '79 Kewin
Dr. Billy Key '45 (D)
Peggy Kim

Cynthia Roberts '90 Kime
Dr. Bob Kingsbury '56
Judi Kinlaw '71
Jenni Dean '01 Kisby
Kendra White '09 Knox
Abby Andrews '09 Layer
Kirsten Lindgren '91
Joe Lineman '61
Joe Reeves Locke '78
Prudy Tam '68 Long (D)
Brian Lowe
Cherie Walters '99 Lowe
Angela Kimberlin '87 Loy
Sarah Luce '72
Greg Lucid '00
Linnea Luzzo '13
Farai Makombe '91
Dr. Rick Masters '76
Mark Matthews '83
Candace Nisbett '01
McCallister
Rev. Dick McClain '70
Pam McClain '70
Frank McFadden '77
Hope McFerrin '77
McFadden
Jean Lancaster '50
McKenzie
Capt. Dr. Andy Miller '02
Maj. Andy Miller '75
Maj. Cheryl Tompkins '77
Miller
Dr. John Mitchell '55 (D)
Jenna Heiner '09 Molnar
Paul Morgan '69
Maj. Wendy Laxton '87
Morris
Marthe Moseley
Nate Mowery '77
Tim Mowery '68
Emily Brockinton '04 Mullins
Phillip Mullins '11
Rev. Mitch Murrow '60
Andrea Gyertson '95 Nasfell

Brady Nasfell '93
Lt. Col. John Needham '73
Cheryl Barker '88
Nesselroade
Dr. Dan Nesselroade '91
Dr. Fran Banks '56 Newman
Joanna Sayers '75 Nichols
Rev. Richard Nichols '75
Ben Niswander '05
Dr. Art Nonneman
Lily North '01
Karla Riggs '77 Norton
Dr. Bob Ogilvie '58
Dr. Richard Oliver '64
Rev. Warren Otter '55
Rev. Ron Overcash '58
Brad Phillips '79
Mary Kay McGuire '79
Phillips
Bill Pinto '92
Rep. Joe Pitts '61
Prof. Homer Pointer '70
Dr. Geri Polvino
Cookie Taylor '64 Poynter
Scott Poynter '64
Charles Price '05
Charles Price
Abby Raetz '17
Natalie Curry '08 Rainey
Anita Joseph '87 Rainwater
Rev. Randy Rainwater '85
Dr. Jonathan Raymond '70
Cam Richardson '14
Jerry Ridnour
Karen Day '01 Riel
John Rinehimer '01
Dr. Cullen Rivers '67
Stephanie Gehring '94
Rodriguez
Dr. Melissa Phillips '07
Rondeau
Priscilla Martz '87 Ross
Steve Ross '88
Ben Rough '97

Jon Russo '00
Katie Rutledge '18
Dr. John Mark Salsman '95
Gary Saylor '66
Neal Schultz '03
Dr. Sylvia Seamands '62
Rowena Phillips '63 Shaw
Dr. Walt Shaw '63
Tim Shell '82
Charlie Shepard '99
Joy Sayer '99 Shepard
D.T. Slouffman '97
Brenda Smith
Carolyn Chandler '64 Smith
Dr. Winston Smith '50
Dave Smyth '97
Martha Evans '48 Sparks
Lt. Col. Ric Speakman '01
Nancy Keller '06 Sponseller
Caroline Ingle '98 St John
Dr. Dave Stevens '73
Brian Stiefel '92
Dr. Philip Stine '64
Rev. Owen Stricklin '80
Jeff Stryker '87
Helen Rhea Luce '69 Stumbo
Jara Sturdivant-Wilson '03
Dr. Vince Sutlive '53
Dr. Mary Early '80 Swain
Commr. Barry Swanson
Commr. Sue Miller '72
Swanson
Ada Edwards '44 Sweat
LTC Derik Swee '95
Jenny Weed '96 Swee
Ron Tarrant '59
Dr. Spencer Templin '00
Dr. Steve Toadvine '82
Colin Toth '20
Erin Ailes '02 Truex
Dave Turley '99
Dr. David Upperman '68
Fran Corbly '68 Upperman

Jane Cooper '84
Van Tatenhove
Valerie VanSweden '88
Pablo Velazquez '95
Kelcie Miller '10 Vercel
Pat Walters
Dr. David Wang '94
Erin Ward '02
Chaz Watson '85
Col. Bob Webster '81
Jessie Amstutz '67 Webster
Deb Ludden '87
Weidenhamer
Dr. Caresse Freed '03
Wesley
Clayton Wesley '04
Caleb Wheat '14
Dr. Sharayah Jung '13
Whelchel
Christopher White '99
Lainey Shell '79 White
Kent Whitworth '84
Mark Whitworth '84
Sarah Hunt '83 Whitworth
Dr. Bob Wiley '61
Martha Blackburn '01
Williams
Dr. Sam Williams '70
Rev. David Williamson '52
Paula Diaz '16 Willison
Marc Wilson '90
Dr. Dave Winkle '66
Dr. Marshall Wise '98
Dr. Mont Wood '79
Philip Wood '10
Caiti Maumenee '15 Woods
Nikki Herzig '14 Woolls
Dr. Gary Wortz '00
Rich Wright '89
Dr. Joe Wyse '82
Gene Young
Judy Henderson '66 Young
Rev. Louis Youngs '49
Keith Zane '93





Through New Partnership, AU is Close to Home

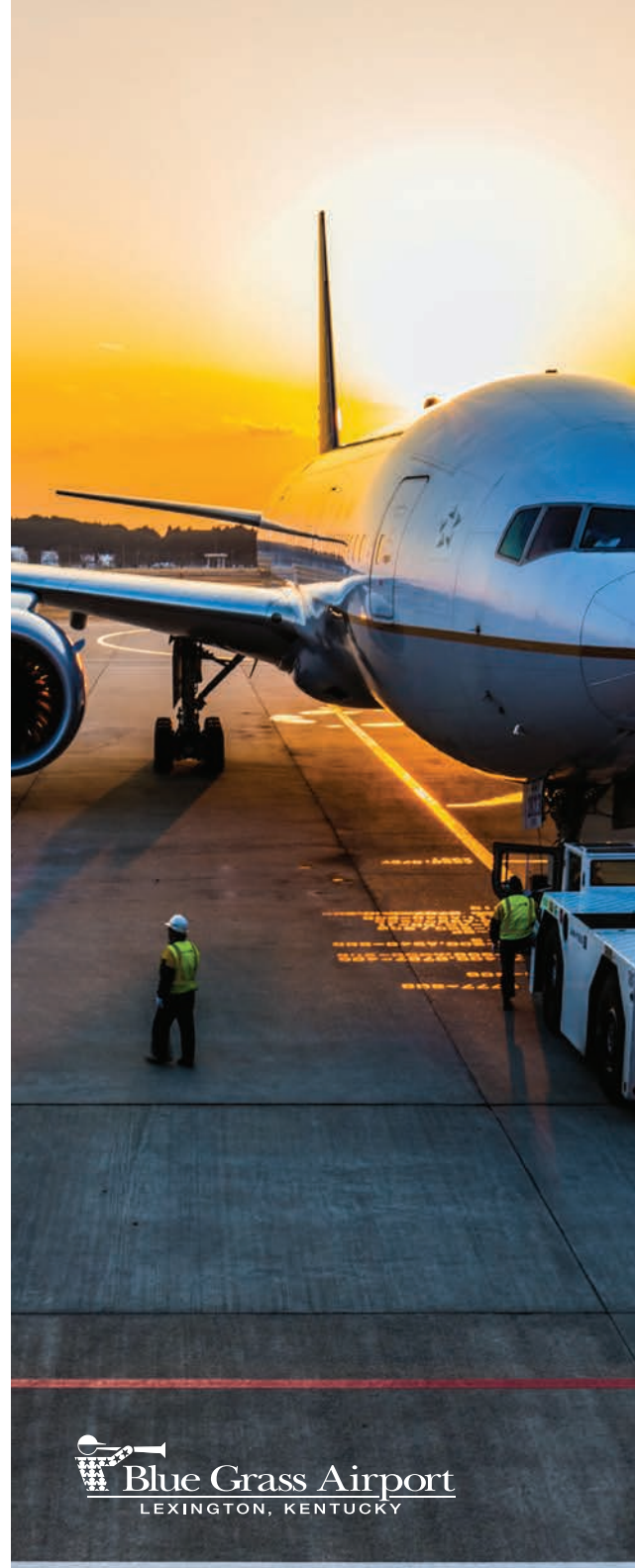
In a groundbreaking partnership, Asbury University and Central Kentucky's Blue Grass Airport in Lexington have teamed up to highlight the fact that friends of the Asbury community can travel to and from campus easily and efficiently. As a University that is dedicated to experiential learning and engaging the world with our God-given gifts, this new partnership will expand our global reach while allowing our students to feel "close to home."

At Asbury, we emphasize the power of our residential experience. In fact, many of our students claim campus as their "home away from home" — but the recent pandemic has made proximity to home and family even more important when deciding where to attend college. With Blue Grass Airport's multiple non-stop flights as well as quick flights to hundreds of cities within the United States, students can receive a world-class education and yet feel connected to those they love. Headlines across media platforms this past spring echoed an ABC News headline from June 6, 2020: "Amid virus, U.S. Students look to colleges closer to home." Asbury University wants to provide every opportunity for students to be close to home, whether that means being within driving distance or being able to get home easily via direct or short flights.

"I am excited to partner with Blue Grass Airport and provide a creative transportation solution for many of our students, families and alumni," said Dr. Kevin Brown, president of Asbury University. "Blue Grass Airport is becoming an important part of our recruiting process for new students and athletes. Their Asbury experience starts when they step off the plane and Blue Grass Airport provides first-class experiences for their passengers," continued Dr. Brown.

Blue Grass Airport is located in the heart of Central Kentucky and is a short, 20-minute drive to Asbury University's campus. In 2019, over 1.4 million passengers traveled through the airport on four airlines — Allegiant, American, Delta and United. Passengers often cite the airport's convenience as the chief reason why they choose to use it, experiencing fewer lines, crowds and parking aggravations than at other nearby airports.

It is the perfect partnership for an institution that utilizes personalized instruction in small classes to develop the character as well as the intellect of the students who pass through these halls on their way to becoming who God has called them to be.



With multiple non-stop flights, as well as quick flights to hundreds of cities within the United States, the **BLUEGRASS AIRPORT IN LEXINGTON** helps Asbury students from all over the U.S. stay "close to home."

Campus Corner

"Courageous" (1)

Facing multiple uncertainties and challenges as they begin their college career, the Courageous Class of 2024 could not be more aptly named. Join us in welcoming the newest Asburians to our family — and let's remember to pray for them, and all of our students, faculty and staff, that they will "be strong and of a good courage" (Deut. 31:6). The Lord our God goes with us.

Oxford Honors (2)

At Asbury University, you don't have to look far for examples of academic excellence. English major **Kayla Beebout '20** spent last fall studying at the University of Oxford through Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford (SCIO). In the program's semester-long academic experience, which bills itself as "not for the faint of heart," students participate one-on-one in tutorials with highly regarded Oxford faculty.

Beebout came home from Oxford with new friends, a broadened perspective and an enhanced ability to perform at the highest academic level. She also won a de Jager Prize for her exceptional academic performance in the British Culture course she took.

"Each year we have several students who participate in the Oxford study abroad program," said Dr. Devin Brown, professor of English at Asbury and Beebout's advisor for the past four years. "The fact that they always do so well tells us the preparation they receive here is doing what we hoped."

Eyes On The Sky (3)

Asbury alumnus **Colin McGlothlin '09** took this photo of Comet NEOWISE from campus.

A Day With Dr. Brown

During the shift to online learning this spring necessitated by COVID-19, Asbury President Kevin J. Brown went above and beyond to stay connected with students through Asbury's social media channels. From 5 a.m. coffee to a family "good night," Brown and his family shared a day in their life through a special video blog. Check out "A Day With Dr. Brown" on Facebook by visiting: asbury.edu/DrBrownDay.

Bring It In!

To make way for the new Collaborative Learning Center (see page 14), the Fletcher-Early building has been demolished, and new offices have been built in Kinlaw Library and the Student Center. The net result — strategic office placement in the heart of campus and a wide-open space ready for an innovative new facility!

United to Serve (4)

Even in a pandemic, Asbury students packed food boxes for the Community Service Center of Wilmore-High Bridge! In masks and gloves and socially distanced, Asbury Eagles "unite to serve!" #UniteToServe #AsburyUnified



Community Zoom

Since March, Asburians from all over the world gather virtually to pray for each other, for the Asbury community and for our nation and world. This time of prayer will continue once a month through the end of the year. For more info, email alumni@asbury.edu.





HERRIFORD, WELCH AND SHOUSE RECOGNIZED BY RIVER STATES CONFERENCE FOR

Champion of Character Awards

Asbury's **Autumn Herriford '21** (women's basketball) and **Noah Welch '20** (men's soccer) were named the 2020 Bill Melton Men's and Women's Champion of Character Award winners, announced by the River States Conference in June.

The award is given to one male and one female student-athlete in the conference. They are recognized for excellence in academics and athletics and for embodiment of the NAIA Champions of Character values.

Will Shouse '02, men's basketball head coach, was named the River States Conference Coach of Character for being outstanding in embracing the five core values of the NAIA's Champions of Character initiative, using methods of teaching character through sport and in community leadership through volunteering or service.

Shouse, who earned his 200th career victory at AU during the 2019-20 season, is the longest tenured head coach in the Asbury Athletic Department.

Megan Curry Named Softball Coach

Megan Curry was recently named head softball coach at Asbury. She brings an extensive softball background as an accomplished student-athlete and coach at the NCAA Division I level. Curry has served as an assistant coach at her alma mater Samford University and Mercer University.

"I am so humbled and excited to become a part of the Asbury family," Curry said. "I am looking forward to working with the team to not only work toward a championship, but to also challenge them to grow as people and leaders in the community. I am very thankful for Mark Whitworth who believed in me to lead this program and thank God for providing this opportunity to glorify His name. Go Eagles!"

Curry had an outstanding collegiate career at Samford from 2013-2016, finishing as one of the most decorated players in program history. The four-year starter was named the 2016 Southern Conference Softball Player of the Year and was also a three-time All Southern Conference First Team selection.



#TEAMAU

Fall Sports Open Season Sept. 5

As a member of the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics), Asbury fall sports teams are permitted to begin competition on September 5. The men's and women's cross country teams host the Eagle Opener on the 5th, while the men's and women's soccer teams open the 2020 season by hosting Marion University on 12th. The volleyball team begins the fall schedule by traveling to Alice Lloyd College on the 17th.

Soccer Facility Updates

The home of AU men's and women's soccer features a new scoreboard and sound system this season. Both were installed during the summer and were funded by Eagle Club donations and AU Athletics Corporate Sponsor revenue. This marks the third new scoreboard for #TeamAU in the past year, as new boards for women's lacrosse and softball were installed last fall.

#TeamAU Excels Academically

The Asbury University Athletic Department compiled a 3.37 combined team GPA for the spring semester, capping off another successful year in academics for #TeamAU.

Every Asbury sponsored sports team produced a team GPA above 3.0 in the spring semester and will be eligible for the NAIA Scholar-Team Award.

"We are very proud of this outstanding achievement by our student-athletes and deeply appreciate the support of our faculty and staff," said Mark Whitworth '84, vice president for Intercollegiate Athletics and University Strategic Communications. "We established being a scholar as one of our pillars of excellence, and the spring semester GPA exhibits the collective commitment to achieving at a high level in the classroom, as well as in athletic competition."

During the 2019-20 academic year, 103 Asbury student-athletes received Conference Scholar-Athlete honors and several will also be awarded with the NAIA Scholar-Athlete honors.



AUTUMN HERRIFORD '21 (pictured, women's basketball) and **NOAH WELCH '20** (men's soccer) were named the 2020 Bill Melton Men's and Women's Champion of Character Award winners by the River States Conference.

Eagle Awards

The 2020 Eagle Awards program was held through an online social media campaign with winners announced daily in May on Asbury's athletic social media platforms. With a total of 13 awards, there were 23 combined winners for the awards program.

Comeback Player of the Year

Women: Hannah Springer '21 (swimming)

Newcomer of the Year

Women: Zaria Napier '23 (basketball)
Men: Leander Ridgeway '21 (basketball)

Athlete of the Year

Women: Hannah Springer '21 (swimming)
Men: Alex Wu '22 (swimming)

Team of the Year

Women: Swimming
Men: Swimming

Gamble/Walker Outstanding Senior Athlete

Women: Deana Phillips '20 (softball)
Men Co-Winners: Noah Welch '20 (soccer) & Joe Williams '20 (baseball)

Frank B. & Lucille Fryman Endowed Scholarship for Athletes

Women: Paige Miller '21 (soccer)
Men: Brandon Pruitt '20 (baseball)

Cecil C. Zweifel Endowed Scholarship for Athletes

Women: Hannah Springer '21 (swimming)
Men: Will McDonald '20 (baseball)

Stuart Smith Award

Women: Hannah McCrabb '21 (golf)
Men: Siah Hollifield '21 (basketball)

Eagle Award

Rich Manieri (radio announcer)

Eric Liddell Endowed Scholarship

Colton Back '20 (baseball)

Molly Harlin Servant Leader Award

Sarah King '21 (basketball)

Scholar Team of the Year

Women: Tennis
Men: Baseball

Rita Pritchett Award for Academic Excellence

Women: Charisse Sallade '20 (cross country)
Men: Yoel Rivas '21 (cross country)



FOLLOW #TEAMAU

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Lives Transformed

ASBURY UNIVERSITY REUNION 2020

A NEW FORMAT FOR A BELOVED TRADITION

With 2020 marking both the completion of Asbury University's Ignited campaign and the 50th anniversary of its famous 1970 revival, the Alumni Office knew this year's Reunion celebration would be one for the record books. And it was — but not for reasons anyone could anticipate.

The outbreak of COVID-19 led to widespread quarantines and prohibitions against large gatherings. And yet, in the face of social isolation and fear, the need for Asburians to remind each other of the faith and traditions that unite them seemed more compelling than ever.

Thus it was decided that Reunion 2020: Lives Transformed would transition from a traditional Asbury Reunion to an online experience. Alumni and guests from 36 states and more than 13 countries gathered virtually through a combination of recorded presentations and real-time online meetings to worship and reconnect. In fact, more than 1,000 alumni and family members tuned in.

Dr. Gene '70 and Cindy Snyder '70 Ezell had been looking forward to returning to campus for Reunion to connect with fellow members of the Valiant class. While the pandemic prevented them from physically strolling campus, connections were made regardless.

"My favorite was our virtual class meeting," Gene said. "It was so good to see all who participated and hear from many of them regarding their careers, their families and their testimonies."

"The highlight of the weekend was definitely the Voyager gathering," said Michael Fletcher '80. "I admit to being skeptical, but it turned out to be an amazing experience," he continued. "The videos were well done and helped us get that 'Asbury feeling' of being part of a campus Reunion, even though we were miles apart. It was great seeing the videos of all the hymns, and especially the video of the Voyager class hymn 'And Can It Be.' We were able to sing the same arrangement from the amazing Daniel Cutchen '80 that we sang in our senior chapel 40 years ago."

While the online format required some alumni to acquire new skills in technology, the concept of representing the Spirit-inspired characteristics of Asbury's culture wherever one might be was very familiar. Rev. Mark Nysewander '70 shared a devotional message during Friday evening's hymn sing, encouraging alumni to seek the face of God with the same intensity as during the 1970 revival.

"When Paul said we are the temple of the Holy Spirit, you could paraphrase that and say we are the Hughes Auditorium of that February morning," Mark said. "God dwells within us."

Links to video presentations from Reunion 2020: Lives Transformed — hymn sing, worship service and university update — remain available on Asbury's website at asbury.edu/reunion.



THE CLASS OF 1970



THE CLASS OF 2010

Virtual Choir

Friday evening's Old-Fashioned Hymn Sing employed modern technology to bring together dozens of voices in fellowship despite their wide-spread locations.

Viewers from across the world tuned in to hear such Asbury classics as "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" and "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." Some hymns were recorded with an ensemble in Hughes Auditorium, while others were compiled into "virtual choirs" from videos contributed by alumni. Recording artist Mark Schultz also participated, singing "This Is My Father's World."

To participate in the virtual choir, singers recorded a video of themselves singing along with a reference track. A team of several alumni edited the audio and video components of each recording and synchronized them into one blended choir. Each of the five songs performed by a virtual choir took 12-15 hours of behind-the-scenes work to produce.



BEHIND THE SCENES
Local alumni sing beloved hymns for the virtual hymn sing.

"Asburians love to sing together, and we were so thankful that we could do this virtually. And having alumni participate in Reunion from all over the world was so special. We are incredibly grateful for our Asbury family."

Lisa Falin '90 Harper
Director of Alumni Relations



THE CLASS OF 1980





EXEMPLIFYING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND SPIRITUAL VITALITY

Award Recipients

As part of our Reunion tradition, we celebrated six very special banner-year alumni who exemplify Asbury University's motto of Academic Excellence and Spiritual Vitality. Each of these individuals model a commitment to achieving excellence in their field of calling, carried out with the purpose of bringing glory to God and making an eternal impact for the Kingdom.

Since 1946, the A Award has been Asbury's highest alumni honor of distinction. This year, we add four recipients to this elite group of Asburians. We are pleased to recognize **Dr. Winston Smith '50**, **Dr. Albin Whitworth '60** and **Drs. J.P. '83** and **Helen Rehner '80 Rader** as our 2020 A Award recipients.

The Distinguished Young Alum Award was created in 2000 to acknowledge our younger alumni who are emerging as influential leaders in their area of expertise. This year, we recognize **Sarah Seaton '05 Kuban**, a professional influencing the world for Christ in the area of TV production and entertainment.

And finally, our third award category acknowledges that our success is due largely to those who volunteer beside us, selflessly giving their time, connections and prayers on our behalf. We are thankful for our volunteers and their vital partnership, which is why the Asbury University Volunteer of the Year Award was created. It is our privilege to recognize **Dr. Steve Toadvine '82** for his service to the Kingdom and to Asbury.



A AWARD

DR. WINSTON B. SMITH '50

Challenging students to pursue excellence and serve the Lord wholeheartedly marked the 30 years Winston served as a science professor, coach and advisor at Asbury. Even after retirement, Winston remains engaged in the University and continues to invest in the lives of his former students.



DR. ALBIN C. WHITWORTH '60

Whether playing for chapel or entertaining guests at a White House Christmas party, Albin shares his God-given talents to glorify the Lord through music. Those fortunate enough to hear Albin play experience an active offering of worship. Students who have received instruction from Albin sing his praises.



DRS. J.P. '83 AND HELEN REHNER '80 RADER

As former professors, the Raders have had a great impact on many Asbury students both in and out of the classroom. Teaching, mentoring and coaching were a part of their mission while at Asbury.



The Raders have also taught internationally at the Seoul Foreign School and currently work at the International Community School in Singapore. J.P. and Helen inspire students and teachers alike to strive for excellence and reach their fullest potential.



DISTINGUISHED YOUNG ALUM AWARD

SARAH SEATON '05 KUBAN

Sarah has been called an "influencer of the influencers." Through quality work in the television industry, the voice she brings to the table boldly shows others an excellent way of creating moral and upright stories that ultimately bring families together.



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

DR. STEVE TOADVINE '82

Steve has spent countless hours in volunteer leadership to advance the science program at Asbury University, all while serving as a vice president at Baptist Health Lexington Hospital.





#AsburyUnified

COMMUNITY IN THE MIDST OF CRISIS

How did Asbury
put students first?

Start the day before dawn by sharing a cup of coffee with Asbury University's President, Dr. Kevin J. Brown – over Instagram. If early mornings are less than ideal, try a cup of coffee with the campus chaplains in the afternoon.

And if coffee is not on the menu, there are always Chapel videos online or bedtime stories with the Browns. (No, that is not a joke: Dr. Brown and his wife read bedtime stories to current students over Zoom calls on Sunday nights during the spring semester.)

Asbury University cherishes a long-running tradition of fostering community among students, faculty and staff. With more than 80% of traditional undergraduate students living on campus and many more living in Wilmore and nearby Lexington, a strong sense of community seems like a natural result — but what happens when that community is forced to scatter?

The answer became clear during the spring semester of 2020, when Asbury made the decision to close campus in an effort to protect students and halt the spread of COVID-19. Even as they physically dispersed, Asbury students, faculty and staff found new ways to build community.

Dr. Brown shared videos of his days through Asbury's Instagram account, taking students, faculty, staff and anyone else who might be interested through his typical activities during lockdown. (Watch the video "A Day with Dr. Brown" at asbury.edu/DrBrownDay.) The campus chaplains hosted coffee talks once a week and an online Bible study during April, using Zoom to allow current students to join in. Chapel itself became a series of videos, with faculty and staff providing the talks, that released on Wednesdays. (Watch them and browse podcasts of older Chapel services at asbury.edu/podcasts.)

Asbury Admissions staff set up online "Campus Visit" events for prospective families. They also hosted Asbury's first virtual event for accepted students, working with various offices on campus to start the orientation process online. Various student groups and classes, both current students and alumni, also held their own events over Zoom — allowing them to stay in touch from a distance.

On a residential campus, community can easily be viewed as something that happens because of proximity, but the extraordinary circumstances of COVID-19 revealed that community happens at Asbury because the people who live, work and learn here understand that life together requires effort. While other universities around the country made the news for the lack of assistance given to their students, Asburians looked for ways to reach out and care for each other above and beyond the minimum required to finish the term.

Barb Boyle, Salvation Army program specialist in the Adult & Online Learning (AOL) program and the manager of the Windsor Manor Guesthouse, has been one such person. When the Office of Student Development decided to call and check in with each current student, she offered her time and called 40 traditional undergraduate students as well as the current students in the AOL program. "I love the students," she said about the time she put into making the phone calls. "I was happy to do it."

Devoting several hours each day, Barb spent three days completing her list. "More than 50% of the students answered my call," she said. "Many of them were grateful that someone from Asbury was calling to check in on them." When no one answered, she left a voicemail message, and sent an email when the voicemail box was full.

Barb said that some students got a little choked up on the phone while talking about how they were doing in lockdown or how they missed being on campus. One student who had not initially answered surprised her by reaching out a few weeks later to say thank you. The student, who gave Barb permission to share what she said, explained that she is back in school to finish her degree and loves being a student at Asbury. With other family members having previously attended, she said that she feels connected to Asbury and appreciates that feeling while juggling school, work and family.

That sense of connection and community from a distance carried over into academic life during quarantine as well. With classes moving online for the final month of the spring term, Asbury's Instructional Design department offered their expertise to faculty unsure how to transition their courses. The Instructional Design field focuses on utilizing current technology and planning lessons to instruct effectively in an online environment, such as employee trainings or new online courses. This puts the Instructional Design department in a perfect position to make Asbury's transition to a temporary online structure as seamless as possible.

In some unexpected ways, operating remotely also underscored the richness of an Asbury education in a typical year. Students in Dr. Erin Penner's upper-level English courses reached out to each other through social media and video calls and used a buddy system instituted before the closure to help hold each other accountable, turning in strong work under unforeseen difficulties. In spite of that, their overwhelming takeaway from remote learning was that being on Asbury's campus — in person, and in close community with classmates and faculty — is far preferable to anything available online.

REMOTE EVERYTHING

How does "remote
everything" highlight
the things that
make AU special?





WELCOME WEEK and plans for the semester put student safety first.

“We also brought student leaders back a few days early to prepare and plan for the fall, and that was a formative time for them.

Heather Dongell

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Although the leaders are planning for them, the schedule of student activities for the fall is still in flux as Heather and team watch guidelines for mass gatherings and work to protect Asbury students. In spite of uncertainty, they aim to do as many activities as possible and are excited to have the students back and see how God will work on campus in the new academic year.

“I think that Student Development’s schedule of various spiritual development and spiritual life offerings online highlighted the importance of Chapel and gathering with one another to worship God, and how much we miss that,” Heather said when asked about Asbury’s COVID-19 experience through the lens of student life. “Remote learning really emphasized how special Asbury is with educating the whole person.”

Educating the whole person and creating a sense of community, whether on campus or from a distance — it’s the Asbury way.

In preparation for the fall semester, Student Development worked hard to restructure Asbury’s usual Welcome Week orientation format to a Welcome Weekend. The shorter format helped new students acclimate to life on campus while still following health and safety guidelines from the CDC. Welcome Weekend began on Aug. 13, with Intercultural New Student Orientation running from Aug. 10-12, and continued through Aug. 16, with students arriving in staggered groups to maintain social distancing procedures during check-in.

In Search of the Past

On a Thursday in late June, two people made their way to Asbury University in Kentucky with little more than hope. The husband and wife were travelling from the Chicago area and stopped off to see if they could find anything that his 98-year-old mother might remember — a photo to jog her memories of times gone by.

Mary Miyabe '46 Kajiwara was a freshman at a small college in Los Angeles when bombs fell on Pearl Harbor in 1941. Less than three months later, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized Executive Order 9066, turning the Pacific coastline into a military exclusion zone and relocating persons of Japanese ancestry away from it. The Miyabe family was sent to a temporary camp at the Santa Anita Racetrack in Arcadia, California, and then on to the Poston Internment Camp in Arizona, the largest on American soil during World War II.

While it was possible for them to leave throughout 1943–1944, the executive order was still in place, blocking anyone of Japanese ancestry from returning to their homes in California, Oregon or Washington. Largely through the efforts of a district superintendent of their Free Methodist church back in Los Angeles, Mary, her brother, and several of their college-age friends were put in contact with Asbury University, a small school in Kentucky willing to take them in and help them get there from the camp.

That was more than 75 years and a full lifetime ago, so on that day in late June of this year, Alan and Rose Kajiwara arrived at Asbury with the hope of bringing home a photo to help Mary relive those days. They ran into **Blake Sunny '21**, a student ambassador for the Admissions Office, outside of Kinlaw Library. When Blake heard why they had come, he walked them around campus to see the Asbury of the 1940s and helped them find Mary’s class photo in the hallway below Hughes Auditorium.

Mary’s photo hangs in that hallway because she did come to Asbury from Arizona, and she graduated in 1946 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. Two of her three siblings would also graduate from Asbury, as well as a dozen or so of their friends from Poston Internment Camp, some of whom went on to receive degrees from Asbury Theological Seminary as well.

In a time of war and suspicion, Asbury welcomed in what one student later called a small community of Japanese students and gave them a place to call home when their homes had been taken away. And, as Mary’s son and daughter-in-law discovered, Asbury still remembers the students of years past and will always welcome them back.



THEN



NOW





BURNETT



PINKSTON



NICHOLSON



McCALL

Final Chapters & New Beginnings for Faculty

When **Dr. Brian Shelton** graduated from Asbury in 1989 with a biology degree, he had no way of knowing that a long and winding road would lead him back to Wilmore some 30 years later.

After working as, among other things, a researcher, theology professor and provost, Shelton has returned to his alma mater, where he serves as professor and department chair of Christian Studies & Philosophy.

"There it was. The end of the road. It wasn't where I expected and I didn't know how sweet the end would be," Shelton wrote in a recent blog post.

Along with Shelton, incoming full-time faculty include:

Julianne Burnett, Ph.D., assistant professor of Christian Studies & Philosophy

Suzanne Nicholson, Ph.D., professor of Christian Studies & Philosophy

Tom McCall, Ph.D., professor of Christian Studies & Philosophy

Dan Pinkston, DMA, professor of Worship Arts, Christian Studies & Philosophy

Asbury has also hired six new lecturer or part-time contract positions.

For Shelton, his return to Asbury has allowed for some self reflection. "The single man is now 27 years married—coincidentally, to an Asbury alumna [Sally Stiegemeier '89 Shelton]," he wrote. "Yet, in mission and ethos and an ability to offer formative life experiences, the place is the same. My personality is the same, my values are the same, and my wish for Asbury to be the best, relevant Christian institution around is still the same."

Asbury also said goodbye to three beloved faculty members at the end of the spring 2020 semester. Retiring faculty include **Dr. Owen Dickens '75**, professor of Bible and Theology, **Dr. David Rightmire**, professor of Bible and Theology, and **Dr. Gerald Miller '66**, professor of Ancient & Modern Languages.

Rightmire began his career at Asbury in 1985. He is the author of several books, including "The Sacramental Journey of The Salvation Army," in which he explores The Salvation Army's non-sacramental practice and its Wesleyan-Holiness commitments.

"It's about experiencing the reality of Christ's presence, not just as something that is present at a ritual or a worship service, but the reality that now Christ is in me and transforming me so that my very life is a sacrament," Rightmire said in 2017.

Dickens, who graduated from Asbury in 1975, spent almost 40 years teaching at his alma mater. Among Dickens' many accomplishments, not the least of which is the love and admiration of his students, he was awarded a fellowship for study and research at the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan, where he focused on the relationship between the minority Christian community and the majority Muslim community in Jordan and Palestine.

Comings and goings are a yearly reality on every college campus. For Asburians, as Shelton writes, it is all part of the journey: "Going requires leaving. Paradise has a path."

BRIAN SHELTON '89 is one of many exciting new additions to the Asbury faculty.



Retiring Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Gerald Miller

It is impossible to do justice to a 48-year career in a few hundred words. After all, when Dr. Gerald Miller began teaching at Asbury in 1973, Richard Nixon was president.

Miller taught courses in Old Testament, ancient history and Christian theology, as well as Greek and Hebrew. In addition, he designed, recorded and taught two Old Testament courses for Asbury's online Leadership and Ministry program.

Miller retired on June 30 as the longest tenured professor in recent history.

During his years on the faculty, Miller served terms as chair of the Ancient & Foreign Languages department and the Bible-Theology department. He also presented numerous Chapel messages, forums and seminars and was an invited speaker at various conferences and churches around the country.

"I dearly love my students, over 12,000, who still make me feel young at age 75," Miller said.





Alumni Class Notes



2



4



5



3



14

11



8



12



10



9



13

1970s
Majors **Andy '75** and **Cheryl Tomkins '77 Miller** retired in June. They served 43 years with The Salvation Army.

Thomas McKain '76 received the Dr. Joe Rotella Compassion Award from Hosparus Health.

Ron Smith '77 was named the president of the Francis Asbury Society in Wilmore, Ky.

After serving for four years with The Salvation Army in Rae Town, Kingston, Jamaica, **Violet Doliber '79 Ezeh** and her husband, Ifeanyi Felix, have taken up a new assignment with The Salvation Army as officers/pastors of The Salvation Army in Saint Maarten. (1)

1980s
Rick '81 and **Teresa Meyers '79 Jenkins** and **Jeff '78** and **Karla Wallerstedt '78 Taber** celebrated their 40th wedding anniversaries together in September 2019. The couples met for a vacation in Maine to celebrate and renew their longtime friendship that started at Asbury. (2)

Jaime Greene '82 was awarded the 2019 EMS Sales Consultant of the Year award.

Philip A. Todd '88 of the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communications at Oklahoma University earned the Penn State Davis Ethics Award for his ethics-related dissertation that he defended in the field of communication and

media as part of a national competition. Philip also earned his Ph.D. at Oklahoma University in 2019.

Joel Winckler '88 is the Northwest District Superintendent at the Dakotas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Kris, live in Madan, N.D.

1990s
Steve McConnell '90 is the lead songwriter for the Elf on the Shelf series of Christmas television specials and DVD projects. His music was also featured during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade when "Chippy" the Elf made his way along the parade route. (3)

Richard Klein '93 published "A Smoky Mountain Hi" in March 2020.

Tracy Faris '93 Rexford was featured in the Lexington Herald-Leader newspaper for her work with COVID-19 patients during the pandemic. Tracy is a nurse and nurse educator in Lexington, Ky. (Photo credit: Marcus Dorsey, *Herald-Leader*) (4)

Ruby Edwards '96 Owiny was promoted to Associate Professor of Education with tenure starting the 2019-20 academic year at Trinity International University. She has also been named the Director of the Division of Education at TIU. She is the President-Elect for the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children for 2020. Ruby and her husband, **David '00** live in Chicagoland with their three children, Addy, Emma, and Matthias. (5)



The Peacemaker Class of 1997 gathered on Zoom to catch up. This gathering included Asburians from five countries and nine states. Submitted by **Amy Smith '97 Crump**. (6)

Rev. Brian Hurley '97 is the director of Pastoral Services and Ethics at Lakeland Regional Health in Lakeland, Fla. In June 2019, he served as the chair of the Planning Committee for the Association of Professional Chaplain's national conference held in Orlando, Fla.

Chad '99 and **Stephanie Needham '99 Nagel** announce that their son, Rex, began Asbury in the fall of 2020. He is a fifth-generation attendee in a family whose Asbury history spans more than 100 years. (7)

Brian Yontz '99 was awarded the Alumni Association Award for Distinguished Teaching by the Wittenburg University Alumni Board.



7



2000s
Sarah Phillips '01 Winburn became a paralegal after graduating with honors in 2018. She married Daniel Wilburn on December 31, 2019, in San Jose, Calif. **Brandon '02** and **Rachel Phillips '03 Gilmore** were in the wedding party. (8)

Chris and **Amy Petery '02 Grethey** are proud to announce the arrival of their baby girl, Ashley Carla, on January 26, 2020. Big sister, Ava Marie, welcomed her home.

Andrew Pickerill '03 is the principal of East Jessamine Middle School in Nicholasville, Ky.

Marquis Harris '03 is now Life International School's coordinator for Curriculum & Instruction in Sihanoukville, Cambodia.

Charlie Shoemaker '03 received his Doctor of Ministry in May from Asbury Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Jane, are co-pastors at Bratchers Crossroads Free Methodist Church in McMinnville, Tenn.

Scott '05 and Lacy **Rinehart** are proud to announce the arrival of their daughter, Hannah Joy, on April 4, 2020. She was welcomed home by big brothers, Ethan and Luke.

John Banter '04 received the University Award for Excellence in Teaching from Georgia Southern University for the 2019-2020 school year. He was also named one of the Top 20 leaders in Statesboro under 40 by the Statesboro Herald. (9)

Esther Fleece '05 Allen published "Your New Name" in January 2020 published by Zondervan.

Matt Ayars '06 was named the 8th President of Wesley Biblical Seminary in Ridgeland, Miss.

Benjamin and **Shannon Elder '07 Jones** are proud to announce the arrival of Theo David on December 30, 2019. Theo was welcomed home by big brother, Bennett. (10)

Clay '08 and **Tif Walz '08 Hassler** are proud to announce the birth of their son, Harry James, on October 1, 2019. (11)

Ethan and **Abby Andrews '09 Layer** welcomed their son, Justus Scott, on May 7, 2020. Proud grandparents, **Larry '75** and **Debbie Brunning '77 Andrews**, celebrate his arrival. (12)

Nathan Miller '09 completed his Ph.D. in Musicology and Ethnomusicology from the University of Kentucky. His dissertation was titled "Inside Outside: The Cultural Paradox of Salvation Army Brass Bands in America During the Age of Nationalism." He also recorded an album, High Bridge Brass, featuring music from the Ewald brass quintets and Bohme Sextet. Also featured on the album is **Mark Ridenour '81**. (13)

Austin '10 and **Emily Stevens '09 Brooks** welcomed their son, Landon Taylor, to their family on March 18, 2020. He was welcomed home by big sister, Lydia. (14)





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Evan and **Emily Andrews '11 Wehrle** are proud to announce the arrival of Willa, born April 8, 2020. Proud grandparents, **Larry '75** and **Debbie Brunning '77 Andrews**, celebrate her arrival. (15)

Kevin and **Anna Mozley '12 Kornelis** are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ruth Marie, on April 26, 2020. Ruth was welcomed home by big brother, James. (16)

Samantha Verissimo '13 is the director of Media and Communications with Bent Tree Country Club in Dallas, Texas.

Alisha Bynum '13 is the director of Communications for A&M United Methodist Church in College Station, Texas.

Luke and Taylor Techau '13 Boyd welcomed Clyde Edwin on May 19, 2020. (17)

Kayla Clenney '14 married Morgan Butler on November 9, 2019. (18)

Austen '15 and **Kelsey Boyle '16 Broome** are excited to announce the arrival of Maverick on February 28, 2020. Maverick was welcomed home by big brother, Atlas.

Travis Gay '16 is now the principal at LaRue High School in Hodgenville, Ky.

Kylee Gorby '16 is the head coach for Spalding University's women's basketball team.

In a surprising reunion, **Jacob Meece '16** and **Stephanie Chen '16** ran into each other in Ann Arbor, Mich. during interview season for medical residency. (19)

Christian Hall '17 married **Allison Irvin '19** on June 8, 2019 at Estes Chapel in Wilmore, Ky. Allison works as an administrative assistant at Jeff Wyler Corporate Headquarters. Christian works as a software developer for Kroger Technology. They live in Cincinnati, Ohio. (20)

Madison Martin '18 completed her Master of Education in Higher Education Leadership and Social Justice from Bellarmine University in May 2020.

In Memoriam

Alumni

Dorothy Alverson '42 VanSteenburg
Education, 4/15/2020, Seminole, Fla.

Marie Schnake '42 White Webb
Author/Missions/Volunteer, 5/18/2020, Prairie Village, Kan.

Elizabeth "Betty" Soto '44 Gutierrez
Education/Ministry, 2/27/2020, Laguna Niguel, Calif.

Earline McCullough '46 Williams
Education/Ministry, 3/28/2020, Bessemer, Ala.

Rev. Glen Graves '47
Education/Ministry, 6/6/2019, Harrodsburg, Ky.

Dr. Daniel "John" Brose Sr. '48
Medicine/Missions, 10/5/2019, Gresham, Ore.

Frances Miller '48 Ditto
Education/Ministry, 5/3/2020, Wilmore, Ky.

Kathleen Crenshaw '48 Edwards
Education/Music Education, 5/1/2020, Athens, Ga.

Esther Stikeleather '48 Mitchell Fabbicante
Medical Transcriptionist/Music, 5/20/2020, Brandon, Miss.

Rev. Everett Aldstadt '49
Military Chemist/Ministry, 3/28/2020, Englewood, Ohio

Naomi Kramer '49 Trostel
Education/Volunteer, 6/3/2020, Carneys Point, N.J.

Elizabeth "Betty" Bevington '50 Clark
Education, 5/25/2020, Sherman, Texas

Ann Dunaway '51 Gamblin
Education/Ministry, 5/5/2020, Montgomery, Ala.

Christine Hahn '51 Kidd
Homemaker, 5/21/2020, Lexington, Ky.

Dr. E. Jean Shoemaker '51
Education, 12/12/2019, Fall Church, Va.

Betty Durham '52 Smith
Education/Missions, 5/12/2020, Hilliard, Ohio

Alice Cook '53 Couchman
Management, 2/23/2020, Greenville, N.C.

Henry "Pennie" James '53
AU and ATS Development Officer/Author/City Government, 6/8/2020, Wilmore, Ky.

Rev. James Livingston '53
Missions, 1/10/2020, Inverness, Fla.

Doris Clark '53 Moody
Music Ministry, 5/4/2020, Louisville, Ky.

Christine Moore '53 Peterson
Education/Missions, 3/2/2020, Bremen, Ind.

Mary Melton '54 Aist
Education, 6/15/2020, Gaithersburg, Md.

Loretta Riddell '54 Witt
3/28/2020, New Albany, Ind.

Flora McDougall '55 Andrus
Medical Technologist, 1/17/2020, Byers, Colo.

Rev. Kenneth Bowen '55
Ministry, 3/16/2020, Prince Frederick, Md.

Rev. Daniel Wallace '55
Ministry/Veteran, 6/9/2020, Davison, Mich.

Retta Hayes '57 Estes
Education/Librarian, 4/19/2020, Mount Vernon, Ill.

Helen Kuntz '57 Gebhard
Education, 4/4/2020, Rossford, Ohio

Joyce Smeckert '58 Cameron
Agriculture/Education, 4/6/2020, Cass City, Mich.

Mary Ann Kingsbury '58 Finch
3/11/2020, Wilmore, Ky.

Virginia Bush '58 Weitkamp Jenkins-Bowling
Nursing, 3/18/2020, Richmond, Ky.

Shirley Bundy '58 Payton
Accounting, 3/21/2020, Brandon, Miss.

Barbara Allison '59
Education/Missions, 6/21/2020, Bedford, Pa.

Agnes Creed '59 Neihof
Education/Ministry, 4/24/2020, Dundee, Fla.

Rev. Roger Armistead '60
Ministry, 4/30/2020, Mount Pleasant, N.C.

Bettie Jean "Dee Dee" Dunn '60 Moore
Education, 4/24/2020, Elizabethtown, Ky.

Maj. Jean Harvey '61 Booth
Salvation Army, 2/29/2020, Asbury Park, N.J.

Delia "Dee" Peña '61 Skeels
Education/Music, 5/11/2020, Thousand Oaks, Calif.

Marie Gander '62 Armstrong
Education, 5/3/2020, Louisville, Ky.

Iva Frederick '63 Bailey
Education/Ministry, 3/30/2020, Waverly, Ohio

James "Jim" Clayton '63
School Administration, 10/18/2019, Gainesville, Ga.

Marilyn Clifford '64 Kissane
Education, 5/15/2020, Marion, Ind.

Rev. Konrad Madschieder '65
Ministry, 11/3/2019, Piqua, Ohio

Robert "Bob" Osborne '65
Sales, 2/4/2020, Signal Mountain, Tenn.

Barbara Robertson '67 Babby
Education/Ministry, 4/4/2020, La Mesa, Calif.

Rev. Delmer Dodrill '69
Athletic Coach/Education/Ministry, 6/1/2020, The Plains, Ohio

Rev. Tommy McCook Jr. '69
Ministry, 5/26/2020, Midway, Ga.

Rev. James Aycock Jr. '73
Ministry, 3/13/2020, Americus, Ga.

Dr. Cathy Keener '73 Steinhauser
Counselor/Executive Recruiter, 5/7/2020, Lexington, Ky.

Rev. Michael Daniels '75
Ministry, 3/10/2020, Morgantown, W.Va.

Ervin Finklea '80
Ministry, 3/6/2020, Pelion, S.C.

Ross Hindman '80
Education/Military/Ministry, 4/30/2020, Omaha, Neb.

Amy Finch '86 Caulder
Education/Ministry/Missions, 5/17/2020, Princeton, Ky.

Rev. Kenneth Bremer '87
Electrician/Ministry, 4/3/2020, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Stephen Gifford '88
Education/Ministry, 3/13/2020, Lexington, Ky.

Alan DeCristoforo '90
Ministry, 9/9/2019, New Castle, Pa.

Maj. Faith Miller '90
Salvation Army, 4/22/2020, Suffern, N.Y.

Russ McGee '93
Insurance/Theater, 6/13/2020, Milford, Ohio

Jacob Barmore (Grad Program),
Athletic Coach/Education, 5/26/2020, Mount Washington, Ky.

Paige Doeller Hackney
(Grad Program), Education, 3/28/2020, Liberty, Ky.

Friends

Dr. Idus "Ike" Adams
Asbury Professor of Sociology, 4/20/2020, Wilmore, Ky.

John Benson
2/12/2020, Warner Robins, Ga.

Debbie Waugh Bowes
3/19/2020, Bellevue, Neb.

Allison "Nicki" Moody Brown
4/6/2020, Nicholasville, Ky.

Dr. Burnis Bushong
Asbury Honorary Degree, 5/17/2020, Noblesville, Ind.

Victor Carman
3/23/2019, Mason, Ohio

Aaron Duke
5/12/2020, Nicholasville, Ky.

James Evans, Jr.
10/1/2019, Glen Burnie, Md.

Andrew Fain
3/15/2020, Georgetown, Ohio

Mildred Catinna Fain
10/22/2019, Georgetown, Ohio

Elsie Goehringer Fish
4/10/2019, Elizabethtown, Ky.

Karen Hunley Gillespie
3/23/2020, Kingsport, Tenn.

Julia Coker Guess
11/26/2019, Valrico, Fla.

Bonnie Hagen Graves
6/11/2020, Enid, Okla.

James Gray
9/12/2019, Dayton, Ohio

William "Wayne" Hayden
5/24/2020, Nicholasville, Ky.

Ann Costin Jones
4/11/2020, Cody, Wyo.

Dr. Donald Joy
6/6/2020, Wilmore, Ky.

Frank Korb
4/8/2019, The Villages, Fla.

Deral McMullan
5/19/2020, Bay Springs, Miss.

Robert McPherson
1/6/2020, Anthony, Kan.

Jeff Miller
11/26/2019, Mount Sterling, Ky.

Samuel Preston
6/28/2020, Nicholasville, Ky.

Patsy Felix Puckett
5/8/2020, Lexington, Ky.

Erma Wingert Ready
4/20/2020, Mt. Vernon, Ohio

Lee Stone
9/21/2019, Brighton, Colo.

Lettie Wulfcamp Smith Sweazy
4/17/2020, The Villages, Fla.

Lester Tinner
2/14/2020, Unionville, Ohio

Rev. Gale Wetzel
1/6/2020, Franklin, Ky.

Dr. Ravi Zacharias
Asbury Honorary Degree, 5/14/2020, Alpharetta, Ga.





Upcoming Events

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS.

Sept. 11 - 12
Fall Alumni Board Meeting

Oct. 1 - 3
Family Weekend, Visit Event

Oct. 17
Commencement

Oct. 29 - 31
Fall Board of Trustees Meeting

Nov. 2 - 6
Great Commission Congress

Nov. 23 - 27
Extended Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov. 30 - Dec. 3
Final Exams (Online)

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Photo Finish

IN WITH THE NEW — CAMPUS SAID GOODBYE TO THE FLETCHER-EARLY BUILDING THIS SUMMER AS IT WAS TORN DOWN TO MAKE WAY FOR THE NEW COLLABORATIVE LEARNING CENTER (read more on page 14).



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